



Agenda Ordinary Council Meeting

17 November 2020



CERTIFICATION

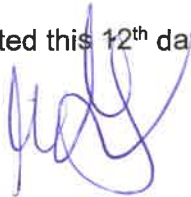
"I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendation provided to Council with this agenda:

1. The advice, information or recommendation is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation, and;
2. Where any advice is given directly to Council by a person who does not have the required qualifications or experience that person has obtained and taken into account in that person's general advice the advice from an appropriately qualified or experienced person."

Note:

S65(1) of the Local Government Act 1993 requires the General Manager to ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the Council (or a Council Committee) is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation. S65(2) forbids Council from deciding any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering that advice.

Dated this 12th day of November 2020.



Warren Groves
GENERAL MANAGER

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Flinders Council Ordinary Meeting - Agenda

Tuesday 17 November 2020

Venue	Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, Whitemark
Commencing	9.30am
Attendees – Councillors	Mayor Annie Revie Deputy Mayor David Williams Sharon Blyth Aaron Burke Vanessa Grace Peter Rhodes Rachel Summers
Apologies	Nil
Attendees – Staff	Warren Groves General Manager Rowena Nicholls Administrative Services Officer (minute taker)

1 Acknowledgment of Country

The Mayor will begin by acknowledging the Traditional Owners of the land on which we meet today, the palawa people of the trawulwai Nation. She will recognise their continuing connection to the land, waters and culture of this island, and pay respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

2 Confirmation of Minutes

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 20 October 2020 and the Special Council Meeting held on the 27 October 2020 be confirmed.

3 Public Question Time

In accordance with Section 31 (1) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 and the Flinders Council Policy, the following procedures be adhered to at public question time.

It is the policy of the Flinders Council to allow a 'Question Time' at Ordinary Council Meetings, during which members of the public may ask questions of the Council relating to Flinders Council matters.

The basis on which questions may be asked is

- 1. All questions will be addressed through the Chair (being the Mayor in normal circumstances) who will answer them as she/he sees fit. Under no circumstances will members of the gallery be permitted to address or question either elected members or officers of the Council. The Chair may delegate answers to the appropriate Councillor or staff member if appropriate.*
- 2. Persons addressing the Chair must pay the respect due to that office. Failure to do so may mean their address is terminated without notice.*
- 3. Where the answer cannot be provided immediately, it will be provided in writing within 14 days and tabled at the following Ordinary Council Meeting.*

4. *All questioners are encouraged to register their intent to question with the General Manager before the meeting. Preference will be given to those who have so registered.*
5. *Question time shall not extend longer than 30 minutes and may be divided into two 15 minute sessions.*
6. *The actual timing of the session(s) is to be immediately after the opening of the meeting and advertised with the notice of meeting.*

4 Councillor's Questions Without Notice

Regulation 29 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 specifies that in putting a Question Without Notice a Councillor must not offer an argument or opinion, draw any inference or make any imputations except so far as may be necessary to explain the question. The Chairperson must not permit any debate of a Question without Notice or its answer.

5 Late Agenda Items

6 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

In accordance with Regulation 8 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, Councillors are required to declare any pecuniary interest that they, or any of their close associates, may have in any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda, before any discussion on that matter.

7 Conflict of Interest

In accordance with the Part 2, paragraph 6 of the Local Government (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2016, Councillors are required to declare any conflict of interest, be in actual, perceived or potential, that they may have regarding any matter appearing on the agenda, or any supplementary item to the agenda before any discussion on that matter commences.

8 Policies

The following Council policies were adopted at the 22 September 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting and no submissions were received throughout the 28 day public consultation period. As per the requirements of the Flinders Council Policy Manual Policy, the following policies are deemed approved and can now be considered as adopted.

- Uniform Policy
- Flying of Flags at Council Property Policy
- Employee External Employment Policy

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes that the Uniform Policy, the Flying of Flags at Council Property Policy and the Employee External Employment Policy are adopted.

9 Workshops & Information Forums

File No. COU/0205

Council Workshop – 20 October 2020

Council held a Workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 1 General Manager Update
- Item 2 Show Society Grant
- Item 3 Priority Projects List

Councillors in Attendance

Deputy Mayor David Williams
Cr Aaron Burke
Cr Sharon Blyth

Cr Vanessa Grace
Cr Rachel Summers

Apologies

Mayor Annie Revie

Not in Attendance

Cr Peter Rhodes

Staff and Consultants in Attendance

Warren Groves General Manager
Vicki Warden Executive Officer
Joanna Klug Flinders Island Show Society (Item 2)

Council Workshop – 27 October 2020

Council held a Workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 1 Safe Harbour Update
- Item 2 Strategic (Town) Planning
- Item 3 Waste Management
- Item 4 Whitemark Tennis Courts
- Item 5 Priority Projects
- Item 6 Policy Review

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor Annie Revie
Deputy Mayor David Williams
Cr Aaron Burke (Items 1, 2 & 3)

Cr Vanessa Grace
Cr Rachel Summers

Apologies

Cr Sharon Blyth

Not in Attendance

Cr Peter Rhodes

Staff and Consultants in Attendance

Warren Groves General Manager
Vicki Warden Executive Officer
Adrian Mythen QC³ Consulting
Mick Purves Strategic (Town) Planner (via zoom)
Jacci Viney Development Services Coordinator

Council Workshop – 3 November 2020

Council held a Workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 1 Visit Northern Tasmania Update
- Item 2 Furneaux Islands Festival
- Item 3 Visiting Campervans
- Item 4 General Manager's Update

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor Annie Revie

Cr Vanessa Grace

Deputy Mayor David Williams

Cr Rachel Summers

Cr Sharon Blyth

Apologies

Cr Aaron Burke

Not in Attendance

Cr Peter Rhodes

Staff and Consultants in Attendance

Warren Groves

General Manager

Vicki Warden

Executive Officer

Chris Griffin

CEO, Visit Northern Tasmania (Item 1) (via zoom)

Sammi Gowthorp

Community Development and Council Engagement Officer (Items 1–3)

Jacci Viney

Development Services Coordinator (Item 3)

Council Workshop – 10 November 2020

Council held a Workshop on the following subjects:

- Item 1 Strategic Plan Review
- Item 2 Furneaux Maritime Museum

Councillors in Attendance

Mayor Annie Revie

Cr Vanessa Grace

Cr Sharon Blyth

Cr Rachel Summers

Apologies

Deputy Mayor David Williams

Cr Aaron Burke

Cr Peter Rhodes

Staff and Consultants in Attendance

Warren Groves

General Manager

Vicki Warden

Executive Officer

Gerald Willis

Furneaux Maritime Museum (Item 2)

Sammi Gowthorp

Community Development and Council Engagement Officer (Item 2)

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council Workshops held on 20 and 27 October and 3 and 10 November 2020 be noted.

10 Publications/Reports Tabled for Council Information

11 Reports to be Received

11.1 Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee

File Reference COM/0403

Annexure 11.1.1 Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee Meeting 29 October 2020 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Warren Groves, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee meeting held Wednesday 29 October 2020 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the Committee has been working on to date and can now be noted by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Furneaux Group Shipping Special Committee meeting held 29 October 2020 be noted.

11.2 Flinders Council Audit Panel

File Reference FIN/0401

Annexure 11.2.1 Flinders Council Audit Panel meeting 5 October 2020 Unconfirmed Minutes

OFFICER'S REPORT (Warren Groves, General Manager):

The unconfirmed minutes of the Flinders Council Audit Panel meeting held Monday 5 October 2020 have been provided for consideration. The minutes outline what the Committee has been working on to date and can now be noted by Council.

RECOMMENDATION

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Flinders Council Audit Panel meeting held 5 October 2020 be noted.

12 Councillors' Reports

None received.

13 Mayor's Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Mayor Annie Revie
File Reference	COU/0600
Annexures	Nil

APPOINTMENTS

DATE	DIARY ACTIVITY
14/10/20	Interview Radio Tasmania Talks
14/10	Meeting with community group regarding planning
14/10	Pick up emergency services officers at Lady Barron
19-23/10	Sick leave
26/10	Meeting with Aimee Wheatley and Sandy Downing Seaside Scavenge
27/10	Special Council Meeting and Workshop
28/10	Community Engagement Whitemark
29/10	Shipping and Waste Team meeting
30/10	Meeting with Warren Groves and Peter Rhodes
31/10	Spring into Scavenge
2/11	Code of Conduct zoom meeting and administration
3/11	Council Workshop
4/11	Administration
5/11	Work with Jacci Viney and administration
9/11	Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Incorporation flag-raising ceremony National Aborigines and Islanders Day Observance Committee (NAIDOC) week
10/11	Council Workshop and administration
11/11	Remembrance Service and administration

CORRESPONDENCE IN

DATE	FROM	SUBJECT
14/10	Premier Peter Gutwein	Joint work with King Island Council
15/10	Northern Tasmanian Development Corporation (NTDC)	Update
15/10	Launceston Government Association Tasmania (LGAT)	Code of Conduct zoom meeting
16/10	Australian Local Government Association (ALGA)	Newsletter
17/10	State Emergency Service North	Thanks and feedback following exercise airport
18/10	Fran Bryson	Copy of community petition re development planning
19/10	Premier's office	Economic & Social Advisory Group consultation
24/10	Liz Frankham	Extract from Mercury re regenerative tourism
24/10	Hon Guy Barnett	Carp Management Program
27/10	Margaret Purdon	Repair works in Lady Barron
28/10	Flinders Island District High School (FIDHS)	Letter Awards event
30/10	ALGA	Newsletter
30/10	Deputy Prime Minister	Extension of local infrastructure / roads grant

2/11	Carol Cox	Question for clarification
3/11	J & D Palmer	Question planning enquiry
3/11	Carol Cox	Feedback regarding Strategic Plan
3/11	Flinders Island District Hospital MPC Auxiliary	Thank you regarding vending machine
4/11	Flinders Island Aboriginal Association Incorporation (FIAAI)	Invitation to attend flag-raising for NAIDOC Week
5/11	Matt Patterson	Places of Pride
6/11	Tas Health	Healthcare future
6/11	Department of Home Affairs	Revoking Flinders Airport as Airport with security
6/11	Michael Patterson TELSTRA CEO Tas	Draft support letter for King Island funding application
6/11	Honourable Sarah Courtney	Healthcare Future
9/11	Gerard Willis	Presentation to Council
10/11	Greg Alomes	Thank you regarding support letter King Island

CORRESPONDENCE OUT

DATE	TO	SUBJECT
28/10	FIDHS	Response re awards
29/10	Members of Furneaux Community Health and Furneaux Islands Festival Special Committees	Thanks for their efforts and revoking these committees
2/11	Carol Cox	Response to question for clarification
1/11	Kevin Peddle	Thanks Shipping Committee
4/11	Ron Peddle	Thanks Shipping Committee
9/11	Michael Patterson	Letter of support King Island
10/11	Greg Alomes	Letter of Support King Island

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Mayor's report be received.

14 Development Services and Planning Applications

14.1 Development Application Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Jacci Viney Development Services Coordinator
File Reference	PLN/0105
Annexures	14.1.1 Planner's Information Report – October 2020

INTRODUCTION

This report provides Councillors with an overview of the applications for the current period as per motion 249.09.2015, passed at the 24 September 2015 Council Meeting when Council requested monthly data from the West Tamar Council planning consultancy service.

Permitted applications are assessed under section 58 of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act) and are not advertised. If applications classified as Permitted meet all development and use standards, they must be granted a permit, with or without conditions.

Discretionary applications are assessed under section 57 of the Act and are exhibited for a two-week period during which submissions may be received from the public. If a submission is received, the planner's report for that application is considered by Council. Discretionary applications where no submissions are received, as well as applications with a Permitted pathway, are approved under delegation to the General Manager.

The numbering of applications relates to the electronic filing system. Numbers are allocated to Planning (DA), Building (BA) and Plumbing (PA) applications as they are received. This may mean that planning numbers are not sequential, if for example, a development requires a building application but is exempt from a planning application.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Some items may have been considered at meetings of Council while the remainder have been approved under delegation by the General Manager.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Refer to Annexure 14.1.1, Planner's Information Report – October 2020, provided by West Tamar Council.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Planner's Information Report – October 2020 be received.

15 Works and Services

15.1 Works & Services Manager's Report – November 2020

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Brian Barnewall Works and Services Manager
File Reference	WOR/3000
Annexures	15.1.1 Works and Services Report - November 2020

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to provide Councillors with an update of monthly activities undertaken by the Works and Services department.

OFFICER'S REPORT

This report will be provided on a monthly basis at the request of Council. This is the first report of this nature to be presented to Council. Council Officers welcome feedback from Councillors on the content and format of the report.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Works and Services Report – November 2020 be received and accepted by Council.

16 Finance

16.1 2020 Quarter 1 Financial Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Heidi Marshall Finance Organisational Performance Manager
File Reference	FIN/0100
Annexures	16.1.1 Quarter 1 2020 Financial Report

INTRODUCTION

On a quarterly basis, Council is presented with a Financial Report which includes a summary of investments.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DECISION

Considered quarterly.

OFFICER'S REPORT

The 2020 Quarter 1 Financial Report (Annexure 16.1.1) with overview provides a summary of income and expenditure for the Council at the end of the first quarter ending 30 September 2020. The overview provides a summary in comparison to the Budget 2020/21. A summary of Council's Investments is also included.

The report includes income and expenditure for the period and a predicted end of year. Where appropriate, commentary has been included for explanation.

As this is the first quarter, there have been no significant variances to report, and we are on track to achieving budget. The road capital program had not commenced in the first quarter.

This report is for information only.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

No policy exists on this matter.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Budget effects all areas in Council's Annual Plan with the budget implications identified.

RISK/LIABILITY

No foreseen risks or legal obligations identified as a result of the financial report.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives and notes the 2020 Quarter 1 Financial Report.

17 Governance

17.1 Ordinary Council Meeting Dates 2021

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	COU/0203
Annexures	17.1.1 2021 Ordinary Council Meeting dates

INTRODUCTION

Council sets the dates and times for the next year's meetings at its November meeting. For the past year council meetings have been held either the third or fourth Tuesday of each month commencing at 9.30am, although adjustments have been made at times to accommodate local functions and/or commitments of the Mayor and General Manager.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Annually

OFFICER'S REPORT

Potential council meeting dates, public holidays and other events/meetings/commitments for 2021 have been considered and a proposed schedule of meeting dates prepared. Functions associated with the Local Government Association of Tasmania have been taken into consideration to accommodate the Mayor and General Manager's attendance.

The timing of council meetings has been discussed and councillors have expressed a preference for afternoon meetings. It is therefore recommended that the 2020/21 council meetings commence at 2pm.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolves to endorse the following Council Meeting schedule for 2021, with all meetings held on Tuesdays in the Flinders Arts and Entertainment Centre, commencing at 2:00pm:

- **19 January**
- **16 February**
- **16 March**
- **20 April**
- **18 May**
- **15 June**
- **20 July**
- **17 August**
- **21 September**
- **19 October**
- **16 November**
- **14 December**

17.2 Office Closure – Christmas Season 2020 - 2021

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	COU/0600
Associated Papers	Nil

INTRODUCTION

The festive season associated with Christmas and the New Year's celebrations is soon to commence. Council closes its offices over the period between Christmas and the New Year as only limited (if any) transactions occur. Staff are available if any emergency situations arise. This is a common practice for Tasmanian Councils.

This report provides a specific update for the 2020 - 2021 Christmas to New Year Period.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Annually

OFFICER'S REPORT

Public holidays are scheduled on Friday 25 December (Christmas Day) and Monday 28 December 2020 (Boxing Day) and Wednesday 1 January 2021 (New Year's Day). The 2019-2023 Enterprise Bargaining Agreement provides the three work days between the Christmas and New Year public holidays as paid grace days to all ongoing and fixed-term employees that would normally attend on those days.

Council will close its offices for the Christmas and New Year season from close of business 22 December 2020 to 5 January 2021 inclusive, reopening the office on 6 January 2021.

Arrangements are in place to ensure that appropriate leave and/or accrued rostered days off are taken for 23 and 24 December 2020 and 4 and 5 January 2021. Employees who may be required to attend to duties in this period e.g. manning the tip, will have an additional rostered day off or annual leave day added to their balance for each day worked.

Council Staff will ensure that sufficient visitor information material is available at the airport, the Lady Barron store and selected business houses during this period. Emergency contact details for staff on call will also be made available at the Council Office and on Council's website and Facebook page.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes that the Council Offices will be closed from close of business 22 December 2020 and will reopen on 6 January 2021.

17.3 Policies to Rescind – Funeral Director and Pacific Oyster Marine Farming

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	CSV/0600, CUL/0103, ENV/0502, COU/0600
Annexures	17.3.1 Funeral Director 17.3.2 Pacific Oyster Marine Farming

INTRODUCTION

Council's Policy Manual is an important document of Council as it provides direction to Staff, Management and Councillors. Many of the policies are required by, or relate to, legislation and in most instances help manage Council's exposure to risk.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Funeral Director

Adopted	9 September 2004	415.09.04
Amended	25 August 2005	497.08.05
Amended	18 August 2011	226.08.2011

Pacific Oyster Marine Farming

Adopted	8 August 1995	130.08.95
Amended	13 December 2001	301.12.01
Amended	18 November 2010	371.11.10

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

27 October 2020 Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

Council has a policy that states that policies should be reviewed every four years. The recommendation to rescind the following policies is based on discussions held at the 27 October 2020 Council Workshop.

Funeral Director

Council has established responsibility for providing funeral services for the Municipality in the absence of a private provider. This is an accepted practice and the policy is deemed to be no longer required.

Pacific Oyster Marine Farming

Council has no control over Pacific Oyster Marine Farming in the Flinders Municipality. The policy is unenforceable and is deemed to be no longer required.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council rescinds the Funeral Director and Pacific Oyster Marine Farming.

17.4 Proposed Statement of Intent - Flinders Council and King Island Council

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	GOV/0314
Annexures	17.4.1 Draft Statement of Intent

INTRODUCTION

Joint approaches by Flinders and King Island Councils to address the response and recovery phases of the COVID-19 emergency have clearly established there are benefits if both Councils work closely together and address shared issues facing our island communities and economies.

This report proposes that Flinders Council and King Island Council enter into a Statement of Intent that provides the basis to explore further opportunities to improve individual efficiencies, grow our economies and further improve our sustainability, in an orderly and structured manner.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

3 November 2020 Council Workshop

OFFICER'S REPORT

As part of its local government reform program, the State Government has encouraged councils to work together to improve service delivery efficiencies and reduce costs by resource sharing.

To date, Flinders Council's resource sharing opportunities have been developed through its regional connections with larger north east coast councils. Council currently shares development services with another council.

Few of these initiatives have proven entirely workable or efficient. In practice, specialist staff working for larger councils providing a service to a much smaller, island council do not necessarily understand the latter's organisational culture, isolation, the Island Community or environment.

Coupled with the fact that it is expensive to travel and stay on-Island, these staff have limited opportunities to develop local knowledge, engage with Councillors and the Community and provide a comprehensive, island-focussed service.

Council's latest resource sharing opportunity evolved with the King Island Council during the response and recovery phases of the COVID-19 emergency. Both Councils worked closely to ensure special quarantine requirements were recognised and protected by travel directions issued by the State Controller, and when the risks had abated, to lift intrastate travel restrictions. Subsequently, the councils successfully promoted direct flights from Hobart to their respective Islands as part of COVID-19 recovery plans and shared valuable information on how to improve telecommunications networks, shipping services and airport operations.

This demonstrated that Bass Strait communities and councils face very similar service delivery, planning and compliance challenges and opportunities. It confirmed that the islands' isolation, small size and unique access issues present unique problems implementing 'one-

size-fits-all' government policies, legislation and regulation designed for much larger, mainland Tasmanian councils.

It also demonstrated that both Councils have very similar organisational structures and cultures. Both have a small number of staff with a mix of specialist and generalist skills and abilities. Both have a similar need to engage highly trained specialists for some particular part-time tasks.

It is therefore proposed that the two Councils continue to work together, share information and where applicable, develop joint approaches to service delivery and addressing issues impacting on the communities and economies of the Bass Strait islands.

It is further proposed that a 'Statement of Intent' be approved to explore:

- Collaboration for mutual efficiencies;
- Sharing knowledge, expertise, systems and processes;
- Resource sharing;
- Strengthening advocacy; and
- Celebration of our uniqueness.

A copy of the Statement is attached as Annexure 17.4.1. When signed, it will remain in effect for 3 years unless modified or terminated by either Council by mutual consent.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Strategic, Efficient and Effective Organisation - Remain actively engaged with internal and external stakeholders providing regional leadership - The Furneaux Islands' unique circumstances, isolated community and specific financial needs are understood by key external stakeholders.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

RISK/LIABILITY

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the proposed Statement of Intent with the King Island Council and authorises the Mayor and General Manager to sign the Statement of Intent on behalf of Council.

17.5 Visit Northern Tasmania Annual Contribution

Action	Decision
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	COU/0305
Annexures	Nil

INTRODUCTION

Tourism Northern Tasmania (TNT), now known as Visit Northern Tasmania (VNT) was incorporated as an association on Monday 5 November 2012. The VNT website describes the organisation as follows:

“The purpose of this entity is as a Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO), managing and leading the visitor destinations of Northern Tasmania in such a way that stimulates improved economic, social and environmental returns from the visitor economy.”

“Members of the association include funding councils such as City of Launceston, West Tamar, Georgetown, Dorset, Northern Midlands, Meander Valley and Flinders Councils. Industry Association Members include the Launceston Tamar Valley Tourism Association, the Flinders Island Tourism and Business Association, the Heritage Highway Association, Great Western Tiers Tourism Association and North East Tourism Tasmania. The State Government is a critical strategic and funding partner administered through Tourism Tasmania and the Department of State Growth.”

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

Nil

PREVIOUS COUNCIL DISCUSSION

The CEO of VNT, Chris Griffin presented to a Council workshop via zoom on 3 November 2020.

OFFICER'S REPORT

The 2013/14 year saw the development of a partnership between the then known as Tourism Northern Tasmania, Flinders Council and Flinders Island Tourism Association (now Flinders Island Business Inc. (FIBI)). This developed into a program that delivered projects for Flinders such as TV advertising campaigns, marketing of Flinders Island as a stand-alone tourist destination, and participation in the visiting journalist program.

VNT, FIBI and Council have since continued to work together according to their roles since then on projects and programs to develop tourism opportunities for Flinders Island.

In partnership with the VNT Board, as a funding member along with six other northern councils, Flinders Council is entitled to participate in debating and defining the strategic direction of the agency.

This responsibility will be re-commenced as the region's Destination Management Strategy will be reset against a 'post-pandemic' status to align with both State and Local visitor economy planning.

Three year funding agreements are negotiated with funding partners. The last negotiation occurred between late 2018 and mid-2019.

The nature of the agreement is that funding partners agree:

1. To co-fund, in partnership with State Government, the delivery of the Destination Management Plan (DMP) priority actions.

2. This activity is updated annually and a schedule in the agreement reflects VNT's annual plan.
3. Annually, funding Partners have the discretion to seek specific support within the funding agreement for local tourism projects across areas of marketing, industry development and advocacy for place-making.

The current funding agreement commenced 1 July 2019 and is valid through to 30 June 2022.

A recent example of this collaborative support of Flinders by VNT was when they successfully advocated, in conjunction with FIBI and Flinders Council, with Tourism Tasmania to include Flinders Island in the direct flights from Hobart program.

Council has received an invoice from VNT for its annual regional tourism funding contribution for the 2020/21 financial year of \$11,444.40.

The following calculation is used by VNT to calculate the annual funding request per council. This calculation is based upon:

- Number of accommodation properties (no. of beds);
- Number of jobs attributed to tourism; and
- Rate payer base (to ensure smaller Councils with a higher dependence on tourism are not unfairly taxed).

As State Government underwrites 50% of the delivery of the DMP, the collective Council funding allocations are calculated to underwrite the remainder.

Currently Flinders Council contributes 1.7% of VNTs funding base at an annual rate of \$10,404 per annum plus GST.

The funding agreement includes a CPI adjustment annually, which VNT waived this year in response to COVID conditions.

The strength of any subscription or contribution funded organisation is the relative, and in some cases subjective based on evaluation of the collective value or benefit to individual members, as compared to what they could potentially achieve individually.

The strength of any subscription or contribution funded organisation is the relative, and in some cases subjective based on evaluation of the collective value or benefit to individual members, as compared to what they could potentially achieve individually.

The question in this case is whether Councillors believe Council and the Island are achieving \$11,444.40 worth of value, either from the programs implemented by VNT in association with FIBI, or from belonging to this organisation.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENT

Local Government Act 1993

POLICY/STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Population Growth - Foster and support entrepreneurial activity - Tourism and development is promoted through a focus on high quality food production, niche enterprises and clean, green image and sustainable farming practices associated with Flinders Island.

BUDGET AND FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This subscription has been budgeted for.

RISK/LIABILITY

Low

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

This is a matter for Council to decide.

17.6 Councillor Resolution Report

Action	Information
Proponent	Council Officer
Officer	Warren Groves General Manager
File Reference	GOV/0300
Annexures	17.6.1 Councillor Resolution Report November 2020

INTRODUCTION

The Councillor Resolution Report identifies resolutions passed by elected members and the actions taken to implement the decisions.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION

The Report is presented on a monthly basis.

OFFICER'S REPORT

Please read Annexure 17.6.1 – Councillor Resolution Report November 2020.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Simple Majority

RECOMMENDATION

That the Councillor Resolution Report November 2020 be noted.

Meeting Closed
