



City of  
**LAUNCESTON**

# **COUNCIL AGENDA**

**COUNCIL MEETING  
MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2015**

# City of Launceston

COUNCIL AGENDA

Monday 23 February 2015

---

Notice is hereby given that the Ordinary Meeting of the Launceston City Council will be held at the Council Chambers -

Date: 23 February 2015

Time: 1.00 pm

---

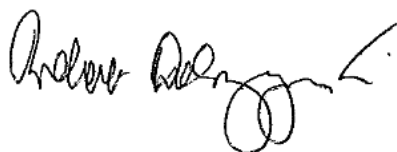
## Section 65 Certificate of Qualified Advice

### Background

Section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* requires the General Manager to certify that any advice, information or recommendation given to Council is provided by a person with appropriate qualifications or experience.

### Declaration

I certify that persons with appropriate qualifications and experience have provided the advice, information and recommendations given to Council in the agenda items for this meeting.



**Robert Dobrzynski**  
General Manager

---

### ORDER OF BUSINESS

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Page No</b>
1	OPENING OF MEETING - IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES	1
2	DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS	1
3	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES	1
4	DEPUTATION	1
5	ANSWERS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC AND ALDERMEN'S QUESTION TIME	1
6	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	1
7	PLANNING AUTHORITY (No Reports)	1
8	ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR	2
8.1	Mayor's Announcements	2
9	ALDERMEN'S/DELEGATES' REPORTS	4
10	QUESTIONS BY ALDERMEN	4
11	COMMITTEE REPORTS	5
11.1	Pedestrian & Bike Committee Meeting - 3 February 2015	5
11.2	Northern Youth Coordinating Committee Report - 5 February 2015 meeting	7
12	COUNCIL WORKSHOPS	10
13	PETITIONS	11
13.1	Petition - Proposed Poultry Shed at 25 Quills Road, Lalla	11
14	NOTICES OF MOTION - FOR CONSIDERATION	13

---

# City of Launceston

COUNCIL AGENDA

Monday 23 February 2015

---

<b>Item No</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Page No</b>
15	DEVELOPMENT SERVICES	14
15.1	City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China	14
16	FACILITIES MANAGEMENT (No Reports)	31
17	QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY (No Reports)	31
18	INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES	32
18.1	Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions	32
19	CORPORATE SERVICES (No Reports)	44
20	GENERAL MANAGER (No Reports)	44
21	URGENT BUSINESS	44
22	INFORMATION / MATTERS REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION	44
23	CLOSED COUNCIL ITEMS	44
23.1	Rates Remissions	44
23.2	Leave of Absence Application - Alderman	44
24	MEETING CLOSURE	44

---

**1 OPENING OF MEETING - IN ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES**

**2 DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTERESTS**

**3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. That the Minutes of the meeting of the Launceston City Council held on 9 February 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

**4 DEPUTATION**

Nil

**5 ANSWERS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC AND ALDERMEN'S QUESTION TIME**

Nil

**6 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

**7 PLANNING AUTHORITY**

Nil

---

**8 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR**

**8.1 Mayor's Announcements**

**FILE NO:** SF2375

---

**Thursday 12 February 2015**

- Attended Voluntary Council Amalgamations Regional Meeting with Minister for Planning and Local Government, Peter Gutwein MP
- Attended Festivale Cocktail Party Launch

**Friday 13 February 2015**

- Attended LGAT General Meeting at Brighton Civic Centre

**Saturday 14 February 2015**

- Attended Official Launch of the Centenary of ANZAC Commemoration Concert & Announcement of Official Guest of Honour
- Attended Diggers Cricket Club Function

**Sunday 15 February 2015**

- Attended and presented at 2015 Launceston International Tennis Finals Day
- Presented trophies to Launceston Regatta winner

**Monday 16 February 2015**

- Attended 2015 Launceston Cup Greyhounds Final

**Tuesday 17 February 2015**

- Attended National Australia Bank breakfast meeting

**Wednesday 18 February 2015**

- Attended HCC/LCC Joint Working Party Workshop at Hobart City Council
- Attended The Examiner - Meet the Editor function

**Friday 20 February 2015**

- Attended Official Opening of QV Museum Art Gallery Exhibition: Made In China, Australia
-

**8.1 Mayor's Announcements...(Cont'd)**

---

**Saturday 21 February 2015**

- Officiated at TSO Symphony Under the Stars and Key to the City for Peter Sculthorpe

**Sunday 22 February 2015**

- Attended Tasmanian Turf Club 'Tas Oaks Day'
-

9 ALDERMEN'S/DELEGATES' REPORTS

10 QUESTIONS BY ALDERMEN

---



**11 COMMITTEE REPORTS****11.1 Pedestrian & Bike Committee Meeting - 3 February 2015****FILE NO:** SF0618**AUTHOR:** Julie Tyres (Administration Officer - Road Assets)**DIRECTOR:** Harry Galea (Director Infrastructure Services)

---

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To receive and consider reports from the Pedestrian & Bike Committee.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Council, in respect to a report from the Pedestrian & Bike Committee Meeting held on 3 February 2015, resolves to:

1. Commit to investigate to improve safety in Trevallyn Road and Bridge Road for everyday users and due to its importance as a gateway to Cataract Gorge and in the context of the Penny Royal Hotel.
  2. Write to the State Government supporting the restoration of Trails & Bikeways funding to councils.
- 

**REPORT:**

The meeting of the Pedestrian & Bike Committee held on 3 February 2015 discussed:

1. Trevallyn Road  
Council is recommended to ensure that safety in Trevallyn Road and Bridge Road is improved for everyday users and due to its importance as a gateway to Cataract Gorge and in the context of the Penny Royal Hotel.
  2. Trails & Bikeways funding  
Council is recommended to write to the State Government supporting the restoration of Trails & Bikeways funding to councils.
  3. The next twice yearly Pedestrian & Bike Count will take place on 3 March.
  4. A Bike Futures seminar is planned to be held in Launceston in May with a focus on tourism
-

## 11.1 Pedestrian & Bike Committee Meeting - 3 February 2015...(Cont'd)

---

### **Director's Comments**

Item 1 is currently under investigation as part of the Parking Study of the Bridge Road Precinct.

### **ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

N/A

### **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

N/A

### **SOCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A

### **STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

The key directions within Council's Strategic Plan (2014-2014) considered relevant are:

- 2.1.6 To promote active and healthy lifestyles
- 3.1.2 To improve and maintain accessibility within the City of Launceston area, including its rural areas
- 4.1.5 To offer equitable access to services and facilities, including the design of public spaces that are accessible and suited to all abilities
- 8.5.1 To strategically manage our assets, facilities and services

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

N/A

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Harry Galea: Director Infrastructure Services**

---

**11.2 Northern Youth Coordinating Committee Report - 5 February 2015 meeting****FILE NO:** SF0136**AUTHOR:** Wendy Newton (Manager Community, Tourism and Events)**DIRECTOR:** Leanne Hurst (Director Development Services)**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To receive and consider a report from the Northern Youth Coordinating Committee's regular meeting held on 5 February 2015.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council receive the report from the Northern Youth Coordinating Committee (NYCC) meeting held on 5 February 2015.

---

**REPORT:**

The Northern Youth Coordinating Committee met on Thursday 5 February 2015 and discussed the following items:

- *The Tasmanian Youth Forum Youth Mental Health Forum;*
- *The Youth Network of Tasmania Youth Employment Forum*, which was co-sponsored by the City of Launceston;
- An overview of the DHHS Student Services role in northern Tasmania; and
- A review of the Northern Youth Coordinating Committee's Terms of Reference.

At the meeting, members agreed:

1. To support a funding request of \$500 towards the *Smoke Free Young People Strategy* to develop educational materials to support NYCC members in their work with young people. *Smokefree Young People Strategy* is a statewide comprehensive youth smoking prevention campaign to shift attitudes, intentions and behaviours towards smoking by young people; and
  2. To distribute the Northern Youth Coordinating Committee's Terms of Reference to the membership group for further comment.
-

**11.2 Northern Youth Coordinating Committee Report - 5 February 2015 meeting...(Cont'd)**

---

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

N/A

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**SOCIAL IMPACT:**

A state/region that enables young people to participate in activities that they would not normally be able to engage in due to disadvantage helps to create a more inclusive community with greater social capacity and opportunities for young people to benefit directly from the social and economic advantages of the region.

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

The City of Launceston Strategic Plan

4. A diverse and welcoming city

GLP Direction:

To develop a socially inclusive Launceston where people feel valued, their differences are respected, and their basic needs are met so they can live with dignity.

Ten-year Goal:

To offer access to services and spaces for all community members and to work in partnership with others to address the needs of vulnerable and diverse communities.

Key Directions:

4. To work in partnership with community organisations and other levels of government to maximise participation opportunities for vulnerable and diverse members of the community.

**BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:**

N/A

---

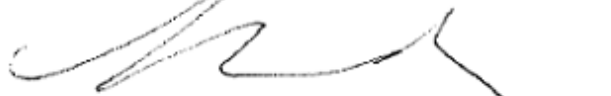
11.2 Northern Youth Coordinating Committee Report - 5 February 2015 meeting...(Cont'd)

---

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Leanne Hurst: Director Development Services**

## 12 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

The following Council Workshops were held on 16 February 2015:

- City of Launceston Delegation to China
  - Goderich/Lindsay Streets Intersection - Traffic Study
  - Tasmanian Police
  - Launceston Show Society.
-

**13 PETITIONS****13.1 Petition - Proposed Poultry Shed at 25 Quills Road, Lalla****FILE NO: SF0097****DIRECTOR:** Michael Tidey (Director Corporate Services)

---

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To consider a petition from Peter L. Leech of 415 Lalla Road, Lalla, regarding the proposed poultry shed at 25 Quills Road, Lalla.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

This petition refers to the Development Application DA0471/2014 considered at the 9 February 2015 Ordinary Council Meeting, Item 7.1.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council note the petition from Peter L. Leech of 415 Lalla Road, Lalla, regarding the proposed poultry shed at 25 Quills Road, Lalla.

---

**REPORT:**

A petition from Peter L. Leech, complying with section 57 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (the Act), was received by the Council on Thursday 5 February 2015. The full text of the petition is as follows:

*Having read the points in the attachment we, the residents of Lalla, Karoola and surrounding districts, implore the Aldermen not to allow the shed at 25 Quills Road to be used as an intensive egg laying factory as it will pollute Pipers River, endanger our environment, flora and fauna, affect our health and well-being and destroy property values. Please don't let this happen to us.*

The petition was received late in the week before Council meeting but should have been tabled at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 9 February 2015 to coincide with the consideration of a related development application as required by section 58 of the Act. The petition was not added as a late inclusion on the agenda due to an administrative oversight. As the matter contained within the petition was addressed at this meeting, no further action can be taken regarding the request. It is therefore recommended that Council note the petition.

---

13.1 Petition - Proposed Poultry Shed at 25 Quills Road, Lalla...(Cont'd)

---

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

N/A

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**SOCIAL IMPACT:**

N/A

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

Priority Area 8: A secure, accountable and responsive Organisation

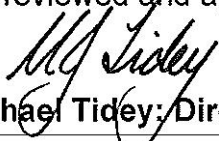
**BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:**

No budget consequences at this stage of the process

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.

  
Michael Tidey; Director Corporate Services

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Petition: Proposed Poultry Shed at 25 Quills Road, Lalla. **(Circulated Separately)**
-



**14 NOTICES OF MOTION - FOR CONSIDERATION**

**Nil**

---

**DIRECTORATE AGENDA ITEMS****15 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES****15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China****FILE NO:** SF0175**AUTHOR:** Bruce Williams (Economic Development Officer)**DIRECTOR:** Leanne Hurst (Director Development Services)

---

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To consider to send a delegation from Council to Putian City, Fujian Province.

The delegation will support the Tasmanian Premier and his delegation to pursue relationships between Putian City and City of Launceston with a view toward exploring economic, cultural and social opportunities which provide benefit to City of Launceston and the region.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

Council Meeting 26 May 2014 - Item 13.2 - decided to develop a strategy to guide co-ordination and engagement with opportunities in China/Asia.

Council Meeting 8 September 2014 - Item 14.3 - adopted criteria for evaluation of proposals and approaches by international city and regions.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

1. A delegation composed of the Mayor, the General Manager, and other Aldermen as determined by Council and the Economic Development Officer to Putian City and Fujian Province China.
  2. The City of Launceston delegation visiting both [1] Putian City and Fujian Province as guest of the Mayor of Putian City; and then [2] to join the Premier and his delegation to Fujian Province.
  3. The Mayor signing the ***"Letter of Intent for the establishment of Friendship Relationship between Launceston, Tasmania the Commonwealth of Australia and Putian, Fujian Province, The People's Republic of China"***.
  4. The following draft itinerary to Putian City, Fujian Province as per recommendation by the Sister City Meeting:
-

**15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

- **24 March**  
6.30am - Depart Launceston arrive Fuzhou 11.30pm [20hr flight, 2 stops shortest leg available]
  
  - **25 March**  
9.00am - Travel to Putian City [2hr bus]  
11.00am - Welcome by Mayor and City Officials, Chamber of commerce, business associations etc.  
12.00pm - Luncheon  
1.00pm - 5.00pm - Visits to the following sectors have been requested
    - tourism
    - university education sector [particularly marine, nursing and teaching and learning]
    - smart city and the digital economy
    - maritime sector6.30pm-9.30pm - Official dinner
  
  - **26 March**  
9.00am-12.00pm - Visits to the following sectors have been requested
    - culture, arts, museum sector
    - light industry sector
    - agriculture sector
    - forestry sector1.00pm - Travel to Fuzhou [2hr bus]  
3.30pm - Welcome Mayor and City Officials of Fuzhou, and Chamber of commerce, business associations etc.  
6.30pm-9.30pm - Official dinner
  
  - **27 March**  
9.00am-12.00pm - Meetings in Fuzhou  
1.00pm - Join the Tasmanian Premiers delegation program to develop State/Province discussion of COL opportunities
  
  - **28 March**  
9.00am-12.00pm - Join the Tasmanian Premiers delegation program to develop State/Province discussion of COL opportunities  
11.00am - Sign "Letter of Intent" agreement [in presence of Tasmanian Premier and Putian Government Officials]  
1.00pm-5.00pm - Follow up on leads and further discussions with chamber of commerce, business associations and how to proceed with developing the relationships etc.  
  
8.05pm - Fly home [17hr flight 2 stops shortest leg available] or pending advice on further itinerary options from Putian/Fuzhou
-

**15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

- **29 March**

9.00am-12.00pm - Explore opportunities Putian/Fuzhou [those proposed or not addressed on 25 March]

12.00pm-1.00pm - Farewell lunch

1.00pm-5.00pm - Explore opportunities Putian/Fuzhou [those proposed or not addressed on 26 March]

8.05pm - Fly home [21hr flight 2 stops, shortest leg available]

---

**REPORT:****Previous Council Consideration**

On 26 May 2014 the following motion was adopted:

*That in view of the emerging strategic opportunities and recent offers to engage with Chinese cities and the wider Asian region, Council;*

1. *Identifies and engages with those already involved in this space at a local and regional level with the aim of facilitating a roundtable discussion to share information on who the players are and how we might, through collaboration, leverage our collective efforts in engaging with Asia and China in particular.*
2. *Rapidly develops an outline strategy to guide co-ordination and engagement with opportunities in China/Asia (both Sister City approaches and other) to ensure that our resources are invested wisely, beneficial outcomes are achieved and Council is in a pro-active position driving our engagement rather than a reactive position responding to each opportunity as it arises.*

*And that,*

*The above occurs prior to any of Council's scarce resources being committed to any overseas trip.*

On September 2014 a further motion was adopted, as follows:

*That the Council:*

1. *Adopts the policy criteria for evaluation of proposals and approaches by international cities and regions as follows;*

*ALL of the following four criteria must be met*

1. *Existing Australian and State Government relationships or agreements, which can be further leveraged for mutual benefit.*
-

**15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

2. *Demonstrable and significant economic and cultural opportunity.*
  3. *Leverages Launceston City's role as a regional service centre.*
  4. *Ability of Council to allocate adequate resources [financial and human] to service engagement and relationships.*
2. *Adopt the following role in pursuing Asian engagement;*
1. *Proactively disseminate specialist market / export information to niche producers in the region.*
  2. *Actively collaborate with agency services:*
    - a. *At the local level with niche producers.*
    - b. *In providing information to potential markets for regional producers to explore.*
  3. *Support and facilitate engagement locally and in potential Asian markets.*
  4. *Support other stakeholders and agencies to develop frameworks which assist in delivering consistent quality of service and product to potential Asian markets.*
  5. *Prepare a profile / prospectus of the City and region, including specialist agency services available to be used in building Launceston and Northern Tasmania as an Asian friendly City / region, through strategic relationships.*
  6. *Establish criteria to be used in assessing the suitability of bi-lateral arrangements for all parties in sister city relationships.*
  7. *Support specialist agencies and other stakeholders to research and detail specific projects for presentation to potential Asian partners.*
  8. *Work with industry and government to identify and remove economic barriers.*
  9. *Assist and support UTAS in the development of education export opportunities.*
3. *On the basis of the policy criteria evaluation, indicated in 1 above; accept with pleasure the verbal invitation by the Mr Song Kening Director General Fujian Foreign Affairs Office and Mr Cen Liang Director Foreign Affairs Office Putian Municipal Government for a delegation of City of Launceston officials to visit Putian City in order to gain a better understanding of achievements that have been made within the City and to explore opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between the two cities.*
4. *Liaises with Mr Song Kening Director General Fujian Foreign Affairs Office and Mr Cen Liang Director Foreign Affairs Office Putian Municipal Government together with Mr Alan Campbell General Manager, Sectoral and Trade Development, Department of State Growth Tasmania, regarding the future timing and arrangements to receive a delegation from the City of Launceston.*
5. *Requests the City of Launceston Sister City Committee to consider and advise the Council upon a proposed itinerary for the delegation to visit Putian City, including leveraging outcomes from the Premier's recent participation with the Prime Minister on a delegation to China and discussion with other potential stakeholders.*
6. *On the basis of the policy criteria in 1. above; decline further exploration of a Sister City Relationship with Quingyuan City, Guandong Province, People's Republic of China.*
-

**15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

7. *That the General Manager be authorised to release, where appropriate, to agents of Council and/or to the public relevant information that relates to the consideration and determination of this matter.*

**Council history of engagement with China, Fujian Province and Putian City and current status.**

On 28 November 1995, Launceston entered a Sister City relationship with Taiyuan, Shanxi Province, People's Republic of China. This relationship has had discussions relating to trade activity and cultural and education exchange, but very little activity has been undertaken. At present the relationship is ceremonial.

On 3 July 2014, at the request of Department of State Growth [then Department of Economic Development Tourism and the Arts], a delegation from Fujian Province, China, visited Launceston City Council. The delegation was welcomed and met by then Deputy Mayor Alderman Jeremy Ball, General Manager, Robert Dobrzynski and Economic Development Officer, Bruce Williams.

The purpose of the visit was part of a larger visit including both State Government and Hobart City Council to explore the potential of establishing separate sister city relationships. The proposal was to develop a sister city relationship between Fuzhou City, and Hobart City and Putian City with Launceston City. Fuzhou is the capital of Fujian Province.

A two hour meeting was held in the afternoon, which was then followed by dinner. These arrangements were organised and funded by the Department of State Growth Tasmania.

As an initial contact, the meetings and dinners were constructive. The Fujian Province provided a draft letter of intent to establish a relationship with Launceston City [Attachment 1]. The letter of intent is not an agreement to a Sister City relationship but it is an agreement to establish a relationship to explore opportunities. As explained by Vivian Zhou, Senior Business Development Manager for Tasmania in Shanghai, 'it is like a commitment to date rather than marry'. In a cultural context the Chinese see this as the start of a relationship and are unable to progress the exploration of opportunities without this commitment.

The proposed Cooperation Projects between Fujian Province and Tasmania, prepared by Fujian Province was used for discussions.

As an outcome of the meeting and further discussion during dinner, Mr Song Kening as Director General Fujian Foreign Affairs Office Fujian Province, personally and formally invited the Launceston City Council to visit Putian to further discuss development of a Friendship Relationship and the opportunity to formalise an agreement of intent to establish a relationship.

---

## **15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

Since July 2014, there has been ongoing dialogue between Mr Chen Liang Director Foreign Affairs Office Putian Municipal Government together and Mr Alan Campbell General Manager, Sectoral and Trade Development, Department of State Growth Tasmania, regarding the future timing and arrangements to receive a delegation from the City of Launceston.

The Economic Development Officer has been proactive in this dialogue and also in facilitating enquiry, contact and deepening the relationship between Mr Chen Liang and the University of Tasmania.

On 26 September 2014, the Mayor wrote to the Mr Chen Liang, Director Foreign Affairs Office Putian Municipal Government to confirm Council ***"unanimously supported a delegation of City of Launceston officials to visit Putian City in order to gain a better understanding of achievements that have been made within the City and to explore opportunities and collaboration between the two cities"***. [Attachment 2]

The invitation, to visit Putian, Fujian Province China will enable Council to critically evaluate if a relationship can develop which meets the policy criteria adopted by the Council. Indeed visiting Putian City it is the only way to conduct a full evaluation of the economic and cultural opportunity.

On 29 January 2015, the Economic Development Officer sought advice from Mr Chen Liang regarding the potential opportunity to visit Putian City and Fujian Province from 25 March to 26 March and to then accompany the Premier's delegation to Fujian Province from 27 March to 28 March 2015.

On 5 February 2015, the City of Launceston Sister City Committee held a meeting to consider a draft itinerary prepared by the Economic Development Officer for a delegation to Putian City Fujian Province. Recommendations from the meeting are contained in this agenda item.

### **State Government history with Chinese engagement and current status**

Tasmania was swift to pursue relations with China and established a sister-state province relationship on 5 March 1981 with Fujian Province. This relationship is one of the oldest between a Chinese province and a state of Australia. The relationship was established to develop cooperative relations and progress trade relationships.

On 8 May 2014, Alan Campbell Department of Economic Development Tourism and the Arts contacted Council informing that the State Government had been approached by the Fujian Provincial Foreign Affairs Office about the possibility of a sister-city relationship between Launceston and Putian.

---

**15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

- ***"As some background, Tasmania and Fujian Province have had a formal sister-state relationship since 1981, with regular exchanges over the years. Former Premier Bacon was very keen on the relationship and visited twice during the period when Xi Jinping was Governor of Fujian Province. Xi Jinping made Premier Bacon an honorary citizen of Fujian province in 2004. Xi Jinping has since become President of China. Formal invitations to Xi Jinping have been made by former Premier Lara Giddings, the current Prime Minister and Premier Will Hodgman."***
  - There are strategic benefits that may be achieved with proposed relationships with Hobart and Fuzhou and Launceston and Putian cities. The establishment of twinning arrangements at a city level would enhance Tasmania's commitment and relationship with Fujian Province and enables interaction at another layer through the respective city Chambers that have direct membership with business.
  - Such direct relationships would further facilitate the establishment of reliable business contacts, thereby improving business opportunities and acting as a gateway to new markets and trade alliances. There is the additional potential that the relationship will be a springboard and catalyst for new investment and knowledge sharing, while also promoting tourism to the ever growing China market.
  - ***"Fujian Province was for a long time the neglected area of China in terms of economic reform and development due to the geographical location opposite Taiwan and the conflict that existed between the two countries. Fujian is now an export, investment and tourism gateway to Taiwan. Globally Fujian business people comprises of one-fifth of the 50 million overseas Chinese in more than 170 countries and regions around the world and it is understood that Fujian business people account for one-tenth of the top 500 business people in the world. This information should not be underestimated in the concept of guanxi as previously explained"***
  - On 18 November 2014, the Chinese President Xi's Jing Ping visited Hobart for the first time. The visit coincided with a TasInvest summit to promote business opportunities in Tasmania to local and overseas investors. About 280 delegates attended the four-day summit and included 200 international delegates and 80 representatives of international investors. The international investors included eight Chinese Fortune 500 companies and the China Shenhua Group, Bank of China, China Development Bank, and China State Grid. Seven major Chinese government ministries were also represented at the summit.
  - During this visit the Tasmanian Premier also signed four Memorandums of Understanding. One of these MOUs relates directly to the City of Launceston [Attachment 3] as follows:-
-



## 15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)

---

### ***"6. Sister State Relationship***

***In a bid to enhance mutual understanding and consensus, and strengthen cooperation in all fields, both sides will promote friendly relations and build new platforms for collaboration. Within the next two years, the events of "the Fujian Week in Tasmania" and "the Tasmania Week in Fujian" will be held respectively in Hobart and Fuzhou, along with SME matchmaking, and tourism promotion activities.***

***Both sides will encourage exchanges and establishment of sister cities relationship between Hobart and Fuzhou, Launceston and Putian, and build platforms for these cities to conduct practical cooperation in the fields of economy and trade, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, culture, education, and tourism".***

- To build on the momentum generated by President Xi's recent visit to Tasmania, the Tasmanian Premier will be leading a delegation to China from 27 March to 2 April 2015, visiting the cities of Fuzhou, Xi'an, Beijing and Shanghai.
- The Premier is aware that the City Councils of both Launceston and Hobart have engaged in discussions regarding potential relationships with cities in Tasmania's Sister-State, Fujian Province. Given the potential synergies in progressing these discussions, a coordinated State and City delegation to Fujian Province would be a worthwhile endeavour.
- On 2 February 2015, the Tasmanian Premier wrote to the Mayor to invite a delegation from Launceston City Council to join him in visiting Fujian Province in Fuzhou from 27 to 28 March 2015 [Attachment 4].

He writes;

***"In November 2014, the Secretary of the CPC Standing Committee of Fujian Province and the Premier agreed to establish a Joint Committee for Cooperation and Development between the two regions. A key activity of my visit to Fuzhou will be to progress opportunities under this bilateral agreement. Besides your individual discussions with Putian City representatives, it would be advantageous if both Hobart and Launceston City Council Mayors or representatives could participate in these Joint Committee discussions".***

***"...I am pleased to invite a delegation from the Launceston City Council to join me in visiting Fujian Province..."***

- Coordination of the mission is being undertaken by Alan Campbell of the Department of State Growth, Tasmania.
-

**15.1 City of Launceston delegation to Fujian Province China...(Cont'd)**

---

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

The cost of the four person delegation for the Putian Fujian leg of the delegation would be approximately \$3,812 per person or \$15,212 for a four person delegation. This expenditure would be met from the Economic Development budget.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

Consideration contained in Report.

**SOCIAL IMPACT:**

Consideration contained in Report.

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

Annual Plan 2013/14  
Priority Area: 3 Social and Economic Environment.

**BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:**

Financial provision is available within the Economic Development budget to finance a delegation to Putian City, China.

There will be a direct cost to the Economic Development budget of approximately \$3,803 per person or a total of \$15,212 for the visit to Putian.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Leanne Hurst: Director Development Services**

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. Letter of Intent
  2. Confirmation of Putian of Council decision to visit.
  3. Joint Committee Agreement
  4. Letter from Premier of Tasmania
-

Attachment 1 - China Delegation - Letter of Intent (Pages = 3)

**LETTER OF INTENT FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF  
FRIENDSHIP RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN LAUNCESTON,  
TASMANIA, THE COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA, AND  
PUTIAN, FUJIAN PROVINCE, THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC  
OF CHINA**

At the invitation of XX, Mayor of Launceston, Tasmania, the Commonwealth of Australia, XX, Mayor of Putian, Fujian Province, the People's Republic of China, has been visiting Launceston from November XX to XX, 2014. During the visit, both sides held talks on the establishment of friendship relationship between Launceston and Putian and reached the following understanding:

In accordance with the Joint Communique Governing the Establishment of Diplomatic Relations between the Commonwealth of Australia and the People's Republic of China, and for the purpose of enhancing understanding and friendship between the peoples of Launceston and Putian, the two sides are to sign the Letter of Intent for the Establishment of Friendship Relationship between Launceston and Putian, so as to promote the friendly contacts between the two peoples and develop exchanges and cooperation in such fields as science and technology, culture, education, public health, sports and tourism, etc. The two sides should make joint efforts to formally establish friendship relationship in the future.

Signed in duplicate in Launceston on November XX, 2014, the Letter of Intent is written in

---

the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

Mayor of Launceston

Mayor of Putian

State of Tasmania

Fujian Province

The Commonwealth of Australia

The People's Republic of China

.....

---

## 中华人民共和国福建省莆田市和澳大利亚联邦 塔斯马尼亚州朗塞斯顿市建立友好城市关系意向书

应澳大利亚联邦塔斯马尼亚州朗塞斯顿市市长×××的邀请，中华人民共和国福建省莆田市市长×××率团于2014年11月××日××至日访问朗塞斯顿市。访问期间，双方就开展友好交流、建立友好城市关系等问题交换意见，达成如下意向。

中华人民共和国福建省莆田市和澳大利亚联邦塔斯马尼亚州朗塞斯顿市，根据中澳两国建交公报原则，为发展莆田市和朗塞斯顿市的友好合作关系，增进两市人民的了解和友谊，同意签署建立友好城市关系意向书，以共同促进两市人民之间的友好交往和经济、贸易往来，并积极开展科技、文化、教育、卫生、体育、旅游等各个领域的交流与合作，为今后莆田市和朗塞斯顿市建立友好城市关系共同努力。

本意向书于2014年11月××日在朗塞斯顿市签署，一式两份，每份都用中文、英文写成，两种文本同等作准。

中华人民共和国  
福建省莆田市市长

澳大利亚联邦  
塔斯马尼亚州朗塞斯顿市市长

---

Attachment 2 - China Delegation - Confirmation of Council decision to visit (Pages = 1)

File No: SF0175  
AvZ:BW

26 September 2014

Mr Chen Liang  
莆田市外侨办

[ptwqb@hotmail.com](mailto:ptwqb@hotmail.com)

Dear Mr Liang

**Letter of intent for the establishment of friendship relationship between Launceston, Tasmania, the Commonwealth of Australia, and Putian, Fujian Province, the People's Republic of China**

Thank you for your email 19 September 2014 requesting information on progress regarding the "Letter of Intent for the Establishment of Friendship Relationship between Launceston, Tasmania, The Commonwealth of Australia, and Putian, Fujian Province, The People's Republic of China" from Mr Cai Wenzhi.

The Launceston City Council met on 8 September 2014 to consider the proposal from Putian City.

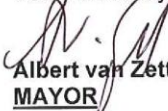
It is with pleasure that I confirm that Council unanimously supported your invitation and the invitation by Mr Song Kening, Director General Fujian Foreign Affairs Office, for a delegation of City of Launceston officials to visit Putian City in order to gain a better understanding of achievements that have been made within the City and to explore opportunities for cooperation and collaboration between the two cities.

Elections are about to be held for Launceston City Council Aldermen on 28 October 2014 and we will be unable to organise a visit until the Council elections have been completed.

After the Council is elected, we will liaise with yourself and Mr Song Kening, Director General Fujian Foreign Affairs Office, together with Mr Alan Campbell, General Manager, Sectoral and Trade Development, Department of State Growth Tasmania, regarding the future timing and arrangements to receive a delegation from the City of Launceston.

We are delighted to be able to confirm we will make these arrangements to visit your City and the Fujian Province.

Yours sincerely,

  
Albert van Zetten  
MAYOR



Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston  
PO Box 396, LAUNCESTON TAS 7250  
T 03 6323 3000 F 03 6323 3001  
E [council@launceston.tas.gov.au](mailto:council@launceston.tas.gov.au)  
[www.launceston.tas.gov.au](http://www.launceston.tas.gov.au)

Attachment 3 - China Delegation - Joint Committee Agreement (Pages = 3)

**Agreement on Establishing the Joint Committee for  
Cooperation and Development between the State of Tasmania, as  
part of the Commonwealth of Australia and Fujian Province,  
the People's Republic of China**

At the invitation of Mr. Will Hodgman, Premier of the State of Tasmania, as part of the Commonwealth of Australia, a delegation led by Mr You Quan, Secretary of the CPC Fujian Provincial Committee and Chairman of the Standing Committee of Fujian Provincial People's Congress, the People's Republic of China, has been visiting Australia from November 16 to 20, 2014.

During the visit, Secretary You Quan and Premier Will Hodgman held constructive talks, and reviewed what the two state and province had achieved in cooperation on economy, trade, agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, education, etc. since the establishment of sister state relationship over three decades ago.

In order to upgrade this relationship and deepen practical cooperation, both sides have reached an agreement on establishing the Joint Committee for Cooperation and Development between the State of Tasmania, the Commonwealth of Australia and Fujian Province, the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the Joint Committee) as follows:

**I. Missions of the Joint Committee**

The Joint Committee shall be responsible for making overall plans of and coordinating bilateral exchanges and cooperation on economy, trade, agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, culture, education, tourism, etc., and promoting friendly contacts between cities on both sides.

**II. Makeup of the Joint Committee**

On the Tasmanian side, the members shall include representatives from the Department of Premier and Cabinet, Department of State Growth, Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment, Tourism Tasmania, Government Education and Training International, Forestry Tasmania, and the University of Tasmania.

On the Fujian side, the members shall include representatives from the Foreign Affairs Office of Fujian Provincial People's Government, Fujian Provincial Department of Education, Fujian Provincial Department of Agriculture, Fujian Provincial Department of Forestry, Fujian Provincial Administration of Ocean and Fisheries, Fujian Provincial Department of Commerce, Fujian Provincial Department of Culture, and Fujian Provincial Administration of Tourism.

**III. Working Mechanism of the Joint Committee**

The Joint Committee shall have a meeting every other year, which shall be hosted in turn by Fujian and Tasmania. The Foreign Affairs Office of Fujian Provincial People's Government and Tasmania Department of State Growth shall be responsible for the regular liaison and coordination of the Joint Committee.

---

## **IV. Proposals for Future Cooperation**

### **1. Economy and Trade**

Each side will encourage local companies to attend the major economic and trade events held by the government of the other and where applicable organize group delegations, and to push for closer industrial cooperation by holding business talks, project matchmaking and tourism promotion activities.

### **2. Agriculture**

Fujian Province will organize agriculture and animal husbandry companies to Tasmania to explore the possibility of cooperation on fine livestock breeding, precision agriculture, irrigation infrastructure, greenhouse vegetable cultivation with water conservation technology, and the introduction of good varieties of crops, animals and birds.

The Agricultural Departments on both sides will establish a channel for information exchanges, hold agricultural produce promotions and exhibitions at an appropriate time, facilitate visits and exchanges between agricultural companies, and expand agricultural trade and cooperation.

### **3. Forestry**

Both sides will continue to cooperate on cold tolerant seedling cultivation, technological exchanges, wood and forest product trade, sustainable forest management, human resources training.

### **4. Ocean and Fisheries**

Both sides will strengthen cooperation on marine environmental protection, comprehensive utilization of seawater, ocean energy development and utilization, sustainable development and utilization of marine biological resources, deep sea fisheries, aquaculture, aquatic products processing and trade, ocean and fisheries technology and human resources exchanges.

### **5. Education**

Both sides will continue to progress existing and new linkages in the areas of education including curriculum and student exchanges.

Both sides promote the establishment of sister relations between universities and middle schools on both sides as appropriate and will consider potential opportunities such as:

- The University of Tasmania establishing appropriate program/s with universities in Fujian Province taking into account research rankings, areas of strength and mutual interests.
  - A cooperative arrangement with the Ocean Engineering College (affiliated under Jimei University) by Jimei University and the University of Tasmania's Australian Maritime College.
  - The development of a 2+1 Children's services Diploma between Minjiang Teachers College and TasTAFE.
  - The establishment of a Confucius classroom by Fuzhou No. 8 Middle School and Hobart College.
  - A Sino-Australia High School Program (Experimental Class) between Xianyou No. 1 Middle School and Rosny College.
-



- Fujian Province and Tasmania State will explore the possibility of setting up governmental scholarships and accept officials from each other to work in the provincial/state government departments or study at the local universities.

**6. Sister State Relationship**

In a bid to enhance mutual understanding and consensus, and strengthen cooperation in all fields, both sides will promote friendly relations and build new platforms for collaboration. Within the next two years, the events of “the Fujian Week in Tasmania” and “the Tasmania Week in Fujian” will be held respectively in Hobart and Fuzhou, along with SME matchmaking, and tourism promotion activities.

Both sides will encourage exchanges and establishment of sister cities relationship between Hobart and Fuzhou, Launceston and Putian, and build platforms for these cities to conduct practical cooperation in the fields of economy and trade, agriculture, forestry, fisheries, culture, education, and tourism.

**7. Review**

Following two years of operation of this Agreement, it is agreed by the parties that the content will be reviewed to reflect the current status and capture new arrangements not yet identified.

**V. Dispute Settlement**

The Joint Committee shall be a working mechanism founded under the framework of sister state-province relationship. Should there be any disputes arising in its operation, they shall be solved by members on both sides through friendly consultation in the principle of equality and mutual benefit.

This Agreement is done in duplicate in the English and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic. Signed in Canberra, Australia on November 17, 2014, it shall come into force from the date of signature as a non-binding memorandum of understanding.

.....  
(Signed)

Representative of the State of  
Tasmania

**Premier of the State of Tasmania**

(Signed)

Representative of Fujian Province,  
the People’s Republic of China

**Secretary of the CPC  
Fujian Provincial Committee**

---

Attachment 4 - China Delegation - Letter from Premier (Pages = 1)

**Premier**  
**Minister for Tourism, Hospitality and Events**  
**Minister for Sport and Recreation**  
**Minister for Aboriginal Affairs**

Level 11 15 Murray Street HOBART TAS 7000 Australia  
GPO Box 123 HOBART TAS 7001 Australia  
Ph: +61 3 6165 7650  
Email: [Premier@dpac.tas.gov.au](mailto:Premier@dpac.tas.gov.au)  
Web: [www.premier.tas.gov.au](http://www.premier.tas.gov.au)



02 FEB 2015

Alderman Albert van Zetten  
Mayor of Launceston  
PO Box 396  
LAUNCESTON TAS 7250

Dear Mayor

To build on the momentum generated by President Xi's visit to Tasmania, I will be leading a delegation to China from 27 March to 2 April 2015, visiting the cities of Fuzhou, Xi'an, Beijing and Shanghai.

I am aware that the Hobart City Council and the Launceston City Council have engaged in discussions regarding potential relationships with cities in Tasmania's Sister-State, Fujian Province. Given the potential synergies in progressing these discussions, a coordinated State and City delegation to Fujian Province would be a worthwhile endeavour and I am pleased to invite a delegation from the Launceston City Council to join me in visiting Fujian Province. I will be in Fuzhou on 27 and 28 March 2015.

In November 2014, the Secretary of the CPC Standing Committee of Fujian Province and I agreed to establish a Joint Committee for Cooperation and Development between the two regions. A key activity of my visit to Fuzhou in 2015 will be to progress opportunities under this bilateral agreement. Besides your individual discussions with representatives from Putian City, it would be advantageous if both you, as the Mayor of the Launceston City Council, and Alderman Sue Hickey, Lord Mayor of the Hobart City Council, or your representatives, could participate in these Joint Committee discussions.

Coordination of the mission is being undertaken by Mr Alan Campbell of the Department of State Growth from whom further details are available. Mr Campbell can be contacted by telephone on 6165 5052 or by email to [Alan.Campbell@stategrowth.tas.gov.au](mailto:Alan.Campbell@stategrowth.tas.gov.au).

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Will Hodgman".

Will Hodgman MP  
Premier

FILE No.	SF0175				
EO		OD	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Box	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
RCVD			-3 FEB 2015		LCC
Doc No.					
	Action Officer	Noted	Replied		
	A VAN ZETTEN				

**16 FACILITIES MANAGEMENT**

**Nil**

**17 QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY**

**Nil**

---

**18 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES****18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions****FILE NO:** SF0628 SF0634 SF4670**AUTHOR:** Harry Galea (Director Infrastructure Services)

---

**DECISION STATEMENT:**

To revise the existing *Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy* that reflect the change from a volume based system to a wholly weight based system and to include a new section to establish criteria that provides transitional pricing arrangements affecting commercial operators due to the change from the volume to weight based system at the Launceston Waste Centre transfer station.

**PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:**

Item 5.4 SPPC 2 February 2015

Discussion of proposed changes to existing concessions policy to include transitional pricing arrangements.

Item 5 SPPC 15 December 2014

Discussion on merits of transitional arrangements associated with changing waste disposal fees from a volume based to a weight based system.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That Council resolves to approve amendments the existing (12-PI-014) ***Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy*** as provided below:

**PURPOSE:**

To set out the criteria when to apply a concessional or reduced fee to dispose refuse at the waste disposal facilities at the Launceston Waste Centre, Lilydale and Nunamara.

**SCOPE:**

This policy varies the waste disposal charges annually adopted by the Council pursuant to Section 205 of the *Local Government Act* 1993 which applies to the following:

- (a) Pensioners;
  - (b) Resident 'free' days
  - (c) Community organisations and
  - (d) Commercial customers.
-

## **18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

### ***POLICY:***

#### **1. General**

All persons and organisations (including the Council's operations departments and contractors) who dispose of refuse at Council's waste disposal facilities, shall be charged the appropriate fee(s) as adopted by the Council pursuant to Section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993*, unless varied by this policy.

#### **2. Pensioners**

Pensioners and Pensioner householders who hold a Commonwealth Pensioner Card are entitled to receive twelve vouchers for exemption from fees at the waste disposal sites. The service is provided to minimise the financial burden to pensioners as per the following.

- a) The vouchers shall be distributed:
  - by post to pensioners whose properties are in the City of Launceston and received the State Government pensioner property rate rebate *or*
  - by collection from Council's Customer Service Centre by others who hold a Commonwealth Pensioner Card and where the residential address is listed in the City of Launceston.
- b) Vouchers may be redeemed on the following basis:
  - Where the weight of refuse is not more than the equivalent weight of the minimum charge and transported to the waste disposal facility in a car boot load, station wagon load or single axle trailer - 1 voucher
  - Where the weight of refuse is more than the equivalent weight of the minimum charge and transported to the waste disposal facility in a car boot load, station wagon load or single axle trailer - 1 voucher for each equivalent weight of the minimum charge of waste (or part thereof) OR vouchers plus any difference in cash.
  - If disposal is green waste undertaken as part of a commercial mowing operation/business - 1 voucher for each pensioner property (as certified by the business operator) where each voucher equates to 20 kg weight.
  - Notwithstanding the above, disposal of a single axle trailer at Lilydale or Nunamara Waste Transfer Stations - 2 vouchers.

disposed at the:

- Launceston Waste Centre, Remount Road, Mowbray
  - Lilydale Waste Transfer Station, Second River Road, Lilydale
  - Nunamara Waste Transfer Station, Bingham's Road, Nunamara
-

**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

provided the refuse

- is domestic in nature and quantity
- is not classed as a 'Controlled' (Hazardous) Waste.

In all other cases (including dual axle trailer) normal gate/fee charges apply without concession.

c) Vouchers shall be accepted at the waste disposal sites:

- when the person disposing the refuse is acting directly for the pensioner issued with the vouchers and
- within the valid period as specified on the voucher.

Vouchers are not transferable to the benefit of another person and at all times are only available for the benefit of the pensioner originally issued the vouchers.

Vouchers shall be bar coded to minimise administration tasks at the gate and, if practical, link to the pensioner card holder details.

Where breaches of any conditions of use occurs, the General Manager may suspend the issue of future vouchers to the applicable pensioner for as long a period as considered appropriate.

d) The Waste Management Income account shall be reimbursed at the value of vouchers redeemed at the waste disposal sites from the Council's General Rates. The concession shall be treated as a Community Service Obligation.

e) Each pensioner or householder is entitled to receive twelve vouchers for the financial year.

### **3. Resident 'Free' Day**

All Launceston residents shall be allowed free entry to the Council's waste disposal sites on two Sundays each year. The service is provided to allow domestic properties to conduct seasonal maintenance.

a) The Council's waste disposal sites at:

- Launceston Waste Centre, Remount Road, Mowbray
- Lilydale Waste Transfer Station, Second River Road, Lilydale
- Nunamara Waste Transfer Station, Bingham Road, Nunamara

shall accept refuse at no charge or fee on the:

- Sunday in March which coincides with 'Clean Up Australia Day' and
  - first Sunday in October (to coincide with day 1 of daylight savings and mid Spring)
- provided that:
-

**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

- the refuse is:
  - domestic in nature and quantity
  - not classed as a 'Controlled' (Hazardous) waste
  - transported in a vehicle/trailer less than a total GMV of 3 tonnes
- b) The dates shall be advertised in the resident's newsletter immediately circulating prior to each free day and listed on the website.
- c) The Waste Management Income account shall be reimbursed the value of the entries from the Council's General Rates. The concession shall be treated as a Community Service Obligation.

**4. Community organisations**

The Council shall support the activities of community organisations by subsidising the cost of disposing refuse at the Council's waste disposal sites.

- a) Community organisations seeking concessional access to the:
- Launceston Waste Centre, Remount Road, Mowbray
  - Lilydale Waste Transfer Station, Second River Road, Lilydale
  - Nunamara Waste Transfer Station, Bingham Road, Nunamara
- shall make application for a Community Organisation Dallas Tag. The Dallas Tag must be produced by each and every vehicle (whether or not the vehicle is sign written with the community organisation's logo/name) to receive the concession. Where the Dallas Tag is not produced then ruling gate fees shall be charged and there shall be no retrospective reimbursement of the charge.

The initial Dallas Tag shall be issued at no cost. Additional or replacement Dallas Tags shall be charged the ruling rate which will be deducted from the subsidy approved by Council.

- b) Community organisations making an application for a Dallas Tag shall:
- provide proof that they hold an Australian Taxation Office certificate that they are a charity being a non-government organisation with Deductible Gift Recipient status listed as a Benevolent Society.

**OR ALTERNATIVELY**

- Be an organisation for the principal purpose of community good where:
    - the activities are benevolent
    - the organisation is not-for-profit
    - the organisation has no paid operational/field employees (reimbursements and honorariums excepted)
-

**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

These organisations shall provide details to satisfy the conditions and purpose and shall be approved by the Council. Information to be included in any application (but not be limited to) shall be number and broad location of benefiting participants; whether any charge of any kind is applied; number of volunteers; and quantity and type of waste. The applicant may submit testimonials or references if considered appropriate. Registration shall be considered prior to each financial year.

AND

- Submit only one application per organisation (only one application per organisation will be accepted by the Council).
  - Have the registered address in the City of Launceston as shown on the Australian Taxation Office certificate OR evidence of premises in Launceston (if applicable).
  - Establish a debtor account to allow the Council to charge for refuse where the concession is less than 100% of the ruling gate fee or the subsidy provided by the Council has been used.
  - Acknowledge that where a Dallas Tag is not produced that the driver shall pay the gate fee in cash.
  - Acknowledge that refuse deposited at the waste disposal site shall be separated and disposed in the relevant green waste, recycling, resource recovery and waste areas.
- c) Community organisations shall ensure that the Dallas Tag
- Is only used to dispose of refuse that has been generated in the normal conduct of charitable and/or community good work (i.e. benevolent work) and generated within the City of Launceston.
  - Is not used by any other person or company or organisation no matter the intent of their use or the type of their business.
  - Is not used for 'Controlled' (Hazardous) waste; building and construction waste; or commercial type materials.
- Where serious breaches of any conditions occurs (whether or not with the knowledge of the management of the community organisation), the General Manager may suspend the use of the Access Card to the applicable community organisation for as long as a period considered appropriate.
- d) The Waste Management Income account shall be reimbursed at the value of the entries from the Council's General Rates. The concession shall be treated as a Community Service Obligation.
-



**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

e) The concession to fees applicable to community organisations shall be to establish a reimbursement limit for each registered community organisation prior to each financial year as approved by Council. The decision shall consider the recommendations of the Community Grants Panel who shall take into account the:

- budget limit within the draft or adopted budget
- written request of each registered community organisation and
- historical use of the concessional entry by the applicant organisation.

At the end of each month a progress reimbursement report shall be sent to each community organisation. Any use in excess of the reimbursement allowance shall be billed each month after the allowance is exhausted.

**5. Commercial customers**

The introduction of a weight based system at the Launceston Waste Centre transfer station may result in substantial fee increases for commercial customers as they move from a volume base to the weight based system during 2015. This section deals with managing severe and unexpected price rise experienced by these commercial operators.

The principles applying to this section are:

- The Council seeks to ultimately charge for waste disposal at sustainable rates that is consistent among all customers.
- The Council seeks to transition qualifying commercial customers to the full rate over a longer period where the price rise has a detrimental business effect.
- Qualifying commercial customers would include significant hardship and where business arrangements are rigid and/or fixed, such that the increase cost cannot be recovered in the short term. Qualifying customers would be considered on a case by case basis.
- The transition period is envisaged to be 12 months.

The policy provisions relating to this section are:

- a) The standard gate charge would be applied as intended on the basis of commercial and domestic customers and hence eliminate the discretion being applied by Operations staff at the Launceston Waste Centre.
  - b) A commercial business seeking a reduction would be considered to qualify if significant hardship was demonstrated based on the following tests:
    - i) The scale of the fee increase is unable to be absorbed without severe hardship. The severe hardship is presumed to occur where the increase in costs would exceed 1% of the annual revenue and
-

**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

- ii) As a whole the business was contractually limited to passing on the increase to its customers and
- iii) The increase was not reasonably expected or previously informed.

The business shall provide any reasonable evidence requested.

- c) The qualifying organisation would seek refund (or be an account customer charged) on a monthly basis between the charge paid and the concession applied by the Council.
- d) The final amount of the refund and transitional provisions would be negotiated by staff with the business.
- e) The concession/charge would be revised with quarterly increments to progressively increase the cost to the customer over the transition period.
- f) Eligibility for the fee reduction and the application of the transition shall be as approved jointly by the Director Corporate Services and Director Infrastructure Services.

***PRINCIPLES:***

To provide support to pensioners, benevolent community organisations, residents and businesses in disposing of waste materials at Council's waste disposal facilities.

***RELATED POLICIES & PROCEDURES:***

Application for Concessional Entry to Council's Waste Disposal Facilities 12-Fmx-104.

***RELATED LEGISLATION:***

*Local Government Act 1993, Section 205 (Fees and Charges)*

***REFERENCES:***

N/A

***DEFINITIONS:***

'Community organisation' – for this policy shall be a non-government organisation which holds an ATO certificate demonstrating they are a benevolent charity or whose principal activities are for benevolent community good, be not-for-profit and have no paid operational/field employees, as approved by Council.

---

## **18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

'Controlled' (Hazardous) Waste – includes all waste identified by the Environmental Pollution Authority (EPA) and includes asbestos, chemicals, tyres, sewage and contaminated soils.

'Refuse' - includes any unwanted goods or materials whether putrescibles green or solid waste.

### **REVIEW:**

This policy will be reviewed on 30 June 2020 or more frequently, if dictated by operational demands and with Council's approval.

---

### **REPORT:**

(Note: For ease of identification, additions to the existing policy above are shown underlined.)

#### **Transition Pricing Provisions**

An issue was raised by Alderman Robin McKendrick which was later discussed at the 15 December SPPC meeting regarding the impact of the change to a wholly weight based fee system at the Launceston Waste Centre on a small business.

As of 23 March the waste into the Launceston Waste Centre will be charged on a weight based system.

Although staff throughout 2014 had informed a number of small businesses that were likely to experience a significant change, full ramifications of changed processes materialise only through the final implementation and as some individual issues arise.

The 15 December SPPC meeting considered that provisions should be introduced to assist with the transition for some commercial customers likely to experience severe hardship. The following principles appeared to have general support and hence are core to the policy developed and presented for approval.

The principles in the concessions policy are:

- Council seek to ultimately charge for waste disposal at sustainable rates that is consistent among all customers.
  - Council seeks to transition qualifying commercial customers to the full rate over a longer period where the price rise has a detrimental business effect.
-

## **18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

- Qualifying customers would include significant hardship and where business arrangements are rigid/fixed. Qualifying customers would be considered on a case by case basis.
- The envisaged transition period is 12 months.

It is considered that provisions to assist with the pricing transition be included in the existing policy *Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities* which contains all concessional arrangements associated with the Launceston Waste Centre for Pensioners, Charitable Organisations and 'Free Tip Days'.

The opportunity was also taken to amend the policy to reflect the changes approved by Council in recent months. It should be noted that a further report is intended to be presented in mid-2015 to confirm the scale and benefiting user groups which will be a more fundamental assessment of this policy.

### **Commercial Traders using Pensioner Concession Vouchers**

Staff will begin a process which will focus on distributing information to commercial customers, who historically have used the waste transfer station, of the commercial fee structure including those who may require a concession to assist with the transition.

It is also necessary to address the proper application of concessional vouchers (i.e. pensioner tip tickets) where currently commercial businesses providing mowing services have sought a reduction in their charge by production of single or multiple vouchers. Commercial operators offer a lower price to pensioners if they surrender a number of Pensioner Tip tickets. Staff at the Launceston Waste Centre often remark on the 'glove box of tickets' when the businesses visit the site and use the tickets to gain free entry. Although it has not been intended to allow tickets to barter a lower price and be offered by mowing commercial operators to gain free entry, the practice gained acceptance and reversing this has never been tackled.

With the sweeping changes at the Launceston Waste Centre, specifically the movement to all users subject to a weight based fee system, then changes to inappropriate past practices is best implement now. That said any change will not be popular with some customers.

As mentioned the current policy was designed to allow family members and friends to act on behalf of pensioners in delivering refuse to the waste transfer stations. It was never intended to be used by businesses - whether grass cutting companies, tradesmen, building companies or the like. Specifically the policy (and listed on the voucher) states:

---

## **18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

- Vouchers accepted only for boot loads, station wagons or single axle trailers.
- Refuse disposed must be domestic in nature and quantity.
- Person disposing the refuse is acting directly for the pensioner issued with the voucher.

These provisions were meant to narrow the use of the tickets to pensioners, immediate family and friends and eliminate their use as part of a commercial transaction.

As a means to identify the scale of the issue the following information is offered:

- A 'normal' 800m<sup>2</sup> property would produce a maximum of 70 litres of grass (i.e. half a wheelie bin)
- The trailer used by mowing companies vary in size but at a minimum 3.2m<sup>2</sup> (i.e. 6 by 4 with 4 ft sides) and generally 5.7m<sup>2</sup> (7 by 5 with 5-6 ft sides). Mowing companies have set-up only using single axle trailers.
- A mowing company trailer can hold grass from 46 properties to 80 properties (based on the trailer sizes mentioned above)
- Mowing companies expect to dispose gardening waste free of charge when handing over 2 vouchers.
- The weight of a trailer full of grass is expected to be 300 - 450 kg (or \$23 - \$35 based on commercial weight based rates).

If the terms of the policy are strictly adhered to then given the scale of the 'quantity' is NOT domestic then no vouchers can be used (but as said a sudden move to this position will result in complaints being received.)

The options available are:

1. Continue with the current practise where vouchers are able to be offered by mowing businesses to cover the minimum charge of \$10 (Note: domestic customer results in a weight of 185 kg based on the domestic fee rate but at commercial rates the weight would be 126 kg). Hence a 300 kg load would require 3 vouchers.

Comment: This option does not address the fundamental issue that the majority of the load may be non-pensioners' where fees should be paid. The outcome would be unfair as the business would be using pensioner vouchers to subsidise their operations.

2. Seek a voucher per pensioner client. Given that a client's lawn produces 70 litres (15 kg) grass then one voucher per 15kg. The business would nominate how many pensioner clients' properties were involved in each particular load for calculation of the subsidy.

Comment: This option is workable. The 'word' of the operator would be accepted and the operator is able to offer a discount to the pensioner.

---

**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

[**Note:** Since discussion at the 2 February 2015 SPPC, the 15kg value was further discussed internally and as a means to provide a broader buffer it is recommended the weight be increased to 20kg.]

3. Discontinue accepting voucher from Commercial businesses either:
  - a. Inform business that the operational date will be Monday 23 March (coincide with moving to full weight based fees for all customers) OR
  - b. Delay operational date until 1 July 2015 to allow businesses 3 months to transition OR
  - c. Action 3a but offer businesses opportunity to seek transitional arrangements using the provisions of the policy OR
  - d. Limit to one voucher per entry until 31 December 2015.

On balance it is recommended that option 2 be supported and included in the policy. This allows pensioners to continue to offer their voucher to mowing companies to reduce their cost but where the voucher is specifically only available for single use and only direct benefit to the customer. This arrangement is the most comparable to an independent pensioner who mows their lawns and takes the cut grass directly to the Launceston Waste Centre.

**ECONOMIC IMPACT:**

Although the ultimate goal is to treat all classes of ratepayers and users of services and facilities equitably, it is necessary to consider any individual adverse effects and implement measure to ensure a less disruption introduction of changed systems.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:**

The primary goal in the Council's waste management strategy is waste minimisation and waste diversion. The outcomes have positive environmental impacts in that there will be a trend to reduce the use of natural resources in creating materials for 'new' produces, reuse and recycling obsolete goods and materials (as a substitute for 'new' materials) and less waste to landfill which in turn minimises risk of contamination of the environment.

**SOCIAL IMPACT:**

The ultimate goal is to treat all classes of ratepayers and services uses equitable even though, in some cases, a transition period is been introduced. The policy will not have significant social impact.

---

**18.1 Concessional Entry to the Council's Waste Disposal Facilities Policy - inclusion of Transition Pricing provisions...(Cont'd)**

---

**STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:**

The key directions within Council's Strategic Plan (2014-2024) which are considered relevant:

- 7.1.2 - To provide an environment that is conducive to business and development
- 7.1.6 - To facilitate direct investment in the local economy to support its growth.

**BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:**

The impact given the size of the income generated is insignificant.

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

The officer has no conflict of interest in this item.

I certify that I have reviewed and approved this advice and recommendation.



**Harry Galea: Director Infrastructure Services**

---

**19 CORPORATE SERVICES**

Nil

**20 GENERAL MANAGER**

Nil

**21 URGENT BUSINESS**

Pursuant to regulation 8(6) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005*

**22 INFORMATION / MATTERS REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION**

Nil

**23 CLOSED COUNCIL ITEMS****23.1 Rates Remission****23.2 Leave of Absence Application - Alderman****RECOMMENDATION:**

That Agenda Item(s) 23.1 to 23.2 be considered within closed Council pursuant to the authority contained within regulation 15(2) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2005*, which permits the meeting to be closed to the public for business relating to the following:

**23.1 Rates Remission**

15(2)(j) as it concerns the personal affairs of a person/company.

**23.2 Leave of Absence Application - Alderman**

15(2)(i) as it concerns, application by an elected member for leave of absence.

**24 MEETING CLOSURE**

---