



City of
LAUNCESTON

COUNCIL AGENDA

**COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY 23 NOVEMBER 2015
1.00pm**

City of Launceston

COUNCIL AGENDA

Monday 23 November 2015

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

Date: 23 November 2015

Time: 1.00pm

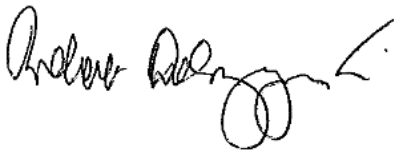
Section 65 Certificate of Qualified Advice

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

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1 OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government Act 1993 - Section 48

(A councillor must declare any interest that the councillor has in a matter before any discussion on that matter commences.)

3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 35(1)(b)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council held on 9 November 2015 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

4 DEPUTATIONS

No Deputations have been identified as part of this Agenda

5 PETITIONS

Local Government Act 1993 - Sections 57 and 58

No Petitions have been identified as part of this Agenda

6 COMMUNITY REPORTS

(Community Reports allow an opportunity for Community Groups to provide Council with a three minute verbal presentation detailing activities of the group. This report is not intended to be used as the time to speak on Agenda Items; that opportunity exists when that Agenda Item is about to be considered. Speakers are not to request funding or ask questions of Council. Printed documentation may be left for Aldermen.)

No Community Reports have been registered with Council as part of this Agenda

7 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31

7.1 Public Questions on Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31(1)

(Questions on Notice must be in writing and should be received by the General Manager at least seven days before the relevant Council Meeting. Questions on Notice will be researched by Council Officers and both the Question on Notice (as received) and the response will be provided at the Council Meeting and a reply in writing will also be provided.)

7.1.1 Public Questions on Notice - Ms Diana Targett - UTAS Inveresk Accommodation**FILE NO:** SF2385/SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Committee Clerk)**GENERAL MANAGER:** Robert Dobrzynski (General Manager)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider Public Questions on Notice raised by Ms Diana Targett in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 31 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

QUESTION AND RESPONSE:

What environmental and architectural guidelines and policies were considered by the Council when issuing a permit for basic student accommodation in the Inveresk precinct?

Response by Planning Services: The development application (DA0393/2014), for the Inveresk student accommodation, was assessed against the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2012 (planning scheme), under the requirements of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* (the Act). The development application was discretionary in accordance with Section 57 of the Act and was advertised for public comment for 14 days from 25 October 2014 to 10 November 2014.

The application was assessed against the applicable sections of the planning scheme, all of which contain some standards regarding design and/or environmental matters. This includes:

Particular Purpose Zone 4 - Inveresk Site purpose, local area objectives and use and development standards:

- E2 Potentially Contaminated Land Code
- E4 Road and Railway Assets Code
- E6 Parking and Sustainable Transport Code
- E13 Local Historic Heritage Code
- E16 Invermay/Inveresk Flood Inundation Area

The application was also considered by the Tasmanian Heritage Council (THC) as the site is listed on the Tasmanian Heritage Register. Approval was granted by the THC (subject to conditions) on the 19 November 2014.

**7.1.1 Public Questions on Notice - Ms Diana Targett - UTAS Inveresk
Accommodation...(Cont'd)**

The Inveresk student accommodation was designed by Morrison & Breytenbach Architects, based in Hobart. The design specifically considers environmental matters and the University is seeking a Five Star rating for the development under the internationally recognised Green Star accreditation system. Sustainability initiatives include design for high energy efficiency, water tanks for reuse of stormwater and dedicated parking for fuel efficient and electric vehicles. The construction method uses lightweight Tasmanian plantation timber modules fabricated locally, considerably reducing the construction time.

REPORT:

Public Questions on Notice raised by Ms Diana Targett at the Council Meeting of 9 November 2015 were directed to Mr R Dobrzynski (General Manager) for response. Council Officers have provided a written response to the question raised.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

N/A

SOCIAL IMPACT:

N/A


STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

N/A

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.


Robert Dobrzynski: General Manager

7.2 Public Questions without Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31(2)(b)

(Members of the public who ask Questions without Notice at a meeting will have both the question and any answer provided recorded in the Minutes. Council Officers will endeavour to answer the question asked at the meeting, however, that is not always possible and more research may be required. If an answer cannot be provided at the Meeting, the question will be treated as a Question on Notice. A response will be provided at the next Council Meeting.)

8 PLANNING AUTHORITY**8.1 40 Ann Street - Amendment 10 to Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 - Business and Professional Services Use class****FILE NO:** SF6361**AUTHOR:** George Walker (Town Planner)**DIRECTOR:** Leanne Hurst (Director Development Services)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To provide a statement to the Tasmanian Planning Commission subsequent to the public exhibition period for an application for an amendment to the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 under Section 33(1) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* to insert a qualification into Table 11.2 of the Inner Residential zone to allow the Business and Professional Services Use class as a discretionary use on land identified as 40 Ann Street, Launceston, folio of the Register Volume 131354 Folio 1.

PLANNING APPLICATION INFORMATION:

Applicant:	6ty° Pty Ltd
Property:	Volume 131354 Folio 1
Land Area:	584m ²
Zone:	Inner Residential
Received:	30 July 2015
Decision Deadline:	8 December 2015

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council 14 September 2015 - 8.2 Council resolved to initiate and publicly exhibit Amendment 10 to the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 and provide a statement to this effect to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, in accordance with section 39(2) of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, notify the Tasmanian Planning Commission that no representations were received during the public exhibition period and that no modification is required to the application for 40 Ann Street - Amendment 10 to the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 Business and Professional Services Use class Launceston, folio of the Register Volume 131354 Folio 1.

8.1 40 Ann Street - Amendment 10 to Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 - Business and Professional Services Use class...(Cont'd)

REPORT:

The amendment seeks to insert a qualification into Table 11.2 of the Inner Residential zone to allow the Business and Professional Services Use class as a discretionary use on land identified as 40 Ann Street, Launceston, folio of the Register Volume 131354 Folio 1. The amendment achieves this by making the following alteration to Table 11.2 of the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 (the scheme):

11.2 Use Table

Discretionary	
Use Class	Qualification
Business and Professional Services	If for a medical centre; If at 40 Ann Street, Launceston (CT13154/1)

The current table of use for the Inner Residential zone limits the land uses that can occur under the Business and Professional Services to a medical centre only by way of a qualification. The purpose of the proposed planning scheme amendment is to remove the limitation imposed by Table 11.2 from 40 Ann Street by enabling the suite of sub-uses under the Business and Professional Services Use class to be considered as discretionary uses, for 40 Ann Street.

The Council resolved to initiate and publicly exhibit Amendment 10 at its meeting on 14 September 2015. The amendment was then placed on public exhibition in accordance with the requirements of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* for a statutory timeframe of 28 days between 3 October and 3 November 2015. No representations were received during this period.

At the close of the public exhibition period, the Council has 35 days to consider the merit of any representations received and any recommendations in relation to the amendment as the Council considers necessary and notify the Tasmanian Planning Commission accordingly. The Tasmanian Planning Commission may then elect to hold hearings if it is considered necessary. At the conclusion of the statutory process, the Tasmanian Planning Commission will determine whether to modify, grant or reject the amendment.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

No significant economic impacts have been identified.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

No significant environmental impacts have been identified.

8.1 40 Ann Street - Amendment 10 to Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 - Business and Professional Services Use class...(Cont'd)

SOCIAL IMPACT:

No significant social impacts have been identified.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993

Northern Regional Land Use Strategy

Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2012

State Policy on the Protection of Agricultural Land 2009

State Policy on Water Quality Management 1997

State Coastal Policy 1996

National Environmental Protection (Used Packaging Materials) Measure;

National Environmental Protection (Ambient Air Quality) Measure;

National Environmental Protection (Movement of Controlled Waste Between States and Territories) Measure;

National Environmental Protection (National Pollutant Inventory) Measure;

National Environmental Protection (Assessment of Site Contamination) Measure;

National Environmental Protection (Diesel Vehicle Emissions) Measure; and

National Environmental Protection (Air Toxics) Measure.

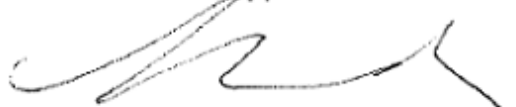
BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

N/A

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

9 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR**9.1 Mayor's Announcements****FILE NO:** SF2375

Monday 9 November

- Attended the University of Tasmania's 125th Celebrative Reception at Parliament House in Canberra

Wednesday 11 November

- Officiated at the Remembrance Day Commemorative Service at the Royal Park
- Presented an award and was part of the Official Party at the Launceston College Graduation and Awards Ceremony at the Albert Hall

Thursday 12 November

- Attended the Kings Meadows High School Arts Night at the Princess Theatre
- Attended the Three Rivers Production of "Disclosed" at the Earl Arts Centre

Friday 13 November

- Officiated at the announcement of this year's winners of the inaugural Pallet Competition at the Self Help Workplace in Youngtown
- Opened the Faces of Launceston Exhibition Opening at QVMAG

Saturday 14 November

- Officiated and started the "Walk with Me" for St Giles in the Brisbane Street Mall
- Attended the Northern Tasmanian Junior Soccer Association Annual Dinner at the Country Club Casino

Tuesday 17 November

- Officiated at the Official Employment Plus Launceston site opening in Cameron Street, Launceston
 - Officiated the Bible Society's "Their Sacrifice" Exhibition at Launceston LINC
-

9.1 Mayor's Announcements...(Cont'd)

Wednesday 18 November

- Attended the Ambulance Tasmania Awards and Recognition Ceremony at the Tailrace Centre
- Attended the Launch of season for Theatre North at the Princess Theatre

Thursday 19 November

- Officiated at the East Launceston Bowling and Community Club Civic Reception at the Town Hall

Friday 20 November

- Attended the Opening of ArtPlay Exhibition at QVMAG
- Officiated at Christmas in the City, Brisbane Street Mall

Sunday 22 November

- Attended the 190th Anniversary Celebration of the opening of St John's Church, St John's Church, Launceston
-

10 ALDERMEN'S REPORTS

(This item provides an opportunity for Aldermen to briefly report on the activities that have been undertaken in their capacity as a representative of the Council. It is not necessary to list social functions that have been attended.)

11 QUESTIONS BY ALDERMEN**11.1 Questions on Notice**

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 30

(A councillor, at least seven days before an ordinary Council Meeting or a Council Committee Meeting, may give written notice to the General Manager of a question in respect of which the councillor seeks an answer at that Meeting. An answer to a Question on Notice will be in writing.)

11.2 Questions without Notice

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 29

(Questions without Notice, and any answers to those questions, are not required to be recorded in the Minutes of the Meeting.)

12 COMMITTEE REPORTS**12.1 Street Tree Advisory Committee Meeting - 4 November 2015****FILE NO:** SF5726**AUTHOR:** Tricia De Leon-Hillier (Parks Lease Management Officer)**DIRECTOR:** Harry Galea (Director Infrastructure Services)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive and consider a report from the Street Tree Advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the Street Tree Advisory Committee meeting held on 4 November 2015.

REPORT:

The Street Tree Advisory Committee held a meeting on the 4 November 2015 and discussed the following items:

1. Works Completed

The following works have been completed:

- As part of the 'City Heart' project, two trees have been temporarily taken off site. The standard Birch tree has been replanted at Punchbowl Reserve.
- St Leonards Village Green
This is a joint planting project with St Leonards Primary and the local Lions Club.
- Russell Street (fruit trees planted).

2. Current Project Works

- Bridge Road
 - David Street (Newstead)
 - Forster Street (Eastern end)
 - Forster Street (Western end)
 - 272 Charles Street
-

12.1 Street Tree Advisory Committee Meeting - 4 November 2015...(Cont'd)

3. Future Works

- Quadrant Mall
- George Street and William Street intersection
- York Street (High Street to Tamar Street)
- St John Street Esplanade to William Street

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

Sustainability benefits and reduces the impact of climate change.

SOCIAL IMPACT:

Positive social impact as it increases the amenity and attractiveness of the CBD.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

The strategic documents relevant are:

1. Launceston Street Tree Strategy.
2. City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2014-2024 key directions:
 - 2.1.1 To continue to offer an attractive network of parks, open spaces and facilities throughout Launceston.
 - 2.1.4 To promote Launceston's rich heritage and natural environment.

BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

N/A

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

12.2 Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee Report - 5 November 2015**FILE NO:** SF0839**AUTHOR:** Tricia De Leon-Hillier (Parks Lease Management Officer)**DIRECTOR:** Harry Galea (Director Infrastructure Services)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive and consider a report from the Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee meeting held on 5 November 2015 and approves to allow a three month trial for busking at the Cataract Gorge Cliff grounds.

REPORT:

A meeting of the Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee was held on 5 November 2015 and the following items were discussed:

1. Acknowledgement of newly appointed Community Members

Alderman Janie Finlay, on behalf of the Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee (CGAC), introduced and welcomed our new community representatives Anna Coxen and Samantha Denmead.

Alderman Janie Finlay, on behalf of the CGAC also thanked Andrew Smith Manager of Parks & Recreation for his long service to the community, committee and Council and his hard work over the past 24 years.

2. Busking at the Cliff grounds

The CGAC considered a proposal received from Kerrie Maguire who has expressed an interest in busking at the Cliff ground - Band Rotunda. She has a City Prom busking permit and recently won the People's Choice award at The Junction Arts Festival. The committee has approved a three month trial.

3. Reimagining the Gorge Project Update

The White Paper is now on a four week exhibition period prior to being returned to Council for final approval.

12.2 Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee Report - 5 November 2015...(Cont'd)

4. Basin Cottage and Volunteer Report

The Basin Cottage celebrated its 90th birthday last month. There have been 13 public events held at the Basin Cottage this year with a total of 447 who have attended along the various 'Gorgeous Walks' events. The 'Night Stalk' and 'Seed Gathering' have been the most popular events and to date there has been 9,082 visitors through the cottage this calendar year.

5. Basin Concert Update

The Basin Concert is booked in for the 9 January 2016 and documentation for the event is starting to arrive. There will be some changes to the public access to address issues that occurred with the previous event.

6. Signage Update

The new orientation signs for the four major entrances were discussed and it was agreed to hold a special workshop with the committee to view the signs in detail. A number of suggestions were made to improve the panels and the workshop was held on 10 November 2015.

7. BBQ and Stone Shelter Completed

The First Basin Stone Shelter redevelopment project commenced March 2015 following a busy summer period. The work progressed well in the early stages but was then held up by the winter rains and the possibility of a flooding and completed by 1 October 2015. The shelter has four picnic tables and is proving to be very popular with family group's that now has two electric barbeques which can be removed in the event of a flood. The stone shelter is lit at night until 9:00pm when the power is automatically turned off to the lights and barbeques.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

N/A

SOCIAL IMPACT:N/A

12.2 Cataract Gorge Advisory Committee Report - 5 November 2015...(Cont'd)

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

The key directions in the City of Launceston Strategic Plan 2014-2024 considered relevant are:

- 2.1.1 To continue to offer an attractive network of parks, open spaces and facilities throughout Launceston
- 2.1.4 To promote Launceston's rich heritage and natural environment
- 2.1.6 To promote active and healthy lifestyles

BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

N/A

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

12.3 Northern Youth Coordinating Committee Report - 5 November 2015**FILE NO:** SF0136**AUTHOR:** Tamara Clark (Youth Development Officer)**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 November 2015.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

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

REPORT:

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

- National Youth Week 2016 combined-agency event for Northern Tasmanian youth on 9 April 2016. Young people from Youth Advisory networks to be consulted.
- Medibank Community Grant being sought for a new *Hang Time* youth program to be held at the YMCA Launceston.
- 'Young Mums 'n' Bubs program' run by Karinya Young Women's service, supporting vulnerable and 'at risk' young mothers.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:N/A

12.3 Northern Youth Coordinating Committee Report - 5 November 2015...(Cont'd)

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 of Launceston

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

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

12.4 Municipal Emergency Management Committee Meeting - 6 November 2015**FILE NO:** SF3177**AUTHOR:** Rod Sweetnam (Director Facilities Management)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive and consider a report from the Municipal Emergency Management Committee.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives the report from the Municipal Emergency Management Committee meeting held on Friday 6 November 2015.

REPORT:

The meeting of the Municipal Emergency Management Committee held on 6 November 2015 discussed:

1. Members Reports
Members provided an update on current activities.
2. Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEM Plan)
The Committee resolved that the draft MEM Plan as tabled be adopted. Also, that the plan be presented to Council for adoption and forwarded to the State Emergency Management Controller for authorisation.
3. Community Business Continuity Planning
The Committee held a discussion around an internal project regarding community business continuity during and following a major incident. Members identified a number of stakeholders that would need to be included in upcoming discussions.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

Not relevant for this report.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

Not relevant for this report.

SOCIAL IMPACT:

Not relevant for this report.

12.4 Municipal Emergency Management Committee Meeting - 6 November 2015...(Cont'd)

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

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

5. A City that values its environment

Goal: Enhanced community understanding of natural hazards


BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

Not relevant for this report.

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.



Rod Sweetnam: Director Facilities Management

13 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

Council Workshops conducted on 16 November 2015 were:

- Cemeteries and Crematorium Policy
 - Launceston City Heart Project - Traffic Flow and Bus Stop Relocation
 - Draft Events Strategy Review Discussion
 - City Heart Master Plan - Signage and Wayfinding
 - LAC/LAFit Economic Regulator Report
-

14 NOTICES OF MOTION

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 16(5)

14.1 Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure

FILE NO: SF5547/SF0521

AUTHOR: Alderman R J Sands

GENERAL MANAGER: Robert Dobrzynski (General Manager)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a fairer and more flexible rating model.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council considers a more flexible rating structure that allows for differential rating and the adoption of an Average Area rate for residential properties.

1. That Council directs the General Manager to prepare the 2016/17 rate resolution to allow for the provision of differential rating across the various use of the land and vacant land to provide Aldermen with greater flexibility to vary the rates within each sector.
 2. Provide a rating model to identify the impact of increasing the fixed rate component of the general rate in preparation for the 2016/17 rate resolution.
 3. Provide a rating model to identify the impact of adopting an Average Area rate across residential properties based on locality non - use of the land (vacant land) and current AAV valuation range in preparation for the 2017/18 rate resolution.
 4. That Council directs the General Manager to begin the process now of the adoption to an average area rate due to the lengthy lead time which is required by local government.
-

REPORT:

A fairer and more flexible rating model.

14.1 Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure...(Cont'd)

Greater rating flexibility is available with differential rating. Differential rating effectively ring fences each land sector and vacant/non- vacant use for rating purposes. For example there is the opportunity to lower the AAV rate in some sectors whilst increasing the AAV rate in other sectors to mitigate the impact of rating shifts between sectors following a revaluation. The use of the land refers to sectors such as primary production, industrial, residential, commercial etc. Differential rating should also be applied to vacant land for greater rating flexibility. An example may be that we could seek a higher AAV rate for industrial land to encourage development.

We have previously considered flattening the residential rate so it would be appropriate that a simple option towards flattening Launceston rates be explored for the next budget by simply applying an increase to the fixed component of the general rate.

A full city revaluation is expected to apply for the year beginning 2017, there is potential for significant volatility following a revaluation, we could reduce such volatility in addition to using differential rating by including the adoption of an Average Area rate for residential by a combination of Valuation, by the use or non- use of the land, (vacant or not) and the location.

For example we could set a fixed average area rate by valuation for a number of property ranges that closely reflect the previous year rates in a set range with the possibility of an upper limit of say \$5000 for properties with an AAV greater than an elected amount.

We could set a set rate by location, the location may be all of the greater Launceston or by suburb or even identify specific areas of the city. A combination of these three options provides council with significant flexibility, from one extreme being a total flat rate for all residential properties to a flat rate by valuation range to closely reflect the previous year rate structure.

OFFICER COMMENT:

Mr Robert Dobrzynski (General Manager)

Aldermen would be aware that numerous meetings have been held and presentations made to discuss the Council's future rating strategy.

In particular flat rate scenarios have been modelled and showed a major and concerning distortion of rate increases with large numbers of properties paying large increases and properties benefitting from large decreases.

It is crucial to ensure that Council's rating strategy is considered through an informed evidence base and models the impacts on particularly low income areas.

14.1 Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure...(Cont'd)

Responding without comprehensive information has great potential to lead to an unfair outcome and social disadvantage. Potential problems that may arise include:

- The same amount of total rates are required to be raised by the Council. The Flat Rate method will redistribute the rates with, generally, higher valued residential properties paying less and lower valued residential properties paying more.
- The result is regressive and penalises lower valued properties. Regressive taxes are seen as poor taxation policy.
- The outcomes have great potential to cause significant rate rises for those within our community that can least afford it, the lower socio-economic suburbs in the city, resulting in financial hardship.

It is for the above reasons that flat rates are seldom used within municipal rating in Australian local government.

Mr Michael Tidey (Director Corporate Services)

Background

The Council at recent meetings:

- a) Strategic Policy and Planning Committee (28 September 2015)
- b) Council (12 October 2015)

considered and adopted the Rates and Charges Policy (23-Plx-010) (see attachment).

Prior to these recent discussions, presentations and discussions have occurred on:

- SPPC - 17 December 2012 - Rating System Analysis
- SPPC - 20 May 2013 - Rate Modelling (Workshop)
- SPPC - 1 July 2013 - Rating and Valuation Review Process
- SPPC - 17 March 2014 - Rating Policy and Valuation Base

The background to the recent decision included a presentation from representatives of the Brighton Council. Modelling was previously presented in May 2013 which included raising the General Charge to the maximum amount and on Average Area Residential Rates.

The discussions around the presentation at SPPC including an undertaking to represent the modelling that has previously been presented to Aldermen and at a public meeting on the possible impact of different valuation bases and rating structures.

14.1 Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure...(Cont'd)

Motion

- 1. That council directs the General Manager to prepare the 2016/17 rate resolution to allow for the provision of differential rating across the various use of the land and vacant land to provide Aldermen with greater flexibility to vary the rates within each sector.***

Comment

The Council currently has the capacity to introduce differential rates based on land use or locality.

What Aldermen must decide is in regard to:

- land use - which usage categories (eg residential or commercial etc) increase in rating contribution and which decrease, and
- locality - which areas (suburbs, rural or urban) increase in rating contribution and which decrease.

Whenever this topic is raised the outcome has invariably been to leave the allocation as determined by applicable property values.

The rate resolution that is ultimately prepared and adopted gives effect to a policy decision of the Council to distribute the rating burden in a particular way. The resolution does not allow for the provision of differential rates, it must actually prescribe the different rates in the dollar for either use or locality area.

- 2. Provide a rating model to identify the impact of increasing the fixed rate component of the general rate in preparation for the 2016/17 rate resolution.***

Comment

This option was raised in regard to the current year's rates and the fact that the general rates did not change while the general charge increased slightly was a small step in this direction. The Council determined at the time that a larger increase in the general charge was not the preferred option. As occurred in the current year modelling will again be presented with options to increase this component.

- 3. Provide a rating model to identify the impact of adopting an Average Area rate across residential properties based on locality non-use of the land (vacant land) and current AAV valuation range in preparation for the 2017/18 rate resolution.***

Comment

As noted above, a commitment to provide further modelling as part of an investigative and educative process has previously been given.

14.1 Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure...(Cont'd)

- 4. That Council directs the General Manager to begin the process now of the adoption to an average area rate due to the lengthy lead time which is required by local government.**

Comment

This point indicates that irrespective of the modelling that is presented in response to the third point the decision should be made to implement an average area rate.

In requesting this option all Aldermen must appreciate that the average residential area rates strategy is to increase residential rates for those with lower valued houses so as to decrease residential rates for those with higher valued houses. It is a regressive tax structure that is fundamentally contrary to sound taxation principles.

It is correct to say that a few other municipalities have implemented the average residential area rate system (which was introduced in to the Local Government Act to validate rating structures that did not comply with the then legislation). That does not mean they are fairer or more flexible.

Conclusion

It is entirely appropriate to investigate alternatives and understand how the rating burden can most appropriately be distributed. This has been modelled in the numerous meetings held with and presentations made to Aldermen.

Since the residential property boom and the resultant redistribution in rates there have been changes to rates to reduce the reliance on value based charges, these have increased costs for the owners of lower valued properties.

It may be argued that this adjustment was necessary as the change in property values had caused some large rate increases (for the properties where the values increased significantly) that need to be mitigated. This is not an adequate justification for abandoning basic taxation principles as occurs with an average residential area rate. How can increasing costs to the least well off in our community be seen to be fairer?

The first three points are actions that are already planned, the fourth point pre-empts a policy decision that the Council must carefully consider if it seeks to ensure a fair system.

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

N/A

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

N/A

14.1 Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure...(Cont'd)

SOCIAL IMPACT:

N/A

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

N/A


BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

N/A

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.



Robert Dobrzynski: General Manager

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Notice of Motion - Alderman R J Sands - Flexible Rating Structure
 2. Rates and Charges Policy (23-Plx-010)
-

CITY OF LAUNCESTON

MEMORANDUM

FILE NO: SF5547 / SF0521
TS
DATE: 12 November 2015

TO: Robert Dobrzynski General Manager
c.c. Committee Clerks
FROM: Ted Sands Alderman

SUBJECT: Notice of Motion - Flexible Rating Structure

In accordance with Clause 16 (5) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015* please accept this Notice of Motion for placement on the agenda of the Meeting of Council to be held on 23 November 2015.

Motion

To consider a more flexible rating structure that allows for differential rating and the adoption of an Average Area rate for residential properties.

1. That council directs the General Manager to prepare the 2016/17 rate resolution to allow for the provision of differential rating across the various use of the land and vacant land to provide Aldermen with greater flexibility to vary the rates within each sector.
2. Provide a rating model to identify the impact of increasing the fixed rate component of the general rate in preparation for the 2016/17 rate resolution.
3. Provide a rating model to identify the impact of adopting an Average Area rate across residential properties based on locality non- use of the land (vacant land) and current AAV valuation range in preparation for the 2017/18 rate resolution.
4. That council directs the General Manager to begin the process now of the adoption to an average area rate due to the lengthy lead time which is required by local government.

Background

A fairer and more flexible rating model.

Greater rating flexibility is available with differential rating. Differential rating effectively ring fences each land sector and vacant/non- vacant use for rating purposes. For example there is the opportunity to lower the AAV rate in some sectors whilst increasing the AAV rate in other sectors to mitigate the impact of rating shifts between sectors following a revaluation. The use of the land refers to sectors such as primary production, industrial, residential, commercial etc. Differential rating should also be applied to vacant land for greater rating flexibility. An example may be that we could seek a higher AAV rate for industrial land to encourage development.

CITY OF LAUNCESTON

MEMORANDUM

We have previously considered flattening the residential rate so it would be appropriate that a simple option towards flattening Launceston rates be explored for the next budget by simply applying an increase to the fixed component of the general rate.

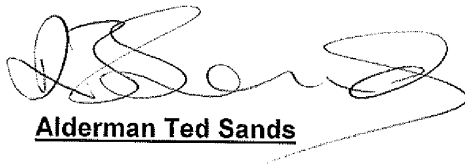
A full city revaluation is expected to apply for the year beginning 2017, there is potential for significant volatility following a revaluation, we could reduce such volatility in addition to using differential rating by including the adoption of an Average Area rate for residential by a combination of Valuation, by the use or non- use of the land, (vacant or not) and the location.

For example we could set a fixed average area rate by valuation for a number of property ranges that closely reflect the previous year rates in a set range with the possibility of an upper limit of say \$5000 for properties with an AAV greater than an elected amount.

We could set a set rate by location, the location may be all of the greater Launceston or by suburb or even identify specific areas of the city. A combination of these three options provides council with significant flexibility, from one extreme being a total flat rate for all residential properties to a flat rate by valuation range to closely reflect the previous year rate structure.

Attachments

Nil



Alderman Ted Sands

Rates and Charges policy

PURPOSE:

This policy provides the rating framework that the Council has adopted for rates and charges.

This policy is prepared in accordance with Section 86B of the Local Government Act (1993) and provides an overview of the rating framework that the Council has adopted.

The policy reflects the fundamental premise as set out in Section 86A (LGA 1993) that:

- a) rates are a tax and not a fee for service; and
- b) the value of land is an indicator of the capacity to pay.

The Council through the application of this policy primarily levies rates based on property values with a contribution through fixed and service charges. The policy also outlines the Council's approach to the provision of remissions and the management of the rate debt.

SCOPE:

The policy sets out the Council's rates and charges (taxation) objectives in regard to:

- a) Statutory compliance; and
- b) Discretionary matters.

The policy is a statement of policy and intent, it does not supersede or overrule the specific rating resolutions and policies that are determined by resolution of the Council.

POLICY:

Rating Objectives

To maintain an appropriate distribution of rates and charges consistent with the principles stated in this policy with the objectives of:

- a) Consistent and equitable treatment of all residents and ratepayers;
- b) Achieving an appropriate mix and distribution of taxation from
 - i. rates based on property values, fixed and service charges and revenue from other sources; and
 - ii. different sectors (including land use categories and localities) within the municipality.
- c) Managing the impact on ratepayers of changes in
 - i. the Council's funding requirements; and
 - ii. property valuations as reflected in municipal revaluations.
- d) Using rate settings to support the achievement of strategic objectives.

Rating Strategies and Methodologies

The strategies and methodologies that have been developed consistent with the principles and rating objectives are as follows.

The valuation methodology is based on assessed annual value.

The inclusion of a general fixed charge (that is not based on a property's value) as a component of the general rate.

The use of service charges for waste management (collection) and onsite (waste water) disposal systems based on the capacity of the service and facility.

Transitional arrangements through the capping of rate increases for residential ratepayers when municipal revaluations occur.

Debt management policies and disincentives intended to encourage the timely payment of rates.

The minimisation of rate remissions to support equitable outcomes for all ratepayers and for the remissions to be strategically targeted to address unintended consequences of legislation and policy.

Exemptions based solely on the legislative provisions of Section 87 (LGA 1993).

Valuation Methodologies

The Council has determined to use assessed annual value as the basis of rates (Section 89A(2), LGA 1993) within the municipality. Valuations are arranged by the Office of the Valuer General. Municipal valuations occur on a six yearly cycle, with indexation adjustments made over two years.

Supplementary valuations occur when additions or significant alterations are made to a property. The values are determined as though the alterations existed at the date of the last municipal revaluation.

Rating Structures and Different Rates

The Council uses the power provided by Section 107 (LGA 1993) to levy a different rate for properties within a defined area of the city centre to raise an additional rate for promotional activities within this area.

Contribution Methodology

Assessed annual value is a differential valuation system that varies with the use and capital value of the property. Through this differential valuation system the contribution from sectors of the municipality varies with changes in property values. The use of assessed annual value is consistent with the rating principles contained in Section 86A (LGA 1993).

Fixed Charge

The Council has resolved to impose a fixed charge (Section 91, LGA 1993) on each rateable property or tenancy, consistent with the legislation a minimum rate is not also levied. The application of a fixed charge recognises that all rateable properties should make a fixed contribution to the cost of the Council's operations and services. The application of a fixed charge reduces the rates that are raised based on property values. The Council recognises the regressive taxation effect of fixed charges and so limits the amount of the fixed charge.

Service Charges

The Council imposes a service charge (Section 93(1)(d) LGA 1993) for waste management services. The Council believes that waste management (the collection of waste and recycling materials) is a defined service for which a pay for use charge is appropriate.

Private operators provide specific services to a limited number of organisations where for operational reasons it is not practical or efficient to provide the Council managed service. These organisations are able to opt out of the Council arranged service.

The Council varies or applies different charges based on the capacity of the bin selected, this pricing strategy is intended to provide incentives to reduce waste, encourage recycling and reflect the cost of waste disposal.

The Council also imposes a service charge for the maintenance of onsite waste water disposal systems for a small number of properties based on the category of service provided and a representative cost within each of the categories.

Residential Rate Cap (Transitional Arrangements)

The Council supports the fundamental principle, subject to any differential rating structures, that properties with the same value (in the same category) should pay the same rate.

The Council recognises that the municipal revaluation may produce circumstances where the rates on individual properties increase significantly. In order to assist residential ratepayers to transition to the new rating levels the Council has determined to cap the amount that the general rate can increase at 20 percent per annum following a municipal revaluation.

Debt Management

The Council recognises that some members of the community will not pay the applicable rates and charges either because

- a) they choose not to, or
- b) they are unable to due to financial difficulties.

The Council provides financial disincentives through interest and penalty charges and undertakes commercial debt collection practices to ensure that the payment of rates and charges is given appropriate priority.

The Council seeks to assist those members of the community in genuine financial difficulty through payment arrangements. It also understands that the failure to take appropriate and timely action can actually have a greater adverse consequence for the ratepayer than the debt collection action.

Unpaid Council rates and charges are a debt that is secured (similarly to a mortgage) against the property (Section 119 LGA 1993). Thus any debt must be repaid when the property is sold. The Council has the power to sell a property when debts are outstanding for more than three years (Section 137 LGA 1993).

Postponement of Payments

Section 125 (LGA 1993) provides the power for the Council to defer or postpone the payment of rates on the grounds of hardship, the Council has determined that it will not offer this long term debt management facility as there are other commercial facilities that should be used in these circumstances. The Council provides short term payment arrangements.

Rate Remissions

The Council has the capacity under Section 129 (LGA 1993) to provide discretionary rating remissions in specific circumstances. The Council is required to exempt under Section 87 (LGA 1993) some properties from rates.

The Council has resolved to provide rating remissions under Section 129 in the following situations.

- Residential retirement home units
- Crown leases/licences for jetties and slipways (Policy 23-PI-008)
- Charitable organisations (Policy 23-PI-002)
- Small balances (Policy 23-PI-006)

Other Rates

CBD Promotional Rate

Council, based on the request of the effected businesses, applies a differential rate to fund promotional activities within the central business area (details are specified in the annual rates resolution).

The delivery of the promotional outcomes is provided by Cityprom Ltd under a service agreement with the Council.

State Government Departments and Business Enterprises

State Government properties, with some exceptions related to parks and infrastructure, are subject to rates and charges on the same basis as other properties (Section 87(1)(b) LGA 1993).

Construction Rates

Construction rates can be levied (Sections 97 and 98 LGA 1993) related to drainage infrastructure works. The Council uses developer contribution arrangements in preference to construction rates due to limitations contained in Section 98 regarding the amount that can be charged.

Separate Rates

Separate rates can be levied (Section 100 LGS 1993) where the Council believes the services provided are of particular benefit to the "affected land; or the owners or occupiers of that land".

There are currently no separate rates.

Fire Service Rates

The Council as required by legislation raises rates on behalf of the State Fire Commission (Section 93A LGA 1993). The amount of the rate revenue is determined by the State Fire Commission. The Council pays the amount to the Commission less an administrative fee that the Council receives for the provision of the service.

Payments

The Council has spread the payment dates across the year with the instalments due.

- Instalment 1 - 30 August
- Instalment 2 - 30 November
- Instalment 3 - 31 January
- Instalment 4 - 30 April

Penalty charges apply when instalments are not paid by the due date, interest applies on unpaid balances.

Rates can be paid in full, by four instalments or by more frequent payments so long as the instalments are paid by the due date, penalty and interest will not be incurred.

Payment Methods

The Council provides a range of payment facilities that include the use of modern technologies and in person.

The use of a surcharge for the use of credit cards is subject to ongoing review. The surcharge if adopted would recover some of the costs (merchant fees) of providing the facility.

Discounts

The Council does not provide payment discounts (Section 130 LGA 1993) due to the additional cost imposed on those who are unable to take advantage of such a facility. (The estimated cost of discount significantly exceeds the additional interest earnings that would result from the take up of the discount.)

Application of Payments

Payments are applied to outstanding debts in accordance with the sequence prescribed in the legislation (Section 131 LGA 1993).

Objection

Objections to rates notices can only be made based on the grounds specified in Section 123 (LGA 1993). The grounds broadly relate to factual or calculation errors.

Objections to valuation can be made under Section 28 (VLA 2001) only on the grounds specified and within 60 days of the date of notice issue. Application can be made for the correction of errors of fact at any time.

Disclaimer

This policy is a general statement of Council intent it is not a statement of legislative compliance. The policy provisions do not provide a legal basis for a challenge or objection to any rating matters. The policy is updated from time to time.

PRINCIPLES:

The Council's rating policies are formed within a framework that includes:

- a) The Local Government Act 1993;
- b) Established taxation principles;
- c) Organisational Values;
- d) The Council's Strategic Financial Plan; and
- e) The Council's Rating Resolution.

RELATED POLICIES & PROCEDURES:

[23-PI-003 Private Use of Council Land Policy](#)

[23-PI-006 Property Debt \(Small Charge\) Remission Policy](#)

[23-PI-008 Rating Exemptions and Remissions for Crown Lease Jetties and...](#)

RELATED LEGISLATION:

Local Government Act 1993 (Part 9 - Rates and Charges) (LGA)

Valuation of Land Act 2001 (VLA)

REFERENCES:

Knox City Council Rating Related Policies and Proposed Budget 2011-12

Access Economics/Henry Review (www.taxreview.treasury.gov.au)

Taxation Policy Criteria (Oakes Committee April 1990)

- Equity or Fairness
- Simplicity and Efficiency
- Accountability or Visibility
- Acceptability
- Benefits Derived
- Capacity to Pay

Local Government Rates and Charges - Guidance paper for policy development April 2012

DEFINITIONS:

Economic Efficiency

- Does the rating methodology distort property ownership and development decisions in a way that results in significant efficiency costs?

Simplicity

- Is the system practical and cost-effective to administer?
- Is the system simple to understand and comply with?

Equity

- Does the tax burden fall appropriately across different classes of ratepayers?

Capacity to Pay (is the tax progressive or regressive?)

- Those with a greater capacity contribute more.

Benefit Principle

- Should those who benefit more, contribute more?

Sustainability

- Does the system generate sustainable and reliable revenues?
- Is it durable and flexible in changing conditions?

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Approved by: Council
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Cross-border Competitiveness

- Does the rating system undermine the Council as a business location?

REVIEW:

This policy will be reviewed no more than 18 months after the date of approval (version) or more frequently, if dictated by operational demands and with Council's approval.

15 DEVELOPMENT SERVICES DIRECTORATE ITEMS

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

16 FACILITIES MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE ITEMS**16.1 FREE Tiger Bus****FILE NO:** SF5334**AUTHOR:** Andrew Frost (Manager Parking & Carr Villa)**DIRECTOR:** Rod Sweetnam (Director Facilities Management)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the future operations of the FREE Tiger Bus service.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

SPPC Workshop 01 June 2015

RECOMMENDATION:

That as a consequence of sustained patronage Council confirms a policy of providing the Free Tiger Bus on an ongoing basis.

REPORT:

Background

There are four objectives of the FREE Tiger Bus service. These are:

1. Minimise commuter parking in the Central Business District (CBD);
2. Increase visitor numbers to the CBD;
3. Provide an inexpensive parking option for visitors to the CBD; and
4. The cost per customer for the service should be less than \$4.00 each.

A review of the FREE Tiger Bus operations has been completed, as well as a survey of users and non-users. The review has provided the following data:

- The objective of ensuring the average cost per customer is less than \$4.00 per person is being achieved;
 - The median number of customers who have used the FREE Tiger Bus per annum from 2011/12 to 2014/15 is approximately 60,000 p.a. and the number of customers that have used the FREE Tiger Bus from its inception in 2009 to 30 June 2015 is 343,089;
 - The median net cost per annum to operate the FREE Tiger Bus from 2011/12 to 2014/15 was \$207,000;
-

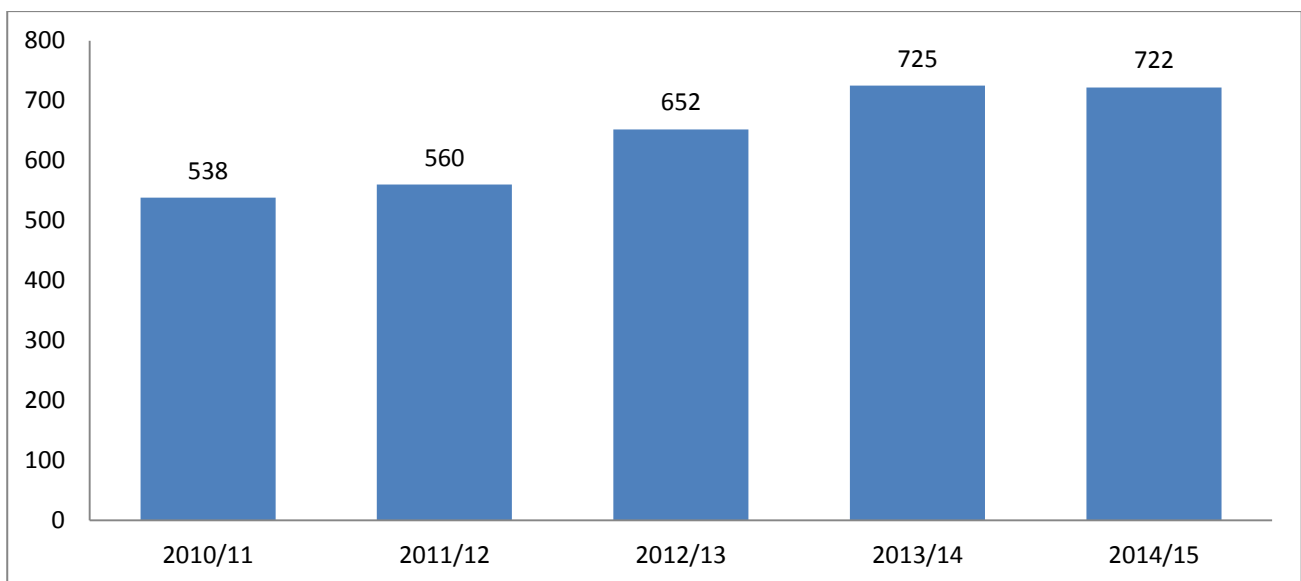
16.1 FREE Tiger Bus...(Cont'd)

- The FREE Tiger Explorer run is growing in popularity; and
- Council should commit to providing the service past the 2015/16 Financial Year.

Minimise commuter parking in the Central Business District (CBD) and provide an inexpensive parking option for visitors to the CBD

A permit system was created for commuters who use the FREE Tiger Bus. The permits cost \$30 per month (GST inclusive). This equates to approximately \$1.50 per day which is less than the usual daily rate of \$4.00 per day at the Willis Street and Bathurst Street car parks and the \$6.00 daily rate at the Cameron and Elizabeth Street car parks.

The following chart shows that 3,197 permits have been purchased over the last five years and the number of permits issued per annum:



The permits have generated approximately \$97,000 (GST Inclusive) from 2010/11 to 2014/15. These figures indicate that the FREE Tiger Bus has contributed to minimising commuter parking in the CBD.

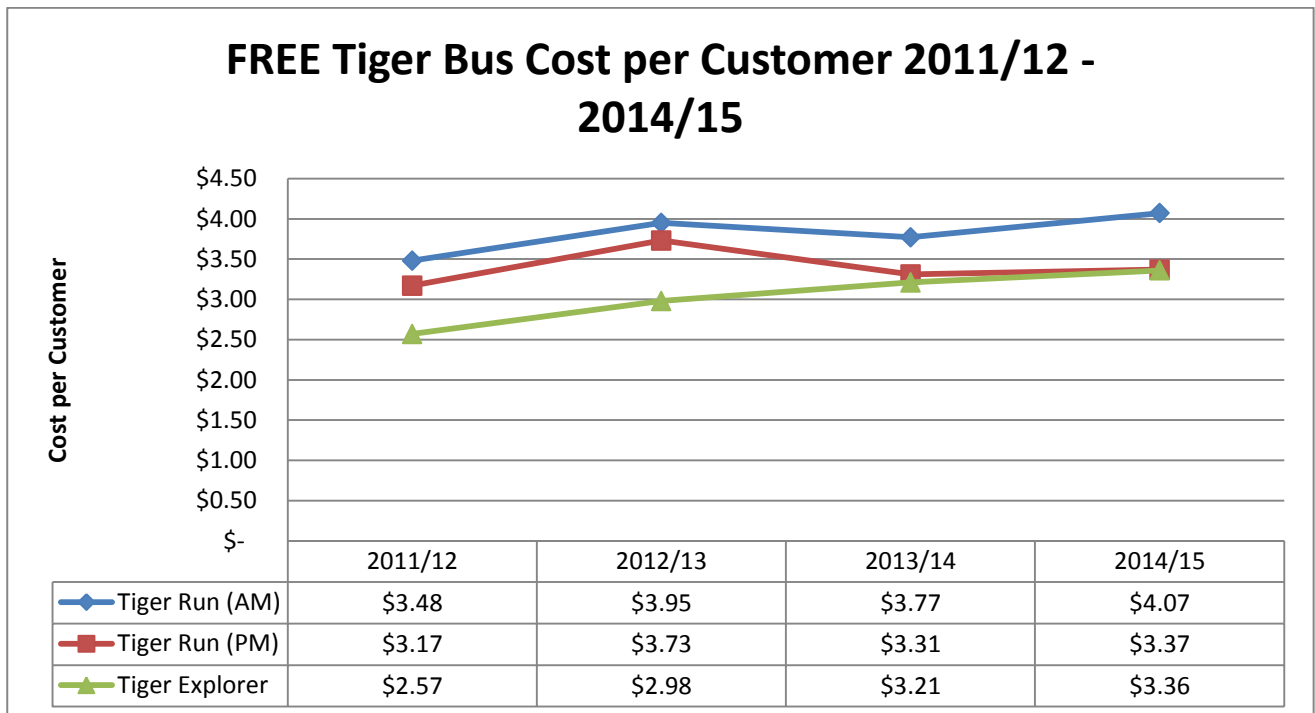
Increase visitor numbers to the CBD

From 2011/12 to 2014/15, 144,950 customers used the FREE Tiger Bus Explorer at a median use of 34,742 customers per annum. In 2012, the River Explorer was introduced to compliment the City Explorer. Each of these routes pass through the CBD with the St John Street stop being one of the most used. Of the people surveyed who use the FREE Tiger Bus service, 32% said that they did so to commute for shopping. This would indicate that the FREE Tiger Explorer is assisting in increasing visitor numbers to the CBD.

16.1 FREE Tiger Bus...(Cont'd)

The objective of ensuring the cost per customer is less than \$4.00 per person is being achieved.

Below is a chart showing the cost per customer, per sector of the FREE Tiger Bus service for the period 2011/12 to 2014/15.



When considering the three sectors together, the overall cost per customer is below \$4.00. However, further analysis shows the cost per customer for the Tiger Run (AM) in 2014/15 did rise above \$4.00 for the first time. This will be monitored for any adverse changes.

Explore external funding to minimise the cost of providing the FREE Tiger Bus service

When the FREE Tiger Bus was introduced in 2009, the decision was made to only have City of Launceston branding on the bus. In addition, the service was based on a series of trials that made predicting the continuity of the service difficult. These two issues excluded the opportunity for management to seek external funding to minimise the cost of the service.

Subject to the resolution being adopted, it is proposed to investigate external funding sources for advertising (internal and external) on the Free Tiger Bus.

16.1 FREE Tiger Bus...(Cont'd)

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

The recommendations in this report will not have an adverse economic impact and may have a positive impact for the City.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

The recommendations in this report should have a positive environmental impact as people are being encouraged to use the FREE Tiger Bus rather than drive around the CBD.

SOCIAL IMPACT:

This service should have a positive social impact as the service is free of charge and available to everyone.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

Parking and Sustainable Transport Strategy 2009.

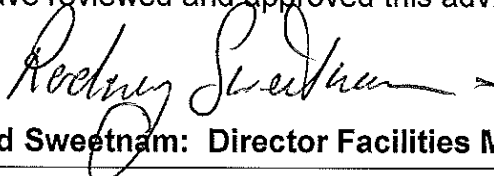
BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

The net budget for providing the FREE Tiger Bus for 2015/16 is approximately \$230,000. The contract with Metro Tasmania increases by CPI each year. If external funding can be accessed, this cost should decrease.

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.


Rod Sweetnam: Director Facilities Management

16.2 City of Launceston Municipal Emergency Management Plan**FILE NO:** SF0031**AUTHOR:** Bev Allen (Emergency Management Officer)**DIRECTOR:** Rod Sweetnam (Director Facilities Management)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the reviewed and updated Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEM Plan) for adoption.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, in accordance with *Emergency Management Act 2006* Part 3, Division 1, Section 34 (1) and (2), formally adopts the revised and updated Municipal Emergency Management Plan (Issue 15, 2015) and that the plan be forwarded to the State Emergency Management Controller for authorisation.

REPORT:

Under the requirements of the *Emergency Management Act 2006*, Council is obligated to review and submit for reauthorisation its Municipal Emergency Management Plan every two years. At its meeting on the 6 November 2015, the Municipal Emergency Management Committee approved the MEM Plan, and requested it be forwarded to Council for adoption.

The plan has been reviewed and updated with minor changes in line with the Tasmanian Emergency Management Plan 2015. This enables consistency with plans at all levels throughout the state (municipal, regional and state), and falls in line with requests from the State Emergency Service.

The process for approval of the plan under the terms of the *Emergency Management Act 2006* is outlined below:

- Approval from Municipal Emergency Management Committee
 - Approval from City of Launceston
 - Approval from Regional Emergency Management Controller
 - Final approval and sign-off by State Emergency Management Controller
-

16.2 City of Launceston Municipal Emergency Management Plan...(Cont'd)

ECONOMIC IMPACT:

Not relevant to this item

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT:

Not relevant to this item

SOCIAL IMPACT:

The *Local Government Act 1993* requires Councils *provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community*, while the *Emergency Management Act 2006* requires that Councils have an Emergency Management Coordinator and prepare an Emergency Management Plan which can be enacted upon to maintain the safety of the Community.

STRATEGIC DOCUMENT REFERENCE:

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

5. A City that values its environment

Goal: Enhanced community understanding of natural hazards

Section 20 of the *Local Government Act 1993* empowers the Council to:

(a) to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community;

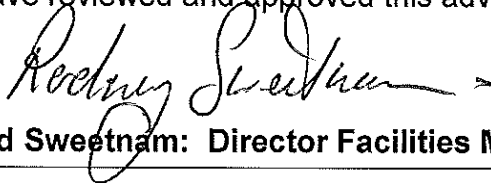
BUDGET & FINANCIAL ASPECTS:

N/A

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.



Rod Sweetnam: Director Facilities Management

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Draft City of Launceston Municipal Emergency Management Plan (distributed electronically)
-

17 QUEEN VICTORIA MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY DIRECTORATE ITEMS

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

18 INFRASTRUCTURE SERVICES DIRECTORATE ITEMS

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

19 CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE ITEMS

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

20 GENERAL MANAGER'S DIRECTORATE ITEMS

No Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

21 URGENT BUSINESS

Regulation 8(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, states that a council, by absolute majority at an ordinary council meeting, may decide to deal with a matter that is not on the Agenda.

No Urgent Items have been identified as part of this Agenda

22 CLOSED COUNCIL

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 15(2)

No Closed Items have been identified for this Agenda

23 MEETING CLOSURE
