



City of
LAUNCESTON

COUNCIL MINUTES

**COUNCIL MEETING
THURSDAY 27 JANUARY 2022
1.00pm**

The Ordinary Meeting of the City of Launceston Council was held at the Council Chambers, Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston:

Date: 27 January 2022

Time: 1.00pm

Certificate of Qualified Advice

Background

To comply with section 65 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas):

1. A general manager must ensure that any advice, information or recommendation given to the council or a council committee is given by a person who has the qualifications or experience necessary to give such advice, information or recommendation.
2. A council or council committee is not to decide on any matter which requires the advice of a qualified person without considering such advice unless -
 - (a) the general manager certifies, in writing -
 - (i) that such advice was obtained; and
 - (ii) the general manager took the advice into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
 - (b) a copy of that advice or, if the advice was given orally, a written transcript or summary of that advice is provided to the council or council committee with the general manager's certificate.

Certification

I certify that:

- (i) the advice of a qualified person has been sought where required;
- (ii) this advice was taken into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee; and
- (iii) a copy of the advice, or a written transcript or summary of advice provided orally, is included with the minutes item.



Michael Stretton
Chief Executive Officer

AUDIO of COUNCIL MEETINGS

An audio recording of this Council Meeting, except for any part held in Closed Session, will be made in accordance with our Council Meetings - Audio Recording Policy - 14-Plx-008.

This Council Meeting was streamed live and can be accessed at:
www.launceston.tas.gov.au/Council/Meetings/Listen .

The following information was provided to members of the public in respect of attendance at the Council Meeting.

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE AT THE COUNCIL MEETING

At the Council Meeting, please take care to follow signage and the directions of Council Officers to ensure that physical distancing and other COVID-19 safe behaviour is observed. Members of the public will be required to check in on arrival via the *Check In Tas App* as per the Direction Under Section 16 - *Public Health Act 1997*.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME - AGENDA ITEM 8

Questions received in writing by close of business Wednesday of the week prior to the Council Meeting are treated as Questions on Notice. Your question and an answer will be published in the Minutes of the Council Meeting. Questions may be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer at contactus@launceston.tas.gov.au, PO Box 396, Launceston TAS 7250, or Town Hall, St John Street, Launceston.

If attending the Council Meeting in person, you may ask up to three questions during Public Question Time. If accepted, your questions will be either answered at the Meeting, or Taken on Notice and answered at a later Council Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

When attending the Council Meeting, you will be asked if you wish to comment on an item in the Agenda. Prior to debate on that Agenda Item, you will be invited by the Chair to move to the public microphone at the doors to the Council Chambers and state your name and address.

Please note the following important information:

- Each item on the Agenda includes a Recommendation prepared by a Council Officer.
- You may speak for up to two minutes, either for or against the Recommendation.
- You may not ask questions or enter into debate with Councillors or Council Officers.
- Your statement is not to be defamatory, inappropriate or abusive, or be intended to embarrass any person, including Councillors or Council Officers.
- The Chair may direct you to stop speaking if you do not follow these rules, or if your statement repeats points that have already been made.
- Audio from our Council Meetings is streamed live via YouTube.

Your respectful contribution is welcome and appreciated.

LEGISLATIVE TERMINOLOGY - GENERAL MANAGER

At the City of Launceston, the positions of General Manager Community and Place, General Manager Organisational Services, General Manager Infrastructure and Assets and General Manager Creative Arts and Cultural Services do not assume the functions and powers of the term *general manager* in a legislative sense: any legislative functions and powers to be delegated to these roles will be made by Council or the Chief Executive Officer. At the City of Launceston, the title Chief Executive Officer is a term of reference for the General Manager as appointed by Council pursuant to section 61 of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)*. For the avoidance of doubt, *Chief Executive Officer* means *General Manager* for the purposes of the *Local Government Act 1993 (Tas)* and all other legislation administered by or concerning Council.

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Present: Councillor **A M van Zetten (Mayor)**
D C Gibson (Deputy Mayor)
R I Soward
D H McKenzie
K P Stojansek
A E Dawkins
P S Spencer
A G Harris
T G Walker
K M Preece

In Attendance: **Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer)**
Mr D Ryan (General Manager Community and Place Network)
Ms L Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network)
Mr D Murray (Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network)
Mrs K Hartland (Team Leader Governance)
Mrs A Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

Apologies: Councillor **J G Cox**
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1 OPENING OF MEETING - ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, opened the Meeting at 1.00pm and noted apologies from Councillor J G Cox and Councillor N D Daking.

Acknowledgment of Country: In the spirit of reconciliation, we the citizens of Launceston recognise that Launceston is situated on country of which the Tasmanian Aboriginal people have been owners for over 35,000 years and on which they have performed age-old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal. We acknowledge the Aboriginal Community of today, their living culture and unique role in the life of this region and offer our deep appreciation of their ongoing contribution to our community.

2 MAYORAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

There were no Mayoral Acknowledgements for this Meeting

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) - section 48

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

No Declarations of Interest were identified as part of these Minutes

4 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 16 December 2021 be confirmed as a true and correct record.

DECISION: 27 January 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor D C Gibson, seconded Councillor A G Harris.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 10:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

5 DEPUTATIONS

No Deputations were identified as part of these Minutes

6 PETITIONS

Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) - sections 57 and 58

No Petitions were identified as part of these Minutes

7 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 Minutes Items; that opportunity exists when that Minutes Item is about to be considered. Speakers are not to request funding or ask questions of Council. Printed documentation may be left for Councillors.)

7.1 Mr Rodney Spinks - The Launceston Benevolent Society and Ms Anita Reeve - The Salvation Army Launceston

Mr Spinks and Ms Reeve provided a brief report to Council on the modified Launceston City Community Christmas lunch which, in December 2021, was successfully held as an outdoor takeaway event at the Albert Hall. Mr Spinks thanked sponsors and volunteers for their support for the event.

8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 31

8.1 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.)

8.1.1 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Robin Smith - Council Meeting - 16 December 2021**FILE NO:** SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following question, asked at the Council Meeting on 16 December 2021 by Mr Robin Smith, has been answered by Mr Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network).

Questions:

1. [With regard to a question and response published in the 18 November 2021 Council Agenda regarding the demand for turning one-way streets into two-way streets] - would it be possible for the Council to re-look at the numbers in the report?

Response:

A response has already been provided on the two-way traffic questions at a previous Council meeting, however, it appears that necessary information may not be being provided. The Manager Infrastructure and Engineering will, therefore, arrange to meet with Mr Smith to discuss his concerns.

8.1.2 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 18 January 2022**FILE NO:** SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to the Council in writing on 18 January 2022 by Mr Ray Norman, has been answered by Mr Michael Stretton (Chief Executive Officer).

Questions:

1. Will the Council now publish the number of individual Councillors, without naming them, who have failed to attend:
 - More than 95% of scheduled Council Meetings for the 2021 calendar year?
 - More than 80% of scheduled Council Meetings for the 2021 calendar year?
 - More than 70% of scheduled Council Meetings for the 2021 calendar year?
 - More than 60% of scheduled Council Meetings for the 2021 calendar year?
 - More than 50% of scheduled Council Meetings for the 2021 calendar year?

Response:

The Council already provides information on Council meeting attendance in its Annual Report. It is not proposed to re-present this information in the manner requested.

2. Will Council now publish the statutory requirements for attendance for a Councillor to maintain their position on Council in the next weeks towards enhancing community understandings of Councillors' statutory obligations?

Response:

This information is freely available, at all times, at Schedule 5 - Office of Councillors, Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) which states:

3. *Vacation of office*
 - (1) *The office of a councillor becomes vacant if the councillor –*
 - (a) *dies; or*
 - (b) *resigns; or*
 - (c) *is absent without leave from 3 consecutive - ordinary meetings of the council; or*
-

8.1.2 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 18 January 2022 ...(Cont'd)

- (d) is removed or dismissed from office under this Act; or*
 - (e) becomes a paid employee of the council; or*
 - (ea) is, on the day on which he or she begins to hold that office, a member of any Parliament in Australia, and is such a member for 30 days continuously during that term of office of the councillor; or*
 - (eb) becomes, after the day on which he or she begins to hold that office, a member of any Parliament in Australia; or*
 - (f) is no longer eligible to nominate as a candidate under section 270.*
-

8.1.3 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 18 January 2022**FILE NO:** SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted in writing to the Council on 18 January 2022 by Mr Ray Norman, has been answered by Mr Michael Stretton (Chief Executive Officer).

Questions:

1. [With regard to the Paterson Street Central Car Park] Will Council now abandon its efforts to implement a planning proposition that is exponentially losing both credibility and viability in a 21st C context not to mention its increasingly dubious sustainability and real world relevance in the long term?

Response:

The premise of the question is not accepted as it is based purely on speculation.

This said, however, the City of Launceston has acted in good faith to support the acquisition of the Paterson Street Central Car Park.

The Council remains of the view that a centrally located bus interchange is an important strategic objective for the CBD and that the proposed creative precinct represents a significant cultural, economic and employment opportunity for the broader Northern Tasmanian community.

Additionally, these proposals for the site have been supported by the Launceston Chamber of Commerce and a range of business stakeholders because of their importance to the City's future.

The Council submitted a successful, evidence-based submission to the Building Better Regions program and has published the supporting Bureau of Meteorology data on its website.

Metro Tasmania is supportive of a strategically located, centralised Launceston Bus Interchange.

8.1.3 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 18 January 2022 ...(Cont'd)

The Birchalls site is a historically and strategically important site in the CBD, and the Council is committed to realising a successful redevelopment of this building to create new employment, social, cultural and economic opportunities for future generations.

The Paterson Street Central Car Park site is the subject of ongoing legal action.

8.1.4 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 18 January 2022**FILE NO:** SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted in writing to the Council on 18 January 2022 by Mr Ray Norman, have been answered by Mr Michael Stretton (Chief Executive Officer).

Questions:

1. Is there a date after which a by-election for Mayor would not be held?
2. Would/could Mayor van Zetten remain a Councillor but at the same time relinquish his role as Mayor?
3. Will the Mayor's intentions be made known to the City's ratepayers if he is actually contemplating standing down or intends not to seek re-election as either Mayor or Councillor?
4. If the Mayor stands down as Mayor before the elections will he also be required to relinquish his position as a Councillor and thus bring on a by-election?

Response:

It is not appropriate for the Council to respond to rumour and/or speculation in respect to the future of the Mayor or any other City of Launceston Councillor.

This said, however, under Section 47 of the Local Government Act 1993 (Tas) (the Act) a Councillor may resign from office at any time. A Councillor who has resigned as Mayor or Deputy Mayor may continue in office as Councillor. A Councillor who holds the office of Mayor or Deputy Mayor and resigns as Councillor ceases to hold such office.

Under the Act a casual vacancy would generally not be filled by either recount or by-election if it were to occur during the period commencing six months before, and ending on the Thursday before, the day on which the notice of election for a forthcoming election is to be given.

8.1.5 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 18 January 2022

FILE NO: SF6381

AUTHOR: Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following questions, submitted in writing to the Council on 18 January 2022 by Mr Ray Norman, have been answered by The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten.

Questions:

1. When is the Chief Executive Officer's current contract due to expire?
2. Should the Chief Executive Officer indicate that he intends not to seek renewal of his contract, is there a date by which he is required to declare his intentions?
3. If the Chief Executive Officer indicates that he intends not to seek renewal at a considerable time before his contract with the City expires, is there a requirement that he be paid out to the date it actually expires? If so, is there precedence?
4. Will the Chief Executive Officer's intentions be made known to the City's ratepayers when and if he makes them clear to Council?

Response:

The current Contract of Employment for the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) expires on 15 October, 2022. It is inappropriate to engage in speculation around the Contract of Employment renewal process.

8.1.6 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 19 January 2022**FILE NO:** SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to the Council in writing on 19 January 2022 by Mr Ray Norman, has been answered by Ms Louise Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network).

Questions:

1. Will the Council be proactive and take immediate steps to:
 - ensure that all scooters - electric and other - in use on Launceston's streets are equipped with anti-stealth safety devices;
 - impose appropriate financial penalties for both riders and service providers for non-compliance; and
 - initiate an education and marketing program to raise public awareness in regard to the benefits and the contingent need for the safe use of this class of public transport on the City's streets.

Response:

The City of Launceston is observing the introduction of both private and hire and ride e-scooters in Launceston with interest, acknowledging that it is in very early stages of the trial period. The trial will ultimately determine whether e-scooters are an appropriate form of transport for the community, considering all data and feedback collected during the trial. The City of Launceston is collaborating with the City of Hobart, the State Government and Tasmania Police and meeting regularly with the hire and ride e-scooter operators.

The City of Launceston does not own or operate hire and ride e-scooters. Following the legalisation of electric scooters last year, the Council entered into a data sharing trial with hire and ride e-scooter providers Beam and Neuron Mobility. The hire and ride providers are commercial businesses operating legally and the Council has a limited role in regulating these businesses. The Council is continuing to encourage residents to provide feedback about rental e-scooters in Launceston - including aspects which are working well and those which need improvement.

Your suggestion of anti-stealth safety devices has been noted and will be forwarded to Beam and Neuron for consideration.

8.1.6 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 19 January 2022 ...(Cont'd)

Unlawful, anti-social or dangerous behaviour by scooter riders can be reported to Tasmania Police and enforcement of financial penalties is a police matter.

The Department of State Growth has commenced an education and marketing campaign on safe personal mobility device use in Tasmania. In addition to the State campaign, Beam and Neuron regularly push educational content through their social media, in-app notifications and emails. Further to this, both operators employ operational staff who patrol the City and educate riders on safe riding and responsible parking.

8.1.7 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 19 January 2022**FILE NO:** SF6381**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER:** Michael Stretton

QUESTIONS and RESPONSES:

The following question, submitted to the Council in writing on 19 January 2022 by Mr Ray Norman, has been answered by Mr Shane Eberhardt (General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network).

Questions:

1. Will Council now be proactive in planning a way forward in respect to:
 - (a) ensuring that all future development applicants for major corporate infrastructure developments are required to provide a minimum of 30% of the anticipated operations energy requirements onsite via renewable energy generation;
 - (b) ensuring that property owners manage stormwater and grey water is increasing managed onsite in ways that ensures such water moves slowly through the landscape rather than being channelled untreated into the region's waterways;
 - (c) ensuring that the municipality's and adjoining Councils canopy cover is progressively increased towards sequestering carbon and mitigating the impacts of climate change in rural, peri-urban and urban cultural landscapes alike;
 - (d) ensuring that vegetative cover in all urban landscapes is proactively offset when removed as a consequence of development in all the municipality's cultural landscaping;
 - (e) ensuring that land with prime agricultural values and potential is not absorbed into suburbia and is progressively identified as agrihoods cum food and fibre productive precincts towards achieving regional food security and shortening supply chains wherever possible and practical;
 - (f) ensuring, along with adjoining jurisdictions, that the sewerage outlets into any waterway is broken and progressively diverted land based treatment and resource exploitation;
 - (g) ensuring that community waste streams are proactively and progressively diverted away from landfill and proactively and progressively reimagined as a resource base for locally based manufacturers and end users;
 - (h) ensuring that within budget allocations going forward there are adequate funds available for the proactive marketing of, and the implementation of, sustainable cultural landscaping in all its manifestations; and
 - (i) progressively and proactively engaging all aspects of the region's diverse community in a paradigm of sustainable cultural landscaping in interfacing urban, per-urban and rural contexts?
-

8.1.7 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 19 January 2022 ... (Cont'd)

Response:

- (a) *This is a matter for the Tasmanian Government. There are currently no provisions in the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme that seek to influence energy choices of property owners. The schemes do, however, provide a suite of exemptions from the need for planning approval for both ground based and roof mounted solar energy installations on properties that are not heritage listed. Additionally, there are design standards in some residential zones that require consideration of solar access.*
 - (b) *Greywater is managed by TasWater. Council adopted a Stormwater System Management Plan in 2019 that outlines the City of Launceston's priorities with respect to stormwater management which can be found at: <https://www.launceston.tas.gov.au/files/assets/public/environment/stormwater-system-management-plan.pdf>.*
 - (c) *The City of Launceston plants hundreds of trees annually. As reported in its Annual Plan, the City of Launceston is working in partnership to develop an urban canopy plan for the City.*
 - (d) *The Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015 requires consideration of vegetation on development sites in a number of instances, particularly where recognised natural values may exist, or in places of recognised scenic quality or on heritage listed places. Outside of these the management of vegetation (and canopy) is left to the discretion of the property owner.*
 - (e) *This is managed through the Launceston Interim Planning Scheme 2015*
 - (f) *The sewerage network is managed by TasWater.*
 - (g) *The City of Launceston (CoL) has invested significantly in waste management and resource recovery and boasts, arguably, the best resource recovery facility and initiatives in Tasmania. The CoL has long term plans to not rely on landfill practices in the future by investing in different technology and methods to recover these resources. One such measure is the establishment of the first Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) kerbside service and processing facility in Tasmania. In 2020 the CoL diverted 11,000 tonnes of organic material away from landfill, conservatively this equates to 22,000 tonnes of methane a harmful greenhouse gas being abated. Landfill diversion is at the heart of waste management at the CoL.*
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8.1.7 Public Questions on Notice - Mr Ray Norman - 19 January 2022 ...(Cont'd)

The CoL will consider a construction and demolition facility which will help to divert an estimated 50% of material that is currently being landfilled. The CoL plays a leading role in the Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group which applies a voluntary landfill levy of \$7.50/tonne to help drive landfill diversion for Northern Tasmania. The CoL has endorsed a Toward Zero Emissions action plan that outlines how the CoL will move towards carbon neutrality by 2025. The plan outlines abatement actions across all of the Council's business to limit the Council's carbon emissions.

- (h) Commitments made in strategies and policies are incorporated into the Council's Long-term Financial Plan.*
 - (i) The City of Launceston proactively engages with its community through many mechanisms and will continue to do so.*
-

8.2 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.)

8.2.1 Mr Robin Smith - e-Scooter Usage in Launceston

- 1. Could you clarify the regulations for the use of scooters in Launceston, particularly in the area with scooter symbols bounded by Paterson, George, York and Charles Streets. What force do those symbols have on the use of those scooters? Then, in the larger CBD area, those roads and footpaths in that area, where could those scooters be used in that area?**

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, responded by saying that in the first area mentioned, the scooters should not be used and should switch-off automatically. In the other area mentioned, speeds and conditions have been included to reflect the use and the area the scooters are being used.

- 2. Outside of that area generally, can the scooters be used on the roads and footpaths?**

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, answered by saying that the by-law [regulation] imposed by the State Government is the overarching legislation that controls e-scooter use. Ms Louise Foster (General Manager Organisational Services) indicated that the relevant legislation is available on the State Government web-site. It is very difficult to describe where e-scooters can be used in generalist terms. The regulations prescribe roads with line markings as being excluded from being able to be used by e-scooters unless a local government authority declares them under the State Government regulations to be permissible. The City of Launceston has not declared any of those areas at this point in time as the trial is ongoing.

- 3. Does the Council receive a report on the usage patterns during the current e-scooter trial?**

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, responded by saying that the Council will receive monthly reports, detailing usage patterns, during the trial and the Council will continue to work with both companies.

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, announced that under the provisions of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*, Council acts as a Planning Authority in regard to items included in Agenda Item 9 - Planning Authority.

9 PLANNING AUTHORITY

9.1 Section 35F Report - Launceston Draft Local Provisions Schedule

FILE NO: SF6440

AUTHOR: Iain More (Town Planner)

GENERAL MANAGER: Dan Ryan (Community and Place Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

The purpose of this report is to consider the representations to the Draft Launceston Local Provisions Schedule and provide recommendations to the Tasmanian Planning Commission pursuant to section 35F of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993*.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Council - 5 September 2019 - Agenda Item 15.3 - Tasmanian Planning Scheme - Draft Launceston Local Provisions Schedule

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, as the Planning Authority:

1. endorses the attached document *SF6440 - Section 35F of the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993 - Representation Considerations* (Doc Set ID No 4665237), as its report pursuant to section 35F of the *Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993* and forwards it to the Tasmanian Planning Commission.
 2. delegates to the Chief Executive Officer its powers and functions to:
 - a. respond to any directions made by the Commission;
 - b. represent the planning authority at hearings pursuant to section 35H.
-

Mr D Ryan (General Manager Community and Place Network), Mr R Jamieson (Manager City Development) and Mr I More (Town Planner) were in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

9.1 Section 35F Report - Launceston Draft Local Provisions Schedule ...(Cont'd)

DECISION: 27 January 2022**MOTION****Moved Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor A G Harris.****That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.****CARRIED 10:0****FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece****The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, announced that Council no longer sits as a Planning Authority.**

10 ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

10.1 Mayor's Announcements

FILE NO: SF2375

Friday 17 December 2021

- Officiated at the *Live Long Live Well* End of Year Celebration
- Attended the *Unveiling of the 2022 Vision* at *TasDance*

Saturday 18 December 2021

- Welcomed attendees to *Carols by Candlelight*

Saturday 25 December 2021

- Dropped by Albert Hall as *Launceston Community Christmas* became collection only

Monday 27 December 2021

- Attended the start of the *Launceston to Hobart Yacht Race*

Tuesday 28 December 2021

- Attended the *Launceston Christmas Carnival* feature races

Thursday 30 December 2021

- Attended the *Launceston Christmas Carnival* feature races

Friday 31 December 2021

- Attended *New Years' Eve BeerFest*

Tuesday 11 January 2022

- Conducted a private Citizenship Ceremony

Saturday 22 January 2022

- Attended the *Mona Foma MOFO* sessions
-

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

Sunday 23 January 2022

- Attended the *Mona Foma Fertile Ground* performance

Wednesday 26 January 2022

- Conducted a public Citizenship Ceremony
-

11 COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

(This item provides an opportunity for Councillors 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.)

11.1 Councillor D C Gibson

- **Noted that *ArtRage*, featuring the works of 100 year 11 and 12 students from over 25 Tasmanian schools, is on display at the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery at Inveresk until April**
- **Acknowledged the work of not-for-profit support groups (such as the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery Arts Foundation and The Friends) supporting the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery**
- **Congratulated *Mona Foma* organisers on its 2022 presentation**

11.2 Councillor A G Harris

- **Attended Rotary's *Carols by Candlelight* held at the Launceston Casino on 18 December 2021 and congratulated the organisers**
- **Attended the New Year's Eve *BeerFest* event at Royal Park**
- **Attended *Mona Foma's Midnight Oil* event**
- **Attended the Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony**

12 QUESTIONS BY COUNCILLORS

12.1 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.)

No Councillor's Questions on Notice were identified as part of these Minutes

12.2 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.)

12.2.1 Councillor P S Spencer - e-Scooter Cleaning

1. What is the process for e-scooter cleaning?

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, noted that this question would be Taken on Notice and a response provided in the Council Agenda of 10 February 2022.

13 COMMITTEE REPORTS**13.1 Tender Review Committee Meeting - 16 December 2021****FILE NO:** SF0100/CD.041/2021/CD.042/2021/CD.043/2021**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**GENERAL MANAGER:** Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive a report from the Tender Review Committee (a delegated Authority Committee).

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council notes the decision of the Tender Review Committee to accept the tenders submitted by:

1. Zanetto Civil for the Newnham Creek Remediation Works, Contract Number CD.041/2021 for \$1,369,265.00 (exclusive of GST).
 2. Stabilised Pavements Australia Pty Ltd for the William Street Rehabilitation (St John - Tamar), Contract Number CD.042/2021 for \$756,987.90 (exclusive of GST).
 3. Peak Services for the Tender Management and Assessment Consultancy Services, Contract Number CD.043/2021 for \$39,520.00 (exclusive of GST).
-

Ms L Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

13.1 Tender Review Committee Meeting - 16 December 2021 ...(Cont'd)

DECISION: 27 January 2022**MOTION****Moved Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor P S Spencer.****That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.****CARRIED 10:0****FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece**

13.2 Cataract Gorge Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting - 14 December 2021**FILE NO:** SF0839**AUTHOR:** Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)**GENERAL MANAGER:** Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To receive and consider a report from the Cataract Gorge Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 December 2021.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council receives a report from the Cataract Gorge Reserve Advisory Committee Meeting held on 14 December 2021.

Ms L Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 27 January 2022**MOTION****Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor A G Harris.****That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.****CARRIED 10:0**

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

14 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 - Regulation 8(2)(c)

14.1 Council Workshop Report

FILE NO: SF4401

AUTHOR: Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

GENERAL MANAGER: Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider Council Workshops conducted since the last Council Meeting.

RECOMMENDATION:

That, pursuant to Regulation 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*, Council notes the Council Workshops conducted since the last Council Meeting, for the purposes described:

Workshops conducted on 20 January 2022:

Launceston Place Brand

Councillors engaged in final discussions regarding the Launceston Place Brand prior to presentation at Council for endorsement.

Launceston Draft Local Provisions Schedule

Councillors received a presentation on clarification of the section 35F for the Draft Local Provisions Schedule.

Albert Hall Update Presentation

Councillors received an update on progress and changes with regard to the Albert Hall Development Application.

e-Scooter Trial

Councillors received a progress report on the first month of the e-scooter trial.

Tamar Estuary Management Taskforce Vision (TEMT)

Councillors received an overview from the Department of State Growth on TEMT's kanamaluka/Tamar Estuary vision process to date.

Ms L Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

14.1 Council Workshop Report ...(Cont'd)

DECISION: 27 January 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor D C Gibson, seconded Councillor D H McKenzie.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 10:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

15 NOTICES OF MOTION

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

15.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor T G Walker - Vulnerable People

FILE NO: SF5547

AUTHOR: Anthea Rooney (Council and Committees Officer)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Michael Stretton

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider a Notice of Motion submitted by Councillor T G Walker regarding vulnerable people.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Council acknowledges:

1. that all lives are valuable and any death during a pandemic is a tragedy.
 2. that within our community there are a wide range of vulnerable people that are concerned for their welfare, or the welfare of someone they care for because of age, health or disability concerns.
 3. and consequently agrees to write to the Premier to:
 - (a) seek an extension of community services currently offered to those isolating because of close contact or COVID-19 infection, to those most vulnerable people or carers of our most vulnerable people who are isolating in order to avoid COVID-19 infection.
 - (b) ask the State Government to investigate the creation of a permanent vulnerable peoples register, to enable the timely provision of direct government assistance, or referral to organisations that can assist with individual needs.
-

Mr M Stretton (Chief Executive Officer) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

15.1 Notice of Motion - Councillor T G Walker - Vulnerable People ...(Cont'd)

DECISION: 27 January 2022**MOTION 1****Moved Councillor T G Walker, seconded Councillor R I Soward.****That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.****CARRIED 10:0****FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece****DECISION: 27 January 2022****MOTION 2****Moved Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor D C Gibson.****That Councillor T G Walker be granted an additional three minutes speaking time.****CARRIED 10:0****FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece**

16 COMMUNITY AND PLACE NETWORK ITEMS**16.1 Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012)****FILE NO:** SF7206**AUTHOR:** Tracey Mallett (Manager Liveable Communities)**GENERAL MANAGER:** Dan Ryan (Community and Place Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the City of Launceston's Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012).

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop - 7 May 2018 - Place Brand DNA

Workshop - 14 Feb 2019 - Launceston Brand Development - Update

Workshop - 2 May 2019 - Launceston Brand Development - Next Steps

Workshop - 7 November 2019 - Launceston Brand Development - Brand Framework

Workshop - 27 August 2020 - Implementation of Launceston's Brand Work

Workshop - 18 February 2021 - Place Brand Concept Finalisation

Workshop - 19 August 2021 - Launceston Place Brand Presentation

Workshop - 21 October 2021 - Launceston Place Brand Implementation Update

Workshop - 11 November 2021 - Proposed Launceston Place Brand Policy

Workshop - 9 December 2021 - Update on Refined Place Brand Elements

Workshop - 20 December 2021 - Launceston Place Brand - Discussion

Workshop - 20 January 2022 - Launceston Place Brand - Discussion

16.1 Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012) ...(Cont'd)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopts the Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012) (ECM Doc Set ID 4651487).

Place Brand Policy***PURPOSE***

This policy outlines the key principles of the Launceston Place Brand and associated resources and measures.

SCOPE

This policy applies to the purpose and positioning of the Launceston Place Brand. This policy does not apply to use of the City of Launceston's Corporate Brand.

POLICY

The Launceston Place Brand is a unifying cultural expression that celebrates the unique attributes, experience and sentiment of Launceston as a place. Developed from extensive research and engagement with a diverse group of stakeholders and the community, the Place Brand provides a compelling, authentic Launceston narrative that will be supported by dynamic assets.

The Place Brand aims to elevate Launceston's profile as an exceptional place filled with character and distinct stories in order to boost local pride, drive visitation, increase investment and stimulate inward migration.

The City of Launceston will encourage use of the Launceston Place Brand to:

- present a unified and authentic position when describing Launceston.
- ensure communication and promotional materials positioning Launceston as a destination are high quality and consistent.
- elevate current destination messaging and marketing of Launceston.
- promote and strengthen pride of place.
- create inspiration and aspiration about Launceston.

PRINCIPLES

In addition to the Council's Organisational Values, the following principles will guide implementation of the Launceston Place Brand:

- *The Undercurrent* is the foundation concept of the Launceston Place Brand. While various elements of the Place Brand will change according to stakeholder needs over time, the foundation concept will be maintained.
 - The Place Brand assets will reflect the cultural heritage of our place, our people, our stories and the wider Launceston community.
 - The Launceston Place Brand increases community awareness and appreciation of our City attributes.
-

16.1 Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012) ...(Cont'd)

- The Launceston Place Brand's digital assets will be accessible to all members of the community.
- Implementation will be inclusive and transparent;
- Tasmanian Aboriginal history and culture is considered in implementation;
- The City of Launceston has led the development of the Place Brand and can provide support around usage, however, the brand is designed to be independently accessed and used by the community.
- The Launceston Place Brand is a creative expression of the story, character, culture and sentiment of Launceston as a place, and sits in parallel with the City of Launceston's Corporate Brand, which promotes the initiatives, projects, and services of the City of Launceston.
- The success of the Place Brand will be regularly measured through analytics, sentiment analysis, uptake requests and enquires.

***ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES
THE CITY OF LAUNCESTON***

The City of Launceston has developed the Launceston Place Brand in consultation with community and will drive implementation and ongoing management of the asset suite. The City of Launceston will identify internal and external opportunities to apply the Place Brand and will provide support to stakeholders seeking to use the brand.

***CO-BRANDING OF LAUNCESTON PLACE BRAND AND CITY OF LAUNCESTON
CORPORATE BRAND***

The Corporate Brand is representative of the entire organisation and its various activities, services, decisions and its role as local government. The Place Brand is a specialty brand representative of the sense of Greater Launceston and stretches beyond municipal boundaries. The Place Brand is applicable to the economic, social and cultural development and promotion of the City and can be used in conjunction with partners, initiatives and projects with similar ambitions. However, there are many identified opportunities in which the Corporate and Place brands can be applied together.

OTHER INSTITUTIONS/ORGANISATIONS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS

Stakeholders across the community from sectors including small business, education, community groups and individuals have helped develop the Launceston Place Brand. The City of Launceston will continue to actively build relationships to share information and increase consistent usage of the Launceston Place Brand.

SMALL BUSINESS OPERATORS

The private sector, especially small business operators, is strongly encouraged to take advantage of the Launceston Place Brand to assist with their marketing.

16.1 Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012) ...(Cont'd)

RELATED POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

05-PI-022 Media and Communications Policy
City of Launceston Corporate Brand Guidelines
City of Launceston Place Brand Guidelines TBC

RELATED LEGISLATION

Local Government Act 1999 (Tas)

REFERENCES

City of Launceston Tourism Plan 2018 - 2022

DEFINITIONS

The Place Brand is based on a concept called *The Undercurrent*, which summarises the authentic story of Launceston as developed from extensive community consultation and research. It is a distillation of what locals already say - the things locals proudly talk about when they talk about Launceston, or colloquially *Launnie*.

The concept will inform a Place Brand narrative, wordmark, colour palette, art direction, illustrations and font.

There are innumerable touchpoints the Place Brand could serve including, but not limited to, destination and product marketing, grant applications, award submissions, investment pitches, promotional marketing, recruitment campaigns, business prospectus' and cultural engagement opportunities.

Wordmark: the wordmark is a bespoke visual symbol of the Place Brand. The wordmark could also be referred to as a logo.

Narrative: the narrative is a summary of Launceston's history, character and experiences, as uncovered through community consultation and written in the tone and spirit of the Place Brand. In short, the narrative is the local story, also known as *Launnie's* story.

Assets an asset is anything used to promote this place brand such as photographs, wordmark, video, illustrations, merchandise and printed guides.

Art Direction: the art direction is the way the Place Brand is presented in order to achieve a certain aesthetic, quality and consistency.

REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed within four years after the date of approval (version) or more frequently, if dictated by operational demands and with Council's approval.

16.1 Place Brand Policy (07-PI-012) ...(Cont'd)

Mr D Ryan (General Manager Community and Place Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 27 January 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor A G Harris, seconded Councillor R I Soward.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 10:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

17 CREATIVE ARTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES NETWORK ITEMS

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes

18 INFRASTRUCTURE AND ASSETS NETWORK ITEMS

18.1 *Sustainability Action Plan 2021-2030*

FILE NO: SF2675

AUTHOR: Sophie Hipkin (Sustainability Officer)

GENERAL MANAGER: Shane Eberhardt (Infrastructure and Assets Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider endorsement of the *Sustainability Action Plan 2021-2030*.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL CONSIDERATION:

Workshop - 9 December 2021 - Sustainability Action Plan 2021-2030

Council - 3 October 2019 - Agenda Item 18.3 - Sustainability Strategy

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council approves the *Sustainability Action Plan - 2021-2030* (ECM Doc Set ID 4665127).

Mr D Murray (Acting General Manager Infrastructure and Assets Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 27 January 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor A E Dawkins, seconded Councillor R I Soward.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 10:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

19 ORGANISATIONAL SERVICES NETWORK ITEMS

19.1 Appointment of Members to City of Launceston Audit Panel

FILE NO: SF3611

AUTHOR: Duncan Campbell (Acting Manager Governance)

GENERAL MANAGER: Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To consider the appointment of two members to the City of Launceston Audit Panel.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council, pursuant to section 85 of the *Local Government Act 1993* (Tas) and clause 5 and 6 of the *Local Government (Audit Panels) Order 2014* (Tas), appoints:

- (a) Mr Enrico (Ric) De Santi as a member (independent person) and Chair of the City of Launceston Audit Panel; and
 - (b) Mr Ken Clarke as a member (independent person) of the City of Launceston Audit Panel.
-

Ms L Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

DECISION: 27 January 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor R I Soward.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 10:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

19.2 State Grants Commission - Tourism Cost Adjustor Review and Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors

FILE NO: SF0490

AUTHOR: Paul Gimpl (Chief Financial Officer)

GENERAL MANAGER: Louise Foster (Organisational Services Network)

DECISION STATEMENT:

To endorse the City of Launceston's response to the State Grants Commission regarding questions asked in the papers distributed to Councils entitled *Tourism Cost Adjustor Review Discussion Paper DP22-01* and the *Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors Conversation Starter CS22-01*.

RECOMMENDATION:

That in respect to the State Grants Commission *Tourism Cost Adjustor Review Discussion Paper DP22-01* and *Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors Conversation Starter CS22-01*, the Council:

1. reiterates that the existing factors underpinning the General Purpose grant model do not adequately compensate for regional responsibilities, namely:
 - (a) the Council's role as a regional centre offsets the (economics of scale) scale cost adjustor and is not adequately recognised in the annual model.
 - (b) the cost adjustment process is distorting the relative financial needs of Councils:
 - (i) by increasing per capita costs through the inclusion of special expenditure;
 - (ii) by applying cost adjustors to special expenditure that should be treated by exception; and
 - (iii) inconsistent classification of expenditure by Councils; and
 - (c) the outcome of the allocation process is not in the best interests of the region or State by undermining the financial capacity of the City of Launceston.
 2. endorses the following specific comments on the Tourism Cost Adjustor Review:

Question 1:
Are there any data sources that the Commission may not have considered that could be suitable replacements for the current data sources?

Answer 1:
The use of regularly updated independent, objective and defensible data for cost adjustors is a sound approach, however, the correlation level using the Tourism Cost Adjustor is minimal and should be discontinued.
-

19.2 State Grants Commission - Tourism Cost Adjustor Review and Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors ...(Cont'd)

Question 2:

What comments do you have regarding the Commission's preliminary decision to cease the use of the Tourism Cost Adjustor?

Answer 2:

We agree that the Tourism Cost Adjustor should be discontinued.

Question 3:

Do you have any other comments in relation to this matter that have not been adequately covered above?

Answer 3:

No.

3. endorses the following specific comments on the Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors Conversation Starter:

Scale (Administration) Cost Adjustor

Question 1:

What systems do you have in place for separately identifying costs relating to General Administration?

Answer 1:

The City of Launceston uses a general ledger chart of accounts and cost centres to enable reporting of actual operational costs against approved budgets. Cost centres are also grouped together by function, General Administration being one of these functions.

Question 2:

Does reporting these costs involve any cost allocation decisions (eg. employees may work across a number of different categories)?

Answer 2:

Generally, employees do not significantly work across different functions.

Question 3:

To what extent is the population of a council significant in impacting on costs?

Answer 3:

The population of a council does impact costs mainly due to larger volumes of transactions. For example, larger volumes of rate transactions (rate notices, rate enquiries, supplementary valuation adjustments and rate revaluation costs), larger volumes of transactions relating to the billing of venue hire and the multitude of other user charges. In general, the City of Launceston's management systems are likely more sophisticated than smaller councils with limited resources mainly due to their size (population). Maintaining the City of Launceston's Information Technology systems requires significant resources (employees, software and hardware charges) and whilst the costs of operating the systems can be spread over a larger number of rateable properties the effort (the costs) to have more advanced systems is considerable but necessary to ensure the City of Launceston remains an efficient and sustainable organisation.

19.2 State Grants Commission - Tourism Cost Adjustor Review and Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors ...(Cont'd)

Isolation Cost AdjustorQuestion 1:

Given the rapid advancements in communication and other technologies, do you think that remoteness is still a significant factor when it comes to attracting and retaining staff, and in the costs of staff and other inputs?

Answer 1:

Technology definitely assists staff and councils to operate in remote areas, however, it is still often difficult to attract and retain staff in such areas. The impact of COVID-19 and lockdowns may, however, attract new employees looking for a sea-change for their families but only time will tell.

Question 2:

To what extent do you think that the inherent cost advantages or disadvantages captured by the Isolation Cost Adjustor are also reflected in the Scale (Administration) Cost Adjustor, particularly as it relates to employee costs?

Answer 2:

The Scale (Administration) Cost Adjustor would most likely reflect to some degree the Isolation Cost Adjustor, but to what extent may vary depending on the remoteness of different councils and their community's appeal to prospective and existing employees with regard to salary levels.

Population Decline Cost AdjustorQuestion 1:

To what extent is population decline an issue for your council?

Answer 1:

The City of Launceston is not experiencing population decline, however, the population increase in the Launceston municipality is quite low.

Question 2:

Which expenditure areas are most affected by this cost disadvantage?

Answer 2:

The City of Launceston is currently more affected by growth in nearby municipalities which significantly impacts road infrastructure (increased traffic) and parking infrastructure.

Ms L Foster (General Manager Organisational Services Network) was in attendance to answer questions of Council in respect of this Agenda Item.

19.2 State Grants Commission - Tourism Cost Adjustor Review and Administration Expenditure Cost Adjustors ...(Cont'd)

DECISION: 27 January 2022

MOTION

Moved Councillor D H McKenzie, seconded Councillor R I Soward.

That the Motion, as per the Recommendation to Council, be adopted.

CARRIED 10:0

FOR VOTE: Mayor Councillor A M van Zetten, Deputy Mayor Councillor D C Gibson, Councillor R I Soward, Councillor D H McKenzie, Councillor K P Stojansek, Councillor A E Dawkins, Councillor P S Spencer, Councillor A G Harris, Councillor T G Walker and Councillor K M Preece

20 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER NETWORK ITEMS

No Items were identified as part of these Minutes

21 CLOSED COUNCIL

No Closed Items were identified as part of these Minutes

22 MEETING CLOSURE

The Mayor, Councillor A M van Zetten, closed the Meeting at 3.05pm.
