

George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 16 APRIL 2019
AGENDA

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Meeting Commencing at 1.00pm

AUDIO RECORDING OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The public is advised that it is **Council Policy** to record the proceedings of meetings of Council on digital media to assist in the preparation of minutes, and to clarify any queries relating to the Minutes that is raised during a subsequent meeting under the section “Confirmation of Minutes”.

The recording does not replace the written minutes and a transcript of the recording will not be prepared.

All meetings of the Council shall be digitally recorded as provided for by Regulation 33 of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 except for the proceedings of meetings or parts of meetings closed to the public in accordance with Regulation 15(2).

In accordance with the requirements of Council’s Audio Recording of Council Meetings Policy No. 40, members of the public are not permitted to make audio recordings of Council meetings.

1. PRESENT

1.1 APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE

1.2 IN ATTENDANCE

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2. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

2.1 ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING HELD 19 MARCH 2019

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

That the Minutes of Council's Ordinary meeting held on the 19 March 2019 numbered 033/19 to 055/19 and 059/19 as circulated to Councillors be received and confirmed as a true record of proceedings.

VOTING

For:

Against:

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3. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

3.1 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME PROCEDURE

[Refer to Minute No. 243/16. The period set aside for public question time will be at least 15 minutes. Questions given on notice will be addressed first. Once questions on notice have been addressed, persons who have registered their interest to ask a question will be called to do so in the order in which they have registered. Persons attending Council meetings will have the opportunity to register their interest to ask a question without notice prior to the commencement of the meeting. Council staff will be on hand to assist with this process.]

Participants cannot ask more than 2 questions in a row with a maximum of 2 minutes per question. If a person has more than (2) questions, they will be placed at the 'end of the queue' and may, if time permits, ask their further questions once all other persons have had an opportunity to ask questions. Persons who have not registered their interest to ask a question will be given an opportunity to do so following all those who have registered. All questions must be directed to the Chairperson.

For further information on Council's Public Question Time Rules and Procedure, please refer to George Town Council Public Question Time Policy No. 18.]

Questions asked and answers provided may be summarised in the minutes of the meeting.

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3.2 PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Nil.

3.3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Commenced at:

Concluded at:

3.4 QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FROM COUNCILLORS

Nil.

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3.5 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

(Refer to Minute No. 425/00, which states in part, “that a copy of all written replies to questions from the Public Gallery be included in the following Council Agenda.”)

Mrs Wootton, Low Head – 19 March, 2019 (response by way of letter dated 4 April 2019)

Mrs Lorraine Wootton

Dear Lorraine

I refer to your questions asked and taken on notice at the ordinary Council meeting held on the 19 March 2019 and provide the following responses:

Q1. Was the George Town Council approached for any support – monetary or otherwise – for the holding of any Ten Days on the Island events in this area in 2019 and, if not, could it please take steps to ensure that we are not ‘left off the map’ in the future?

As I had advised at the meeting, Council has not been approached in respect to the holding of any events associated with Ten Days on the Island in this area. I have however since the Council meeting, written to the organisers requesting that consideration be given to holding future events associated with the Festival in George Town, a copy of which is enclosed for your information.

Q2. You referred to the Watch House where you raised your concerns in respect to the state of the front window, the building in general and its surrounds and a lack of signage and asked if something could be done urgently.

I have been informed by Council staff that in respect to the state of the front window of the Watch House, quotes are currently being sourced for its repair. Consultation will need to be undertaken with Heritage Tasmania in this regard. Council is also about to commence a major upgrade of the electrical works within the building pending sign off from Heritage Tasmania. I am advised that a request will be submitted to Council for consideration during its 2019/2020 budget deliberations for an allocation of funds to clean and repaint the exterior of the Watch House and subject to Council decision, it is expected that these works will be carried out during the next financial year. With respect to the signage, Council Officers are currently following this up and will advise me further on the matter in due course, the outcome of which will be relayed to yourself.

I trust the above responds satisfactorily to your questions.

Mr Gee, Low Head – 19 March, 2019

Q3. In respect to the subsequent further development comprising “The Hub” located immediately west of the abovementioned development was a parking levy charged or levied from the developer in lieu of foregone parking spaces? Is it correct that an amount was offered to the Council by State Government but not taken up?

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3.5 RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS FROM PREVIOUS PUBLIC QUESTION TIME (CONT.)

Council officers are currently reviewing the matters raised by Mr Gee. Subject to the outcome of that review and taking into consideration the Chairperson's response provided to Mr Gee at the March 2019 Council meeting, any further response provided to Mr Gee will be printed in the next available Council meeting agenda.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5. GENERAL MANAGER'S DECLARATION

I certify that with respect to all advice, information or recommendations provided to Council with this Agenda:

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



Shane Power
GENERAL MANAGER

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1993 – SECTION 65

65. Qualified persons

- (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) that 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.

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6. PLANNING AUTHORITY

Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015

25. *Acting as a planning authority*

- (1) *If a council or council committee intends to act at a meeting as a planning authority under the Land Use Planning and Approvals Act 1993, the chairperson is to advise the meeting accordingly.*
- (2) *The general manager is to ensure that the reasons for a decision by a council or council committee acting as a planning authority are recorded in the minutes of the meeting.*

Nil.

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7. PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Nil.

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8. WORKS AND INFRASTRUCTURE

8.1 NORTHERN TASMANIAN WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP LANDFILL LEVY AMENDMENT

REPORT AUTHOR: Team Works & Infrastructure

REPORT DATE: 8 April 2019

FILE NO.: 73.10

ATTACHMENT: Nil

SUMMARY

To submit a request to Council to approve the proposed Northern Tasmanian Waste Management Group (NTWVG) Landfill Levy amendment from the current \$5.00 per tonne to \$7.50 per tonne from 1 July 2019.

BACKGROUND

The NTWVG was established in 2007 when a need was identified to have a coordinated and strategic approach to waste and resource recovery in the region.

Members include seven councils from Northern Tasmania: George Town, Launceston, Break O'Day, Dorset, Meander Valley, Northern Midlands and West Tamar.

The role of the NTWVG is to provide advice, funding and education on better managing waste and resource recovery within Northern Tasmanian communities, businesses and local governments.

The NTWVG operates under a voluntary regional partnership and is able to provide these services through the current \$5.00 per tonne levy on waste disposed to landfill from northern Tasmania.

In 2007 when the group started operating, there was a \$2.00 per tonne levy which was increased to \$5.00 per tonne in 2012. There has not been a change for seven years.

The proposed landfill levy amendment from \$5.00 per tonne to \$7.50 per tonne would increase NTWVG's yearly income from \$480,000 to \$720,000 and allow the group's strategic projects to be implemented on a sustainable basis into the future.

The proposed \$7.50 per tonne levy cost implications to George Town residents using the waste centre are minimal. The great majority of landfill entries fall on or close to the minimum fee which is \$10.00 for a car or trailer entry.

Under the existing landfill levy rate of \$5.00 per tonne, the minimum \$10.00 fee has a \$0.64 cent levy proportion. Under the proposed levy amendment, the minimum \$10.00 fee would attract a \$0.96 cent levy proportion, an increase of \$0.32 cents. Please refer to Table 1 for the breakdown of costs.

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8.1 NORTHERN TASMANIAN WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP LANDFILL LEVY AMENDMENT (CONT.)

It is important to consider that the minimum \$10.00 fee will not change at the gate for the user but rather the weight category will be amended to reflect the \$0.32 cent increase. For example the weight could change by 4kgs from 128kg to 124kg.

Table 1 Domestic Waste charge cost comparisons

Domestic waste charge	\$5.00 per tonne Cents	\$7.50 per tonne Cents	Extra cost Cents
>\$10	0.64	0.96	0.32
\$10.01 - \$11	0.70	1.056	0.35
\$11.01 - \$15	0.96	1.44	0.48
\$15.01 - \$20	1.28	1.92	0.64
\$20.01 - \$30	1.92	2.88	0.96
\$30.01 - \$40	2.56	3.84	1.28
\$40.01 - \$60	3.84	5.76	1.92
\$60.01 - \$80	5.12	7.68	2.56
\$80.01 - \$100	6.40	9.6	3.20
\$100.01 - \$200	12.8	19.2	6.40
\$200.01 - \$300	19.2	28.8	9.60

Currently there are a number of NTWGM strategic projects that have not commenced due to insufficient funds to implement them. The main direct regional benefit to the Council would be funding towards the development of a construction and demolition (C&D) facility to enable the diversion of this waste stream away from landfill.

Tasmania lags behind other states in this recovery stream and the C&D waste stream represents the next best waste management opportunity for Northern Tasmania. Commercial users pay a commercial gate rate but then a high proportion of that material is recovered, reused or recycled. This extends landfill life and offsets operational costs.

Other direct benefits are detailed audits of waste streams to assist the Council in prioritising investment and continued support of the Council's organics initiative. (Table 2).

There are also many non-direct benefits to the Council through bolstering education and communication tools, by the group being able to respond to arising issues and having funding to maintain current projects and develop new initiatives that improve waste management outcomes for George Town Council and the region.

Table 2. Shared George Town & regional benefit from \$7.50 landfill levy

Construction and Demolition development	\$180,000
Kerbside composition audit	\$84,000
Landfill & transfer station audit	\$84,000
Organics support	\$65,000
Extended recycling services	\$50,000
Total	\$463,000

8.1 NORTHERN TASMANIAN WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP LANDFILL LEVY AMENDMENT (CONT.)

ECONOMIC IMPACT

Landfill diversion encourages resource recovery, which equates to income and economic stimulation within the region. This also promotes circular economy practices to keep the resources in production rather than landfilling on a linear economic model. By decreasing, the volumes that go to landfill the life of landfills are extended representing savings in operation and landfill development costs.

The following is taken from the NTWVG 2017-2022 NTWVG Strategy.

Given that Tasmania contributes 2% to Australia's gross domestic product, the NTWVG estimates that waste services and waste products contribute \$190 million and \$90 million respectively to Tasmania's economy (ABS 2013, Department of Treasury and Finance 2015).

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The major goal of the NTWVG is diversion of waste away from landfills by supporting behaviour change and recycling and recovery services. By encouraging people to reduce their waste, the group is limiting the impact of waste burial on the environment.

The major environmental impacts minimised are preventing harmful carbon dioxide and methane gases entering our atmosphere, reducing contamination of surface, groundwater and leachate systems. The group supports active recovery of valuable resources such as precious metals from being lost forever to landfill.

SOCIAL IMPACT

From a social-economic perspective, recycling creates jobs. For every 10,000 tonnes of materials processed, 9.2 full time equivalent jobs are created. This compares to only 2.8 jobs for sending that waste to landfill (Access Economics 2009). Approximately 140,000 tonnes of waste from northern Tasmania is disposed to landfill each year at the opportunity cost of considerable job creation.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 4

Strengthen the vibrancy of our towns and enhance the benefits of living in a rural setting and living close to the river and coast.

Key Objective 1

To identify and respond to changing needs for infrastructure and facilities.

Key Priorities 1

Review and manage the assets and infrastructure Council currently owns in line with community needs.

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8.1 NORTHERN TASMANIAN WASTE MANAGEMENT GROUP LANDFILL LEVY AMENDMENT (CONT.)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATONS

For the 2017/2018 financial year Council landfilled 1,303 tonnes of material contributing \$6,515 to the regional landfill levy. Under the proposed amendment of \$7.50, the cost implications would be \$9,733; an increase of \$3,258/year (Table 3). The regional benefits outlined in the report is shown at \$463,000, which is \$154,333 benefit per year for the next 3 years (Table 2).

Table 3. George Town Council cost implications Landfill levy \$5.00 per tonne v \$7.50 per tonne

	Tonne per year	Levy \$5.00 per tonne	Levy \$7.50 per tonne	\$ Difference
Total	1,303	\$6,515	\$9,773	\$3,258

The impact of the proposed increase in the Landfill levy on Council's Waste Transfer Station fees and charges and Kerbside Collection charges will be considered as part of the 2019/2020 budget estimate process.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorses the landfill levy amendment from the current \$5.00 per tonne to \$7.50 per tonne from 1 July 2019.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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9. CORPORATE AND FINANCE

9.1 DOG REGISTRATION FEES 2019/2020

REPORT AUTHOR: Team Leader Corporate and Finance

REPORT DATE: 8 April 2019

FILE NO.: 43.3, 32.4

ATTACHMENT: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to make a recommendation for the setting of Council's dog registration and animal (dog) management fees for the 2019/2020 financial year.

BACKGROUND

Council has authority under the *Dog Control Act 2000* (the Act) to determine the fees payable for dog registrations and management. The *Local Government (Rates and Charges) Remission Act 1991* provides Council with the ability to provide a reduction in fees to some members of the community who meet the relevant requirement.

Dog registration fees are set earlier than other Council fees in order to allow Council time to issue registration notices and to provide opportunity for owners of dogs to re-register their dogs prior to the start of the new financial year.

Council's current fee structure provides a financial incentive for early payment of fees by lowering the fee for registration of dogs prior to June 30th 2019.

FINANCES

Council currently provides the community with an out of hour's animal management service which requires Council's Ranger to be on-call for emergencies and dangerous situations. At present, the revenue received through registrations and associated dog management activities do not cover the cost of this service. While the figures provided below are yet to capture the spike in revenue expected during June by those who take up the discounted early payment option, the figures do show that the yearly revenue is likely to be less than a quarter of the cost to provide the service.

Table 1: Year to date financial figures – Animal Control

Master Account (desc)	Actual YTD 2019	Budget YTD 2019	Remaining Budget	Percentage Used
Animal Control Total	-\$8,874	-\$19,359	-\$10,485	45.84%
Animal Control Expenditure Total	\$83,153	\$113,824	\$30,671	73.05%

Source: Operational Statement Report (8/4/2019)

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9.1 DOG REGISTRATION FEES 2019/2020 (CONT.)

While predominantly focused on Animal Management, it should be noted that the duties associated with the Council Ranger position provides other economic and community benefits which are not reflected in the revenue collected and would be an additional expense to Council and likely to be detrimental to the community should that service cease.

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Section 8(1) of the Dog Control Act 2000 – The owner of a dog that is over the age of six months must register the dog.

Section 15A(1) of the Dog Control Act 2000 – Implanting of microchips - The owner of a dog that is over six months of age must ensure that the dog is implanted in an approved manner with an approved microchip.

Section 80 of the Dog Control Act 2000 – Fees

- (1) A Council may determine any fees payable under this Act.
- (2) A general manager may
 - (a) waive a fee; or
 - (b) refund part or all of a fee; or
 - (c) discount a fee

CONSULTATION

Council's dog registration and animal management fees are set annually as part of the budget process. Any submissions received by Council from dog owners are considered during this process.

OFFICER'S COMMENT

A comparison has been made between surrounding Councils in regards to dog registration and animal control fees and it was revealed that there are some inconsistencies with the application of fees across the region and Council has been charging higher than the average for some fees and lower than the average for others.

The methodology for setting the fees for the 2019/2020 financial year takes into account the average across the region against Councils current fee. It is also important to balance any increases fairly in order to encourage pet owners to renew the registrations of existing dogs and proactively register any new dogs. The proposed lifetime registration fee is in line with fees currently offered by Dorset and Launceston Councils and is proposed to offer a one off payment which will offer potential savings for dog owners and reduce administrative costs to Council. The proposed fees also provide incentive for dog owners to neuter their dogs by providing a substantially cheaper registration fee for de-sexed dogs. This approach is consistent across the region. A further new fee is proposed to transfer a dog registered in another municipality for an administrative fee rather than full reregistration, thereby encouraging pet owners to transfer registration as they move into the area.

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9.1 DOG REGISTRATION FEES 2019/2020 (CONT.)

Table 2: Dog Fee Registrations across Neighbouring Councils

Fees & Charges Comparison Dog Registration Fees 2018/19									
	GTC		Dorset		City of Launceston	West Tamar		Latrobe Council	
	2018/2019 Before 30/06/18	2018/2019 After 30/06/18	2018/2019 Before 31/07/18	2018/2019 After 31/07/18	2018/2019	2018/2019 Before 30/06/18	2018/2019 After 30/06/18	2018/2019 Before 31/07/18	2018/2019 After 31/07/18
Whole Dog	\$46.00	\$70.00	\$54.00	\$64.00	\$47.00	\$55.00	\$75.00	\$48.00	\$53.00
Desexed Dog	\$21.00	\$31.00	\$24.00	\$15.00	\$21.00	\$23.00	\$33.00	\$21.00	\$26.00
Pensioner Concession - Whole Dog	\$21.00	\$22.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.50	\$18.00	\$22.00	\$18.00	\$23.00
Pensioner Concession - Desexed Dog	\$11.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$10.50	\$18.00	\$22.00	\$18.00	\$23.00
Working Dog	\$21.00	\$31.00	\$27.00	\$35.00	\$32.00	\$28.00	\$45.00	\$26.00	\$31.00
Registered Breeding Dog	\$21.00	\$31.00	\$27.00	\$35.00	\$28.00	\$28.00	\$45.00	\$125.00	\$130.00
Greyhounds Registered	\$21.00	\$31.00	\$27.00	\$35.00	\$32.00	\$28.00	\$45.00	\$26.00	\$31.00
Guide Dog	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt	Exempt
Guard Dog	\$30.00	\$50.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$32.00	\$110.00	\$150.00	n/a	n/a
Dangerous Dog	\$450.00	\$450.00	\$400.00	\$400.00	\$460.00	\$330.00	\$435.00	\$264.00	\$267.00
Lifetime Registration - Whole	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$320.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lifetime Registration - Desexed	n/a	n/a	\$170.00	\$170.00	\$105.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lifetime Registration Desexed Dog - Pensioner Concession	n/a	n/a	\$100.00	\$100.00	\$51.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Lifetime Registration Whole Dog - Pensioner Concession	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$160.00	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Transfer registration dog registered in other Tasmanian Council.			Must be desex & Microchipped						

Source of Information: Relevant Council website

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9.1 DOG REGISTRATION FEES 2019/2020 (CONT.)

PROPOSED FEES 2018/2019

1. Re-registration of dog on or before 30 June 2019 or first registration of dog reaching the age of six months

	Proposed Fee 2019/2020	2018/2019
Whole Dog	\$50	\$46
Desexed Dog	\$25	\$21
Pensioner Concession - Whole Dog	\$25	\$21
Pensioner Concession - Desexed Dog	\$15	\$11
Working Dog	\$25	\$21
Registered Breeding Dog	\$25	\$21
Greyhounds Registered	\$25	\$21
Guide Dog	Exempt	Exempt
Guard Dog	\$100	\$30
Dangerous Dog	\$450	\$450
Lifetime Registration - Whole	\$250	n/a
Lifetime Registration - Desexed	\$125	n/a
Lifetime Registration Desexed Dog - Pensioner Concession	\$65	n/a
Lifetime Registration Whole Dog - Pensioner Concession	\$125	n/a
Transfer registration dog registered in other Tasmanian Council.	\$10	

2. Re-registration of dog after 30 June 2019

	Proposed Fee 2019/2020	2018/2019
Whole Dog	\$72	\$70
Desexed Dog	\$32	\$31
Pensioner Concession - Whole Dog	\$23	\$22
Pensioner Concession - Desexed Dog	\$16	\$15
Working Dog	\$32	\$31
Registered Breeding Dog	\$32	\$31
Greyhounds Registered	\$32	\$31
Guide Dog	Exempt	Exempt
Guard Dog	\$145	\$50
Dangerous Dog	\$465	\$450
Lifetime Registration - Whole	\$250	n/a
Lifetime Registration - Desexed	\$125	n/a
Lifetime Registration Desexed Dog - Pensioner Concession	\$65	n/a
Lifetime Registration Whole Dog - Pensioner Concession	\$125	n/a
Transfer registration dog registered in other Tasmanian Council.	\$10	

Rules for Lifetime registration - no refunds given for deceased dogs.

Rules for Lifetime registration - no refunds given for transfer to other Local Government Areas.

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9.1 DOG REGISTRATION FEES 2019/2020 (CONT.)

3. Miscellaneous fees

	Proposed Fee 2019/2020	2018/2019
Replacement registration tag	\$10.00	\$8.00
Fee for notice of complaint	\$26.00	\$25.00
Annual renewal of kennel licence	\$25.00	\$34.00
Kennel licence - 3 to 5 dogs	\$75.00	\$74.00
Kennel licence - more than 5 dogs	\$110.00	\$105.00
Declared dangerous dog	\$450.00	\$450.00
Dangerous dog sign, collar etc.	\$56.00	\$55.00

4. Impounding fees

	Proposed Fee 2019/2020	2018/2019
Pound maintenance charge per dog per day	\$42.00	\$40.00
Dog release for 1st seizure of dog	\$65.00	\$60.00
Dog release for 2nd & subsequent seizure of dog	\$160.00	\$153.00

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the above dog registration fees for the 2019/2020 financial year be set in accordance with section 80 of the *Dog Control Act 2000*, Section 205 of the *Local Government Act 1993* and the *Local Government (Rates and Charges) Remission Act 1991* and that the Dog Management Policy be amended to include life time registration of dogs.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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9.2 LOAN COUNCIL ALLOCATION FOR 2019/2020

REPORT AUTHOR: Team Leader – Corporate and Finance

REPORT DATE: 8 April 2019

FILE NO: 32.20

ATTACHMENTS: Nil

SUMMARY

This report is submitted to Council in order for the Council to confirm its intentions as to borrowing funds for the 2019/2020 year.

BACKGROUND

Each year the Council is required to seek Treasury approval for its borrowing intentions. Council is restricted in its capacity to borrow funds by sections 78 and 80 of the Local Government Act 1993.

CONSULTATION

Potential borrowing intentions were discussed at Council Budget Workshop 9 April 2019, at which time potential 50/50 grant opportunities were identified and loan facilities discussed.

RISK MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

The following should be considered when assessing Councils debt position;

Net financial liabilities is an indicator of the level of debt being managed. If the net financial liabilities ratio is positive, Council has no “net debt”. If it is negative then the council will be managing some level of debt.

	Description	Indicator Results
Net financial liabilities	Liquid assets less total liabilities	Net financial liabilities equals total liabilities less financial assets.
Net financial liabilities ratio	Liquid assets less total liabilities/Total operating revenue	Where the value is falling over time Council’s capacity to meet its financial obligations from operating income is improving.

Aims and Targets (from Council’s Financial Strategy)

Performance measure	Net financial liabilities ratio
Performance calculation	Liquid assets less total liabilities/Total operating revenue
Aim	Between 0 and negative 50%
Target	Negative 25% (assumes a level of modest debt).

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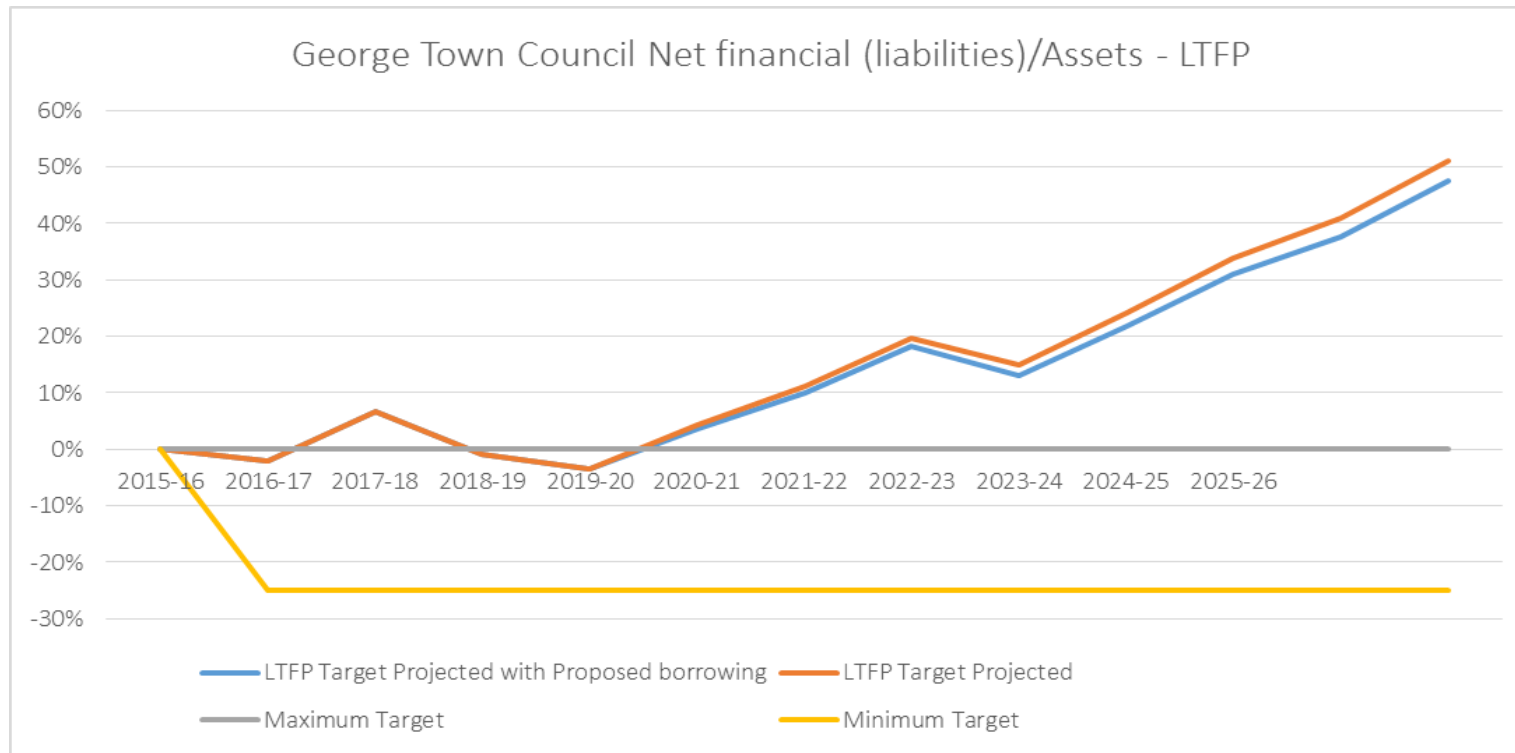
9.2 LOAN COUNCIL ALLOCATION FOR 2019/2020 (CONT.)

Council's net financial liabilities ratio as estimated based on the assumptions made in the Long Term Financial Plan are included in the graph below.

Comment from the current Long Term Financial Plan

The net financial liabilities ratio remains within the target set (0% to negative 25%) in the financial strategy. From 2020 the target is exceeded as cash balances increase and loans are paid down. No new borrowings are proposed within the timeframe of the long term financial plan.

Net Financial Liabilities Ratio



9.2 LOAN COUNCIL ALLOCATION FOR 2019/2020 (CONT.)

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 4

Strengthen the vibrancy of our towns and enhance the benefits of living in a rural setting and living close to the river and coast.

Key Objective

Upgrade parks to include outdoor recreational facilities.

Review and manage the assets and infrastructure Council currently owns in line with community needs.

Goal 5

Ensure Council listens to and understands community needs and continues to make responsible decisions on behalf of the community.

Key Objective

Consistently achieve a high standard of internal financial and governance arrangements.

STATUTORY OR LEGISLATIVE CONSIDERATIONS

The following sections of the Local Government Act 1993, regulate Council's borrowing activities.

78.Borrowings

(1) A council, for the purpose of raising a loan or obtaining any form of financial accommodation, may decide by an absolute majority to provide any of the following forms of security:

(a) debentures;

(b) bills of sale, mortgages or other charges;

(c) inscribed stock;

(d) guarantees;

(e) any other document evidencing indebtedness other than bearer instruments.

(2) A council may not raise a loan in any financial year exceeding any amount the Treasurer determines for that financial year.

*(3) In this section, **loan** includes any financing arrangement as determined by the Treasurer.*

80.Limit on borrowing

(1) Except with the approval of the Minister, a council may not borrow additional money for any purpose if the annual payments required to service the total borrowings would exceed 30% of its revenue of the preceding financial year.

(2) Grants made to a council for specific purposes are to be excluded in calculating 30% of revenue of the council.

9.2 LOAN COUNCIL ALLOCATION FOR 2019/2020 (CONT.)

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The long term financial plan endorsed by Council in February 2018 did not include an assumption of borrowings in the 2019/2020 financial year. New borrowings would have a negative impact on the projected operating surplus for future financial years.

OFFICERS COMMENTS

It is anticipated that a bridge renewal funding programme will be available in 2019/2020, typically these grants are on a 50/50 funding basis. Potential bridges identified for this funding application are three bridges/culverts along Dalrymple Road, projected cost is \$1.5m. Should Council be successful in securing this funding, the 50% Council contribution could be funded by way of a loan. In the first five years of such a borrowing of \$750,000 the negative impact to the operating surplus of Council would be between \$45,000 and \$35,000 depending on interest rates.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council advise Treasury that it wishes to apply for a new borrowing facility of \$750,000 in the 2019/2020 financial year, pending successfully securing 50% grant funding for bridge replacement.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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10. COMMUNITY SERVICES

Nil.

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11. MAYOR

11.1 MATTERS OF INVOLVEMENT – MAYOR

FILE NO.: 14.11

REPORT DATE: 10 April 2019

Mayor Bridget Archer		
March	20	Attended radio interview at Tamar FM with General Manager
April	2	Attended George Town Community Safety Group Committee Meeting
	9	Attended additional Council Workshop
	10	Meeting with Pro Vice Chancellor and Community Engagement & Development UTAS re: developments in the Regional Study hubs space and the University's greater presence in the region
	16	Attended Council Workshop
	16	Attended ordinary Council meeting

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That the information report from the Mayor on Matters of Involvement be received and the information noted.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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12. GENERAL MANAGER

12.1 COUNCIL WORKSHOPS – MARCH 2019

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 10 April 2019

FILE NO: 14.10

ATTACHMENT/S: Nil

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to provide a record of workshops held in accordance with the requirements of Section 8(2)(c) of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015*.

DATE AND PURPOSE OF WORKSHOP HELD

TUESDAY 19TH MARCH 2019

- Introduction of new staff members
- Representatives George Town Airport Association
- Representative Bass & Flinders
- Homes on Arterial Roads – Rates Incentive Scheme
- Events Strategy
- Transfer of funds - Leam Road & Hillwood Road upgrade projects to Dalrymple Road
- Governance Matters

Present: Cr Archer, Cr Harris, Cr Barraclough, Cr Barwick, Cr Brooks,
Cr Dawson, Cr Kieser, Cr Mason, Cr Michieletto

Apologies: Nil

In Attendance: General Manager, Team Leader Corporate & Finance, Team Leader
Community & Development Services, Team Leader Works & Infrastructure,
Governance Support Officer

Guests: Representatives George Town Airport Association
Representative Bass & Flinders

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the report on the Council Workshops – March 2019 from the General Manager.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

12.2 AGENDA REPORT - DRAFT SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR COUNCILLORS

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 4 April 2019

FILE NO: 14.12

ATTACHMENT: Draft Social Media Policy for Councillors No. 47

SUMMARY

To submit the proposed Social Media for Councillors Policy (the Policy) to Council for review, consideration and adoption.

BACKGROUND

Social media is a powerful communication and networking tool which has become increasingly part of everyday life. The Policy is designed to assist Councillors in understanding their obligations when using social media in both an official or individual capacity. The Policy also provides advice for how Councillors may better protect themselves from risks whilst also protecting the interests of Council and complying with the Council's Code of Conduct and other relevant legislation.

The Policy relates and applies to social media platforms, including but not limited to:

- Facebook
- Twitter
- Instagram
- YouTube
- LinkedIn
- Google
- Snapchat
- Council's Intranet
- Blogs; and
- Video podcasts

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS & RELATED COUNCIL DOCUMENTS

- Local Government Act 1993
- Personal Information Protection Act
- Copyright Act 1968
- George Town Council – Code of Conduct
- George Town Council Policy No. 02 – Personal Information Protection Policy
- George Town Council – Policy No. 28 – Information Disclosure
- George Town Council – Policy No. 33 – Risk Management

CONSULTATION

The Policy was emailed to Councillors on the 1 April 2019 and discussed at the Council workshop held on the 16 April 2019.

12.2 AGENDA REPORT - DRAFT SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR COUNCILLORS
(CONT.)

The Social Media Policy for Councillors is a 'Council Governance' Policy in accordance with Council's Policy Development, Approval and Review Policy No. 9, therefore no consultation outside of the Council is considered necessary.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 05

Ensure Council listens to and understands community needs and continues to make responsible decisions on behalf of the community.

Key Objective

4. Consistently achieve a high standard of internal financial and governance arrangements.

RISK MANAGEMENT

Unfiltered social media content is open to misinterpretation and therefore can misrepresent the George Town Council. This Policy is aimed at providing a broad understanding of social media risks and the management of social media risks. Non-adherence to this policy and the George Town Council Code of Conduct and relevant legislation has the potential to place the Council at significant risk.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No financial implications are associated with the adoption of the Social Media Policy for Councillors.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Whilst Councillors have a right to make public comment in their personal capacity on social media, a Councillor may not make any public comment which is or may be perceived as being a statement made on behalf of the Council.

Councillors can risk their private online identity becoming blurred with their Local Government identity and any inappropriate public comment or content may damage the reputation of themselves, another person or the Council. Consequently, the public perception may be that there is no distinction between statements made in an official capacity on behalf of Council and those made as an individual Councillor.

Any personal or private communication via social media may be shared and become public at some point in the future. It is also important to note that by 'liking', 'sharing' or 'reposting' something on a social media platform, it will generally be taken to be an endorsement of material as though the individual had created that material themselves.

In participating in social media, Councillors must ensure that their personal and private communications do not breach the requirements of the Council's Code of Conduct which could result in a serious breach and could be referred to an external agency for investigation.

By adopting the Social Media Policy for Councillors, Councillors recognise and acknowledge their obligations within their official role, minimise risk to Council and endorse Council's commitment to continued best practice, good governance and transparency.

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**12.2 AGENDA REPORT - DRAFT SOCIAL MEDIA POLICY FOR COUNCILLORS
(CONT.)**

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopts the Social Media for Councillors Policy No. 47 effective 16 April 2019.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

George Town Council
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12.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TASMANIA – 2019 GENERAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTION

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 10 April 2019

FILE NO: 15.15

ATTACHMENT: Nil

SUMMARY

Council has been invited by the Tasmanian Electoral Commission to consider and submit a nomination for the upcoming Local Government Association of Tasmania – 2019 General Management Committee election.

BACKGROUND

The Tasmanian Electoral Commission (TEC) has been asked to conduct the 2019 election of President and 6 members of the General Management Committee for a two-year term in accordance with the rules of the LGAT adopted at the AGM of the Association on 25 July 2018.

Council considered the matter at its meeting held on the 19 March 2019, whereby it was resolved (res 049/19):

That Council:

1. *Authorises the Mayor to discuss the nomination/s with the Break O'Day Mayor for President; and*
2. *Nominates Cr Tim Harris for the position of Committee Member of the General Management Committee; and*
3. *Subject to the outcome of (1) and (2) above, Council's nomination/s is to be brought back to the April 2019 Council meeting for ratification.*

STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS

Local Government Act s.325 through 330.

STRATEGIC PLAN

Goal 05

Ensure Council listens to and understands community needs and continues to make responsible decisions on behalf of the community.

Key Objectives

4. Consistently achieve a high standard of internal financial and governance arrangements.

RISK MANAGEMENT

No risk is identified should Council nominate a Councillor to the position of President of the LGAT General Management Committee and Councillor to the position of Committee Member of the LGAT General Management Committee.

**George Town Council
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**12.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION TASMANIA – 2019 GENERAL
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ELECTION (CONT.)**

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No significant financial implications to Council are recognised.

In accordance with the LGAT Rules members of the LGAT General Management Committee and members of sub-committees:

- (1) are entitled to any allowance or sitting fee determined by LGAT; and
- (2) shall be reimbursed by LGAT for reasonable expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of office in relation to telephone rental, telephone calls, travelling and care of any child of the member by a licensed carer.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Nominations of candidates for election of President and/or Committee Member to the LGAT General Management Committee opened on Thursday 28th February. Nominations close at 5.00pm Tuesday 30 April 2019.

In accordance with the Council resolution of the 19 March 2019, the Mayor has since spoken to Mayor Mick Tucker from Break O'Day Council who has welcomed the nomination.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- (a) Ratifies its nomination of Mayor Mick Tucker, Break O'Day Council, for President of the LGAT General Management Committee; and
- (b) Ratifies its previous nomination of Cr Tim Harris for the position of Committee Member of the LGAT General Management Committee; and
- (c) Authorises the Mayor to submit Council's nominations of candidates for President and Committee Member of the LGAT General Management Committee to the Tasmanian Electoral Commission.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

**George Town Council
COUNCIL MEETING – 16 APRIL 2019
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13. PETITIONS

Nil.

14. NOTICES OF MOTIONS

14.1 NOTICE OF MOTION – CR BROOKS

Moved: Cr Brooks

Seconded:

That Council introduce two short ceremonies at the start of each Council meeting and workshop:

- a) Acknowledgement of Country; and
- b) A prayer of blessing.

Reason

- a) An acknowledgement of Country is a short statement of respect to the traditional owners of the land. The statement might be worded: ***“I acknowledge and pay respect to the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community as the traditional and original owners, and continuing custodians of this land on which we gather today and acknowledge Elders – past and present”.***

If choosing to name the Aboriginal people that lived throughout the George Town area it is recommended that advice is sought from the Aboriginal Elders Council to ensure accuracy of both name and pronunciation.

The acknowledgement of Country is included in all levels of Government, ceremonies, school assemblies, concerts, functions and official events and is a respectful act of inclusion.

- b) Many Councils across Australia include a prayer as a form of ceremony at the start of their Council meetings. Introducing prayer to George Town Council meetings sets the scene for a respectful and focussed meeting. Those in attendance with faith (of various denominations and religions) may give thanks for the opportunity to make a difference and ask for God's guidance on decisions made. Those without a faith may appreciate a moment of quiet to reflect on the task ahead and to be reminded of the Councils common purpose.

A suggested prayer might be worded: ***“Dear God, give us your wisdom to work in harmony and make decisions that prosper all that we do to the advancement of your glory and the true welfare of the George Town community. AMEN”***

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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15. COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE TAKEN ON NOTICE FROM PREVIOUS ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

[Refer to Minute No. 362/15 which states "At any Ordinary Meeting of Council when a 'without notice' question from a councillor is accepted, and when this question is taken on notice',

- a) The General Manager is to record in the minutes of that meeting the 'question', and that the question was 'taken on notice'.*
- b) Provide the answer to the question 'taken on notice, at the next Ordinary Meeting of Council, in writing.'"]*

Nil.

**George Town Council
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16. COUNCIL COMMITTEE REPORTS

16.1 GEORGE TOWN COMMUNITY SAFETY GROUP COMMITTEE MEETING

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 3rd April, 2019

FILE NO: 22.24

ATTACHMENT/S: George Town Community Safety Group Committee Confirmed Minutes – 5th March 2019

The George Town Community Safety Group Committee met on the 2nd April, 2019.

The Committee at this meeting resolved the following motion:

To accept the minutes of the 5th March 2019 as an accurate record of that meeting (attached).

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

That the confirmed minutes of the George Town Community Safety Committee meeting held on the 5th March, 2019 as attached to this report be received.

VOTING

For:

Against:

16.2 REPORT ON THE 8TH AUSTRALIAN ROAD SAFETY AWARDS

REPORT AUTHOR: Cr Barwick, Chair George Town Community Safety Group

On behalf of the George Town Council Safety Group Committee and the George Town Council I attended the 8th.Australian Road Safety Awards presentations at Albert Park in Melbourne on the eve of the Australian Grand Prix which was sponsored by CALTEX.

The Australian Road Safety Foundation was established in 2011 to recognize contribution and commitment to improving safety outcomes.

Craig Lowndes OAM was the quest speaker. A very interesting speaker.

Craig started “karting” at the age of 9 which was the starting point for greater things. Craig quickly demonstrated his potential by winning the national Formula Ford 1 title in 1993 and the formula Holden Silver Star Class in 1994.

In 2015 Craig Lowndes became the first driver in the history of the sport to win 100 championship races. By the end of 2018 season Craig earned a record 14 podium finishes at the Bathurst 1000 – 7 of these as a first place winner.

Another guest speaker was Dr. Brent May. A speaker that held the room for 1 hour and could have held it for a lot longer. So interesting was his talk the video and what he does.

Brent May is a doctor and a specialist Anesthetist with interest in trauma.

Brent is the Chief Medical Officer for Australian Formula 1 Grand Prix held at Albert Park in Melbourne and Motor GP held at Phillip Island.

The address by Brent gave an in site into what he as a trauma G.P has to deal with during and after the races.

Brent is also on the Board that looks at the safety aspect of both the Formula and Motor bike grand prix. He talked about the specially designed airbag vest that the Moto GP riders use to support their bodies during an accident at speed. These vests do not expand on a slide but on a second roll they do. Brent said these bags were very good in one respect but a lot of work needed to be done to prevent the amount of collarbone fractures and dislocations that occur when they go off.

Brent said that if there is a “TRAUMA” at the race track or accident of any size they can have the driver from Albert PARK TO THE Hospital in 96 SECONDS.

Now to the awards. There were 38 Nominations for awards, 5 from Tasmania.

There were 9 Awards presented on the day.

16.2 REPORT ON THE 8TH AUSTRALIAN ROAD SAFETY AWARDS (CONT.)

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS AWARD went to:

**ARILITY
CONSTABLE CARE CHILD SAFETY FOUNDATION**

This is a free downloadable app that allows teachers and parents to run highly engaging augmented reality road safety lessons on their student desk top in class or at home. This app is designed to provide a highly engaging world to teach 6 different cycling, public transport and pedestrian scenarios, with full immersive graphics and sound, real time data collection and reporting.

ARILITY is a unique app for children's road safety education.

**INDIGENOUS PROGRAMS AWARD
AND INNOVATION PROGRAMS AWARD went to:**

DRIVEABOUT WORLD PTY LTD

This project incorporates a game changing app and blended learning model that will assist people of all ages to better learn the principles of road safety and road rules. Specifically school children, learner drivers and people from culturally diverse back grounds such as Indigenous, new immigrants and international tourists will benefit greatly, however DriveAbout wants to educate all road users.

DriveAbout came about due to the need for an innovative training and assessment tool for Indigenous Australians who do not have the capacity to read or write to the level required or where English is limited.

DriveAbout World developed a logical learning management system to convert the Drivers Licence User Handbook into a visual and verbal learning and testing tool. Digitalising makes videos and animations available for download or distribution on a wide range of platforms which are mobile, accessible, scalable and affordable.

DriveAbout is currently provided free to Australia's Indigenous who desperately need it – in their own language in their own language.

SCHOOLS PROGRAMS AWARD went to:

**THE ROYAL BRISBANE AND WOMEN'S HOSPITAL
STATE-WIDE QUEENSLAND P.A.R.T.Y (PREVENT ALCOHOL AND RISK-RELATED
TRAUMA IN YOUTH) PROGRAM**

The talk on this topic was so enlightening. They educate youth (15 – 19 years old) to recognize and mitigate road related risks, to increase youth awareness of personal responsibility for their choices and increase their knowledge of the physical, social and psychological consequences of road related injury on quality of life for the individual, family, friends, and community. The TRAUMA nurses take the youth to the mortuary, to the Emergency Department with the intensions to empower the youth to make informed educated choices and positively influence their peers in relation to reduction in the incidence of road trauma, injury, death and disability in young people where ever you live because of risky-road behaviours.

16.2 REPORT ON THE 8TH AUSTRALIAN ROAD SAFETY AWARDS (CONT.)

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AWARD went to:

STRATHFIELD COUNCIL: ROAD SAFETY: IT'S A SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Road Safety: It's a shared responsibility; it's the call to action adopted by Strathfield Council. Employing a range of strategies across many platforms, it has raised the profile of road safety.

The Council invite local stake holders to take ownership of road user behavior. Education, engagement, enforcement and engineering have been the pillars on which the multi-pronged program is built.

CORPORATE FLEET SAFETY went to:

**IVM GROUP
THE SAFETY CELL**

The Safety Cell is a revolutionary technology that securely locates a worker outside the vehicle cab. With a unique dual-sided occupant capability, the Safe Cell is used by road workers who undertake moving work types in high risk "on-road situations.

The Safety Cell reduces the need for conventional traffic control protection and is designed to withstand vehicle impact to protect the worker. It allows rapid disembarkation and embarkation on both sides of the vehicle. It is a fully enclosed cell

It is a hands free communication system between driver and worker. It reduces the impact of road work for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians and reduces the impact on traffic flow with a faster pace of work and a reduced need for traffic control. The Safety Cell operates at speeds of up to 20 km/hr (conventional foot crews travel at approx 4 km/hr).

STATE GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AWARD went to:

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORT AND MAIN ROADS QUEENSLAND
ADAPT**

ADAPT – Australian Driving conditions Awareness Project – was developed with the objective to develop safer road users and reduce the number of overseas licence holders being involved in motor vehicle crashes when driving in Australia.

The development of this awareness report was in response to community concerns about the ability of overseas licence holders to drive safely in Australia. Research conducted identified a number of common factors which contributed to crashes occurring with overseas drivers.

**THE FOUNDER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT Awards Details
Went to Royal Brisbane & Women's Hospital P.A.R.T.Y**

This pinnacle award is presented to a category winner for outstanding overall achievement in the Australian Road Safety Awards Program.

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16.2 REPORT ON THE 8TH AUSTRALIAN ROAD SAFETY AWARDS (CONT.)

I would like to thank the George Town Safety Committee and the George Town Council for permitting me to attend the 8th Australian Road Safety Awards at Albert Park.

No award was forthcoming but everyone knows where George Town is.

I would also like to publicly acknowledge my chaperone Mrs. Christine Mcbean, who took time off work to transport me from the airport to the hotel, to the venue at Albert Park then back to the airport to come home.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council receives the report from Cr Barwick.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against:

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17. CLOSED MEETING

17.1 INTO CLOSED MEETING

DECISION

Moved: Cr
Seconded: Cr

That Council move into closed meeting at to discuss the following items:

Item 1 Minutes of the closed ordinary Council meeting held on the 19 March 2019

.
As per the provisions of regulation 34(6) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015.

REQUIRES ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL

VOTING

For:

Against:

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17.3 OUT OF CLOSED MEETING

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 regulation 15(8) while in a closed meeting the Council is to consider whether any discussions, decisions, reports or documents relating to that closed meeting are to be kept confidential or released to the public, taking into account privacy and confidentiality issues.

DECISION

Moved:

Seconded:

That Council moves out of Closed Meeting at and endorse those decisions taken while in Closed Meeting and the information remains Confidential.

VOTING

For:

Against:

There being no further business, the meeting closed at

Cr Bridget Archer
MAYOR