

13.2 LATE ITEM AGENDA REPORT – DEFERRAL OF MEETINGS OF SPECIAL COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL AND AUDIT PANEL

REPORT AUTHOR: General Manager

REPORT DATE: 24 March 2020

FILE NO: 14.7

ATTACHMENT/S: Nil

SUMMARY

To seek authorisation for the General Manager to defer meetings of Special Committees and the Audit Panel at the General Managers discretion.

OFFICER'S COMMENTS

Circumstances and implications resultant from the ongoing Coronavirus COVID-19 outbreak continue to develop and change at a rapid pace.

It is unknown to what extent restrictions on the movements and gathering of people will be. Currently there exists limitations of 1 person per 4m² for internal meetings of people no greater than 100 people.

Currently the majority of Council's staff are operating as usual, however this situation may change and place further constraints on an already burdened workforce as a result of the evolving crisis.

It is therefore recommended that for the duration of the declared state of emergency in Tasmania, Council authorise the General Manager to defer meetings of Special Committees of Council including the Audit Panel at the General Manager's discretion.

A review of the respective terms of reference for each committee and audit panel appear to be silent on deferral at the General Manager's discretion. This appears the same when reviewing legislation with the exception of meeting quorum. It is however anticipated that a Bill will be introduced to state parliament week commencing 30 March 2020, that will seek to relax a number of requirements of Council under the *Local Government Act 1993* and associated Regulations.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Authorise the General Manager to defer meetings of Special Committees of Council and the Audit Panel at the discretion of the General Manager for the duration of the declared state of emergency in Tasmania.

DECISION

VOTING

For:

Against: