



GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY
COUNCIL

Special Meeting Agenda

For the Special
Meeting of Council
to be held at the
**Triabunna
Community Hall,
Vicary Street
Triabunna**

30 March 2020

THAT NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Mayor has called a Special Meeting of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council to be held at the Triabunna Community Hall on Monday the 30th of March at 2.00pm. Part of the meeting will be held in closed session.

Dated this Friday 27 March 2020



**Ian Pearce
ACTING GENERAL MANAGER**

"I certify that with respect to all advice, information and recommendations provided to Council with this agenda:

- 1. 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**
- 2. Where any advice is given directly to the 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 any appropriately qualified or experienced person. "**

Note: Section 65 of The Local Government Act 1993 states:

- (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 the general manager certifies in writing that such advice was obtained and taken into account in providing general advice to the council or council committee.**



ACTING GENERAL MANAGER

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Audio/Video Recording of Ordinary and Special Meetings of Council

As determined by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council in April 2017 all Ordinary and Special Meetings of Council are to be audio/visually recorded and streamed live. Due to the unavailability of video equipment in the Triabunna Community Hall a live stream and recording of the meeting will be unavailable.

An audio recording of the meeting will be made using an iPhone. A copy of this recording will be made available on the Council website.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1993 and Regulation 33, these video/audio files will be retained by Council for at least 6 months and made available for viewing live, as well as online within 5 days of the scheduled meeting. The written minutes of a meeting, once confirmed, prevail over the video/audio recording of the meeting.

1. Opening

The Mayor to welcome Councillors, staff and members of the public and declare the meeting open at [time].

1.2 Acknowledgement of Country

The Glamorgan Spring Bay Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners of our region and recognises their continuing connection to land, waters and culture. We pay our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging.

1.3 Present and Apologies

1.4 In Attendance

1.4 Declaration of Interest or Conflict

The Mayor requests Elected Members to indicate whether they have:

- 1. any interest (personally or via a close associate) as defined in s.49 of the Local Government Act 1993; or*
- 2. any conflict as described in Council's Code of Conduct for Councillors,*

in any item included in the Agenda.

2. Officers' Reports Requiring a Decision

2.1 Statement of Expectations

Responsible Officer – Acting General Manager

In November 2019, the Director of Local Government recommended that the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council develop a Statement of Expectations. The decision to establish a committee tasked with drawing up a Statement of Expectations was made at Council's 17 December 2019 council meeting. Formal endorsement of this committee as a Special Committee of Council was undertaken at the Council meeting of 28 January 2020.

The purpose of this Statement of Expectations is to articulate the commitment of the Mayor, General Manager and Councillors to a shared mutual responsibility for adopting appropriate working relationships to maximise the good government of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Community.

In his letter to the General Manager of 15 November 2019, the Director of Local Government recommended that the draft Statement of Expectations be forwarded to him for his endorsement and, subject to that endorsement, would then be signed by all parties: namely, all Councillors and the General Manager.

The Special Statement of Expectations Committee recommends that Council considers the draft document and provides any proposed amendments to the Committee, to enable the document to be finalised and sent to the Director.

The Committee emphasises that this is just another step in the process. It is not about commitment to signing the final document. Councillors need to consider whether in principle this document provides a template for good governance in council, irrespective of the people holding office at any time as Councillors or General Manager.

Recommendation

That Council

- (a) Adopts the draft Statement of Expectations; and
- (b) Authorises the Acting General Manager to send the Draft Statement to the Director of Local Government for his endorsement.

STATEMENT OF EXPECTATIONS

Mayor and General Manager
Mayor and Councillors
General Manager and Councillors
Between Councillors

Good Governance Across Council

We, the undersigned, endorse and agree with the principles and expectations set out in this Statement of Expectations (as far as they relate to each of our respective roles) and commit to abiding by them to the best of our ability:

Mayor: Debbie Wisby

Deputy Mayor: Jenny Woods

Councillor - Cheryl Arnol

Councillor - Keith Breheny

Councillor - Annie Browning

Councillor - Rob Churchill

Councillor - Michael Symons

Councillor - Grant Robinson

General Manager

INTRODUCTION

Preamble

In November 2019, the Director of Local Government recommended the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council to develop a Statement of Expectations. The decision to establish a committee tasked with drawing up a Statement of Expectations was made at Council's 17 December 2019 council meeting. Formal endorsement of this committee as a Special Committee of Council was undertaken at the Council meeting of 28 January 2020.

The committee comprises the Mayor, Cr Debbie Wisby, Deputy Mayor, Cr Jenny Woods, Cr Rob Churchill, the General Manager and two independent consultants, being former Mayor, Lynn Mason and former General Manager, Greg Preece. Lynn Mason is the chairperson of the committee.

Council Functions, Vision, Mission and Values

Council's powers and functions are established under the *Local Government Act 1993 (the Act)*. Section 20 provides that the role of councils is to:

- provide for the health, safety and welfare of the community
- represent the interests of the community, and
- provide for the peace, order and good government of the municipal area

Council's vision from the *Glamorgan Spring Bay Community Strategic Plan 2013* further supports this statutory role:

In 2020 Glamorgan Spring Bay will:

- Be proud of our inclusive community.
- Be responsible for our environment, health, education, heritage and the arts, with a diverse progressive and prosperous economy.
- Offer of an attractive lifestyle, in a beautiful place.

Values to guide future choices

In all that we do, across Glamorgan Spring Bay, we will:

- Work together and take a complete East Coast view
- Be honest and self-reliant
- Take the initiative and be creative
- Build community spirit and pride
- Move forward but retain what is good from the past

Future directions

The directions we will follow to achieve our vision are:

- Build our community infrastructure
- Age well in our communities
- Grow our economy and employment opportunities
- Protect and promote our natural beauty, environment and heritage
- Be visitor friendly
- Foster health and well being

In this document, the term 'community' has been broadened from the Local Government Act definition¹ to mean:

- ☐ residents – landowners and tenants
- ☐ ratepayers – owner-occupiers, investors and businesses, and
- ☐ people and bodies who conduct activities in the municipal area of Glamorgan Spring Bay (e.g., work, tourism, leisure or for other reasons)

Purpose

The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors accept that good governance relies on ethical and accountable behaviour as well as statutory compliance.

The purpose of this Statement of Expectations is to articulate the commitment of the Mayor, General Manager and Councillors to a shared mutual responsibility of adopting appropriate working relationships to maximise the good government of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Community.

¹ Section 3 of the Local Government Act defines 'community' as 'the community of a municipal area'

1. Mayor and General Manager

Council accepts that the relationship between the Mayor and General Manager is critical to the efficient functioning of Council operations. A dysfunctional relationship between the Mayor and the General Manager can have a significant and long-lasting negative impact on the performance of Council.

As with good governance in general, a good relationship between the Mayor and General Manager relies partly on following the law, guidelines and protocols, and partly on the good judgement and common sense of the individuals concerned.

It is expected that the Mayor and General Manager will build a relationship based on trust, respect and acknowledgement of the need for collaborative engagement. This will ensure that they will have a solid foundation to lead an effective Council focused on the best interests of the community.

The following specific expectations are agreed, and apply in addition to the 'Statement of Expectations of Good Governance across Council':

Meetings between Mayor and General Manager

Under section 62 of the Act, the General Manager is required to *liaise with the Mayor on affairs of Council*. Similarly, under section 27 of the Local Government Act, the Mayor is required to *liaise with the General Manager on the activities of the Council and the performance and exercise of its functions and powers; and the activities of the General Manager and the performance and exercise of their functions and powers in supporting the Council*.

In accordance with this requirement, the Mayor may request such information from the General Manager as is needed to enable her to have broad oversight of the activities of the Council, and the activities of the General Manager in his role of supporting the Council.

To complement these statutory requirements, it is expected that the Mayor and General Manager will have at least weekly one-on-one meetings to deliberate on the affairs, activities and the performance and exercise of Council's functions and powers. It is expected that the outcomes and decisions of those meetings will be appropriately recorded and acted on.

To enable the Deputy Mayor to undertake the role of Acting Mayor should the need arise, the Deputy Mayor is to attend at least one meeting between the Mayor and the General Manager each month.

Provision of Information between the Mayor and General Manager

Considering the qualifications under sections 28A – D of the Act, wherever practicable and in the spirit of openness and transparency, requested information will be provided within agreed timeframes through the General Manager (or delegate). Such timeframes are to be agreed between the parties at the time the request is made.

Taking of Leave by General Manager

The General Manager will, wherever practicable, ensure that the Mayor is given enough notice of his intention to be absent from duty for any reason or that he is otherwise unavailable or unable to perform the functions of the office of General Manager.

Appointment of an Acting General Manager

In the absence of a Council appointment for a person to act in the Office of General Manager during every absence of the General Manager, the Mayor may appoint a

person to act in the office of general manager, as per section 61B of the Act.

In this instance, the Mayor must liaise with the relevant Council officer to ensure that a duly formed instrument of appointment is drawn.

Agendas and Draft Minutes

The General Manager will prepare an agenda for each council meeting and council committee meeting as required under regulation 8 of the *Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015 (the Meeting Regulations)*. In doing so, the General Manager (or delegate) will meet with the Mayor to discuss the draft agenda prior to publication. Similarly, the General Manager (or delegate) will liaise with the Mayor in relation to the draft minutes prior to dispatch for comment to other councillors, and inclusion with the next Council (or Council committee) meeting agenda for confirmation.

If an audio recording has been made of the closed section of a Council meeting, the General Manager (or delegate) will ensure where practicable that a copy will be downloaded to a secured shared environment (e.g. Google Drive) where all Councillors can access the confidential recording (but not copy it). This will be for the purposes of confirming the draft minutes of the closed section of that Council meeting. Following confirmation of the closed minutes, the General Manager (or delegate) will destroy the recording as soon as practicable after confirmation.

Conduct of Council and Council Committee Meetings

With respect to behaviour in the Council Chamber, the Mayor, Councillors and General Manager and Council officers will always model good constructive relationships and show personal respect for one another.

Council acknowledges that the combined behaviour of the Mayor, Councillors, General Manager, and Council officers reflects on the Council and on local government. If Council is seen to be acting fairly and ethically, Council decisions will be better respected and are much more likely to be accepted by the community.

The conduct of individuals affects the ability of Council to function properly. If individuals behave improperly, it can negatively affect the quality of their relationships with each other. This can lead to a lack of trust which will undermine the effectiveness of Council as a whole.

Wherever possible, the General Manager and Managers will attend (or be available to attend) Council meetings and Council Workshop meetings to provide qualified advice. Attendance of managers and other staff will be determined on an 'as required' basis, depending on the complexity of, and technical knowledge required to provide advice on agenda reports.

The Deputy Mayor is required to be familiar with the duties of the Mayor, so that she can act in that capacity if the need arises. This includes knowledge of the Meeting Procedures and relevant Council policies.

Media Releases and Responses to Media Requests

Section 27 of the Act provides that the Mayor is the official spokesperson of Council. This function is not co-shared with other Councillors or the General Manager other than at the Mayor's discretion.

The Mayor may authorise the General Manager, other Councillors or Council officers to communicate on behalf of Council on certain technical or factual matters, as the Mayor considers appropriate, and on the understanding that all communications made on behalf of Council must deliver a consistent message. Notwithstanding, and in line with any Council media statements policy, the Mayor (or the appropriate officer as authorised) will be responsible for the final approval of any Council media statements.

Council's Communications Officer (or equivalent) will liaise regularly with the Mayor and General Manager to ensure that Council media releases are properly drafted and communicated.

The Communications Officer will also support the Mayor and General Manager in drafting responses to media requests.

Support for Ceremonial and Representational Roles of the Mayor

The General Manager will ensure that adequate support is made available to assist the Mayor in her ceremonial and representational roles for Council.

Disagreement Procedure

If a disagreement arises between the Mayor and General Manager, it is expected that the following process will be followed:

- the parties must initially try to resolve the dispute internally in good faith;
- if the dispute is unable to be resolved, it will be brought to the Council as a group to determine whether any actions can be taken to resolve the dispute or address issues which arise from it (including but not limited to referral to a mediator/conciliator as agreed between the parties); and
- if agreement cannot be reached, it is then open to the parties to seek advice from the Local Government Division on the process to be followed from that point. It is understood that this recourse is a last resort unless there is a serious risk of continuing dysfunction between the parties.

Without prejudice to either party, it is expected that the Mayor and General Manager will continue to work together professionally while the dispute is being resolved.

2. Mayor and Councillors

The relationship between the Mayor and Councillors is very important because good leadership and good relationships contribute to effective participation of Councillors and good governance.

As the leader of the Council and all Councillors, the Mayor's role is particularly important in facilitating good relationships. Under section 27 of the Act, the Mayor's functions include:

- promoting good governance by, and within, the Council, and
- acting as chairperson of the Council and chairing meetings of Council in a manner that supports decision-making processes.

The following specific expectations are agreed, and apply in addition to the 'Statement of Expectations of Good Governance across Council':

Commitment to Sharing Information

To assist open and transparent communication, and collegial working relationships, the Mayor will share information with all Councillors outside of the formal Council meetings and workshops, as appropriate. Such information may include (but not be limited to): invitations by community groups to attend functions, policy statements by political parties, and outcomes of meetings of external bodies

Commitment to Good Conduct at Council Meetings

Under the Meeting Regulations (section 10 – Chairperson), the Mayor (or in the Mayor's absence, the Deputy Mayor) is the chairperson of a Council meeting. Accordingly, the Mayor is expected to chair and manage the Council meeting.

However, it is the responsibility of each individual Councillor to exhibit good conduct in meetings. The Mayor should not have to spend time enforcing good behaviour.

Councillors should listen while others are speaking, avoid interrupting, use respectful and temperate language void of emotion in debates (no matter how contentious the topic may be), and remain focused on meeting business while avoiding unnecessary distractions.

Commitment to Leading Meetings with Skill and Impartiality

The Mayor will facilitate good decision-making through skillful chairing of Council meetings. The Mayor will have a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of the formal meeting procedures under the Meeting Regulations and other relevant Council meeting policies, so as to be confident in chairing meetings and making rulings where necessary.

In particular, the Mayor will recognise that it is important in making Councillors feel that they are part of the Council meeting process by ensuring they can get their viewpoints across.

If the Mayor has a strong position on a specific issue during debate, the Mayor will refrain from expressing a particular view until all the other Councillors have had their chance to state their opinion, and before the matter is put to the vote. If the Mayor wishes to play an active part in the debate, then she should consider vacating the chair for that item, as appropriate.

3. Between Councillors

- 3.1 Relationships between Councillors are to be founded on mutual respect and an acknowledgement that they are all doing complex and important work.

Because of the nature of a Councillor's role, it is understood that they all have individual agendas and issues which they would like to pursue during their term. Despite their differences of opinion, Councillors need to work together as members of the Council to achieve the best outcomes for the municipality. Councillor's decision making power comes from collective decisions and not the individual Councillors.

- 3.2 Good governance and the capacity for Councillors to get things done depend on the quality of the relationships between them. Relationship building is a shared responsibility.

As community leaders, Councillors recognise their positions as role models. Just like leaders at the state and federal levels of government and other prominent citizens, Councillors' conduct sets the standard for other people to follow.

The following specific expectations are agreed, and apply in addition to the 'Statement of Expectations of Good Governance across Council':

Commitment to Treat Officer's Advice with Respect

Apart from the information and advice received in Council workshops, Councillors are also provided with qualified advice at meetings through Council reports or presentations from officers who attend the meeting.

Councillors are not required to follow the advice and may state their disagreement with the recommendation or report contents. However, Councillors must consider the report with due respect and should not make disparaging statements about the report or the author.

Councillors that have concerns or questions about agendas and reports should approach the relevant Manager prior to a Council meeting.

Commitment to Engagement in Council Meetings

Councillors are elected for the primary purpose of making decisions on behalf of the entire community.

Accordingly, all Councillors will make genuine efforts to actively participate in all aspects of Council meetings, including by:

- reading and constructively considering officer reports and related documentation;
- attending formal council meetings and other related meetings, such as Councillors briefings and workshops;
- participating in debate and discussion of matters affecting the community;
- remaining focused on meeting business and avoiding unnecessary distractions; and
- voting on all Agenda items, except items in which they have declared an interest.

Although attendance at workshops is not mandatory, every effort should be made to attend. Matters of a sensitive nature discussed at workshops should not be discussed outside the workshop, except as agreed and necessary for the effective functioning of the council.

Commitment to Adhering to Council's Customer Service Charter

When dealing with representations from the community, Councillors must respect the appropriate process for dealing with service level issues and customer complaints.

Councillors are expected to initially direct the community member to contact Council's Customer Service Team, which will ensure that the issue is forwarded to the appropriate Council department for assessment.

Where a community member is dissatisfied with Council's administration of his or her issue, Councillors are expected to raise this with the Mayor, who will raise the matter with the General Manager.

Commitment not to Influence Council Employees

Councillors must not influence, or attempt to influence, any Council employee or delegate of the Council, in the exercise of the functions of the employee or delegate².

4. General Manager and Councillors

As the leader of the organisation and staff, the General Manager has a critical role in promoting a positive culture of good governance throughout Council administration. In particular, the General Manager is instrumental in ensuring that the roles of Councillors (being the democratically elected oversight body of Council) are viewed as being an integral part of (rather than an impediment to) the efficient discharge of the many functions of Council.

The following specific expectations are agreed, and apply in addition to the 'Statement of Expectations of Good Governance across Council':

² Refer to Council's Code of Conduct

Commitment to Supporting Good Decision Making by Councillors

The General Manager will ensure that Councillors are regularly provided with the information they need to fulfil their roles. In doing so, the General Manager will ensure that all Councillors have equal access to information and resources and are provided appropriate support for good decision-making processes.

The General Manager, in consultation with the Mayor, will ensure that there are appropriate Councillor briefing sessions (or workshops) which will provide opportunities for Councillors to be better informed about strategic or key operational matters of Council.

The General Manager (or delegate) will respond to requests for relevant additional information from councillors within a timeframe agreed between the parties at the time the request is made. The timeframe proposed must take into account the complexity of the request, the workload of the Manager to whom the request is made, and the urgency of the request in the light of the councillor's need to perform his or her role. Such requests will be made in accordance with section 28A of the *Local Government Act 1993*.

Commitment to Supporting Good Relationships between Councillors and Staff

All councillor requests for information not otherwise provided are to be made to the General Manager. The General Manager may give permission to Councillors (either individually or as a body) to request information directly from a senior manager of the Council. Such permission is to be on terms decided by the General Manager.

In the event of a dispute between a Councillor and a member of staff, the General Manager is to conduct appropriate dispute resolution procedures, taking care to be fair to both parties to the dispute. The General Manager is to notify the Mayor if such a dispute occurs, or, if the Mayor is a party to the dispute, he is to notify the Deputy Mayor.

The General Manager may, at his discretion, request assistance from the Mayor in resolving a dispute between a staff member and a councillor.

5. Good Governance Across Council

To practice good governance, Council acknowledges and supports that the Mayor, General Manager and Councillors need to lead by example and promote a culture of good governance within Council.

Accordingly, the Mayor, General Manager and Councillors commit to the following good governance practices:

Standard	Expectations
Maintaining high ethical standards	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): • be familiar with, endorse and comply with relevant legislation, Council's Councillors Code of Conduct and Council policies • act in the best interests of the community • display integrity and impartiality in their decision making lead by example • ensure that Council decisions and actions are transparent and accountable • review Council's Code of Conduct within three (3) months of an ordinary election (as required by the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i>), and • abide by the eight (8) principles of good governance, as established in the <i>Good Governance Guide</i>³.
Understanding individual roles and the role of others	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors, subject to absences of leave/apologies will (collectively): • attend all Council meetings and relevant committee meetings, as appropriate, and • come to meetings well prepared and participate effectively in debate and discussions. The Mayor and Councillors will: • not be drawn into operational management matters, except to address emerging risks, and • be effective in monitoring and evaluating the performance of the General Manager. Individuals, to an appropriate level, will understand: • their own personal role in Council • the role of Council • the role of Mayor • the role of Deputy Mayor • the role of General Manager

³ Good Governance is: accountable; transparent; law-abiding; responsive; equitable; participatory and inclusive; effective and efficient; and consensus oriented (*Good Governance Guide for Local Government in Tasmania* (Department of Premier and Cabinet, Local Government Division, May 2016, pp 8-9)

Standard	Expectations
	- the role of the Minister responsible for local government - the role of the Local Government Division - the role of Director of Local Government - the role of the Integrity Commission - the role of the Audit Office - the role of Local Government Association of Tasmania, and - The role of Council administration and operations.
The role of Council administration and operations	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): - communicate effectively, responsively and respectfully with the community - ensure that the interrelationships are effective in enabling Council to fulfil its duties and responsibilities, and - ensure Council has a protocol in place to guide engagement between the Councillors and Council administration. Individuals will: - be respectful towards one another, members of the community and the Council administration - listen and give due consideration to the views of others, and - not engage in bullying and/or harassment.
Effective strategic planning and monitoring performance	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): - actively participate in strategic planning - listen to the views of the community when engaged in strategic planning - understand the importance of integrated strategic and financial asset management plans - ensure Council is effective in setting the overall direction of the municipal area - ensure Council is effective in considering and determining all major policy issues - ensure Council monitors appropriate financial and nonfinancial performance indicators - ensure Council regularly inputs into strategy development and review, and - ensure Council meetings address the key issues facing the community.

Standard	Expectations
Robust risk management	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): • Ensure Council has a risk management policy • Be familiar with Council's risk management policy • understand the importance of risk management and the risk management process • ensure Council has a clear understanding of business risk • ensure Council balances risk and opportunity as part of the policy development and decision making processes, and • ensure Council identifies analyses, evaluates, treats, monitors and communicates risks in a way that will maximize the potential to achieve goals and objectives and minimize the potential for harm or loss.
Fair and transparent decision making	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): • ensure that there are clear expectations around setting the Council meeting agenda, circulating papers, and decision making protocols • ensure that Council gives due consideration to advice provided by the administration • be committed to the principles of natural justice • ensure that Council make decisions that are in the best interests of the community • engage in robust, respectful and proper debate at Council meetings • ensure that Council uses closed meetings appropriately • ensure that wherever possible information is made available in the public arena • engage with the community to help inform decision making, as appropriate, and • follow the five (5) step decision making process (i.e., setting the agenda; gathering information, forming an opinion, making the decision, and implementing the decision). Individuals will: • be aware of and manage their personal conflicts of interest (including the requirements to declare interests contained in the Local Government Act).
Legislative compliance	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): • ensure that Council monitors compliance with legislative requirements • ensure that Council has a register of delegations, and

Standard	Expectations
	- ensure that where instances of a breach of the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> are detected (and other relevant Acts and statutory instruments), that these are proactively reported to the Director of Local Government, and - ensure that when such breaches are reported, that an undertaking to address or mitigate future noncompliance is communicated to the Director of Local Government. Individuals will: - be aware of their obligations under the <i>Local Government Act 1993</i> and other relevant Acts and statutory instruments.
Continuous Improvement	The Mayor, General Manager and Councillors will (collectively): - ensure Council consciously manages its performance and pursues continuous improvement - ensure Council has a Councillor training and development policy, and - ensure that Council's Audit Panel plays a key role in ensuring that Council's activities meet statutory requirements. Individuals will: - be aware of gaps in their personal knowledge and understanding relevant to their role and seek opportunities to undertake learning, subject to resourcing and budget.
Good Governance and land-use Planning	Individuals will understand: - the role of Council as a planning authority. - their role as a member of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Planning Authority. - the importance of the links between strategic planning and land-use planning. - the need to act impartially.
Governance practices unique to Mayor	The Mayor will: - act as the leader of the community. - be a fair, responsible spokesperson for Council. - communicate effectively, transparently and fairly with all Councillors. - understand the importance of the relationship with the General Manager. - work hard to ensure a seamless link between the Councillor body and Council administration. - understand the role as principal officer under section 32 of the <i>Integrity Commission Act 2009</i> - ensure all Councillors have opportunity to be heard and speak without interruption at Council meetings.

2.2 Implementation of measures by Glamorgan Spring Bay Council in dealing with COVID-19

Responsible Officer – Acting General Manager

Summary

To provide information to Council in respect to the actions taken in an effort to limit the spread of the Coronavirus (COVID-19) through face-to-face contact in accordance with the Australian Government Department of Health and the Department of Health Tasmania recommendations and guidelines.

Background

At the ordinary meeting of Council held on the 24 March 2020, Council resolved that:

- The use of all Council halls and club rooms by the public (including all sports and community groups), excluding official Council business, will cease until further notice;
- All Council organised and or funding community events (including sports events) and business trips will cease until further notice; and
- No Glamorgan Spring Bay Council Section 24 Committee meetings are to be held until further notice, excluding the Statement of Expectations Committee and the General Manager's Performance Review Committee.

In addition to those steps outlined above the following actions, closures and restrictions have since been implemented:

- Department of Health Tasmania information materials and recommendations in respect to the Coronavirus have been printed with copies placed in the Council office foyer area, all Depot buildings and Council office staff rooms.
- Department of Health Tasmania notifications have been distributed to all staff together with the link to the Department's website and the Australian Government Department of Health website.
- Advice has been placed on Council's website together with the link to the Australian Government Department of Health website which provides up to date regular information in respect to what steps the Australian Government is taking in dealing with the disease.
- Arrangements have been put in place allowing Council staff to work remotely where possible.
- Social distancing of 1.5m is being maintained by all Council staff who continue to work in the Council office.
- All in-house meetings in a confined space have ceased.
- Hand sanitiser has been placed around the Council Office, all Council Depots and external Council manned facilities for use by staff.
- Weekly management meetings are being held to discuss such issues such as the wearing of HAZMAT PPE for employees involved in the cleaning of ablution facilities. Extra HAZMAT PPE have been ordered to accommodate this requirement.
- Staff are being encouraged to clean their workspace on a regular basis.
- Hand towels have been placed in the toilets in the Council office for use, rather than using the air dryer.
- Cleaners have been requested to undertake additional cleaning with particular focus on hard surfaces such as door handles.

- Sources of official advice are constantly monitored and acted upon as appropriate.
- Discussions have been held with other Tasmanian Councils in respect to how they are addressing the situation.
- All Council owned and operated Visitor Information Centres are closed effective 27 March 2020
- The closure of all council owned recreation areas including sporting facilities such as netball courts, tennis courts etc.
- There is to be no public access to Council depots.
- All Council run volunteering activities are suspended.

These actions, closures and restrictions will remain in place until further notice.

Council meetings will be held in the Triabunna Community Hall until advice is received otherwise from the State or Federal Government.

A community notice is to be placed in the Great Oyster Bay Community news advising residents of the above actions, closures and restrictions.

Financial Implications

No significant financial implications are recognised in taking these steps as outlined within the report.

Risk Considerations

By implementing the above steps as outlined within this report, Council is acting to minimise risk associated with the spread of the COVID-19 by reducing face-to-face contact in accordance with the Australian Government Department of Health and the Department of Health Tasmania recommendations and requirements.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the information in respect to the actions, closures and restrictions that have been taken in response to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) as outlined within the report.

3. Confidential Item (Closed Session)

In accordance with the requirements of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, the Mayor to declare the meeting closed to the public in order to discuss the following matter/s:

- Item 1: Personnel Matter**
As per the provisions of regulation 15(2)(a) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015
- Item 2: Personnel Matter**
As per the provisions of regulation 15(2)(a) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015
- Item 3: Drought Communities Program – Extension Funding**
As per the provisions of regulation 15(2) (b) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015

Recommendation

That Council moves into a closed session (Time).
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The audio recording of meeting will now be switched off.

Mayor to check that all microphones are switched off.

4. Close

The Mayor will declare the Special Meeting closed at (Time).

CONFIRMED as a true and correct record.

Date:

Mayor Debbie Wisby