



**CONFIDENTIAL CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

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Released 26 May 2020

8.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

Contact Person: Mr Sam Green

Why is this matter confidential?

Subject to an order pursuant to Section 90 (3) (i) of the Local Government Act 1999, this matter is confidential because Council is obligated under the Public Audit Act to ensure confidentiality of information until the State Government are ready to release.

A. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE TO MOVE MOTION TO GO INTO CONFIDENCE

No action – this motion passed in the open section.

B. THE BUSINESS MATTER

8.1 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER UPDATE

Responsible Executive Manager : Mr Sam Green

Report Author : Mrs Skye Nitschke

Delegated Authority : Matters for Information.

Purpose

To provide the Corporate Governance Committee with an update from the Chief Executive Officer, regarding organisational issues, priority work and emerging risks update.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Corporate Governance Committee note the organisational update provided by the Chief Executive Officer.

Relevance to Strategic Plan

1: Smart Service Delivery Program

Outcome 1.1 High quality services and amenities

Relevance to Public Consultation Policy

Nil.

Background

As agreed at the 5th November 2019 meeting of the Corporate Governance Committee, the previously verbal update provided by the Chief Executive Officer will now be provided as information report.

Current Situation

Strategic Plan and Annual Business Plan

- A series of workshops were held with Council in the latter part of 2019 with a general commitment by Elected Members and staff to work towards a plan of a series of Strategic Plans that focusses resources with each plan building on the foundations laid by the one before it.
- Staff are now putting some meat on the bones of the current framework to enable a more detailed review by Elected Members and in due course community feedback.
- The guidance provided to date will also allow staff to frame up the 2020/21 Annual Business Plan and Budget.

Organisational Structure/Vacancies

- Recruitment of two of the three General Manager roles has occurred with recruitment for the third role still progressing.
- Grace Pelle has been appointed as the General Manager Strategy and Corporate.
- Simon Blom has been appointed as the General Manager Strategic Projects and Assets.
- It is still envisaged that Executive portfolio's will remain largely as is and when the new team is on board some adjustments will be made to capitalise on the skillsets of the new team and to optimise delivery to the community. I plan to report these changes more formally to Council during February.
- Following reporting to Council, recruitment for the vacancies that exist at the next layer of management will then commence.

Key organisational Initiatives

- Repurposing Playford's Assets:
 - This work continues to mature with the process of providing additional resources to this work being underway.
 - The function is already demonstrating its value with the current skillset and resourcing assisting to work through long standing deals that require reconsidering e.g. ACH, Medical Centre.
 - 8 properties being prioritised at the moment.
 - 8 properties potentially worth \$18.5m.
 - Most recent work on Mingari Street site with team working through Eol's received recently from the market.
 - There are some unsolicited bids being contemplated on a couple of our other sites.
- Service Alignment
 - Service alignment is a refocussed approach to how Council ensures that its services are meeting the needs and wants of its community. It will ensure a greater focus on understanding our services and their alignment with community need as well as looking for continuous improvement opportunities.
 - This work is challenging and we are still working through the best way to approach delivery of this important function.

- Community Engagement
 - In the coming months we will be considering Council's community engagement policy with a view to refreshing it to align with communities expectations around how the community wants to be involved and interact with Council.
- CEO Review Committee
 - Working with the CEO Review Committee, we are in the process of engaging an external consultant to support the establishment and review of the CEO's performance.
- Emergency Response and Bushfire Support
 - Council's own Incident Management Team was triggered on 20 December 2019 with a fire locally.
 - Playford has provided specialist support to the Cudlee Creek and Kangaroo Island fires.
- Advocacy
 - Greater effort needs to go into targeted strategic advocacy and I am looking to add an additional higher level resource to support myself, the Executive, Mayor, and broader Elected body to focus our efforts in this area.

ICAC Evaluation

- Executive have been discussing how best to deliver on the implementation of the ICAC recommendations. There is a need to adequately resource this work and the change management required in the organisation should not be underestimated.
- A scope of works is currently being prepared to engage the market seeking a suitable resource to Project/Program manage the delivery of this work. It is considered that a specialist resource tracking delivery is necessary to report into the Executive on progress.
- The subject matter experts will be critical from within the organisation to ensure that recommendations are implemented in a sustainable manner with positive sustainable change occurring.
- The sequencing of this work with the other work of the organisation will also be critical.

Auditor-General Credit Card Audit

- Council administration has received the draft report that will be tabled in Parliament.
- The report is now proposed to be tabled as an individual report for each Council rather than a single report containing observations for all three councils. This is apparently at the request of the other two councils that have been subject to the audit.
- Where considered appropriate recommendations from the audit will be implemented noting that significant improvements have occurred already in this area addressing many elements of the recommendations.

Future Action

The Chief Executive Officer will continue to provide updates to the Corporate Governance Committee.

C. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE TO DECIDE HOW LONG ITEM 8.1 IS TO BE KEPT IN CONFIDENCE

Purpose

To resolve how long agenda item 8.1 is to be kept confidential.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to Section 90(2) and Section 91(7) of the Local Government Act 1999, the Committee orders that the following aspects of Item 8.1 be kept confidential in accordance with Committee's reasons to deal with this item in confidence pursuant to Section 90 (3) (i) of the Local Government Act 1999:

- Report for Item 8.1
- Minutes for Item 8.1

This order shall operate until the report is tabled in the Parliament by the Auditor-General, or will be reviewed and determined as part of the annual review by Council in accordance with Section 91(9)(a) of the Local Government Act 1999, whichever comes first.