



**CONFIDENTIAL CORPORATE
GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE MEETING**

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

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Released 27 February 2020

8.1 CEO 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 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 CEO UPDATE

Responsible Executive Manager : Mr Sam Green

Report Author : Mr Sam Green

Delegated Authority : Matters for Information.

Purpose

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

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee note the organisational update provided by the CEO.

Relevance to Strategic Plan

1: Smart Service Delivery Program

Outcome 1.1 High quality services and amenities

Relevance to Public Consultation Policy

Nil.

Background

Previous CEO updates have been provided verbally at meetings however at the last regular meeting the update report was provided in written form given the absence, at the meeting, of the CEO. It has been determined that a written report may be more appropriate than a verbal

report as it provides a point in time record of the issues discussed with the Committee so it is intended that the CEO update will, on most occasions, take the form of a written report.

Current Situation

Strategic Plan and Annual Business Plan

- On Saturday 23 November the Council, Executive, and key planning staff held a strategic planning day.
- The focus of the day was to understand where the Council wanted to prioritise its resource effort over the next 4 years to assist in the development of the Strategic Plan and to provide guidance to the 2020/21 Annual Business Plan and Budget process which is commencing.

Org Structure/Vacancies

- Recruitment of key General Manager roles is progressing with offers to successful candidates being imminent. It is still envisaged that the newly established Executive will be in place around February next year.
- Nearly 200 candidates applied across all three roles which is positive and confirms that City of Playford is a sought after employer.
- 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.

Key organisational Initiatives

- Repurposing Playford's Assets:
 - Repurposing Playford's Assets is the development of a more mature, focussed, property function looking to maximise return of Playford's physical asset base with the objectives of debt reduction/management, generating increased commercial rate revenue, and delivering economic growth and jobs to the City.
 - This function is a direct response to the need for better debt management and something that the Council is very focussed on.
 - Progress has been made regarding the identification and resourcing of the skillsets required to ensure the function can deliver sustainably for 10 plus years.
 - Early modelling, based on assumptions, would indicate that debt of approximately \$50m could be paid off in 10-12 years. The progress of this work is monitored monthly by the Executive.
 - Monthly reporting to Council is also in place.
- 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. The many

sources of community feedback and data will be used to determine which services require specific attention.

- Initial design of this approach is underway. Given that there is not a template approach to what is intended time is being spent articulating the outcomes desired from this approach.
- Community Engagement
 - Council currently has a media and communications area which largely broadcasts messages/information to the community. This Council has expressed a desire to be more connected to its community and therefore the existing resources of Council will be looked at for a potential shift in approach to being more engaged with our community.
 - The most recent results from Council's resident satisfaction survey also support the need to look at changing our approach with low scores received in the following areas; open and accountable, value for money, community input into decision making.
 - A change in direction will need formal support from Council with key policy decisions to be made across a number of policies over the next few months.
 - There is a real opportunity for Council to improve in this area and to regain/build trust with its community through a more engaged, open and transparent approach to what we do.
 - The Council is very committed to improving in this area and, supported by the administration, is looking at all opportunities to maximise positive engagement with the community.

ICAC Evaluation

- With the final evaluation report now being tabled in parliament the Executive are focussed on establishing a robust approach to the action of recommendations. It is intended to establish a framework around the delivery that ensures successful implementation, appropriate engagement, and reporting (including to the Corporate Governance Committee).

Auditor General Credit Card Audit

- Council awaits the final report from the Auditor General that will be tabled in parliament. At that point consideration will be given to implementation of recommendations.

Future Action

To continue to provide updates to the Committee by the CEO.

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.