

**Torres Strait Island**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

# MINUTES

## STRATEGIC ADVISORY REFERENCE GROUP

Date: Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2021

Time: 1:05pm to 5:20pm

Venue: Video Conference

### **Agenda**

1. Welcome (Chair)

Mayor Mosby welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Cr Stephen to open the meeting in prayer.

2. Opening Prayer

Cr Stephen open the meeting in prayer and a minute silence was observed.

3. Apologies

- Cr Hilda Mosby – sorry business

**Resolution:**

*Moved:* Cr Noah, *Second:* Cr Noah

That SARG accepts the apology of Cr Hilda Mosby for this meeting.

**All in favour**

Acting Chief Executive Officer also informed the Mayor the Chief Engineer will be in attendance shortly.

4. Conflict of Interest (COI)/ Declarable / Prescribed

No declaration made and Mayor encouraged everyone to make a declaration at any time.

5. Confirmation of Minutes - SARG Meeting – 6<sup>th</sup> April 2021 – VC

**Resolution:**

*Moved:* Cr Noah, *Second:* Cr Stephen

That the minutes of the April 2021 SARG Meeting be adopted as true and accurate account of that meeting.

**All in favour**

## 6. Strategic Action Items Review

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Mr David Baldwin spoke to the report and provided an update on the action items listed.

- Mualgal Holding – MLS to bring back to SARG when Legal has a response from Chris McLaughlin and Council should be guided by Cr Trinkoon and Cr Levi.
- Dr Chris Sara – SEA to again make contact with Dr Sara and reinvoke him to attend Ordinary Meeting (November)
- Update Cr Fell action – old water pumps that were taken out of houses. Cr Fell would like to know what happened to them.
- Update Lead officer from HOCAE to Legal Services

**New Action** – MLS - Provide SARG with an update on where the Name Change process. Cr Lui commented we had already had a deputation with the State.

- DOGIT transfer – Wait until we know what the position of the State is.

**New Action** – Cr Lui - ACEO to ensure when a matter /paper comes to the table for a resolution then it should be endorsed as per the proper process by Council.

- MOU with TSRA – incorporate elected arm of both parties into the document. Cr Lui asked why we can't have an MOU driven from a cultural perspective (elected leaders and how they interact). How this can be done. Need to have an overarching MOU around the different committees. Legal needs to sit with the TSRA heads.

**1:26pm** - Acting Chief Engineer join the meeting.

- DOGIT – Peter Krebs currently working with Allen Cunneen.
- Disaster Management Plan – currently having informal discussion with parties.

**1:53pm** – Chief Financial Officer leaves meeting.

TSRA Board to work with Councillors on ground. TSIRC top 5 priorities need to go to TSRA. We need to make formal request to TSRA regarding MIP7.

**ACTION:** ACEO to send TSRIC 5 top priorities for each Division to TSRA.

## 7. Chief Financial Officer

1. Risk Update – Acting CEO spoke and provided SARG with an update.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Moved:* Cr Stephen; *Second:* Mayor Mosby

That the Manager Risk and Ethics update the Risk Management Policy to include the role of SARG.

**ALL IN FAVOUR**

**2:18pm** – Acting Head of People and Wellbeing joined the meeting.

2. Workplace Health and Safety Update – Acting Head of People and Wellbeing, Ms Tracey Barrel spoke to the report and provide SARG with an update. SARG notes the report
3. People and Wellbeing Policy update – Acting Head of People and Wellbeing, Ms Tracey Burrell spoke to the report and briefed SARG on the 3 policies as presented;
  - Code of Conduct Policy
  - Equal Employment Opportunity Policy and
  - Recruitment Policy

**ACTION:** ACEO to ensure staff read and acknowledge the Policies.

Cr Lui asked why councillors were not included in the Policy. Acting Head of People and Wellbeing took on notice.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Moved:* Cr Noah; *Second:* Cr Stephen

That the Equal Employment Opportunity Policy be amended to include the Councillors.

**ALL IN FAVOUR**

**2:47pm** – Acting Head of People and Wellbeing leaves the meeting.

4. Community Grant Policies – verbal update

Acting Chief Executive Officer provided SARG with an update. SARG raised a few concerns and noted we don't have a set standard and there needs to be a change to the legislation to incorporate Ailan Kastom.

**ACTION:** ACEO to draft a letter to be send to the Minister requesting special dispensation be granted to TSIRC.

5. Funding since April 2020 Status Report – **Late**

Acting Chief Executive provided SARG with an update on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer.

Cr Fell raised the issue of the unsuccessful funding application and ask for them to be included in the report and the reasoning why they weren't successful. SARG notes the report.

6. Annual Update of Financial Policies

Chief Executive Officer speaks to this report on behalf of the chief Financial Officer.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Moved:* Cr Lui, *Second:* Cr Noah

That SARG supports, recommend and refer the following financial policies;

- Investment Policy;
  - Debt Policy;
  - Revenue Policy;
  - Fiscal Governance Policy;
  - Entertainment and Hospitality Policy;
  - Information Technology Policy; and
  - Procurement and Ethical Sourcing Policy,
- to the full Council for further discussion and endorsement at the June Ordinary Meeting.

**ALL IN FAVOUR**

7. Strategic External Grant Funding Policy

Acting Chief Executive Officer spoke to this report.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Moved:* Cr Stephen; *Second:* Cr Noah

That SARG supports and recommend this report go to the full council at the June Ordinary meeting for further discussion and endorsement.

**MOTION CARRIED**

8. Works for Queensland Projects Report

Acting Chief Engineer spoke to the report and provided SARG with an update on all the Works for Queensland Project and their status. SARG notes the report.

**ACTION:** Send a letter to the funding body and elevate to the elected arm. Send letter also to

- Member for Cook – Cynthia Lui
- Minister for State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning – Minister Steven Miles
- Government Champion – Minister Shannon Fentiman
- Minister for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships – Minister Craig Crawford

## **8. Chief Engineer**

### **1. Local Disaster Management Group Membership**

Acting Chief Engineer spoke to this report and updated SARG on the status of the membership. A meeting was held with Torres Shire Council's CEO and senior staff regarding the separation and they objected to the separation plan and provided us with their position paper.

In the interim Torres Strait Local Disaster Management Group will be business as usual.

TSIRC will meet with Torres Shire for further discussion.

**ACTION:** Acting Chief Executive Officer to look into TSIRC having their own local disaster management group. There are 77 local government areas in Queensland and only 76 local disaster management groups.

**ACTION:** ACEO to submit a late report to Council at the June OM for a recommendation for the separate and a letter to the Minister requesting the separation.

## **9. Chief Executive Officer**

### **1. May Councillor Strategic Development Workshop Feedback**

Acting Chief Executive Officer provided a verbal feedback.

### **2. MOA TSRA – Legal**

Senior Legal Counsel spoke to the report and provided an update. Terms of Reference – see section 142 ATSIC Act.

**ACTION:** Legal to capture in the MOU the Strategic direction. MOU to go to the Governance and Leadership committee for review and input.

### **3. MOA – Legal – ML, GBK, MNGN – verbal**

Verbal update provided by Senior Legal Counsel.

4. Church use of Council Facilities – Legal

Senior legal counsel spoke to this report. Matter left lying on the table.

**ACTION:** Submit this report to the June OM for discussion by the full Council

**10. Chief Operating Officer**

1. Housing Policies

Chief Operating Officer spoke to this report

**RECOMMENDATION:**

*Moved:* Cr Fell; *Second:* Cr Noah

That SARG supports and recommend the Policy paper be put to the full Council at the June Ordinary Meeting for their consideration and or endorsement.

**MOTION CARRIED**

2. Capital Funding

Chief Operating officer spoke to this report. Discussion had around how the Housing funding will be divided.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That SARG supports and recommend for this report go to the June 2021 Ordinary meeting for the full Council's consideration and or endorsement.

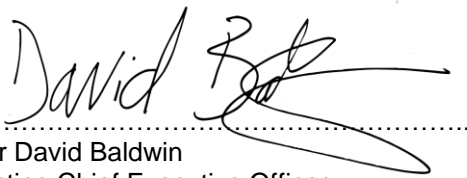
**MOTION CARRIED**

**11. Next meeting date – proposed Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021**

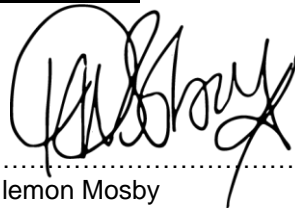
**12. Closing Remarks and Prayer**

Mayor Mosby thanked everyone for their contribution and closed the meeting in prayer.

**MEETING CLOSED – 5:20pm**



Mr David Baldwin  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2021



Cr Phillemon Mosby  
Mayor  
Torres Strait Island Regional Council  
21<sup>st</sup> September 2021