



**SPECIAL MEETING
MINUTES**

18 JANUARY 2022

SHIRE OF CUE
Special Council Meeting
AGENDA

Held in the Council Chambers, 73 Austin Street Cue on
Tuesday 18 January 2022 commencing at 5:32pm

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1. DECLARATION OF OPENING

The meeting was opened at 5.32pm.

The Presiding Member welcomed those present and read the following disclaimer:

No responsibility whatsoever is implied or accepted by the Shire of Cue for any act, omission or statement or intimation occurring during this Meeting.

It is strongly advised that persons do not act on what is heard at this Meeting and should only rely on written confirmation of council's decision, which will be provided within fourteen (14) days of this Meeting.

PRESENT:

Councillor Ross Pigdon, Shire President

Councillor Les Price, Deputy Shire President

Councillor Ian Dennis

Councillor Ron Hogben

Councillor Liz Houghton

Councillor Julie Humphreys

STAFF:

Mr Richard Towell, Chief Executive Officer

Mr Glenn Boyes, Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Ms Cheryl Walton, Manager Finance

Mrs Janelle Duncan, Executive Assistant

GALLERY:

2. APOLOGIES AND APPROVED LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Cr Leonie Fitzpatrick

3. DISCLOSURE OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Nil

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Nil

6. APPLICATIONS FOR LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil

7. DEPUTATIONS

Nil

8. PETITIONS

Nil

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS WITHOUT DISCUSSION

Nil

Unconfirmed

10. REPORTS

10.1 PROPOSED LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORMS

APPLICANT: Shire of Cue
DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST: Nil
AUTHOR: Richard Towell – Chief Executive Officer
DATE: 14 December 2019

Matters for Consideration:

To provide Council with the opportunity to submit feedback on the proposed Local Government Reforms, issued by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries in November 2021

Background:

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries is seeking feedback on the proposed Local Government Reform. There are a number of legislative changes proposed across a wide range of local government functions. Feedback submissions to the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC) is due 25 February 2022; WALGA have requested feedback by 28 January 2022.

Comments:

In 2017 the State Government announced a review of the Local Government Act 1995. The objective of the review is for Western Australia to have a new, modern Act that empowers local governments to better deliver for the community. Based on the significant volume of research and consultation undertaken over the past five years, the Minister for Local Government has now announced the most significant package of major reforms to local government in Western Australia since the Local Government Act 1995 was passed more than 25 years ago.

The package is based on six major themes:

1. Earlier intervention, effective regulation, and stronger penalties
2. Reducing red tape, increasing consistency and simplicity
3. Greater transparency and accountability
4. Stronger local democracy and community engagement
5. Clear roles and responsibilities
6. Improved financial management and reporting

A large focus on the new reform is oversight and intervention where there are significant problems arising within a local government. The introduction of new intermediate powers for intervention will increase the number of tools available to more quickly address problems and dysfunction within local governments.

The proposed reforms are broad in nature. Some proposals will have minimal impact on the Shire, whilst others could potentially be significant. The majority of the proposals are supported and comments are provided where they are not. A key feature of the proposed reforms is a long-awaited recognition of size and scale within the local government legislative framework, and different regulatory treatment for Tier 1 & 2 (larger) and Tier 3 & 4 (smaller) local governments. This should reduce the compliance burden upon small local governments, thereby allowing us to focus our limited resources on delivering value back to our communities.

The draft WALGA response is presented at [Appendix 1](#), with additional comments provided by the Shire of Cue.

Statutory Environment:

Local Government Act 1995

Policy Implications:

Shire of Cue Strategic Community Plan 2017 – 2027

Outcome 2.1 A strategically focused and unified Council functioning efficiently

Outcome 2.2 Strengthen our communities' position for the future

Financial Implications:

None at this stage but could have financial implications once the reforms are implemented

Strategic Implications:

None at this stage but could have strategic implications once the reforms are implemented

Consultation:

Murchison Executive Group

Glenn Boyes – Deputy Chief Executive Officer

Officer's Recommendation:

Voting Requirement: Simple Majority

That Council:

1. Notes the Local Government Reform Summary of Proposed Reforms issued by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries;

and
2. Endorses the drafted response attached at [Appendix 1](#), for submission to DLGSC, WALGA and the Murchison Country Zone

The Shire President suggested that standing orders be suspended to allow greater discussion of this item.

Council Decision:01012022 **Voting requirement:** Simple Majority

That standing orders be suspended.

MOVED:CR PRICE

SECONDED:CR HOGBEN

CARRIED:6/0

5.36pm Standing Orders were suspended.

Council Decision:02012022 **Voting requirement:** Simple Majority

That standing orders be resumed.

MOVED:CR PRICE

SECONDED:CR HOUGHTON

CARRIED:6/0

9.20pm Standing Orders were resumed.

Council Decision:03012022 **Voting requirement:** Simple Majority

MOVED:CR HOUGHTON

SECONDED:CR DENNIS

That Council:

1. Notes the Local Government Reform Summary of Proposed Reforms issued by the Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries;
and
2. Endorses the drafted response, as amended, attached at [Appendix 1](#), for submission to DLGSC, WALGA and the Murchison Country Zone.

CARRIED:6/0

11. MOTIONS BY MEMBERS OF WHICH PREVIOUS NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Nil

12. MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE NEXT MEETING

Nil

13. NEW BUSINESS OF AN URGENT NATURE

Nil

14. MATTERS FOR WHICH THE MEETING MAY BE CLOSED

Nil

15. CLOSURE

The Presiding Member thanked those present for attending the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 9.26pm.

To be confirmed at Ordinary Meeting on the 15 February 2022

Signed:.....

Presiding Member at the Meeting at which time the Minutes were confirmed