

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

COUNCIL REPORT

Meeting 23 August 2023



Item 1: Meetings Attended

- CEO met with Tammie Matson on 24 July 2023 in Hope Vale for discussions on the TCICA project in relation to tourism development opportunities.
- Mayor, Councillors and CEO met the Board and Officers of Diatrema Resources on 25 July 2023 in Hope Vale.
- Mayor and Councillors attended the Council meeting on 26 July 2023 in Hope Vale.
- Mayor and CEO met with Kerry-Lee Bird, A/Regional Director, Far North Queensland Region, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, Communities and the Arts on 26 August 2023 in Hope Vale for discussions on the Local Thriving Communities initiative.
- Mayor, Cr Allison Michael, and CEO attended the Interim Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee Meeting held on 27 July 2023 in Hope Vale. Other Councillors attended part of the meeting as observers.
- Mayor, Cr Allison Michael, CEO, and Director of Finance and Corporate Services attended the Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council Audit Committee meeting held 27 July 2023 in Hope Vale.
- CEO and Operations Manager met with Rick Healey and Wayde Jablonski from the Department of Housing met on 2 August 2023 in Hope Vale Wednesday to discuss the development of a strategy for future social housing construction investment in Hope Vale. The capital strategy will be a component of the overarching 'Local Housing Plan'.
- CEO met with Joanna Mason from Workhaven (via Teams) on 3 August 2023 for discussions on a proposal to develop a domestic and family violence strategy for Hope Vale
- Mayor and CEO met with Scott Quail, Director, First Nations Digital Strategy, Queensland Government Customer and Digital Group and other Government representatives and undertook an inspection of the Smart Services Queensland (SSQ) contact centre located at 79 Pineapple Street, Zillmere on 7 August 2023.
- Mayor and CEO met the Mayor, Councillors, and staff at Cherbourg Aboriginal Shire Council on 8 August 2023 and undertook an inspection of various key community initiatives in Cherbourg, particularly the establishment, operation, and scaling of the digital business centre pilot project.
- CEO and Executive Team met with Peak Services (via Teams meeting) on 17 August 2023 for discussions in relation to assistance in grant applications.

- CEO met with Justin Smith, Emergency Management, Far Northern Region, Queensland Fire and Emergency Services and Senior Sergeant Owen Kennedy, XO, Cairns District Disaster Management Group (via Teams meeting) on 17 August 2023 for a review of Hope Vale's disaster management arrangements.
- A number of other meetings were also held by the CEO in relation to various administration, organizational, staffing and tenure issues.

Recommendation:

That Council

(a) receive the Chief Executive Officer's Report, and

(b) note the meetings attended by the Chief Executive Officer

Item 2: QAO – 2023 Closing Report

On 27 July 2023, the Queensland Audit Office submitted its Closing Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 (Attachment A). The Report reinforces Council's strong commitment to good corporate governance and strong financial sustainability.

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Queensland Audit Office Closing Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council for the financial year ended 30 June 2023 as shown as Attachment A of the Chief Executive officers Report.

Item 3: QAO – 2023 Final Management Letter

On 31 July 2023, the Queensland Audit Office submitted its Final Management Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council (Attachment B). It confirmed that the QAO did not identify any significant issues since the presentation of our closing report.

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the Queensland Audit Office Final Management Report for Hope Vale Aboriginal Shire Council as shown as Attachment B of the Chief Executive officers Report.

Item 4: Audit Committee Meeting Minutes

An Audit Committee Meeting was held in Hope Vale on 27 July 2023. A copy of the Minutes are attached for Council's information. (Attachment C)

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the minutes of the Audit Committee as shown as Attachment C of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Item 5: Annual Financial Statements 2022-2023

The Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 have been signed off by the Mayor and the Chief Executive Officer, after approval from the Audit Committee on 27 July 2023.

A copy of the signed Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 is attached for Council noting. (Attachment D)

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the signed Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 30 June 2023 as shown as Attachment D of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Item 6: 2022/2023 Operational Plan – Fourth Quarter Report

Council's Annual Operational Plan documents the annual progress in the implementation of the 5-year corporate plan and manages Council's operational risks. Attachment E to this report provides an assessment on Council's progress towards implementing the annual Operational Plan for the third quarter ending 30 June 2023.

Recommendation:

That Council receive and note the assessment on Council's progress towards implementing the annual Operational Plan for the fourth quarter ending 30 June 2023 as shown as Attachment F of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Item 7: Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee Report

The Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee met on Thursday 27 July 2023. The Report on the meeting is attached for Council's consideration (Attachment F).

Recommendation:

That Council receive, note, and endorse Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee Report on the meeting held on 27 July 2023 as shown as Attachment F of the Chief Executive Officer's Report.

Item 8: Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee Charter

At its Meeting held on 16 March 2022, Council resolved -

That Council

a) Appoint the following advisory committee pursuant to Section 264 of the Local Government Regulation 2012 – Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee,

b) Endorse the draft Terms of Reference for the Advisory Committee as attached to the CEO's report (Attachment A),

c) Pursuant to Section 245G of the Local Government Regulations 2012 (Advisory committees exempted from taking minutes), exempt the Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee from taking minutes of its proceedings, however, it must give Council a written report on its deliberations and its advice or recommendation, and

- d) Select five (5) community members for appointment to the Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee.*
- e) Select a Councillor for appointment to the Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee. It is noted that the Mayor is the Chair of the Advisory Committee.*

During deliberation of this issue, Council considered that it would appoint the Advisory Committee on an interim basis, and that Council would review the Advisory Committee's effectiveness and the Terms of Reference after 12 months of operation.

The Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee held its first meeting on Thursday 25 August 2022.

In addition, the Mayor and the CEO met with representatives from Department of Treaty, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Partnerships, National Indigenous Australians Agency, Alliance of the Guugu Yimithirr People, Pama Futures, and the Cape York Institute in Hope Vale on 21 August 2023 for discussions on a possible alternate model to the existing Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee model. It was pointed out to the meeting that any change to the Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee would need to be considered and approved by Council.

After discussions, it was agreed that there were 3 options for Council to consider -

Option 1 - No change to the existing Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee model, apart from the planned review of its Terms of Reference,

Option 2 - No change to the existing Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee model, apart from the planned review of its Terms of Reference and the appointment of representatives from Alliance of the Guugu Yimithirr People, the Hope Vale Foundation, and Hope Vale Congress.

Option 3 - the creation of a new joint model of the Local Thriving Communities and the Alliance of the Guugu Yimithirr People,

Should Council wish to consider Option 3 further, it was agreed that a detailed model would be developed.

Recommendation:

That Council consider the future direction of its Interim Hope Vale Local Thriving Communities Advisory Committee.

Item 5 CEO Verbal Briefing



Steve Linnane
Chief Executive Officer
21 August 2023