

## MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

**Meeting Date:** Wednesday, 21 November 2018  
**Location:** Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra  
**Time:** 4:00pm

The following members were present:

Mr John Lamont – Chairperson  
Clr Joanna Gash  
Clr Greg Watson  
Clr Mark Kitchener (arrived 4.10pm)  
Mr Russ Pigg – General Manager  
Mr Tony Emery – representing Gareth Ward MP  
Mr Robert Crow – representing Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group  
Ms Alison Chiam – representing Shoalhaven Arts Board  
Ms Jemma Tribe – Shoalhaven Business Chamber  
Mr David Goodman – Shoalhaven Business Chamber  
Ms Kate Morris – representing TAFE NSW  
Mr Peter Masterson – Department of Industry, Innovation & Science  
Ms Donna Payne – NSW Department of Premier & Cabinet  
Ms Lexie Meyer (arrived 4.20pm)  
Ms Mary-Jean Lewis

Others present:

Mr Greg Pullen - Economic Development Manager  
Ms Marianne Jones – Economic Development Officer  
Ms Avalon Bourne – Sonder Youth  
Mr Paul Keith – Ulladulla Local Aboriginal Land Council

### Apologies / Leave of Absence

An apology was received from Ian Morris.

### Confirmation of the Minutes

Correction: Item BE18.22 – Membership – Amend Mary-Jean Ardent to Mary-Jean Lewis.

### Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Business and Employment Development Committee held on Wednesday 22 August 2018 be confirmed.

**RESOLVED** (David Goodman / Tony Emery)

That the Minutes of the Business and Employment Development Committee held on Wednesday

22 August 2018 be confirmed, subject to the following amendment:

- Item BE18.22 – Membership – Amend Mary-Jean Ardent to Mary-Jean Lewis.

CARRIED

### Declarations of Interest

Nil.

## REPORTS

### BE18.30 Employment Land Development by Council

**HPERM Ref:  
D18/378768**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report and advised that Stage 10 of Flinders Estate was fenced this week and Council is starting to accept clean fill for the gully.

The Committee discussed connection from Central Avenue to the Princes Highway. Council is investigating funding sources for this work.

#### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report of the General Manager on Employment Land Development by Council be received for information.

#### **RESOLVED** (Jemma Tribe / Alison Chiam)

That the report of the General Manager on Employment Land Development by Council be received for information.

CARRIED

### BE18.31 Recent grant applications prepared by Council to specifically stimulate Economic Development

**HPERM Ref:  
D18/384320**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report and noted that the East Nowra Sub Arterial could be a two to three year project.

The closing date for applications for the Building Better Regions was 15 November 2018. Council submitted an application for assistance of \$9.5 million on behalf of Bundanon Trust to upgrade Riversdale.

Clr Gash asked about the Jervis Bay Road intersection with the Princes Highway. The Committee were advised:

- Council followed up with RMS;
- The RMS need further data collection to determine best option for the intersection.
- The RMS are looking to collect further data over Christmas period.
- Council last met with RMS a couple of months ago.
- Council made representations to the Department of Premier and Cabinet and local member Shelley Hancock MP, highlighting the issue of truck and trades access.

David Goodman asked whether the State Government prioritises highway intersections. The Committee was advised that in the Shoalhaven local government area Island Point Road is the first priority for the RMS, based on crash data, followed by Jervis Bay Road.

#### **Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report of the General Manager on recent grant applications prepared by Council to specifically stimulate economic development be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Clr Gash / David Goodman)

That the report of the General Manager on recent grant applications prepared by Council to specifically stimulate economic development be received for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.32 Dairy code consultations by Government**

**HPERM Ref:  
D18/392401**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report.

Clr Watson noted that Council is providing support to local dairy farmers, for example through reduction in water rates.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That

1. The report of the consultations by the Australian & NSW Governments into the dairy industry be received for information.
2. Members of the Business & Employment Development Committee circulate within their organisations the details of the local stakeholder consultative process.

**RESOLVED** (Donna Payne / Lexie Meyer)

That

1. The report of the consultations by the Australian & NSW Governments into the dairy industry be received for information.
2. Members of the Business & Employment Development Committee circulate within their organisations the details of the local stakeholder consultative process.

CARRIED

**BE18.33 School to Industry Program**

**HPERM Ref:  
D18/393632**

Greg Pullen and Marianne Jones spoke to the report. It was noted that teachers were taken on a tour of local enterprises on 15 November 2018 and the inaugural defence industry tour for students would be held on 28 November 2018.

Marianne thanked the local businesses that supported these initiatives.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report on the Shoalhaven School to Industry Program be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Peter Masterson / Jemma Tribe)

That the report on the Shoalhaven School to Industry Program be received for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.34 Proudly Shoalhaven****HPERM Ref:  
D18/393633**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report. Shared some data analytics from website. Videos on website. State Govt and Council \$150K. State govt matched Council funding. 200-300 hits on some sites.

Two Proudly Shoalhaven videos were shown to the Committee. Members were encouraged to view additional videos from the website. Companies are also using videos for promotion of their businesses.

Staff advised that it is difficult to quantify the response to the campaign. Council are receiving positive feedback on the program.

Mary-Jean Lewis asked whether Council would be producing more videos. Staff advised that Council would like to produce additional videos, but the cost may be prohibitive to feature a lot of new and emerging businesses, including expanding the geographic base of businesses.

Donna Payne advised that if there is future promotion those industry sectors identified in Regional and Economic Development Strategy, such as manufacturing, were likely to be viewed favourably.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report on the "Proudly Shoalhaven" business development marketing campaign be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Mary-Jean Lewis / Tony Emery)

That the report on the "Proudly Shoalhaven" business development marketing campaign be received for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.35 NSW Small Business Month in Shoalhaven****HPERM Ref:  
D18/395468**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report.

In relation to the Bay and Basin area, Mary-Jean Lewis noted that there are 7,300 residents in Sanctuary Point and 1,007 active ABNs. This is equivalent to one per street and includes tradespeople and online businesses. Attendees at the Sanctuary Point events included some from Ulladulla.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

1. That the report on the activities held in Shoalhaven as part of NSW Small Business Week be received for information.
2. That the committee thank the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development for the funding that supported our business networks and their members.

**RESOLVED** (Mary-Jean Lewis / Robert Crow)

1. That the report on the activities held in Shoalhaven as part of NSW Small Business Week be received for information.
2. That the committee thank the NSW Department of Industry, Skills and Regional Development for the funding that supported our business networks and their members.

CARRIED

**BE18.36 Shoalhaven Business Chamber - Report on Activities  
(July-September 2018)****HPERM Ref:  
D18/398161**

Jemma Tribe spoke to the report and noted that the Lunch and Learn series will run again in 2019.

Jemma also advised that the Shoalhaven Business Chamber is partnering with the Nowra Show to hold a careers expo as part of the Nowra Show. There will be free stalls for Nowra businesses.

Donna Payne expressed support for a careers expo at Nowra Show, complementary to University of Wollongong careers expo, not just agricultural industries will be shown. The Nowra Show expo will promote STEM subjects, such as a robotics challenge. Peter Masterton added that there could be federal funding to support the program. The relevant government agencies are currently exploring funding options. There will be buses for school students to attend on the Friday with an emphasis to include secondary schools.

Jemma also spoke about the Business Chamber's advocacy. In relation to the Nowra Bridge project the Business Chamber are lobbying for grade separation. The Chamber is also lobbying for payroll tax reform and have spoken to NSW treasurer to raise threshold for rural and regional areas.

The Business Chamber is applying for grants for strategic projects.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report on the activities of the Shoalhaven Business Chamber be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Jemma Tribe / David Goodman)

That the report on the activities of the Shoalhaven Business Chamber be received for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.37 Election of Chairperson****HPERM Ref:  
D18/341564****Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the committee elect (insert name) as Chairperson for twelve months from November 2018.

**RESOLVED** (Lexie Meyer / David Goodman)

That the committee elect John Lamont as Chairperson for twelve months from November 2018.

CARRIED

**BE18.38 Membership - Resignation****HPERM Ref:  
D18/386822**

The Chair thanked Steve Prothero for his service and welcomed the following new members:

- Representative from TAFE – Kate Morris;
- Representative from Department of Premier and Cabinet – Donna Payne;
- Representative from Shoalhaven Business Chamber – Jemma Tribe; and
- Representative from Shoalhaven Professional Business Association – Anna Finch.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the Committee receives this report about the resignation of Steve Prothero for information.

**RESOLVED** (John Lamont / Lexie Meyer)

That the Committee receives this report about the resignation of Steve Prothero for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.39 Development in Shoalhaven - Significant Projects**

**HPERM Ref:  
D18/341684**

Donna Payne asked about expiry of development approval. The General Manager advised that physical commencement would keep consent alive.

The Economic Development Office contacts developers to follow up industrial commercial developments. Staff noted that a number of applications were lodged in 2006 and 2007, prior to the Global Financial Crisis. Currently developers are facing difficulties obtaining finance in current economic climate. Banks more cautious. Some applications are made to increase the value of the land for sale, without any intention to commence work.

Staff noted a flurry of approvals over September and October 2018 and it is anticipated that industrial development will proceed in the near future.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report of the General Manager (Planning Environment & Development Services) regarding the update on development in Shoalhaven be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Clr Gash / Peter Masterson)

That the report of the General Manager (Planning Environment & Development Services) regarding the update on development in Shoalhaven be received for information.

CARRIED

Note: The Chair requested that a summary table on significant developments to be circulated to members and a report to the next meeting on the amount of Government spend requested from the Economic Development Office.

**BE18.40 Update from Department of Premier & Cabinet Regional Branch**

**HPERM Ref:  
D18/378339**

Donna Payne spoke to the report and highlighted the support available for enterprise and suggested to look at Regional Enterprise Development Strategy.

Donna also advised that the relocation assistance for skilled workers targets employers relocating businesses rather than individuals relocating. There are specific criteria and eligible job roles.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report providing an update on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Branch be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Donna Payne / Jemma Tribe)

That the report providing an update on the Department of Premier and Cabinet Regional Branch be received for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.41 Update on Sanctuary Point Small Business Month  
Networking Events****HPERM Ref:  
D18/380686****Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report providing an update on the Basin Business Brekky and Networking in the PM events held at Straight to the Point Café at Sanctuary Point be received for information.

**RESOLVED** (Mary-Jean Lewis / David Goodman)

That the report providing an update on the Basin Business Brekky and Networking in the PM events held at Straight to the Point Café at Sanctuary Point be received for information.

CARRIED

**BE18.42 South Coast Youth Leadership Forum****HPERM Ref:  
D18/389027**

Avalon Bourne of Sonder Youth gave a presentation about the South Coast Youth Leadership Forum held over three days at the end of October. This is the fifth year that the program has run. There were 55 participants from a range of schools.

The purpose of the Forum is to train young people with skills to create change in the community and skills to increase their employability. It involves personal development workshops and group challenges. The Program has received positive feedback from participants through a survey.

The winning two ideas from the Impact Challenge were the HSC Smash – a program to beat the stigma of HSC stress and assist students with skills to manage their stress, and HM – Healthy Minds – a mental health toolkit for students.

Sonder Youth is looking to do leadership training for South Coast Leadership Forum alumni to keep them connected with the program and with their peers.

Avalon presented certificates of appreciation to supporters of the program and acknowledged the in kind support received from Council.

The Chair noted that the Moruya Program attracted 56% indigenous students.

**Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)**

That the report outlining the outcomes of assistance provided by Council to the Leadership Forum be received for information, noting that there are no fiscal implications arising from this report.

**RESOLVED** (John Lamont / Alison Chiam)

That the report outlining the outcomes of assistance provided by Council to the Leadership Forum be received for information, noting that there are no fiscal implications arising from this report.

CARRIED

**GENERAL BUSINESS****BE18.43 Additional item - Information Updates from Members**

Peter Masterton of AusIndustry noted:

- The Smart Cities funding approved to an Illawarra-Shoalhaven consortium (including Shoalhaven City Council) of \$480,000 for sensing technologies in waterways
- The defence industries capital improvements grants of \$50,000 to \$1 million. \$17 million

each year from 2019 to 2022 has been allocated.

- 60 people attended the information workshop on the Regional Jobs Investment Program.
- A local business leaders breakfast is proposed to promote the grants program and focus on issues of importance to the region.

Greg Pullen added that the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade were holding a free trade workshop on 11 December.

Tony Emery of the Bundanon Trust acknowledged Council and staff support for their Building Better Regions Fund as the Trust was ineligible to apply without a partner. Tony also thanked Council and the Shoalhaven Business Chamber for advocacy around the Nowra Bridge and roads.

Robert Crow of the Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Group noted the movement towards sustainable tourism and the collection of data to indicate the health of the environment, which includes amenity to locals. Russ suggested entering Shoalhaven360 into a search engine to have a look at the website.

Alison Chiam of the Shoalhaven Arts Board advised that there are two additional arts awards for the Australia Day Awards. Alison encouraged members to circulate the information throughout their networks. Nominations are through the website and close on 30 November.

Greg Pullen advised that the design for the Albion Park Rail bypass has been released for community feedback and Roads and Maritime Services are seeking submissions by Friday 7 December 2018. Members can view the project map and make a submission on the RMS website at <https://rms.nsw.gov.au/projects/illawarra/albion-park-rail-bypass/index.html>.

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.38pm.

Mr John Lamont  
CHAIRPERSON