

MINUTES OF THE BUSINESS AND EMPLOYMENT DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Meeting Date: Wednesday, 28 August 2019
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 4:00pm

The following members were present:

Clr Joanna Gash
Clr Patricia White
Mr John Lamont – Chairperson
Mr Robert Crow – representing Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Board
Ms Alison Chiam – representing Shoalhaven Arts Board
Ms Jemma Tribe – President, Shoalhaven Business Chamber
Mr David Goodman – Shoalhaven Business Chamber
Mr Peter Masterson – Department of Industry, Innovation & Science - AusIndustry
Ms Lexie Meyer – Community representative
Ms Mary-Jean Lewis – President, Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber
Ms Anna Finch – President, Shoalhaven Professional Business Association
Mr Ian Morris – representing Shoalhaven Secondary Schools
Mr Paul Mitchell – representing Fiona Phillips MP
Mr Stephen Dunshea – Chief Executive Officer

Others present:

Mr Andrew Wales – Employment Facilitator, Department of Employment
Mr Greg Pullen – Economic Development Manager
Ms Cathy Bern – Section Manager, Development Services
Ms Marianne Jones – Economic Development Officer

Apologies / Leave of Absence

Apologies were received from Clr Kitchener, Tony Emery, Donna Payne, Paul Keith, Fiona Hatcher and Paul Keech (Director, Assets & Works).

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Alison Chiam / David Goodman)

That the Minutes of the Business and Employment Development Committee held on Wednesday 29 May 2019 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS

BE19.17 Development in Shoalhaven - Significant Projects

**HPERM Ref:
D19/169320**

Cathy Bern spoke to the report.

In relation to the aged care facility the Chair asked whether job outcomes were indicated in the application. Cathy advised that job outcomes are not routinely indicated as part of a development application unless an economic impact assessment is required.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

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

RESOLVED (David Goodman / Robert Crow)

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

CARRIED

BE19.14 Performance of the Shoalhaven Economy - June 2019

**HPERM Ref:
D19/275196**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report and noted that the Shoalhaven economy is currently performing very well. Unemployment is the lowest it has been in 35 years at 6.27%. Approximately 80-90% of unemployment is youth unemployment.

The Chair questioned rates of underemployment. Greg noted that the tourism and hospitality industries are vulnerable to under-employment and that the manufacturing industry strong, working 48 hour weeks on average. Alison Chiam noted that the over 50 age group is vulnerable to under-employment.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report by the Economic Development Manager on Shoalhaven economic trends as at June 2019 be received for information.

RESOLVED (Peter Masterson / Alison Chiam)

That the report by the Economic Development Manager on Shoalhaven economic trends as at June 2019 be received for information.

CARRIED

BE19.22 Regional Development Australia Update

**HPERM Ref:
D19/279170**

Andrew Wales (Employment Facilitator, Far South Coast) provided an update on behalf of Regional Development Australia, including the Regional Employment Trials for the Shoalhaven.

Andrew has been in the role since February 2019 and covers the Far South Coast, which covers the local government areas of Shoalhaven, Eurobodalla and Bega. The Regional Employment Trials are about collaboration and linking stakeholders.

Andrew noted that the Together We Can program is a collaboration between Eurobodalle, Bega and Shoalhaven. The Young Job Seeker Coding and Cloud Technology Job and Training

Programme has 20 internships.

Andrew encouraged members to put forward more projects. Andrew was asked whether an in-kind contribution was required. The in-kind contribution requirement is 25%, not necessarily funds, and can be time or use of resources.

Proposals need to demonstrate outcomes and value for money, whether they are jobs or pathway to jobs. The grant is competitive across three local government areas.

AusIndustry review projects prior to funding. Not all projects are approved.

Applications for projects were required by 30 June, aiming to extend funding and acceptance of applications to 31 December.

BE19.15 Princes Highway Corridor Strategy**HPERM Ref:
D19/271328**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report and noted that one of the aims was to alleviate congestion from Kiama to Wollongong. Greg noted that safety issues are prioritised over congestion.

Clr White thanked the Economic Development Unit staff for their efforts and noted that 36 Councils from Shoalhaven to Adelaide were asked for comment on strategy. Issues to be considered include future land use planning and land acquisition from State Forest and National Parks which need Parliamentary approval.

The North Nowra Link Road has been put on hold and the Far North Collector Road has commenced.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report on the Princes Highway Corridor Strategy be accepted for information.

RESOLVED (Lexie Meyer / Clr Gash)

That the report on the Princes Highway Corridor Strategy be accepted for information.

CARRIED

**BE19.16 SPBA Personal and Professional Mentor Program 2019 -
a Business Support Program sponsored by the
Economic Development Office****HPERM Ref:
D19/245079**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report and noted that the mentoring program had been running for six years.

Clr Gash also noted the benefit to Shoalhaven Professionals of the networking breakfasts that have been running for 10 years.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report on the Shoalhaven Professional Business Association SPBA Personal and Professional Mentor Program 2019, a Business Support Program sponsored by the Economic Development Office, be received for information.

RESOLVED (Anna Finch / Robert Crow)

That the report on the Shoalhaven Professional Business Association SPBA Personal and Professional Mentor Program 2019, a Business Support Program sponsored by the Economic Development Office, be received for information.

CARRIED

BE19.17 DEVELOPMENT IN SHOALHAVEN - SIGNIFICANT PROJECTS**HPERM REF:
D19/169320**

Item dealt with earlier in the meeting.

BE19.18 Update - Shoalhaven Business Chamber**HPERM Ref:
D19/253228**

Jemma Tribe spoke to her report and noted that the Business Awards night was a success and a great celebration of Shoalhaven businesses. There were 400 attendees.

The date for the upcoming workshop to be held at the Entertainment Centre "What Employers Want" is 13 November 2019. Transport will be provided for the event for Ulladulla, Bay & Basin, North Nowra. Topics will include writing an attractive CV. Partners include CareSouth and Headspace. The event is open to everyone and can include HSC students. Attendees don't have to be registered to participate.

The Economic Development Unit will forward details of the event to careers advisors of local High Schools. Jemma will forward to Committee for distribution.

Jemma congratulated the Chair for winning the Business of the Year Award.

Jemma proposed to relocate the plaque featuring the winners of "Business of the Year", currently located in the Shoalhaven Business Chamber Office to the foyer of Council's Nowra Administrative Building. The CEO supported the idea and will propose to the Mayor.

Jemma also congratulated Mary-Jean Lewis on her appointment as President of the Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber.

Recommendation

That the Committee receive the Shoalhaven Business Chamber Update report for information.

RECOMMENDATION (David Goodman / Mary-Jean Lewis)

That the large plaque featuring the winners of "Business Leader of the Year", currently located within the Shoalhaven Business Chamber Office, be relocated to the foyer of Council's Nowra Administrative Building. This would recognise the important partnership between Council and the business community while celebrating its success.

CARRIED

BE19.19 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment Update**HPERM Ref:
D19/267077**

Greg Pullen spoke to the report in the absence of Donna Payne and noted that the first cohort of Shoalhaven Defence Industry Group students have been "employed" at Air Affairs.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report from the NSW Government's Department of Planning, Industry and Environment be received for information.

RESOLVED (John Lamont / Peter Masterson)

That the report from the NSW Government's Department of Planning, Industry and Environment be received for information.

CARRIED

BE19.20 Basin Business Forum Celebrates 1 Year of Networking

**HPERM Ref:
D19/268580**

Mary-Jean Lewis spoke to the report.

Members discussed difficulties they experienced in voting for “Revitalise Sanctuary Point” in the “My Community Project” which discouraged people from voting by requiring the provision of Medicare numbers, delays with mobile and laptop voting and non-resident landowners being disqualified from voting. A number of members agreed that the process needs improvement. It was also noted the grants were electorate based rather than local government area and you are only permitted to vote once. Voting closed on 15 August 2019.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report on the Basin Business Forum be received for information.

RESOLVED (Jemma Tribe / Anna Finch)

That the report on the Basin Business Forum be received for information.

CARRIED

BE19.21 Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber

**HPERM Ref:
D19/268589**

Mary-Jean Lewis spoke to her report and noted that the former President of Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber, Mr Rob Richards, has stepped down to work on Ulladulla Country Universities Centre.

Mary-Jean has taken on role as President of Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber and is excited to work with Shoalhaven Business Chamber.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the report on the Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber be received for information.

RESOLVED (Jemma Tribe / David Goodman)

That the report on the Milton Ulladulla Business Chamber be received for information.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

BE19.22 REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA UPDATE

**HPERM REF:
D19/279170**

Item dealt with earlier in the meeting.

BE19.23 Additional Item - Updates from Members

Alison Chiam – Shoalhaven Arts Board

Alison shared that:

- The Shoalhaven Regional Gallery is running the NOWra Contemporary Art Award, which is a national prize with \$10,000 prize money. Entries are open from 5 October to 3 November. Alison encouraged spreading information about the Award and encouraged entrants to apply.
- The Professional Development Grant and Public Art funding is open. Alison encouraged Committee members to spread the word.
- The Arts Board is looking to develop an Arts Foundation to inject additional funds into the arts in Shoalhaven. Donations will be tax deductible.

Peter Masterton – AusIndustry

Peter advised that:

- AusIndustry is at the start of the consultation process for a project to support Female Founders of start-ups. This project is looking at assistance with raising capital and growing networks. At this stage they are looking at program design and access to capital on a fund matching basis. Peter will forward the link to project (launched last week) to the Economic Development Unit to distribute.
- A second project - Export Hub Small and Medium Enterprises Export Hubs Initiative.
- Additional programs are expected.

Robert Crow – Shoalhaven Tourism Advisory Board

Robert noted that there were a number of highly qualified and experienced new members which will be a valuable source knowledge sharing into STAG.

Anna Finch – Shoalhaven Professional Business Association

Anna encouraged:

- Experienced professionals to nominate as a mentor and young professionals to sign up for next year's mentoring program.
- Members to attend the Allied Health Awards Ceremony on 6 September 2019.

RESOLVED (Jemma Tribe / Clr Gash)

That the General Business Updates be received for information.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.16pm.

Mr John Lamont
CHAIRPERSON