

MINUTES OF THE SHOALHAVEN CITY MAYOR'S RELIEF FUND

Meeting Date: Tuesday, 16 August 2022
Location: Jervis Bay Rooms, City Administrative Centre, Bridge Road, Nowra
Time: 5.08pm

The following members were present:

Mayor Amanda Findley - Chairperson
Clr John Kotlash - Remotely
Clr Matthew Norris
Clr Paul Ell - Remotely
Clr Evan Christen
Clr Patricia White
Clr John Wells
Clr Greg Watson - Remotely
Clr Mark Kitchener
Clr Tonia Gray
Mr Peter Dover - SALT
Mr Stephen Dunshea - Chief Executive Officer
Mr Kevin Voegt - Director City Performance

Others present:
Mr Michael Paine – Community Connections
Ms Debra Webb – Reporting and Controls Manager
Ms Sara McMahon – Business Assurance & Risk Manager
Mr Johnathon Hill – Rural Fire Service

The Mayor opened the meeting and gave an acknowledgement to Country.

Apologies / Leave of Absence

No apologies were received from members.

Note: Robert Horner – Executive Manager and Jane Lewis – Director City Lifestyles are apologies for this meeting.

Confirmation of the Minutes

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Watson)

That the Minutes of the Shoalhaven City Mayor's Relief Fund held on Monday 20 September 2021 be confirmed.

CARRIED

Declarations of Interest

Nil

REPORTS

MR22.1 Mayors Relief Fund Financial Statements to 30 June 2022

HPERM Ref:
D22/279125

The Mayor addressed the meeting and advised that it is noted in the report that there are leftover funds (equity) in the Mayors Relief Fund (MRF) budget. The Mayor also noted that she is aware of a few people who were impacted by the Currowan fire who have only recently received their recommendations from their insurance companies, so there may be reason for them to call on the fund for some assistance going forward.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That the Financial Statements to 30 June 2022 for the Mayor's Relief Fund be received for information.

RESOLVED (Clr Norris / Clr Wells)

That the Financial Statements to 30 June 2022 for the Mayor's Relief Fund be received for information.

CARRIED

MR22.2 Mayors Relief Fund Policy

HPERM Ref:
D22/279735

Ms Sara McMahon – Business Assurance and Risk Manager addressed the meeting and highlighted the amendments that have been made in the Policy, noting the following:

- 3.2
 - Provision for Salt Care Shoalhaven Membership
 - Removal of Shoalhaven Minister's Fraternal
- 3.8 – Provision for EFT payments as well as cheque
- 3.11 – Provision for the approval of payment of up to \$500 by way of gift card for more urgent assistance.

The Mayor suggested that the MRF be able to co-opt membership as needed if there were a specific group relating to a particular disaster, for example Treading Lightly.

Ms McMahon raised the question regarding voting rights for the Co-opted members.

Clr Watson raised a question whether the rules (policy) need to be registered with the Chief Secretaries Department given this is a charitable trust?

Ms McMahon responded and advised that she would take that on notice and seek advice.

Mr Stephen Dunshea suggested that additional (non-voting) membership be co-opted by invitation of the Chairperson on an as required basis for advice only.

Recommendation (Item to be determined under delegated authority)

That Council:

1. Adopt the Mayors Relief Fund Rules (Policy) with the highlighted amendments as **attached** to the report.

2. Acknowledge that the Shoalhaven Minister's Fraternal is no longer operational and appoint a representative from SALT as a member of the Shoalhaven City Mayors Relief Fund.

RECOMMENDATION (Clr White / Clr Norris)

That Council:

1. Adopt the Mayors Relief Fund Rules (Policy) with the highlighted amendments as **attached** to the report.
2. Acknowledge that the Shoalhaven Minister's Fraternal is no longer operational and appoint a representative from SALT as a member of the Shoalhaven City Mayors Relief Fund.
3. Include the provision for co-opting (non-voting) members by invitation of the Chairperson for advice only.

CARRIED

GENERAL BUSINESS

MR22.3 Additional Item - Appeal - Support Homelessness in the Shoalhaven

Clr Wells raised whether some kind of support for rough sleepers could be provided.

Peter Dover - SALT advised that there is a significant number of people and families on their waiting list.

The Mayor suggested running an appeal for rough sleepers.

Mr Michael Paine suggested that this be raised at the next Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven (HTS) meeting of 1 September 2022 to seek their feedback and thoughts on how this appeal may roll out.

The Mayor responded and requested that Mr Paine submit a report to the Business Paper for the next HTS meeting.

RESOLVED (Clr White / Clr Christen)

That:

1. Council conduct an appeal to support services for the homeless in the Shoalhaven including:
 - a. Establish an online platform for receiving funds
 - b. A communications plan
 - c. Formulating a process for distribution of funds
2. The appeal (in part 1) be raised at the next Homelessness Taskforce Shoalhaven meeting scheduled for 1 September to seek their feedback & thoughts on how this appeal may roll out.
3. A further report to the Mayors Relief Fund be received outlining how the funds will be expended.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting concluded, the time being 5.39pm.

Mayor Amanda Findley
CHAIRPERSON