Corangamite Shire

LATE AGENDA

Ordinary Council Meeting

7.00 pm • Tuesday 28 August 2018

Killara Centre
210-212 Manifold Street, Camperdown

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L. OFFICERS' REPORTS

L.1 Request for Support for Councillor Professional Development

Author: Andrew Mason, Chief Executive Officer

File No: D18/370

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer - Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

Councillor Illingworth has expressed an interested in attending the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and Australian Institute of Company Directors (AICD) Company Directors Course for Councillors and Chief Executive Officers. The course is being offered in September and Council approval is required for this professional development activity.

Introduction

The MAV and AICD are offering the Company Directors Couse for Councillors and Chief Executive Officers in Geelong on 17-21 September. Councillor Illingworth has indicated that he wishes to attend this course. Councillor approval for this professional development activity is required as the course costs exceeds the CEO delegation.

Issues

The AICD Company Directors course is well respected across Australia. Subjects covered in the course include governance, finance, legal requirements and ethics. While the course is directed towards Company Directors, the skills and knowledge are directly relevant to Councillors. The AICD has partnered with the MAV to offer a course tailored for local government.

The course is being offered in Geelong from 17-21 September 2018, which has necessitated this late report.

Policy and Legislative Context

Council's policy *Support for Professional Development* contains the following assessment principles:

- 1. Does the event provide an opportunity to receive or upgrade relevant and necessary training, directly related to the Councillors role?
- 2. Does the event provide an opportunity to learn key information about an issue of public policy related to the Corangamite community?
- 3. Does the event have the potential to foster broad economic development opportunities within the Corangamite Shire?

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4. Does the event provide an opportunity for councillor(s) to build their networks both within and across sectors, in a way which will be of benefit to the Corangamite community?

It is considered that the AICD Course meets the objectives of principles 1 and 4 in that it will provide training related to the Councillors role and an opportunity to build networks.

Internal / External Consultation

Not relevant

Financial and Resource Implications

The MAV/AICD course costs \$7134. The Council policy *Support for Councillor Professional Development* states that expenditure on a single professional development opportunity that exceeds \$2000 requires a Council resolution.

If approved, the course costs can be covered by the existing budget for Councillor professional development.

Options

Council can choose to support the professional development request by Cr Illingworth or not support it.

Conclusion

The MAV/AICD course is considered to be relevant to Councillor Illingworth's role as a Councillor. Support for the request is therefore recommended.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the expenditure of \$7134 for Councillor Illingworth to attend the MAV/AICD Company Directors Course for Councillors and Chief Executive Officers.

Attachments

 Cr Illingworth Request MAV_AICD Company Directors Course - Geelong 17-21 September 2018 - Under Separate Cover



L.2 Leave of Absence Request by Cr McArthur

Author: Andrew Mason, Chief Executive Officer

File No: D18/369

Previous Council Reference: Nil

Declaration

Chief Executive Officer - Andrew Mason

In providing this advice to Council as the Chief Executive Officer, I have no interests to disclose in this report.

Summary

Councillor Bev McArthur has requested a leave of absence from Council due to pre-selection by the Victorian Liberal Party for the upcoming State election.

This report seeks Council approval of the leave of absence to be effective from 31 August 2018 until 24 November 2018.

Introduction

The Chief Executive Officer has received a leave of absence request from Cr Bev McArthur for the period 31 August 2018 until 24 November 2018. Cr McArthur has been pre-selected by the Victorian Liberal Party to run as a candidate for Western Victoria in the Legislative Council at the State election to be held on 24 November 2018.

Council's *Councillor Candidates at Federal or State Elections Policy*, requires a councillor standing for election to State or Federal Parliament to take a leave of absence from no later than the date of their nomination with the relevant electoral commission, until the close of voting at the election. The Policy also states that a Council must not unreasonably refuse an application for a leave of absence.

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Cr McArthur has discussed her request for a leave of absence with the CEO, and has indicated that she would prefer to commence her leave of absence earlier than the required period.

Policy and Legislative Context

Section 66B of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) provides for a leave of absence of a councillor. The Act states that the Councillor will continue to be a councillor but must not perform the duties or functions of a councillor during the leave of absence, and remains entitled to receive their allowance but is not entitled to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket expenses. The Act also mentions that the Councillor must return all Council equipment and materials to council for the period of the leave if Council requires it.

Internal / External Consultation

Cr McArthur has discussed her leave of absence request with the CEO and Mayor Jo Beard.

Financial and Resource Implications

Cr McArthur will continue to receive her Councillor allowance, but will not be reimbursed for any out-of-pocket expenses.

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Options

Council must not unreasonably refuse Cr McArthur's application for a leave of absence.

Conclusion

Councillor Bev McArthur has requested a leave of absence from Council, as she has been pre-selected by the Victorian Liberal Party to run as a candidate for Western Victoria in the Legislative Council at the State election to be held on 24 November 2018. Council's Councillor Candidates at Federal or State Elections Policy and the Local Government provide for a leave of absence by a councillor. Cr McArthur's leave of absence would be from 31 August 2018 until 24 November 2018.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council approves the leave of absence of Councillor Bev McArthur from 31 August 2018 until 24 November 2018.

Attachments

1. Cr McArthur Leave of Absence & Register Request 28-8-18 - Under Separate Cover