



City of Perth

Special Council Meeting

AGENDA

15 September 2020 1.30pm



Notice is hereby given that a Special Council Meeting of the City of Perth will be held in the Council Chamber, Level 9, 27 St Georges Terrace, Perth on Tuesday, 15 September 2020 at 1.30pm.

Michelle Reynolds | Chief Executive Officer | 11 September 2020

This meeting is open to members of the public

INFORMATION FOR THE PUBLIC PARTICIPATING IN COUNCIL MEETINGS

Welcome to this evening's Council meeting. This information is provided on matters which may affect members of the public. If you have any queries on procedural matters, please contact a member of the City's Governance team via governance@cityofperth.wa.gov.au.

Question Time for the Public

- An opportunity is available at Council meetings for members of the public to ask a question about any issue relating to the City. This time is available only for asking questions and not for making statements. Complex questions requiring research should be submitted as early as possible in order to allow the City sufficient time to prepare a response.
- The Presiding Person may nominate a member of staff to answer the question and may also determine that any complex question requiring research be answered in writing. No debate or discussion is allowed to take place on any question or answer.
- To ask a question, please complete the Public Question Time form available on the City's website <https://www.perth.wa.gov.au/council/council-meetings>. Questions should be forwarded to the City of Perth prior to the meeting via governance@cityofperth.wa.gov.au

Deputations

- To submit a deputation request, please complete the Deputation Request form available on the City's website <https://www.perth.wa.gov.au/council/council-meetings>. Deputation requests should be forwarded to the City of Perth by midday on the day of the meeting via governance@cityofperth.wa.gov.au

Disclaimer

Members of the public should note that in any discussion regarding any planning or other application that any statement or intimation of approval made by any Commissioner or officer of the City during the course of any meeting is not intended to be and is not to be taken as notice of approval from the City. No action should be taken on any item discussed at a Council meeting prior to written advice on the resolution of the Council being received.

Any plans or documents contained in this agenda may be subject to copyright law provisions (*Copyright Act 1968, as amended*) and the express permission of the copyright owner(s) should be sought prior to their reproduction.

Order of Business

Item

1. Prayer/Acknowledgement of Country
2. Declaration of opening
3. Apologies
4. Question time for the public and notification of deputations
5. Disclosures of members interest
6. Matters for which the meeting may be closed
Nil
7. Reports

Item No.	Item Title	Page No.
7.1	The City's Response to the Inquiry Report	4

8. Closure

Item 7.1 – The City’s Response to the Inquiry Report

File reference	P1038672
Report author	Michelle Reynolds, Chief Executive Officer
Other contributors	Chris Noble, Acting Project Director Corporate Recovery
Reporting Service Unit and Alliance	CEO Alliance
Report author disclosure of interest	Nil
Date of report	11 September 2020
Nature of Council’s role	Legislative
Voting requirement	Simple Majority
Attachment/s	Attachment 7.1A – The City of Perth’s Response to the Inquiry Report

Purpose

To seek Council’s approval of the ‘City’s Response to the Inquiry Report’ (Attachment 7.1A) for submission to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with *Section 5.23(4) of the Local Government Act 1995*, detailing the things it has done or proposes to do to give effect to the recommendations in the Inquiry Report.

Background

On Friday, 2 March 2018, the Minister for Local Government suspended the City of Perth Council and appointed three Commissioners to perform the duties of Council. As a result, the Minister announced a formal Inquiry into the City of Perth (the City), under Section 8.16 of the *Local Government Act 1995*. The inquiry period examined government at the City between the period 1 October 2015 to 1 March 2018.

The final report of the Inquiry (the report) was tabled at State Parliament on 11 August 2020. The report detailed findings representing failings of good government and operations, which were suggested to be rooted in two causes, poor behaviour and poor decision-making. These were exacerbated by poor culture and poor governance practices at the time. The report included recommendations that have implications for both the City of Perth as well as the broader local government sector.

Details

In accordance with Section 5.23(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, the City is required to, within 35 days after receiving the report, provide the Minister for Local Government a written response setting out the things it has done or proposes to do to give effect to the recommendations provided.

The City’s written response titled ‘City’s Response to the Inquiry Report’ is provided in Attachment 7.1A.

Summary

The City is committed to re-establishing itself as an exemplar local government and building a solid foundation of good governance for the City of Perth.

Attachment 7.1A details the City’s acceptance of the findings and provides details as to the actions that have been completed, or are in the process of being delivered, in relation to the recommendations.

Next Steps

Implementation Plan

Following formal submission of Attachment 7.1A, the City will develop an implementation plan, by December 2020, that aims to address the recommendations. It is expected that this will include input from the newly elected Council.

The City recognises that critical improvements are needed, spanning across a range of activities. Therefore, an implementation plan will ensure a structured and planned approach to a significant body of work, which will be balanced with the City’s existing ‘business-as-usual’ operations.

Oversight and Reporting

The City intends to establish a committee consisting of independent oversight representatives, to monitor progress of the implementation plan and provide support and input where necessary. These ongoing progress reports will be provided to Council and the community.

Stakeholder engagement

There is no stakeholder engagement related to this report.

Strategic alignment

Strategic Community Plan

This item addresses the community’s vision for the future and its implications on the Strategic Community Plan 2019 – 2029, Corporate Business Plan 2020/21 – 2023/24 and relevant Issue or Area Specific Strategies or Plans.

Aspiration:	Performance
Strategic Objective:	5.6 – Decision-making that is ethical, informed and inclusive.

The City’s response to the Inquiry is aligned to the Strategic Community Plan objective of ‘Decision-making that is ethical, informed and inclusive.’

Legal and statutory implications

Section 5.23(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*

Risk implications

Impact of decision	
Organisation	Low
Community	Medium

Risk domain	Consequence	Likelihood	Risk rating
Reputation and External Stakeholders	Minor	Possible	Medium
Legal and Regulatory/Ethical	Insignificant	Rare	Low

There are minimal legal risk implications surrounding the recommendation of this report. The City’s response to the Inquiry Report is likely to generate media interest, however, given the efforts already undertaken, it is likely that this will only be of a medium risk rating.

Approval implications

Should the recommendation not be supported, the City will be non-compliant with Section 5.23(4) of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

Financial implications

There are no direct financial implications related to this report.

Policy references

There are no policy references related to this report.

Comments

It is requested that Council approve the City’s written response titled ‘City’s Response to the Inquiry Report’, as provided in Attachment 7.1A, for formal submission to Minister for Local Government.

Following formal submission, the City will continue its improvement journey, taking guidance from the recommendations, focussing on re-establishing the organisation as an exemplar local government based on a solid foundation of good governance.

It is now time for the City of Perth to move forward with a new Council, Chief Executive Officer and Executive Leadership Team and deliver the best outcomes to its community and stakeholders.

Recommendation
That Council <u>APPROVE</u> the ‘City’s Response to the Inquiry Report’ (Attachment 7.1A) for submission to the Minister for Local Government in accordance with <i>Section 5.23(4) of the Local Government Act 1995</i> , which details the things it has done or proposes to do give effect to the recommendations in the Inquiry Report.