

## Gladstone Port Welfare Committee - Councillor Representation

**Responsible Officer: General Manager Finance Governance and Risk**

**Council Meeting Date: 4 February 2020**

**File Ref: CM7.1**

### ***G/20/4073 Council Resolution:***

*Moved Cr Hansen*

*Seconded Cr Sobhanian*

*That Council endorse the appointment of a Councillor to the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee, noting that Cr Goodluck is the current representative.*

**CARRIED**

### **Purpose:**

To provide Elected Members with information regarding representation on the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee.

### **Officer's Recommendation:**

That Council determine its position for nomination of a representative to the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee.

### **Background:**

The output of the 2019-20 Operational Plan objective *4.1c Review existing and develop new organisational committees that are aligned to strategic objectives* is to review Council appointed representation on external organisations. Officers have undertaken a review of the appointment to the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee and the relevant findings and considerations are presented in this report.

The Gladstone Port Welfare Committee was established in 2015 by the Gladstone Ports Corporation in response to the Maritime Labour Convention – a convention developed under the International Labour Organisation which came into effect internationally in 2013. The convention provides standards and regulations relating to the working and living conditions of seafarers.

Whilst the Committee is aligned nationally with the Australian Seafarers Welfare Council and internationally with the International Seafarers Welfare Assistance Network (ISWAN), it is adjunct to the local Mission to Seafarers.

The role of this advisory Committee is to bring together the region's maritime community stakeholders to understand the challenges of the Mission and facilitate the resources for resolution.

Since its inception, the Committee's membership has comprised of representation by a Councillor or Council officer.

## **Options, Risk and Opportunity Analysis:**

When determining a position on the nomination of a member to the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee, the following considerations may assist with deliberations:

- the ability to contribute to the strategic direction of the Mission to Seafarers given the committee is advisory with no decision-making authority;
- the role of Council on the Committee and the desired input sought;
- networking with representatives from the region's maritime community;
- the resources required to contribute to the Committee and the impacts of this on achieving a complimentary balance of duties; and
- real or perceived conflicts of interest.

### Option 1 – Continue with Councillor Representation

Should Council determine that nomination of and representation by a Councillor on the Committee aligns with the strategic objectives of its Corporate Plan and leverages a mutually beneficial partnership, Council may elect to continue with its representation on the Committee.

#### *Option 1 Suggested Recommendation:*

*That Council endorse the appointment of a Councillor to the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee, noting that Cr Goodluck is the current representative.*

### Option 2 – Seek Officer Representation

Council may consider it appropriate to seek the appointment of an officer to the Committee. This would result in the officer allocating enough work resources to be a member of the committee and attend meetings as requested.

#### *Option 2 Suggested Recommendation:*

*That Council delegate authority to the Chief Executive Officer to nominate an officer position to be a member of the Port Welfare Committee.*

### Option 3 – Resign from the Committee

There is no requirement for Council to be a member of the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee. This option would result in Council not having a representative on this committee.

#### *Option 3 Suggested Recommendation:*

*That Council advise the Gladstone Port Welfare Committee that it no longer seeks to have a representative on the Committee.*

## **Communication and Consultation:**

Consultation has occurred with the Chair of the Committee. Information sought from Council during Committee meetings appears to be more at an officer operational level (i.e. support or concerns with events).

**Legal Strategy and Policy Implications:**

There are no legal implications regarding any of the options identified above as Council is not legally required to have representation on the Committee. Further, Committee members are not 'directors' for the purposes of relevant legislation or common law.

**Financial and Resource Implications:**

Options 1 and 2 do not require specific funding to achieve, however will require use of elected member or officer time to participate in the quarterly meetings of the Committee.

**Summary:**

Nil.

**Anticipated Resolution Completion Date:**

Within one month of resolution.

**Attachments:**

Nil.

**Tabled Items:**

Nil.

**Report Prepared by:** Policy Officer (Acting)