

Norfolk Island Regional Council

MEDIA RELEASE

Public Meeting on the Community Strategic Plan

A meeting with approximately 130 community members in attendance was held last Wednesday 10 August to provide an overview of the Community Strategic Plan and its importance to the new Council and the community. This presentation complements the public consultation process that commenced in April this year.

The Mayor took the opportunity to introduce the Norfolk Island Regional Council executive team, starting with the General Manager Lotta Jackson who conducted the presentation, and then Lisa Jackson (Group Manager Governance) John Van Gaalen (Group Manager Community Hub) and Bruce Taylor (Group Manager Services).

The Mayor highlighted the extensive responsibility areas of each Group Manager where Lisa is responsible for the following functions in Council: Reform Management; Integrated & Corporate Planning; Risk & Internal Audit; Governance; Policy development; Records, Public Information; Legal Court Support; Local Radio Station; Economic Development, Tourism Museums and Library.

John is responsible for Customer Services; Human Resources; Knowledge Management (Information Technology); Administration Services; Registry Office - Land and Companies; Finance; Commercial Support; Accounts Receivable; Payroll, Grants and Logistics.

Bruce is responsible for the challenging functions of Waste and Environment; Public Works; Roads & Open Spaces; Building & Grounds Maintenance; Noxious weeds; Cemetery; Forestry; Emergency Services; Electricity; Telecommunications; Retail Operations (supply of Rock and Tanalith); Liquor Bond; Contracted Services; Lighterage; Ports; Airport; Building and Development and Mechanics. A very busy team indeed!

Ms Jackson provided information on the draft Strategic Plan and how the community can be involved, highlighting that the Plan has 6 Strategic Directions:

- An environmentally sustainable community
- A proud, diverse and inclusive community
- A caring community
- A successful and innovative community
- An informed and accountable community
- A healthy and safe community

The Strategic Directions are underpinned by 13 Objectives and Ms Jackson emphasized that the Norfolk Island plan had a strong theme of social and cultural inclusion and connectivity as well as a key focus on protecting the environment.

The presentation was followed by questions from the audience and many members of the community took the opportunity to have their say.

In closing, the meeting Ms. Jackson thanked the community for their attendance and participation during question time, and she said, "I look forward to working with the community in implementing the strategies of the plan over time".

The community was reminded that the third draft of the Norfolk Island Strategic Plan can be viewed from the NIRC website - www.norfolkisland.gov.nf , follow the links from 'Public Exhibition Documents'. The Mayor further informed the community that 'submissions are welcome until 19 August 2016' and can be submitted by post to "Public Exhibition Submissions, Norfolk Island Regional Council, PO Box 95, 2899" or via email to gaye.evans@nirc.gov.nf .

Lotta Jackson
General Manager
12 August 2016