

Norfolk Island Regional Council

MEDIA RELEASE

KEEPING THE COMMUNITY INFORMED

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD ON 16 NOVEMBER 2016

Council had a full agenda for its meeting last Wednesday and this week I will just make brief mention of the Quarterly Budget Review Statement and recommendations contained within which Council was asked to adopt. The recommendation was agreed.

The Quarterly Budget Review Statement (QBRs) presents a summary of Council's financial position at the end of the first quarter for the financial year ended 30 June 2017. The quarterly review process is the mechanism through which Council and the community are informed of Council's progress against the Operational Plan (annual budget), together with recommendations for changes and reasons for any budget variations.

The original budget was prepared under the Administration of Norfolk Island against prior year budgets and assessment of projected changes as a result of the transition from the Administration of Norfolk Island to the Norfolk Island Regional Council. Taking into account factors that have now come to light since the commencement of Council on 1 July 2016, Council has had to make adjustments to the original budget.

The review of the September quarter highlights a projected increase in our deficit of \$1.08 million increasing our overall predicted operating deficit to \$5.346 million. The factors contributing to this increase include the loss of the tobacco levy of \$500K, the TMS gaming commission budgeted at \$135k and a reduction of \$350K in relation to registry functions having been removed from the budget.

Go to the below link for the full report presented to Council on the September quarterly review and click on the November 2016 agenda.

http://www.norfolkisland.gov.nf/NIRC_Council_Meetings/Agendas/2016/

MEETING WITH CHIEF EXECUTIVE GERRY MARR FROM SOUTH EAST SYDNEY LOCAL HEALTH DISTRICT (SESLHD)

Councillors had a very productive meeting with Gerry Marr and accompanying health professionals on Thursday morning. Items discussed included –

1. Ex officio membership of the Mayor on the proposed Community and Clinical Council being established to, amongst other roles, to oversight quality of care at the Hospital;
2. Intentions of the Commonwealth re. future aged care facilities and cost to inhabitants in the facility;
3. Update from SESLHD on services currently available at the Norfolk Island Multi-Purpose Service (MPS);
4. Increase in medivacs and number of patients visiting the GPs and the MPS in general;
5. Availability of funds for mental health and drug and alcohol programs for Norfolk Island

YEAR 12 FORMAL

I took the opportunity on Wednesday's radio chat to send out the following message:

"This Friday evening is the formal for our Year 12 students who have finished their exams and are now ready to take the next step on the path that each of them is choosing that will lead them to a wonderful future. On behalf of my colleagues in Council I wish you all a wonderful evening and a future where all your dreams come true. Always remember that each day that dawns is the first day of the rest of your lives and that it is up to you how you walk the journey of life on which you are now embarking. We urge you to make sure that all your choices are good ones. God Bless you all."

Robin Adams
Mayor

18 November 2016