



Economic Development Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday 8 October 2014 5.00 pm

Economic Development Advisory Committee	
Item Number	Agenda
1	Present/apologies
2	Confirmation of Minutes
3	Business Arising from the Previous Minutes
4	Expenditure Proposals from LBA
5	Draft Brief for 2015-2020 Economic Development Strategy and 2015-2016 Investment Prospectus
6	Quarterly Development Statistics and Investor Enquiry
7	Draft Shop Local Report to Council
8	Round Table Economic Sector Updates
9	Update on 2014/15 EDO Work Program
10	General Business
11	Close of Meeting

**MINUTES – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE - 8 OCTOBER
2014**



ITEM 1: PRESENT AND APOLOGIES

Present: Mayor Councillor Maree Statham, Cllr Ross Higlett, Cllr Frank Inzitari, Ms Renee Difranto, Mr Laurie Stevenson, Ms Fiona Van Der Velden, Mr Roger Bailey

Apologies: Ms Michelle Blackley, Mr Luke Welfare

Officers: Mr Matt Brewster

Declaration of Interests: NIL

ITEM 2: CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous meeting were endorsed by two members of the Committee being:

Councillor Frank Inzitari Councillor Ross Higlett

COMMITTEE ACTION:

THAT the Minutes of the meeting of 9 July 2014 be taken as read and confirmed

MOVED: Cllr Ross Higlett **SECONDED:** Ms Renee Difranto

ITEM 3: BUSINESS ARISING

NIL

**ITEM 4: EXPENDITURE PROPOSALS FROM THE LITHGOW BUSINESS
ASSOCIATION**

SUMMARY

The Economic Development Advisory Committee is required to recommend approval or otherwise for the expenditure of Council funds allocated towards assisting the Lithgow Business Association in the delivery of its annual program of activities.

COMMENTARY

The Lithgow Business Association has submitted a letter to Council outlining its proposed expenditure of the \$12,200 allocated Council funding for 2014/15

The LBA proposes:

\$6,000 for the establishment and conducting of the Lithgow Business Awards

\$6,200 to be spent on the Celebrate Lithgow Event to be used for rides and entertainment as well as for road closure costs and permits

The Committee discussed the proposed breakdown of expenditure. It was identified that there may be a requirement to increase the proportion of the total funding available for the Celebrate Lithgow event

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT the Committee recommends approval of the program of proposed expenditure of Council funds by the Lithgow Business Association for 2014/15 with delegation given to the General Manager to vary the proportional expenditure within the total funding available

ITEM 5: DRAFT BRIEF FOR THE 2015-2020 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY AND THE 2015-2016 INVESTMENT PROSPECTUS

SUMMARY

Council has allocated \$40,000 in funding during 2014/15 to update the existing 2010 – 2014 Economic Development Strategy and its companion Investment Prospectus. A brief has been prepared for the Committee's review.

COMMENTARY

At the previous Committee meeting of 9 July 2014, Committee members supported the concurrent preparation of the Economic Development Strategy and Investment Prospectus and to provide inputs permissible under the EDAC Terms of Reference.

Mr Matt Brewster has subsequently prepared a draft brief for the Committees review and inputs

Mr Matt Brewster outlined key sections of the draft brief to the Committee for its review.

The Committee discussed aspects of the draft brief including the need to increase the frequency of EDAC meetings to effectively participate in the process

COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

THAT the Committee supports the brief to Consultants to prepare the 2015-2020 Economic Development Strategy and the 2015-2016 Investment Prospectus and to seek 3 consultant responses as soon as possible.

THAT the Committee increase the the EDAC meeting frequency to monthly during the preparation of the 2015-2020 Economic Development Strategy and the 2015-2016 Investment Prospectus

MOVED: Clr Ross Higlett **SECONDED:** Clr Maree Statham

ITEM 6: QUARTERLY DEVELOPMENT STATISTICS AND INVESTOR ENQUIRY

SUMMARY

The Committee was provided with an overview of recent economic development activity recorded by Council.

COMMENTARY

Matt Brewster provided information in relation to Development Consent granted by Council over the 1st quarter of 2014/15

It was noted that development to the value of \$7,875,087 was approved by Council in the 2014 July to September Quarter. The majority of this development related to the residential sector including new dwellings, building extensions, subdivisions etc

The forthcoming auction of the Old TAFE building in Mort St has generated considerable interest from potential investors. Most of the interest incorporates an accommodation component with a food or retail offer on the ground floor

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT the Committee notes the information provided.

MOVED: Clr Ross Higlett **SECONDED:** Mayor Clr Maree Statham

ITEM 7: DRAFT SHOP LOCAL REPORT TO COUNCIL

SUMMARY

The Committee was provided with draft Council Report in relation to recent Council initiatives to support shop local in Lithgow

COMMENTARY

Matt Brewster will outline the draft report to Council for shop local in Lithgow to the Committee

This will include actions relating to:

- Developing joint marketing opportunities
- Supporting the development of local markets
- Promoting events and promotions through Council and local media outlets
- Encouraging business excellence
- Developing the tourist industry

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT the Committee note the information provided

MOVED: Clr Ross Higlett

SECONDED: Clr Maree Statham

ITEM 8: ROUND TABLE ECONOMIC SECTOR UPDATES

SUMMARY

Committee members provided the Committee with a summary of issues, trends and happenings in their particular sector.

COMMENTARY

The Committee received sector updates from the Committee members present.

Mr Laurie Stevenson announced that UWS Lithgow will be offering a pathway program to a Diploma in Nursing in 2015

Ms Fiona Van Der Velden indicated that times remained tough for the local coal operators

Ms Renee Difranco indicated that trading conditions remained slow for the majority of business operators along Main St

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT the Committee note the information provided by Committee members

MOVED: Clr Ross Higlett

SECONDED: Clr Maree Statham

ITEM: 9 UPDATE ON 2014/15 EDO WORK PROGRAM

SUMMARY

The Committee members were provided with an update of the 2014/15 Council EDO work program.

COMMENTARY

Matt Brewster provided the Committee with an update of the EDO 2014/15 work program. This included:

- Lithgow CBD Revitalisation Action Plan
- Business Support Program
- Updating the 2010-2014 Economic Development Strategy
- Updating the Lithgow Investment Prospectus

COMMITTEE ACTION

THAT the Committee note the information in relation to the EDO Work Program

MOVED: Clr Ross Higlett

SECONDED: Clr Maree Statham

ITEM 10: GENERAL BUSINESS

Clr Maree Statham provided information to the Committee in regards to:

- The success of the recent Meadow Flat Market
- Continued liaison with Boral in regards to the reactivation of the Portland site
- The recent art exhibition openings by local creatives at K Gallery in Main St
- Presentations to Sydney based media in relation to recent bushfires
- Improvements to the presentation of the Great Western Highway entrances to Lithgow and Wallerawang
- Signage at the the Lithgow Visotir Information Centre

ITEM 11: NEXT MEETING / CLOSE OF MEETING

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 12 November 2014.

Meeting closed at 6.15 pm