



Our Values

- Leadership
- Teamwork
- Integrity
- Innovation

SMALL BUSINESS ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

Date: 18 September 2019

Time: 3.30pm - 4.30pm

Meeting Room: Council Chambers

1. MEETING OPEN

Ryan Hall acknowledged the Ngarluma people who are the traditional custodians of the land on which the meeting is held and paid respect to Elders past and present.

2. ATTENDEES

Ryan Hall	Director Development Services	City of Karratha (Chair)
Shaun Burgess	Managing Director	Consultancy North
Tamara BinAmat	Owner	Impact Media
Bart Parsons	Managing Director	Blanche Bar

3. APOLOGIES

Jake Leahy	Business Engagement Coordinator	City of Karratha
Jared Fitzclarence	Managing Director	KAW Engineering

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Nil

5. AGENDA ITEMS

5.1 Managing FIFO Opportunities & Challenges

A discussion was held on the significant potential investments on the horizon that are likely to bring about an increased demand in FIFO workforce and the following feedback was provided:

- Need to engage with local businesses early before decisions are made and so that businesses can scale to meet the need;
- Key risks/concerns include housing price escalation and staff being poached;
- Social responsibility – avoid large groups congregating at the same time in hi-vis;
- The contact details need to be made available if there is an issue; and
- Only bona-fide camps should be allowed with strict limits in place to ensure local businesses are not undermined.

5.2 Managing Housing Opportunities & Challenges

A discussion was held on the significant potential investments on the horizon that are likely to bring about an increased demand in local housing and the following feedback was provided:

- Warambie Estate is critical to support local businesses to insulate the increase in house prices and the entry criteria needs to be fair and reasonable – businesses need concessions or consideration different to workers, and there appears to be some abuse of the system and compliance checks need to be put in place;
- Advocate for housing arrangements such as rent to buy and ways to guard against fluctuations and sharp price rises otherwise it leads to businesses leaving town;
- Need to entice infill redevelopment near the city centre to attract and retain workers; and

- Need to plan for the post-construction period to ensure that if there is a growth in people that they have somewhere to live.

5.3 Conferences / Major Events

Feedback was sought on the Major Events and Conferences that the City has been attracting as a way to support the local economy and feedback provided:

- Non-conference events should be left to the private market to deliver now;
- REAF needs a re-think if it is to better support local businesses;
- Major events need small packages of work, and the benefits should be better spread around, rather than all going to one provider – different businesses have different skillsets and purposes; and
- Conferences and Major Events seen as a positive way to market Karratha to improve the image / perception.