

CONFIDENTIAL REPORT



REPORT FOR:	Operations Committee		
MEETING DATE:	10 February 2014		
REPORT FROM:	Community Planner		
REPORT TITLE:	Appointment of Independent Members on Port Augusta City Council's Development Assessment Panel 2014		
FILE NAME:	F10/233	RECORD NO:	AR14/1728

COMMUNITY VISION & STRATEGIC PLAN OUTCOMES

6 We Achieve

6.3 We aim to provide good governance practices and compliance with all legislative requirements in delivery of services.

PURPOSE

To appointment four (4) independent members to the Council Development Assessment Panel.

RECOMMENDATION

Operations Committee recommends Council:

1. Appoints Mr John Veen, Mr Jarrod White and Ms Jacinta Carr to the CDAP for a period of two years (March 2014 to February 2016) inclusive.
2. Appoints Mr Jason Willcocks as Independent Presiding Member of the CDAP. Mr Willcocks' term expires in February 2016 inclusive.
3. Approves placing an advertisement in the Transcontinental to notify the community of the appointment of the CDAP Independent Members.

BACKGROUND

Council at its meeting held on 29 January 2013, resolved to appoint Crs Mitchell, Lumsden and Benbow to the Council Development Assessment Panel (CDAP). Appointments to be CDAP are made for a two year term; therefore the Councillors appointment will expire in November 2014.

The current CDAP independent members' term expires in February 2014.

Council at its meeting held on 25 October 2013 resolved to call for registrations of interest from suitably qualified community members interested in apply for one of the four independent positions on Council's Development Assessment Panel.

An advertisement published in each of the Adelaide Advertiser and the Transcontinental newspapers on 6 November 2013 resulted in four applications being received:

Mr Jason Willcocks – current Independent Presiding Chair
 Mr Jarrod White – current independent member
 Mr John Veen – current independent member
 Ms Jacinta Carr

A panel consisting of Mr Tung Pham – Community Planner and Mrs Lee Heron, Director – City and Cultural Services assessed the four registrations of interest, and supported interviewing Ms Carr, one of the applicants.

DISCUSSION

The panel was impressed with the experience and qualifications of the all four applicants.

The sole interview was held on Wednesday 15 January 2014. The panel was extremely impressed with the calibre of the applicants and after deliberation makes the following recommendation to Council on the appointment, and the reason for each appointment, of the Independent CDAP Members:

1) Mr John Veen

Mr John Veen has been an independent member of the CDAP since it began operation and was previously involved in assessing development applications as a Councillor. Mr Veen has a certificate in Agriculture and is employed as the Industries Manager at the Port Augusta Prison.

Mr Veen's commitment to Port Augusta and his enthusiasm to see Port Augusta continue to grow was acknowledged by the Interview Panel. His understanding of the Council's development assessment process was very good and he has always maintained a professional approach to his activities on the Panel.

It is recommended that Mr John Veen be reappointed to the CDAP until February 2016.

2) Mr Jarrod White

Mr White is a qualified Planner and currently employed by the NRM Board located at Clare. Mr White indicated his keen interest in planning and desire to contribute to the future development of Port Augusta.

It is recommended that Mr Jarrod White be appointed to the CDAP until February 2016.

3) Ms Jacinta Carr

Ms Carr has more than 20 years experience in interior and exterior design. She is currently operating a business, Jacinta Schuster Decorating & Design Pty Ltd which has a wide clientele base that covers both residential and commercial sectors.

Although lacking knowledge and experience in the planning field, Ms Carr demonstrated a keen interest in development issues together with visual design skills, will be a positive contributor to CDAP.

It is recommended that Ms Jacinta Carr be appointed to the CDAP until February 2016.

4) Mr Jason Willcocks

Mr Willcocks has been an independent member of CDAP since 2010 in the role of Presiding Chair. He is a qualified planner with extensive working experience with a number of councils in South Australia. He is currently a practicing planner with the Whyalla City Council.

It is recommended that Mr Jason Willcocks be appointed to the CDAP as Independent Presiding Chair until February 2016.

Pursuant to Section 56A(5) of the *Development Act 1993*, an advertisement must be placed in a newspaper circulating in the area of the Council, to notify the community of the appointments to the Council Development Assessment Panel (refer Advert – Appendix A – AR14/).

CONFIDENTIALITY PROVISIONS

It is considered that pursuant to Section 90(3)(a) of the *Local Government Act 1999*, the information to be received, discussed or considered in relation to this report is information the disclosure of which would involve the unreasonable disclosure of information concerning the personal affairs of any person (living or dead), being Mr John Veen, Mr Jason Willcocks, Mr Jarrod White and Ms Jacinta Carr because the personal details provided to Council regarding their skills and knowledge and personal interests used as a basis for applying for a position of the CDAP, should be able to be discussed openly and the decision made by Council in relation to the appointments advised to each applicant prior to it being made available to the general public.

It is considered necessary to discuss this report in confidence and that the principle that the meeting be conducted in a place open to the public has been outweighed in the circumstances because each applicant should be awarded the courtesy of being provided feedback on their appointments or non appointment prior to it being made public.

It is recommended that the confidential provisions remain in force until the 5 March 2014, to provide an opportunity for applicants to be appropriately advised of their appointment/non-appointment following the Council decision on 24 February 2014.

RISK MANAGEMENT

1: Financial/Budget

CDAP Members receive a Sitting Fee of \$300 (members) and \$350 (Presiding Member) for meetings attended. This sitting fee allocation has been included within the 2013/2014 budget.

2: Legal

Section 56A of the *Development Act 1999* provides that Council must establish a Council Development Assessment Panel.

3: Environment

Not applicable.

4: Community

4.1 General

An advertisement will be placed in the Transcontinental following the appointments of the CDAP Members by Council, to notify the community of the appointments.

4.2 OPAL Program

Not applicable.

Tung Pham
20/01/2014



Council Development Assessment Panel – Appointments

Port Augusta City Council at its meeting held on 24 February 2014 resolved to appoint the following persons as Independent Members to the Council's Development Assessment Panel:

Independent Members: Mr Jason Willcocks, Mr John Veen, Mr Jarrod White and Ms Jacinta Carr.

The Council has also appointed Mr Jason Willcocks (BA (Planning) MPIA, CPP) as the Presiding Member of the Panel.

All appointments are for a period of two years from March 2014 to February 2016 inclusive.

Greg Perkin
City Manager

Transcontinental:

Edition Wednesday 5 March 2014