



REGIONAL COUNCIL

ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL

SUPPLEMENTARY AGENDA

9 AUGUST 2017



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10. EXECUTIVE OFFICE REPORTS

10.3 Ageo City 60th Anniversary Celebration

Date: 07 August 2017
Author: Ian Church, Chief Executive Officer
Responsible Officer: Ian Church, Chief Executive Officer

Summary:

The Mayor of Ageo City has invited the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer, (CEO), of Lockyer Valley Regional Council, (LVRC), to visit the City in October 2018, in order to celebrate the 60th anniversary of Ageo City. The purpose of this report is to highlight the invitation from the Mayor of Ageo City and for Council to determine whether they support the Mayor and CEO attending the 60th anniversary celebrations.

Officer's Recommendation:

THAT Council resolve to support the Mayor and CEO visit to Ageo City, at the invitation of the Mayor of Ageo, during October 2018 in order to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the City.

Report

1. Introduction

Lockyer Valley Regional Council, (including Gatton Shire Council as one of its predecessors), and Ageo City have had a strong relationship as "Sister Cities/Regions" for over 26 years. As part of the relationship delegations have regularly visited both Ageo City and the Lockyer Valley, and Ageo City Junior High School students visit the Lockyer Valley each year. Council recently hosted a visit by the Mayor of Ageo City and a number of delegates, which coincided with the Junior High School students visit during July 2017. The Mayor of Ageo City has now formally invited the Mayor and CEO of LVRC to visit and participate in that City's 60th anniversary celebrations during October 2018. (Refer copy of attached letter from Mayor Shimamura).

2. Background

During the 26 year relationship between Ageo City and LVRC, and the previous Gatton Shire, there have been well over 550 students and 70 teachers and dignitaries visit our region, with Ageo City delegations visiting Lockyer Valley nearly every year. In this same timeframe, there have been a number of delegation visits to Ageo City, including from the previous Gatton Shire. Since amalgamation there have been invitations to Ageo City's 50th and 55th anniversaries and LVRC has shown support by attending. The last visit to Ageo City by a delegation from Lockyer Valley was in October 2013, in order to celebrate the 55th anniversary of the City. The delegation included representatives from the Lockyer Valley Regional Council and the Lockyer Valley Youth Council.

During 2017, the Mayor and delegates from our Sister City/Region visited the Lockyer Valley from 20 to 22 July, in conjunction with the arrival of the exchange students and their

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programme with Lockyer Valley District High School. The reason for this visit was for the Mayor of Ageo City, Mr Shimamura, and delegates to pay their respects to the previous Mayor of LVRC, Councillor Steve Jones, meet the new Council and CEO and build a new relationship with the current Council. Ageo City's Mayor had wanted to visit in mid-2016, however out of respect determined that it would be better to defer the visit.

So after nearly a year, the Ageo City Mayor met the new LVRC Mayor and Council and the CEO to build a new relationship and continue the support of the exchange between our two regions. Although the stay was short the Mayor and delegates travelled around the region meeting the community, businesses and schools and visiting sites (including the Gatton Show). The reason for the meetings and site visits was to build a better bond with, and understanding of, our region. This helps support the exchange program and assists those decision makers in Ageo City gain a better understanding of the importance of supporting a student exchange and Sister City/Region program. It is very important to the Mayor of Ageo City that its leaders demonstrate leadership in doing what their students have done by showing their community the importance of learning and experiencing another culture with acceptance. In other words; 'Walking the walk'.

When Mayor Shimamura greeted the exchange students at the High School he talked about the great experiences he has had and what he has found challenging. He led with an inspiring speech to motivate the students and teacher/delegates to try new things and learn as much as they can from this rare opportunity. He also spoke about the importance of relationships and what that can mean to the student's lives. The Mayor encouraged them to look forward to their new challenges and to be good representatives of the community when they return home, and to be great ambassadors while they were in Australia.

Every year, part of the exchange students itinerary is to visit Council and Council Chambers and this year was no exception, this year they came to our office on Thursday 27 July where they met with the Mayor and Councillors and student representatives presented speeches about the importance of the exchange program.

Often Sister City relationships are measured by monetary value, and although the exchange program does put money into our local economy, (through payment to the schools, local accommodation for delegates and staff, shopping locally etc), there is a lot more to the program. There are the cultural exchanges and challenges experienced from all those involved including Lockyer District High School students, exchange students themselves and host families, teachers, staff and the broader community, and there are lifelong friendships formed and relationships made that are hard to value. There are learnings by all involved from acceptance and understanding of different cultures and people become more aware of different ways of doing things and thinking. The exchange program encourages an appreciation for others as well as their own homes, families and friends.

As noted, Mr Shimamura, Mayor of Ageo City has now invited the Mayor and CEO to visit in October 2018 to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the City. This will be another important milestone for the Ageo City and Mayor Shimamura would like support from the Lockyer Valley Regional Council at this important event. The Mayor has invited Mayor Milligan as the representative for our region to speak about the important value of our relationship. Attending and speaking at this important event will not only show our support for the exchange program but also our City and Region's relationship.

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The proposed trip includes attending the event, where our Mayor will be required to give a speech to approximately 2500 community representatives at the Anniversary Ceremony which will be broadcasted live to over 200,000 residents across the region. Meetings will be held with the Ageo City Council's Mayor, Councillors, Members of their Assembly and also with the Board of Education representatives and staff involved in the exchange programs. There will be further meetings required with delegations from Queensland's Sister State, Saitama and with representatives from Ageo's city's Japanese sister city, Motomiya.

Before the ceremony the Mayor will meet with the following years exchange students and teachers, and possibly some of their parents. There will also be opportunities to visit the schools, local businesses and community services provided by the local government to learn more about their ways of governing and support.

The 60th Anniversary is very important for Ageo City and our attendance will show our support and respect for their Council and community and demonstrate that the Sister City/Region relationship is important to our new Mayor and Council and continues to remain strong.

Council will need to determine whether they support the Mayor and CEO attending.

3. Report

Refer Background above.

4. Policy and Legal Implications

Nil

5. Financial and Resource Implications

The visit will be fully sponsored by Ageo City, however return airfares will be required. A brief review of airfares reveals that currently a return airfare can be purchased for less than \$1,000.

6. Delegations/Authorisations

Nil

7. Communication and Engagement

No specific communication required at this stage. Closer to the time relevant media statements can be drafted.

8. Conclusion

Council needs to respond to the invitation from Mayor Shimamura and advise whether the Mayor and CEO will attend the 60th anniversary celebrations of Ageo City, to enable Ageo City's Council to begin preparing their budget and start planning for the trip.

9. Action/s

Should the visit be supported a response will be provided to Mayor Shimamura and arrangements made for the Mayor and CEO to visit Ageo City.



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Attachments

1 [View](#) Letter 2 Pages

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上尾市 Ageo City

Ageo City Hall
3-1-1 Honcho, Ageo-shi,
Saitama-ken, Japan 362-8501

Lockyer Valley Regional Council
26 Railway Street, PO Box 82
Gatton, Queensland 4343 Australia

July 20, 2017

Dear Mayor Tanya Milligan,

I hope this letter finds you in good health.

First, I would like to express our special thanks to you for warmly welcoming our delegation: Ryohei Yamada, Director of Secretariat division, Shoichi Yoshizawa, General Manager of General Affairs Department, and me.

This year is the 24th time for Ageo City to send our junior high school students to your city. I would like to take this opportunity to express our great gratitude to Mayor Milligan, the school officials, and the host families who have supported this program. I am sure that the experiences our students have with their host families, as well as at local schools, are invaluable to them. These students will be leaders of the next generation. Through this program, they foster friendships with the residents of your city, learn more about each other and develop an appreciation for both cultures. I believe that these efforts help promote mutual understanding and deepen the relationship between Australia and Japan.

Next year marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of Ageo City. The municipality of Ageo was established in 1958. Since then, its population has increased more than sixfold, currently standing at 228,000. Ageo has become one of the major cities of Saitama Prefecture. In October of next year, we plan to hold a ceremony to celebrate its 60th anniversary, with the participation of many residents.

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上尾市 Ageo City

I cordially invite you and Mr. Ian Church, CEO, to come to Ageo City to attend our commemoration ceremony next year.

In closing, I sincerely hope that Lockyer Valley and Ageo City will continue to promote exchanges such as this one and deepen the friendship, further strengthening the bond between Australia and Japan.

Sincerely yours

Minoru Shimamura
Mayor of Ageo City

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15. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

15.2 Poultry Farming Regulatory Reform Proposal Paper (>200,000 birds)

Date: 07 August 2017
Author: Trevor Boheim, Manager Planning and Environment
Responsible Officer: Dan McPherson, Executive Manager Organisational Development & Planning

That the above item be considered in Closed Session to the exclusion of the press and public in accordance with Section 275 (1) (h) of the Local Government Regulation, 2012, as the matter involves other business for which a public discussion would be likely to prejudice the interests of the local government or someone else, or enable a person to gain a financial advantage.

Summary:

Council has received a confidential copy of the Poultry Farm Regulatory Reform Proposal Paper that has been prepared by the State Government from both the Council of Mayors (SEQ) (COMSEQ) and the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ) and invited to provide feedback to both. The paper sets out the proposed approach regarding roles and responsibilities for the assessment of development applications for poultry farms across Queensland.



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15.3 Tender Evaluation - LVRC-17-24 - Lease of the Dal Ryan Memorial Pool

Date: 08 August 2017
Author: Mike Lisle, Manager Community Facilities and Services; Caitlan Natalier, Solicitor & Legal Services Coordinator
Responsible Officer: David Lewis, Executive Manager Corporate & Community Services

That the above item be considered in Closed Session to the exclusion of the press and public in accordance with Section 275 (1) (e) of the Local Government Regulation, 2012, as the matter involves contracts proposed to be made by it.

Summary:

The purpose of this Report is to inform Council of the evaluation of Tenders received in response to Request for Tenders LVRC-17-24 for the Lease of the Dal Ryan Memorial Pool and make a recommendation as to the Successful Tenderer.