

Item 13.3 Growth & Strategy Activities

Reporting: Growth & Strategy Manager – Helen Thomas

SUMMARY:

The purpose of this report is to inform Council of the Growth & Strategy activities for June 2022.

DISCUSSION:

Tourism

King Island Incentive Scheme

Conversations continued in June with Tourism Tasmania, West by North West and King Island Tourism Inc. on how to best utilise the unspent funding from the voucher program. A decision is yet to be made, but there seems to be no question that the funding is committed to supporting the King Island tourism industry. Further updates will be provided to industry as decisions are made.

Tourism Forum

During June, West by North West (WxNW), our Regional Tourism Organisation, delivered a Tourism Forum in Devonport, bringing together operators and government stakeholders to discuss how the industry is performing and the challenges and opportunities ahead. Recognising how difficult it can be for King Islanders to attend these sessions, the forum is being brought to King Island in July.

On Thursday 22 July, tourism operators and the broader King Island business community are invited to meet representatives from Events Tasmania, Business Tasmania, Tourism & Hospitality Association (THA), Tourism Tasmania and WxNW. Hosted by King Island Tourism Inc, each organisation will be giving a brief presentation about their operations, how and when operators should engage with each of them, as well as outline funding and other direct practical support available. The forum will include a presentation by Anne Greentree, Director of Visitor Economy Strategy at Tourism Tasmania. As well as presenting the work completed so far, Anne will be keen to hear from local operators and stakeholders about what they see as the opportunities and challenges for the tourism industry in the coming years.

Economic Development

King Island Employment and Training

Further to the mid-May visit from a number of State and Federal Government agencies with regard to employment and jobs, discussion on potential projects continued into June.

The Federally-funded Industry Training Hub representative, Damien Peirce, is progressing a project in partnership with the King Island District High School and TasTAFE that will give



students an insight into the broad range of career options within the tourism and hospitality sector. Funding is being sought under the Industry Training Hub program to take a group of students and support staff to the North and North West of Tasmania for a week of training and experiences.

Leading Australian Resilient Communities

This brand new leadership program is designed to amplify the already resilient leadership on the North West Coast of Tasmania. Delivered by Tasmanian Leaders, in partnership with the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation, this dynamic program responds to the region's unique opportunities and is guided by best practice learning techniques.

Following discussions between Council and Regional Development Australia (RDA) Tasmania, an opportunity for King Islanders to engage in the Leading Australian Resilient Communities (LARC) program has been secured. The program launches in July 2022 starting with a series of free public future focused forums. King Island's forum will be held in Currie on Wednesday 27 July, 12.00 pm – 3.00 pm.

Part discussion, part workshop, these forums provide the opportunity for community members to discuss their preferred futures, using scenario planning alongside the latest economic and social data compiled by the Regional Australia Institute, while also developing skills for resilient and adaptive leadership.

For further details: <https://www.tasmanianleaders.org.au/larc/>

Seedlab Sisters

The Seedlab Sisters Program is funded by the Tasmanian Government Department of Communities 'Supporting Women to Succeed' Grant Program. The project partners are Seedlab Tasmania, Cradle Coast Authority, Switch Tasmania, and the project is led by Swinburne University's Centre for Social Impact RegionxLink Office. Advocacy by Council has led to a planned visit to King Island by Seedlab Sisters in August 2022.

Presenting two workshops on August 4th and 5th, King Islanders will be able to meet the Seedlab Sisters team and learn more about how engagement with that organisation can support their businesses and/ or individual careers. *Unlocking the Power Within You and Your Team* and *Saying it Simply* are both 2hr workshops delivered free of charge.

Registrations are requested to inform catering and provision of other resources. Further details are available here: <https://seedlabt Tasmania.com.au/workshops/>



Major Projects

King Island Hub

Further to the April 2022 execution of this grant deed under the Community Development Grants Program (CDGP) work has been progressing on this community-focussed project. Stakeholder meetings have been conducted on and off-Island, including King Island Historical Society, King Island Tourism Inc, King Island Regional Development Organisation, Libraries Tasmania and Service Tas. A project manager / architect, Core Collective, has been engaged for the duration of the project, and Council staff are being supported in leading this project by New Insights Pty Ltd, a Hobart-based organisation engaged as Owner's Representative.

The design is being progressed to incorporate feedback from stakeholders and reflect conversations about the operation of the facilities involved, with work on track to have a Development Application (DA) submitted in September 2022. More detailed information on the project will be shared with the King Island community as it arises, with a community information session planned before a DA is submitted.

Recycling Modernisation Fund

Council was advised in April 2022 that its application for funding under the Recycling Modernisation Fund was successful. This program seeks to improve the opportunities for recycling in remote areas through joint Federal and State government funding for the purchase of equipment and plant. The key objective of this program is to reduce the volumes of waste being put into landfill across Australia.

Since Council received advice of its success with this grant, staff have been working with the Councillor Waste Management Working Group to determine how best to proceed with this opportunity, as well as keeping in contact with the Department of Natural Resources & Energy (DNRE) who are leading this program at the state level. Quotations to confirm pricing of the capital plant and equipment to be funded through this grant program are being sought through the Local Government Association of Tasmania (LGAT) panel arrangements. Once quotes have been received for each element of the planned package, a formal request will be made to DNRE to draft a grant deed and provide the required funding. It is anticipated that this will be completed in mid-August 2022.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

The activities detailed above are included within approved operational budgets, except where indicated otherwise.

Recommendation:

That the Growth & Strategy Report for June 2022 be received and noted.



Moved Cr S Laidler
Cr D McFie

That the Growth & Strategy Report for June 2022 be received and noted.

CARRIED unanimously

130/22

