

MOTIONS ON NOTICE**AO122-19 MOTION ON NOTICE - FORESHORE TOY LIBRARY**

FILE NO: 15/5/2
PREVIOUS MIN:

Councillor Teeny Brumby has given notice that she would move the following motion at this meeting:-

"THAT Council install a small structure to host a "library" of beach toys on the Burnie Foreshore."

COUNCILLOR'S COMMENTS

As we continue to deliver outcomes that ensure Burnie is a vibrant place to live, work and play, this beach library concept will add to that narrative!

A resident recently proposed several library concepts, examples below. Another option could be 2-3 shelves attached to the cement wall, down on the actual beach. Potentially on the LHS of the wall, next to the main stairs beneath fish frenzy. It would play host to a variety of beach toys e.g. sandpit toys, trucks, buckets & spades. I would gladly source the beach items that would sit within this library structure.

Obviously the theft of items is highly likely, but if we didn't take action due to concern of theft, we would never achieve anything!

I am seeing an increased number of families visiting our city on the cruise ships. This initiative would be of value not only for our tourists, but the many beach goers that frequent our beautiful beach over the summer months.

The beach is a free outing and we are seeing a broad demographic accessing the space - what better way to encourage families to engage in the space!



GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Background

Council provides a range of facilities on West Beach to enhance the experience of visitors to the precinct.

The majority of these items are fixed in place.

Beach play equipment and other items of play equipment have been provided for the community to use as part of previous events or activities held at West Beach, generally with some level of overview, with the items made available being recovered at the end of the event or activity.

Legislative Requirements

There could be many and varied items of beach play equipment that could be provided.

The main issue to consider would be Council's duty of care in providing equipment for the public to use, in that the items would need to be in a safe condition and appropriate for the range of age groups that could use the items.

Periodic inspection would enable damaged or defective items to be removed from use.

Policy Considerations

Council has provided a range of play equipment (fixed in place) for the community to use in many parks and reserves.

Provision of the types of play equipment envisaged in the motion on notice may lead to others in the community seeking similar experiences at other beaches or play spaces.

Financial Impact

The notes to the Motion on Notice suggest that the play items would be sourced from external parties.

The provision of a small timber storage box or timber shelving could occur at a relatively low cost. Potentially shelving may cost several hundred dollars as well as the cost of some signage.

There would be a need to periodically inspect the play equipment for damage and deterioration, to address possible safety risk. Lost, damaged and defective items would need to be replaced. There are no allowances in Council's operational budget for such expenditure.

It is assumed that there would be no requirement for Council staff to recover beach play equipment left on the beach.

An alternate approach would be for a community group to take carriage of the managing of the beach play equipment.

Discussion

The activity noted in the Motion on Notice is relatively passive and would seem to require little involvement of Council staff excepting provision of an appropriate storage facility and periodic inspection of the play equipment.

There may be a need to remove the storage facility in the winter months, when there is limited activity on the beach.

It is envisaged that there would be a need for Council staff to periodically inspect the play equipment to ensure items are fit for purpose.

An alternative approach to management would be for a community group to host the beach play equipment.

Risk

On face value the provision of beach play equipment at West Beach would be relatively low risk.

Matters that would need to be considered include:

- Loss/theft of the play items.
- Periodic inspection of the play items for damage or deterioration.
- Discarded play items being left on the beach.

There would be some on going, albeit modest, cost implications for Council.

Consultation

Officers have not consulted with stakeholders in regard to this matter.