

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**AO260/13 NON-SMOKING AREAS DURING CHRISTMAS PARADE**

FILE NO: 15/5/5

PREVIOUS MIN:

THE GENERAL MANAGER referred to Alderman Jim Altimira's Question on Notice which asked:

Is there an area set aside for families wishing to attend the Burnie Christmas Parade which will be designated as a smoke free zone?

ALDERMAN'S COMMENTS

I have received a number of requests from ratepayers who wish to attend the parade but in doing so wish to be advised where they can view the parade in a smoke free area. They have attended the Christmas Carols on the past which has been smoke free and was hoping that there would be an area set aside for those families wishing to enjoy this year's Christmas parade.

One comment describes themselves as parents with a young child and wife who is pregnant and concerns at being exposed to second hand cigarette smoke at the event which apparently has occurred in the past.

Should an area be provided, can this information be circulated?

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The Burnie City Council does not have an independent power to declare an event to be smoke free.

Under the *Public Health Act 1997* the Director of Public Health has authority to designate an event, or a class of public events, to be smoke free.

The purpose of a smoke free declaration is to de-normalise tobacco to children at an event predominantly attended by people with children. It also protects all people who are non-smokers against exposure to harmful second hand tobacco smoke.

Smoke free events are one of the several regulatory mechanisms available to government to implement and enforce its increasing strong position to protect the public against involuntary exposure to second hand tobacco smoke. Such measures are being introduced incrementally since strengthening of the legislative powers over smoking in a public place early in 2012.

The Director has to date declared a wide range of events to be smoke free, including generically all carols by candlelight activities. The balance of the declarations applies for designated events such as individual markets, festivals, and agricultural shows.

The organisers of such events are required to prepare and enforce a Smoke Free Management Plan, and may provide a designated outdoor smoker area.

Christmas parades, either individually or as a class of event, are not currently declared to be smoke free events.

The Department of Health and Community Services has indicated the current range of smoke free events will be reviewed late in 2013, with the potential for the list to be extended to other class of events during 2014.

It is not possible to create and enforce a smoke free environment for the 2013 Burnie Christmas parade.

However, the general requirements regarding prohibition on smoking with outdoor food areas and within 3.0m of a door to an internal space will apply. Neither the Council nor the event organiser has a power to extend application of these rules; or to enforce compliance and penalise a breach.

It is suggested that the Council write to the Director of Public Health to request that consideration be given declaring Christmas parades as a class of events to be smoke free for the reason that they are an activity predominantly attended by people with children. The event is analogous with carols by candlelight and should attract the same level of protection against exposure to second hand tobacco smoke.

The Council may elect to request the community respect the Christmas parade is a children's event and encourage as a measure of goodwill that smoking not occur in areas where crowds are gathered.

RECOMMENDATION:

"THAT

- 1) the information be noted; and***
- 2) the Council write to the Director of Public Health to request that Christmas parades be a class of events declared to be a smoke free event under the Public Health Act 1997."***

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution number: MO382/13

MOVED: *Ald J Altimira*

SECONDED: *Ald S Green*

“THAT

- 1) *the information be noted; and***
- 2) *the Council write to the Director of Public Health to request that Christmas parades be a class of events declared to be a smoke free event under the Public Health Act 1997; and***
- 3) *suggest that the organisers encourage the Christmas Parade to be a smoke free event.”***

For: *Ald J Altimira, Ald R Blake OAM, Ald S French AM, Ald S Kons, Ald A Boyd, Ald A Dow, Ald M Ryan, Ald S Green, Ald J Simpson.*

Against:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS ON NOTICE**AO261/13 FREE PARKING INITIATIVE FOR DECEMBER**

FILE NO: 15/5/2; 33/8/1
PREVIOUS MIN:

Alderman Steve Green has given notice that he would move the following motion at this meeting:-

“THAT Council:

- 1) Initiate “Free Parking” one day per week for the month of December; and***
- 2) set the charge in the Multi Storey Car Park on every Saturday in December to that of a Sunday, being a set fee of Two Dollars (\$2.00) with unlimited time.”***

ALDERMAN’S COMMENTS

The Burnie CBD is struggling with competition from online and other coastal retailers. Burnie City Council should offer any encouragement they can to attract local and neighbouring shoppers to do business in Burnie and support Burnie ratepayer businesses.

Recent job losses have had a massive impact on our community and its financial stability where every dollar saved on services can be re-allocated to essential items.

I would like to suggest Tuesdays be promoted as "free parking" days for Burnie during the month of December as an encouragement to not only assist our public but to also boost what would normally be retail's slowest day of the week.

GENERAL MANAGER’S COMMENTS

It is assumed that the Motion intends that all controlled parking spaces be available without charge for one day per week during December.

Council controls the use of car parking spaces within Burnie as a means to assist convenient and equitable access to car parking opportunities for all people with business in the town centre, including for employees, customers, clients and service providers to civic, entertainment, personal, professional, refreshment, and retail premises.

A fee is charged to establish recognition of the parking space as a resource shared with other members of the community, as a consideration for use of a required commodity, and to off-set the cost of provision, maintenance, and compliance.

Metered parking spaces are a popular parking choice for short duration parking by all users and experience a high-turnover.

December is the peak month where demand for car parking is greatest. Control and enforcement are paramount to prevent overstay and exclusion.

Universal application of a free parking period for all metered, off-street, and decked parking will remove all capacity to regulate use of parking spaces.

It is likely many short-stay spaces could be occupied by long-stay users; and that early arrivals in the town centre may occupy the majority of car parking spaces for the greater part of the day to the exclusion of other users.

The outcome may be greater inconvenience for parkers and frustration for intent of the Motion.

Council considered and rejected a similar Motion at its meeting of 20th November 2012 to provide free parking in all controlled car parking spaces during one day per week in the period prior to Christmas.

As an alternative, the Council agree (Minute MO/0174/12) to waive the parking fee for the Marine Terrace Car Park and to offer free parking in that facility for each Saturday during December in the period prior to Christmas.

The approach was considered be less disruptive for efficient provision of car parking for the various users in the town centre.

The occupancy recorded in the MTCP for each of the free parking Saturdays in December 2012 is –

December 2012	Sat 1 Dec 2012	Sat 8 Dec 2012	Sat 15 Dec 2012	Sat 22 Dec 2012
Occupancy no.'s	652	877	543	1220

By comparison, the occupancy in the MTCP for Saturday during October 2013 is –

October 2013	Sat 5 Oct 2013	Sat 12 Oct 2013	Sat 19 Oct 2013	Sat 26 Oct 2013
Occupancy no.'s	350	348	300	414
Revenue	\$716	\$701	\$588	\$750

It is evident the offer of free parking, combined with the Christmas shopping period, was attractive for the community during December 2013.

The request for concessional parking arrangements during the Christmas period appears to be recurring, and therefore it is suggested that this arrangement be formalised in the Annual

Plan and Budget Estimate in future years to allow for it to be promoted as a policy position and communicated to the wider public all year round.

Following the Council decision in 2012, correspondence was received from CityLink indicating that the original motion presented at the meeting of 20th November 2012 reflected a previously expressed desire by retailers for the Council to provide an incentive for a greater number of shoppers to attend the city centre during the early-week period (Monday and Tuesday) to redistribute shopper behaviour and thereby reduce the load on retailers during the traditional peak Saturday shopping days. The motion as carried in November 2012 translated the outcome from a retailer focussed advantage to a consumer focussed advantage; and was said to exacerbate rather than address the retailers' concern.

The Council considered the CityLink representation at a Special Meeting on 29th November 2012, and resolved to affirm by Minute AC208/12 its motion of 20th November to proceed with the free all-day parking option in the Marine Terrace Car Park for each Saturday during December prior to Christmas.

Alternative Recommendation

“THAT Council:

- 1) introduce free ‘all day Saturday’ parking at the Multi-Storey car park for the December weekends prior to Christmas 2013: and***
- 2) incorporate this initiative in the 2014/15 Annual Plan and Budget Estimate.”***

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution number: MO383/13

MOVED: Ald S Green

SECONDED: Ald J Altimira

“THAT Council:

- 1) Initiate “Free Parking” on Tuesdays each week from 10am for the month of December; and**
- 2) set the charge in the Multi Storey Car Park on every Saturday in December to that of a Sunday, being a set fee of Two Dollars (\$2.00) with unlimited time.”**

For: Ald J Altimira, Ald R Blake OAM, Ald S Green.

Against: Ald S French AM, Ald S Kons, Ald A Boyd, Ald A Dow, Ald M Ryan, Ald J Simpson.

LOST

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: Ald S French AM

SECONDED: Ald J Simpson

“THAT Council:

- 1) introduce free ‘all day Saturday’ parking at the Multi-Storey car park for the December weekends prior to Christmas 2013; and**
- 2) incorporate this initiative in the 2014/15 Annual Plan and Budget Estimate.”**

For: Ald J Altimira, Ald R Blake OAM, Ald S French AM, Ald S Kons, Ald A Boyd, Ald A Dow, Ald M Ryan, Ald S Green, Ald J Simpson.

Against:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

COUNCIL RESOLUTION**MOVED:** *Ald A Dow***SECONDED:** *Ald S French AM****“THAT Council invite retailers to discuss Christmas free parking at a workshop in early 2014.”*****For:** Ald J Altimira, Ald R Blake OAM, Ald S French AM, Ald S Kons, Ald A Boyd, Ald A Dow, Ald M Ryan, Ald S Green, Ald J Simpson.**Against:*****CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY***

MOTIONS ON NOTICE**AO262/13 WHITE RIBBON CAMPAIGN**

FILE NO: 15/5/2;
PREVIOUS MIN:

Alderman Steve Green has given notice that he would move the following motion at this meeting:-

“THAT Council adopt and promote the principals of the White Ribbon Campaign by advocating and encouraging participation through its own workforce and then consider a community awareness program by Council’s Community Development with assistance from Alderman Green, a White Ribbon Ambassador.”

ALDERMAN’S COMMENTS

The White Ribbon Campaign is an Internationally recognised campaign to eliminate violence against women. White Ribbon Day is the 25th of November and I feel it appropriate, with Council support, to initiate the programme this month.

How did white ribbon start?

On the afternoon of 6 December 1989, a man walked into the École Polytechnique University in Montreal and massacred 14 of his female classmates. His actions traumatised a nation and brought the issue of violence against women to the forefront of our collective consciousness.

Two years later, a handful of men in Toronto decided they had a responsibility to speak out about and work to stop men’s violence against women. As a result, the White Ribbon Campaign in Canada became an annual awareness-raising event, held between 25 November and 6 December.

In 1999, the United Nations General Assembly declared 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, with a white ribbon as its iconic symbol. White Ribbon began in Australia in 2003 as part of UNIFEM (now UN Women), formally becoming a Foundation in 2007.

What is White Ribbon?

White Ribbon is the world's largest male-led movement to end men's violence against women. White Ribbon Australia is a non-profit organisation and Australia's only national, male-led primary prevention campaign to end men’s violence against women.

Through primary prevention initiatives and an annual campaign, White Ribbon Australia seeks to change the attitudes and behaviours that lead to and perpetuate men's violence against women, by engaging boys and men to lead social change.

In particular, Australia's unique Ambassadors' Program supports thousands of men to be the faces and leaders of the campaign, by living the White Ribbon Oath: *never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women*.

Women support White Ribbon Australia through their roles as White Ribbon Champions, encouraging the men in their lives to make a commitment to promote positive attitudes and behaviours towards women, as well as to intervene safely to prevent violence against women when needed.

White Ribbon Day celebrates the culmination of the annual campaign and global recognition of the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women. As such, men and women are encouraged to wear a symbolic white ribbon on 25 November.

White Ribbon Day (25 November) also signals the start of the 16 Days of Activism to Stop Violence against Women, which ends on Human Rights Day (10 December).

Why is White Ribbon so important?

Intimate partner violence is the most common type of violence against women, affecting 30 per cent of women worldwide, according to the 2013 World Health Organisation report.

Violence against women is a serious problem in Australia, where at least one woman is killed every week by a current or former partner.

The Australian Institute of Criminology reports that 36 per cent of all homicides take place in a domestic setting and 73 per cent of those involve a woman being killed by their male partner.

Furthermore, Australian Bureau of Statistics data indicates that that one in three Australian women over the age of 15 reports having experienced physical or sexual violence at some time in their lives.

The impact of violence against women is widespread and long-standing, generating profound personal, social and economic costs for individuals, communities and the nation.

In the 2009 *Time for Action* report, KPMG estimated that violence against women and their children cost the Australian economy \$13.6 billion annually and this was expected to rise to \$15.6 billion by 2021. In 2013, KPMG announced the annual cost had already reached US\$14.7 billion.

Domestic and family violence is also the major cause of homelessness for women and their children. The Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's report, *Specialist*

Homelessness Services 2011-12, shows that people experiencing domestic or family violence make up one-third of the almost 230,000 Australians that accessed specialist homelessness services in that period. Of such clients, 78 per cent were female.

White Ribbon Oath: *never to commit, excuse or remain silent about violence against women.*

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

A review of the White Ribbon website details a number of activities that could be undertaken to support the work of White Ribbon.

These include:

- Walk in her shoes - The walking in her shoes event asks men to literally undertake an obstacle course in women's shoes. This is no easy task, however it does promise to be a lot of fun and to get the community talking about domestic and family violence.
- photoSTOP violence against women – a competition to capture photographic images that reflect and interpret young men's understanding of the White Ribbon campaign, gender equity and healthy relationships, in realistic, abstract and imaginative ways. Lunch and exhibition with music, prizes and food.
- Tree project – local organisations sponsor a tree – their logo will appear on white ribbons draped around trees in the CBD
- An awareness walk
- Art and Media white ribbon – themed
- Tug of war event raising money for White Ribbon
- Free self-defence workshops for women only

It is proposed that an amount of \$750 be set aside in the Community Development Strategic Initiatives budget to support activities.

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution number: MO384/13

MOVED: *Ald S Green*

SECONDED: *Ald S French AM*

“THAT Council adopt and promote the principals of the White Ribbon Campaign by advocating and encouraging participation through its own workforce and then consider a community awareness program by Council’s Community Development with assistance from Alderman Green, a White Ribbon Ambassador.”

For: Ald J Altimira, Ald R Blake OAM, Ald S French AM, Ald S Kons, Ald A Boyd, Ald A Dow, Ald M Ryan, Ald S Green, Ald J Simpson.

Against:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

MOTIONS ON NOTICE**AO263/13 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE GRANTS POLICY**

FILE NO: 15/5/2; 4/14/2; 13/22/1
PREVIOUS MIN:

Alderman Jim Altimira has given notice that he would move the following motion at this meeting:-

“THAT Council revise the current policy of restricting a Club or Community Organisation from applying for funding from the Financial Assistance allocation in the Council Budget from once every three years to once every two years.”

ALDERMAN'S COMMENTS

The objective of the policy is the provision of financial assistance on a fair and equitable basis to clubs and community organisations or individuals who represent our State or Australia in national or international events.

Clubs and community organisations provide a depth which in some instances are not available through normal council services and consequently are a major benefit to our City.

At a recent Council in committee meeting, Council reviewed the current applications which has seen a dramatic reduction in submissions and it is felt this is due to the recent change to the policy which restricted applications for financial assistance to once every three years where formally it was on an annual basis.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

Council resolved to change the allocation of Community Financial Assistance Grants in January 2013 and introduced criteria that organisations could only receive funding once in a three year period.

The change in policy occurred following a review of the Financial Assistance Grants process which revealed a number of regular applicants. It was felt that this could result in a measure of reliance on Council assistance, and also lead to other organisations to not applying for funding as there may be a perception that Council favoured regular applicants.

The policy change has resulted in some organisations applying for more significant amounts of funding to cover activities across a longer period of time.

As identified above, the new policy may also have resulted in a drop in numbers of applications, although the Round was still oversubscribed. It is hoped that if this trend continues that other new organisations will seek to apply.

It is recommended that Council maintain the existing policy for another year, and review it in early 2015.

Alternative Recommendation

“That Council review the Financial Assistance Grants Policy in January 2015.”

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

Resolution number: MO385/13

MOVED: Ald J Altimira

SECONDED: Ald J Simpson

“That Council review the Financial Assistance Grants Policy in January 2015.”

For: Ald J Altimira, Ald R Blake OAM, Ald S French AM, Ald S Kons, Ald A Boyd, Ald A Dow, Ald M Ryan, Ald S Green, Ald J Simpson.

Against:

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY