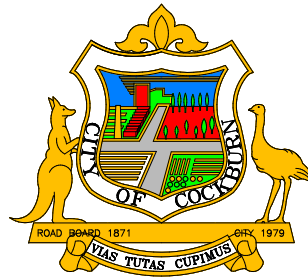


# **CITY OF COCKBURN**



## **SPECIAL COUNCIL**

## **AGENDA PAPER**

**FOR**

**WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2005**

# CITY OF COCKBURN

## SUMMARY OF AGENDA TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2005 AT 7:00 PM

---

---

	Page
1. DECLARATION OF MEETING .....	1
2. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER (IF REQUIRED) .....	1
3. DISCLAIMER (TO BE READ ALOUD BY PRESIDING MEMBER) .....	1
4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF WRITTEN DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST (BY PRESIDING MEMBER) .....	1
5. APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE .....	1
6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME .....	1
7. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE NOT GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION TO MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE BUSINESS .....	1
8 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PURPOSE OF MEETING .....	1
9. COUNCIL MATTERS .....	2
9.1 (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 - SCHEDULES (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH) .....	2
9.2 (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 - DIFFERENTIAL RATES (5402) (ATC) .....	4
9.3 (SCM 20/07/2005) - ADOPTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH) .....	7
9.4 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PARTICIPATION IN SISTER CITY VISIT - YEUYANG CHINA (1029) (SGC) .....	8
9.5 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA (1029) (SGC) .....	10
10. (SCM 20/07/2005) - RESOLUTION OF COMPLIANCE (SECTION 3.18(3), LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995) .....	15
11. CLOSURE OF MEETING .....	15

**CITY OF COCKBURN****AGENDA TO BE PRESENTED TO THE SPECIAL COUNCIL  
MEETING TO BE HELD ON  
WEDNESDAY, 20 JULY 2005 AT 7:00 PM**

---

---

**1. DECLARATION OF MEETING****2. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING MEMBER (If required)****3. DISCLAIMER (To be read aloud by Presiding Member)**

Members of the public, who attend Council Meetings, should not act immediately on anything they hear at the Meetings, without first seeking clarification of Council's position. Persons are advised to wait for written advice from the Council prior to taking action on any matter that they may have before Council.

**4. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT OF WRITTEN DECLARATIONS OF FINANCIAL INTERESTS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST (by Presiding Member)****5. APOLOGIES & LEAVE OF ABSENCE****6. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME****7. DECLARATION BY COUNCILLORS WHO HAVE NOT GIVEN DUE CONSIDERATION TO MATTERS CONTAINED IN THE BUSINESS****8 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PURPOSE OF MEETING**

The purpose of the Meeting is:

- (1) to adopt the Municipal Budget for the financial year 2005/06;

- (2) for Cllr Allen to participate in the Sister City visit to Yeuyang, China; and
- (3) for a proposal to establish a friendship agreement with the City of Mobile, Alabama.

**9. COUNCIL MATTERS**

**9.1 (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 - SCHEDULES (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- (1) receive the report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the Municipal Budget for 2005/06; and
- (2) include the items listed in the following schedules in the 2005/06 Municipal Budget, as attached to the Agenda:
  - 1. New/Expanded Projects
  - 2. New Staff
  - 3. Information Technology – Hardware and Software
  - 4. South Lake Leisure Centre – Capital
  - 5. Furniture and Equipment
  - 6. Roadworks Infrastructure Program
  - 7. Footpaths Infrastructure Program
  - 8. Parks Infrastructure Program
  - 9. Environmental Projects and Studies
  - 10. Facilities Construction/Improvement Program
  - 11. Waste Services – Capital
  - 12. Major Plant Replacement Program
  - 13. Light Fleet Replacement Program
  - 14. Minor Plant
  - 15. Community Safety Projects
  - 16. Social Services – General Projects
  - 17. Summary of Fees and Charges
  - 18. Transfers to Reserve Funds
  - 19. Carried Forward Projects/Programs

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**Background**

Council is required to adopt an annual budget by 31 August each year.

**Submission**

N/A

**Report**

A report by the Director, Finance and Corporate Services on the 2005/06 Municipal Budget is attached to the Agenda, together with Schedules of items included in the proposed Budget. A list of items considered but not included in the proposed Budget is also attached to the report.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2005/06.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendations have been included in the proposed Budget for 2005/06.

**Legal Implications**

N/A

**Community Consultation**

N/A

**Attachment(s)**

Municipal Budget 2005/06 – Schedules.

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

Nil.

## 9.2 (SCM 20/07/2005) - MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 - DIFFERENTIAL RATES (5402) (ATC)

### RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the following in its 2005/06 Municipal Budget:

- (1) the rate in the dollar and minimum rate for Council's rate categories are:

Category	Minimum Rate	Rate in \$
Residential Improved	456.00	5.8500
Commercial/Industrial Improved	680.00	5.8510
Residential/Vacant	456.00	9.2870
Commercial/Industrial Vacant	680.00	9.2870
UFL Residential Improved	456.00	5.2650
UFL Residential Vacant	456.00	8.3590
Rural/Resource	456.00	0.2845
UFL Rural	456.00	0.2621

- (2) the charges for rubbish services be as follows:

1. The Rubbish Collection Charge be levied at \$189.00 per assessed collection service for a weekly rubbish collection, with a mobile bin levy of \$27.00 applying to ratepayers who received their bin after 1 July 2002.
2. The Rubbish Collection Charges be levied for non-rateable properties at an annual rate of \$285.00 per assessed service for a weekly collection.
3. The new rubbish services commencing during the year 2005/06 be levied a mobile bin service charge of \$27.00 and a pro-rata charge based on \$189.00 p.a

- (3) a discount of 5% be allowed on current rates provided that all rates and charges due are paid within thirty-five(35) days of the date of issue of the annual Rate Notice;

- (4) offer payment options for Rates and Service Charges of:

1. Pay in full and receive discount (on current rates only).
2. Pay in two instalments.
3. Pay in four instalments.

provided that in all cases the first payment must be received within thirty-five(35) days of the issue date of the annual Rate Notice;

- (5) sets the following payment dates for instalment options:
  1. Two instalments
    - first payment due 13 September 2005
    - second payment due 17 January 2006
  2. Four instalments
    - first payment due 13 September 2005
    - second payment due 15 November 2005
    - third payment due 17 January 2006
    - fourth payment due 21 March 2006
- (6) charge an administration fee of \$5.50 for the second and subsequent instalments;
- (7) the interest rate on instalment payments be 4.0% p.a. and the late payment interest rate be 11% p.a.;
- (8) once-off extensions up to sixty (60) days be charged instalment interest from the due date but no administration fee;
- (9) the Rates Incentive Scheme prizes apply for full payment within thirty-five (35) days of the date of issue of the annual Rate Notice;
- (10) impose a Service Charge of \$54.50 per property under Section 6.38(1) of the Local Government Act 1995 on each property owner in the City of Cockburn (except for non-rateable government owned properties) to meet the cost of providing a Community Surveillance Service to cover the entire Cockburn district.
- (11) impose a Private Pool Inspection Levy of \$13.75 per pool owner under Section 245A of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1960.

## COUNCIL DECISION

### Background

Council is required to adopt an annual Budget by 31 August each year.

**Submission**

N/A

**Report**

The recommendations shown above relate to the rate in the dollar to be charged, rubbish service charges, discount, payment options and penalty interest rates in the proposed Budget for 2005/06, as well as Service Charges in respect of the Community Surveillance Service and Pool Inspection Levy.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2005/06.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendations are included in the proposed Budget for 2005/06.

**Legal Implications**

N/A

**Community Consultation**

Notice of Intention to Levy Differential Rates and the proposed Rubbish Collection charge was advertised in the West Australian on 13 June 2005 inviting submissions in respect of the proposed rates and charge. No submissions were received by the closing date for submissions of 4 July 2005.

**Attachment(s)**

N/A

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

Nil.



**9.3 (SCM 20/07/2005) - ADOPTION OF THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET 2005/06 (5402) (ATC) (ATTACH)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council adopt the Municipal Budget for 2005/06, as attached to the Agenda, subject to the changes made at this meeting.

**TO BE CARRIED BY AN ABSOLUTE MAJORITY OF COUNCIL**

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**Background**

Council is required to adopt an annual Budget by 31 August each year.

**Submission**

N/A

**Report**

The Municipal Budget, in the required AAS27 format, is attached to the Agenda.

**Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Budget provides funds for Council's activities in 2005/06.

**Budget/Financial Implications**

The above recommendation adopts the Budget for 2005/06.

**Legal Implications**

N/A

**Community Consultation**

N/A

**Attachment(s)**

Municipal Budget 2005/06

**Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

Nil.

**9.4 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PARTICIPATION IN SISTER CITY VISIT - YEUYANG CHINA (1029) (SGC)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council authorises Cllr Allen to accompany the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer on a visit to Yeuyang, China, whilst in China attending an international Waste Management Conference in September.

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**Background**

The City of Cockburn established a Sister City relationship with the City of Yeuyang, China, in 1998. The previous Mayor and Chief Executive Officer made a visit to Yeuyang that year, but despite receiving regular correspondence from the Mayor of Yeuyang inviting Council to return, there has been no visit to the City since then.

**Submission**

N/A

**Report**

Councillor Allen will be attending an international waste management conference in China from 25 – 29 September with the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer. Prior to this the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer will be making a short visit to the City of Yeuyang to renew the City-to-City relationship. Council Policy SC33 allows a Councillor to participate in a visit to a Sister City if approved by Council. As previous Chairman of the City's Sister City Committee, it would be appropriate for him to participate in this visit.

## **Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Corporate Strategic Plan Key Result Areas that apply to this item are:-

### *1. Managing Your City*

#### **Vision:**

Managing the City in a competitive, open and accountable manner.

#### **Objective:**

To manage Council affairs by employing publicly accountable practices.

Policy SC33 Sister City Relationships

## **Budget/Financial Implications**

The cost of airfares, accommodation and meals is estimated at \$950. There is provision of \$40,000 in the Sister Cities budget.

## **Legal Implications**

N/A

## **Community Consultation**

N/A

## **Attachment(s)**

N/A

## **Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A

## **Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

Nil.

**9.5 (SCM 20/07/2005) - PROPOSAL TO ESTABLISH A FRIENDSHIP AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF MOBILE, ALABAMA (1029) (SGC)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council:

- (1) establishes a Friendship Agreement with the City of Mobile, Alabama, in accordance with the guidelines set out in Council Policy SC33;
- (2) authorises the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer to negotiate the final form of the Agreement, in accordance with this Policy;
- (3) appoints Councillor \_\_\_\_\_ to chair the Friendship Association with the City of Mobile; and
- (4) in accordance with Policy SC33, authorise Clr \_\_\_\_\_ to accompany the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer in establishing this relationship with the City of Mobile.

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**Background**

The City of Cockburn currently has Sister City relationships with Split, Croatia and Yeuyang, China. Council has recently established a new Policy, SC33, which sets out what the City aims to achieve from its Sister City relationships, as well as the criteria upon which any new relationship would be established.

**Submission**

N/A

**Report**

**Sister City Movement**

The Sister City movement, as a worldwide concept, came into its own very shortly after World War Two. National Sister Cities efforts were independently started on many different continents, but all had the same goal; to help develop enduring networks of communication between the cities of the world to cut across boundaries and reduce the

likelihood of polarisation and conflict among nations. President Eisenhower's People to People program, which began in America in 1956, gave a huge boost to the concept of twinned cities. Some linkages occurred before that, but the Civic Committee of People to People (one of 40 People to People committees) which promoted town affiliations, eventually became Sister Cities International in 1974.

In Australia, the appeal of "international understanding and friendship" has been attractive to community minded local citizens since at least the 1930's. The Shire of Parkes, New South Wales, claims a Sister City affiliation with Coventry in England that originated in 1939. A relationship was established between Saddleworth in South Australia and Saddleworth Parish in the United Kingdom in 1941, while one has existed officially between Hunters Hill and Henley-on-Thames since 1950, and one between Bega, New South Wales, and Lyttleton, Colorado, United States of America, since 1956. Today Australian cities have nearly 470 Sister City Agreements throughout the world and this number increases every year.

The ultimate aim of the Sister City Program is to:

"Increase international understanding and foster world peace by further international communication and exchange at the person-to-person level through city-to-city affiliation".

### **Council Sister City Policy**

The City of Cockburn has two existing Sister City relationships. The first relationship was established with the City of Split in Croatia in 1997, followed by Yeuyang in China in 1998. Council desires to maintain a small number of active sister city relationships based upon the benefits which can accrue, including trade, tourism, cultural, educational and sporting activities.

Policy SC33 states the objectives in forming Sister City Relationships are:

1. *To promote Cockburn and assist in fostering economic development, tourism and trade relations.*
2. *To seek a wider understanding of other nations, their traditions, customs, education and cultures and similarly to promote to other nations the traditions, customs and education and cultures of Australia.*
3. *To foster international peace and goodwill.*

In Council Policy SC33 the Council considers that these objectives can be achieved by:

1. *Trade, cultural, educational, tourism and sporting exchanges.*

2. *Official visits.*

Council Policy SC33 also states that Council's role will be:

1. *To encourage exchanges.*
2. *To facilitate and assist visits and exchanges (such as providing letters of introduction to the Sister City).*
3. *To arrange an exchange of greeting on the occasion of visits from Sister Cities.*
4. *To facilitate exchange of educational, cultural and promotional material.*
5. *To encourage students to learn about a Sister City by carrying out school projects on that city.*
6. *To provide information to visitors from Sister Cities on places of interest.*
7. *To set up friendship associations for its Sister Cities. These associations will be chaired by a Councillor and would provide a vehicle for businesses, cultural and community groups, sporting associations and educational institutions to action the objectives of the Sister City relationship.*
8. *To take an active role in the Australian Sister Cities Association.*

**Linkages with the City of Mobile**

Using the above criteria, there is a strong justification in the City pursuing the establishment of a relationship with the City of Mobile, Alabama.

The City of Mobile is a city located in Mobile County, Alabama, United States. As of the 2000 census, the population of the city is 198,915. Mobile is the centre of Alabama's second-largest metropolitan area (which consists of Mobile and Baldwin Counties) and metropolitan Mobile has a population of 551,178. Its name is derived from the presence of the Mobile (Mauville or Maubila) Indians in the area at the time of founding.

Mobile, as a central Gulf Coast city has a subtropical climate, which consists of mild, wet winter and hot, wet summers. Mobile is also very vulnerable to storm surges from hurricanes, which the area frequently experiences. The City is served by Mobile Regional Airport. Mobile is home to the University of South Alabama, Bishop State Community College, Spring Hill College and the University of Mobile.

*Trade links between the two countries; preference being given to cities in countries where Australia has a free trade agreement or a proven trade record.*

Cockburn and Mobile share common business interests as both have the Austal ship building company as a major employer. Austal's yard in Mobile, Alabama, established in partnership with Bender Shipbuilding and Repair, delivers a new dimension in high-speed marine transport, utilizing the company's leading edge technology and design capabilities

Austal has strong links with Mobile with staff from Austal yards regularly travelling between our two countries. Many of the businesses in Cockburn are major clients of Austal –e.g. OneSteel and Ratheon, with a large number of jobs directly and indirectly dependent on this business.

The Mobile shipyard focuses entirely on defence shipbuilding, a specialization that is increasingly important to the Austal and Tenix shipyards. The recent awarding of the Air Warfare Defence Destroyer contract to the Australian Submarine Company will see a direct flow on of work to the AMC. Austal's bid for the Logistic Ship Replacement contract would also see a substantial flow of work into the AMC and businesses that service this facility. With the desire to establish a stronger defence industry cluster around the AMC, there is the potential to learn from Mobile's success.

Australia has also enjoyed a long and stable political relationship with the USA. The ANZUS alliance is now in its 50th year and we have recently signed a Free Trade Agreement. Our shared democratic values and interests make a Sister City relationship with a US City a logical extension of this political relationship.

Cultural links between the two countries; preference being given to cities in countries where Council determines that the City would benefit from a greater awareness and appreciation of that country's traditions and customs.

The City of Mobile has a strong education system focused on their local economy. There are 12 higher education institutions in Mobile, which are a mix of Universities, Community Colleges and Vocational Training Colleges, which have a defence and shipbuilding focus. The recent announcement by the West Australian State Government of a new TAFE College to be built at the Australian Marine Complex, with a focus on Oil and Gas, and an expansion of Defence and shipbuilding training, will see a similar level linkage of education to industry develop here in Cockburn. It is highly possible that education exchanges could occur in the future.

Friendship Agreement. The Mayor and senior officials from the City of Mobile have previously visited Cockburn. Following an informal contact recently with his Office, it is apparent there is considerable support in Mobile for the establishment of a formal relationship with Cockburn.

There are strong similarities between the two Cities and our economic base. There are also potential benefits that could arise from a closer working relationship. Our long-standing cultural and political ties make a relationship with a US city a worthwhile linkage. It is recommended that that the City establishes a Friendship Agreement with the City of Mobile, as a prelude to a possible full Sister City arrangement.

### **Strategic Plan/Policy Implications**

The Corporate Strategic Plan Key Result Areas which apply to this item are:-

#### *1. Managing Your City*

##### **Vision:**

Managing the City in a competitive, open and accountable manner.

##### **Objective:**

To manage Council affairs by employing publicly accountable practices.

Policy SC33 Sister City Relationships

### **Budget/Financial Implications**

There is a provision of \$40,000 in the Sister Cities account.

### **Legal Implications**

N/A

### **Community Consultation**

N/A

### **Attachment(s)**

N/A

### **Advice to Proponent(s)/Applicant**

N/A



**Implications of Section 3.18(3) Local Government Act, 1995**

Nil.

**10. (SCM 20/07/2005) - RESOLUTION OF COMPLIANCE (SECTION 3.18(3), LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1995)**

**RECOMMENDATION**

That Council is satisfied that resolutions carried at this Meeting and applicable to items concerning Council provided services and facilities, are:-

- (1) integrated and co-ordinated, so far as practicable, with any provided by the Commonwealth, the State or any public body;
- (2) not duplicated, to an extent Council considers inappropriate, services or facilities as provided by the Commonwealth, the State or any other body or person, whether public or private; and
- (3) managed efficiently and effectively.

**COUNCIL DECISION**

**11. CLOSURE OF MEETING**

Nil