

## MOTION OF WHICH NOTICE HAS BEEN GIVEN

Pursuant to Division 2 Regulation 16(5) of the Local Government (Meeting Procedures) Regulations 2015, please arrange for the following motion to be included on the next Council agenda.

### Cities Power Partnership draft motion

#### **Motion: Joining the Cities Power Partnership**

That Council supports and authorises the Mayor to sign up to the Cities Power Partnership (CPP).

#### **Background:**

The [Cities Power Partnership](#) is a free national program that exists to celebrate and accelerate the emission reduction/clean energy future. It is a coalition of mayors, councils and communities who are seeking to encourage a sustainable, non-polluting energy future. It is the largest climate action program for local government in the country.

#### **Discussion:**

By signing up to be a 'Power Partner', Kingborough Council would be joining Northern Midlands, Glamorgan Spring Bay, Brighton and Huon Valley councils as the fifth municipality in Tasmania to join the Cities Power Partnership as a natural extension to our declaration of a climate and biodiversity emergency.

In Kingborough Council's [Climate Change Plan 2019-2024](#), a key principle is to "Work cooperatively with other Councils and the Tasmanian Government to ensure that roles and responsibilities are appropriate and duplication is minimised" and to "Ensure that Kingborough is well placed to benefit from economic and development opportunities." Joining the Cities Power Partnership will support these key principles and further develop Kingborough's position as a climate leader and inspiration to other councils.

The benefits of joining include resource and knowledge sharing with other partners as well as associated positive public relations opportunities. This knowledge sharing includes support with applications for project funding, third party grants and renewable energy incentives as they become available.

Partner members in this programme have 6 months to select 5 key actions from the partnership pledges ranging from renewable energy, efficiency, transport and advocacy. They must identify a point of contact within the council who will liaise with the Climate Council and work to implement their actions. Pledges are submitted by each partner and profiled online.

For example, [Huon Valley Council's 5 key actions](#) are:

- Ensure Council fleet purchases meet strict greenhouse gas emissions requirements and support uptake of electric vehicles
- Provide fast-charging infrastructure throughout the city at key locations for electric vehicles
- Adopt best practice energy efficiency measures across all council buildings, and support community facilities to adopt these measures
- roll out energy-efficient lighting (particularly street lighting) across the municipality
- Install renewable energy (solar PV and battery storage) on council buildings for example childcare facilities, libraries, street lighting, recreation centres, sporting grounds, and council offices

**Finance:** As this is a free program, there are no immediate impacts on the current operational budget.

**Environment:** There are no environmental issues associated with joining this program. Any activities undertaken as part of the program will serve to improve environmental outcomes in the community.

**Risk:** There is a potential public relations risk if council is unable or unwilling to participate in developing and implementing 5 key actions. This risk is mitigated by the fact that council is already undertaking a number of activities which could be included as part of the Council's action plan. The Cities Power Partnership website explicitly states that "many trailblazing cities who are already leading will have some of their existing initiatives counted towards their power partnership pledge."

**Conclusion:**

Kingborough Council already plays a leading role in being a responsible steward for the climate as evidenced by our declaration of a climate and biodiversity emergency, the inclusion of section 1.4 in our Strategic plan 2020-2025 and various policies and initiatives. Signing up to the free Cities Power Partnership is a logical next step in demonstrating to the community that we take climate action seriously and will help provide the knowledge, resources and tools to be more effective than if we were working alone.