



City of **HOBART**

Memorandum: Lord Mayor
Deputy Lord Mayor
Elected Members

Response to Question Without Notice

LORD MAYORAL VEHICLE SAVINGS

Meeting: Finance and Governance Committee Meeting date: 18 February 2020

Raised by: Alderman Behrakis

Question:

Could the General Manager please advise, in the absence of a driver and a car being made available to the Lord Mayor, has there been a full audit (to quantify the savings, if any) and has there been a risk analysis undertaken for the safety of the Lord Mayor travelling to multiple events in own, taxi or Uber transport?

Response:

The Lord Mayor's chauffeuring budget has historically had an annual allocation of around \$41,000 for costs associated with the chauffeur as well as the lease and running costs of the vehicle.

As a result of the current Lord Mayor's decision to not use the Lord Mayor's vehicle, no expenditure was incurred for a driver post December 2018 or vehicle post January 2019 when the vehicle was sold.

An annual allocation for Lord Mayoral transportation of \$5,000 was quarantined from the chauffeuring savings and attributed to fund taxi and uber travel for the Lord Mayor or delegated Elected Members that would have otherwise been undertaken by the chauffeur in the Lord Mayor's vehicle as per the Council's Elected Members' Development and Support Policy.

The surplus budgeted funds of circa \$36,000 were returned as a recurring operational saving in the 2019/20 budget process.

There has been no independent audit of cost associated with the Lord Mayoral chauffeuring activity however, Council Officers are able to provide these details of expenditure against budget and are confident of their accuracy.

There has not been a formal risk analysis undertaken by the Council for the Lord Mayor or any elected member travelling to events.

As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Heath', written in a cursive style.

N D Heath
GENERAL MANAGER

Date: 20 May 2020
File Reference: F20/23419; 13-1-10