

REPORTS FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER

a8 [GM-CM] Destination North Coast

SUBMITTED BY: General Manager

Validms



Civic Leadership



Strengthening the Economy

LINKAGE TO INTEGRATED PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK:

- 1 Civic Leadership
 - 1.4 Strengthen coordination among Commonwealth and State Governments, their agencies and other service providers and Statutory Authorities to avoid duplication, synchronise service delivery and seek economies of scale
 - 1.4.1 Council will perform its functions as required by law and form effective partnerships with State and Commonwealth governments and their agencies to advance the welfare of the Tweed community

 - 3 Strengthening the Economy
 - 3.1 Expand employment, tourism and education opportunities
 - 3.1.4 Market the Tweed as a destination for business and tourism
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SUMMARY OF REPORT:

The State Government has called for expressions of interest to supply office space, infrastructure and support services for the newly formed Destination North Coast.

To house Destination North Coast in their own office, fitting within the selection criteria of the expression of interest, would cost more than (estimated) \$100,000 per annum.

As Council funds Destination Tweed \$882,180 per annum and they currently have office space, infrastructure and support services in place, making use of this resource to house Destination North Coast is the preferred option.

Submissions for expressions of interest close on 17 March 2017.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council not submit an expression of interest, but rather write a letter of offer to the NSW Government proposing a partnership arrangement whereby space and relevant services are supplied to Destination North Coast within the Destination Tweed facility.

REPORT:

The NSW Government on 6 July 2016 announced it would invest \$43 million over four years in a major overhaul in the way regional and rural areas attract visitors, including the creation of six new Destination Networks throughout NSW. The North Coast is one of the new regions.

The State Government has called for expressions of interest for office space, infrastructure and support services for the newly formed Destination North Coast;

SERVICES REQUIRED

SPECIFICATIONS RESPONSE

Office Space

- State the location.
- Area – state the size of the area and its location ground floor/1st floor etc.
- Cost – please indicate the cost of the premises, if any.
- Tenure – please state the period and any option period these premises will be provided for.

Provision of office infrastructure

- Telephones – please advise what access to a telephone system is available.
- Computer network – please specify if there will be access to a computer network with email, Word, Excel and PowerPoint and the number of work stations.

Provision of office services

- Reception – please specify if a reception area and receptionist is to be provided.
- Admin support – Please specify what admin support is available such as:
 - o Photocopying
 - o Scanning
 - o Filing cabinets
 - o Desks & chairs
 - o Admin staff.

Vehicles

- Dedicated vehicle – please specify if a vehicle will be made available and/or whether there are any carpooling options offered.

Due to Council's substantial annual tourism investment of \$882,180 to fund Destination Tweed, funding Destination North Coast to set up office in the Shire is cost prohibitive.

Destination Tweed currently has office space, infrastructure and support services in place and has agreed to make space and services available to Destination North Coast, should the NSW Government agree to Council's partnership proposal.

A letter of support will be issued to Council from Destination Tweed to that effect and will be included in Council's letter of offer to the NSW Government.

OPTIONS:

That Council:

1. Write a letter of offer to the NSW Government proposing a partnership arrangement whereby space and relevant services are supplied to Destination North Coast within the Destination Tweed facility. This letter will be submitted to the NSW Government by 5pm 17 March.
2. Take no action.
3. Submit an expression of interest to support Destination North Coast for the supply of office space, infrastructure and support services, as outlined above, at an estimated cost of more than \$100,000 per annum.

CONCLUSION:

As Council funds Destination Tweed \$882,180 per year and they currently have office space, infrastructure and support services in place, making use of this resource to house Destination North Coast is a cost effective and logical option. It is recommended that Council furnish the NSW Government with a letter of offer to this effect.

Destination Tweed has agreed to support Council's proposal and will supply a letter of support to be included in Council's proposal to the NSW Government.

COUNCIL IMPLICATIONS:

a. Policy:

Corporate Policy Not Applicable

b. Budget/Long Term Financial Plan:

Not Applicable.

c. Legal:

Not Applicable.

d. Communication/Engagement:

Inform - We will keep you informed.

UNDER SEPARATE COVER/FURTHER INFORMATION:

Attachment 1.

Expression of Interest – Headquarters for Destination North Coast (ECM 4449984)
