



**RYDE
TOWN COUNCIL**

Agenda Item 14

Briefing Note To: Meeting of the Full Town Council: 1 July 2019

Proposer: Councillor Diana Conyers

Background:

At a workshop in November 2017, the Council agreed the following Vision Statement: 'To support and enhance the health, wellbeing and economy of Ryde to the benefit of residents, local businesses and visitors within a culture that makes best use of our heritage and the beauty of Ryde.'

This states clearly our overall goal. However, it does not determine how we achieve this goal. In April 2018 the Council approved a Vision Paper (see attachment), which identifies some key projects and services necessary to achieve the Vision. However, this Paper has not been enough to provide the policy framework needed to determine how we address the many needs, demands and opportunities with which the Council is currently faced. Consequently, we are operating reactively rather than proactively and making decisions on an ad hoc basis. The Paper has also not been enough to reconcile the inevitable diversity of views that exists within the Council.

Proposal:

It is therefore proposed that the Council prepare a comprehensive Operational Strategy to provide the policy guidance needed to ensure the effective use of its resources to achieve its Vision and to help reconcile the diversity of views within the Council. The Strategy should help the Council to make decisions on, among other things, prioritisation of competing needs and demands, direct versus indirect involvement in service provision, ownership of assets, revenue raising, and the working relationship between the Council and the community. It is also proposed that a workshop, attended by councillors and staff and facilitated by an external consultant, be held to kick-start the preparation of the Strategy.

Proposal by Way of Notice of Motion:

That the Town Council resolves that:

1. The Council will prepare an Operational Strategy to provide guidance on how best to use its resources to achieve its Vision and to reconcile, as far as possible, the diversity of views within the Council.
2. The Strategy will provide guidance on, among other things, prioritisation of competing needs and demands, direct versus indirect involvement in service

provision, ownership of assets, revenue raising, and the working relationship between the Council and the community.

3. A workshop, attended by councillors and staff and facilitated by an external consultant, will be held to kick-start the preparation of the Strategy.

Budget Implications

Cost of external consultant to facilitate the workshop.

Legal Implications

Nil

Councillor Diana Conyers
Binstead Ward