

6.2 NOTICE OF MOTION: Cr Roslyn Harley – Publication of Gift Register

That Council REQUESTS the Chief Executive Officer to, by 31 July 2015, make the City of Vincent's Register of Gifts and Hospitality to Council Members and Employees publicly accessible on the City's website.

REASON:

To further enhance the City's good governance and transparency it is considered appropriate to adopt the City of Melbourne's practice of uploading its Register of Gifts and Hospitality to its website as a means of making the Register available for public inspection.

Local government legislation in Western Australia already requires the Chief Executive Officer of a local government to keep and make publicly available for inspection a register of notifiable gifts (including hospitality). Uploading this register to the City's website will simply make it easier for our community and customers to inspect this information.

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT:

Rules governing the acceptance, disclosure and recording of gifts by Council Members and employees are set out in Sections 5.82 and 5.94(u)(ii) of the *Local Government Act 1995*, Regulations 25, 29(1)(bb) and 34B of the *Local Government (Administration) Regulations 1996* and Part 4 of the City of Vincent's Code of Conduct for Council Members and Employees.

Generally speaking (and among other things), these rules require that "notifiable gifts" are to be disclosed by the recipient and recorded in a register by the Chief Executive Officer, which is to be made available for public inspection. The rules also require Council Members and staff to refrain from accepting "prohibited gifts", being those of a certain type and value.

A "notifiable gift" is defined as a gift worth between \$50 and \$300 (including multiple gifts received from the same giver within a 6 month period with a combined value equivalent to these limits). Notwithstanding, it is common practice for employees and Council Members to disclose and register all gifts that have been accepted, regardless of their value, even though there is no statutory requirement to do so.

Because the Act already requires the Gift Register to be made available for public inspection, uploading that register to the City's website will only improve accessibility to the Register.

The Chief Executive Officer supports the proposed Motion and if adopted by Council, the on-line version of the register would be updated simultaneously with the hard-copy register.