

10 Notices of Motion

10.1 Notice of Motion No. 1212 – Council Support of Workers Left Without a Safety Net

Cr Colleen Gates has given notice of the following:

Motion

Moved Cr Peter Hemphill, seconded Cr Angela Altair:

That Council:

1. Supports the national campaign by Welcoming Australia and Democracy in Colour to draw attention to people who are not eligible for current JobKeeper and JobSeeker support packages during the coronavirus (COVID-19) crisis.
2. Authorises the Mayor, on behalf of Council, to sign the Mayoral Declaration in Support of Workers Left Without A Safety Net.
3. Authorises the Mayor to respond to Welcoming Australia acknowledging our support for the declaration and to nominate the priorities our Council will focus on to support people in our community affected by COVID-19.
4. Calls on other tiers of government and the private sector to:
 - a. Extend current COVID-19 support measures to workers left without a safety net.
 - b. Provide financial and/or in-kind support to all workers affected by COVID-19.”

Carried.

On 3 May 2020 the Mayor, Cr Colleen Gates, received an email invitation on behalf of Welcoming Australia and Democracy in Colour to sign a Mayoral Declaration supporting vulnerable communities in the Hobsons Bay area as a part of a national advocacy campaign.

The campaign aims to draw attention and action in support of the more than 1.1 million people in Australia, including people seeking asylum, international students and workers on temporary visas, who are not eligible for current JobKeeper and JobSeeker COVID-19 support measures.

The Mayoral Declaration reads as follows:

“We, Mayors from across Australia, acknowledge that COVID-19 does not discriminate, and represents a significant threat to individuals and the cohesion and prosperity of our communities.

Similarly, we do not discriminate and recognise the value and contribution of all people to social, cultural, economic and civic life.

We appreciate the steps already made to create a safety net and support for charities, businesses, families and workers to ensure that we can navigate and eventually recover from this unprecedented crisis.

It's vital that we support all the people in our communities, and further measures are required to leave no worker behind. We commit to providing support to workers currently without a safety net.

We pledge to identify how our Councils can address and advance the following priorities...

...We call on other tiers of government and the private sector to:

- 1. Extend current COVID-19 support measures to workers left without a safety net.*
- 2. Provide financial and/or in-kind support to all workers affected by COVID-19*

Migrant workers, refugees, people seeking asylum and international students are part of the heartbeat of our local communities. Our neighbourhoods are enriched by their contributions, both culturally and economically."

Operative commitments of the requested declaration cover three priorities as follows:

1. We commit to offering financial assistance to workers in our Council area
2. We commit to providing in-kind support to workers in our Council area
3. We commit to a public declaration of our intent to support all people in our communities and working to ensure that nobody is left behind

Welcoming Australia has requested that Council nominate which of the three priorities we will commit to, or are already doing and to provide a quote highlighting our support to leaving nobody behind.

Outlined below are the priorities proposed to be fulfilled by Hobsons Bay City Council, which are consistent with Council's existing commitments to support our community through the COVID-19 crisis and its recovery.

1. We commit to offering financial assistance to workers in our Council area currently without a safety net by:
 - providing resiliency, hardship and community grants for community organisations providing support to people affected by COVID-19
 - partnering with local organisations to increase their capacity to support vulnerable people
2. We commit to providing in-kind support to workers in our Council area currently without a safety net by:
 - providing essential services, such as grocery deliveries, care packages, medicine collection etc.
3. We commit to a public declaration of our intent to support all people in our communities and working to ensure that nobody is left behind.