



Mr Tony Brun
Chief Executive Officer
City of Greater Geraldton
PO Box 101
GERALDTON WA 6531

Dear Tony

RE: FUTURE OF THE BATAVIA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (BROC)

I refer to the discussion at the BROC meeting held on 23 March 2012, where it was agreed:

“(That) Each group to go back and ask if BROC should continue and advise Sheri Moulds at the City of Greater Geraldton who will collate the responses.”

In this regard, please be advised that at its meeting held on 22 May 2012, the Council of the Shire of Irwin considered the matter and subsequently resolved as follows:

That Council advises the members of the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) that it no longer supports the continuation of BROC as appropriate alternatives are available in respect to future local government collaboration, networking, and resource sharing.

Your assistance in communicating this advice to your Council would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely

Darren Simmons
Chief Executive Officer

CEO.475

Subject: Future Continuation of the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils
Reporting Officer: Chief Executive Officer
Date of Report: 14 May 2012
File Reference: GR.LO.1
Voting Requirements: Simple Majority

Report Purpose:

To consider whether the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) should continue.

OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION/COUNCIL DECISION:

MOVED: Cr Scott

SECONDED: Cr Hepworth

That Council advises the members of the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) that it no longer supports the continuation of BROC as appropriate alternatives are available in respect to future local government collaboration, networking, and resource sharing.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

VOTING DETAILS:

8/0

Body/Background:

Since 2003, the Shire has been a member Council of the BROC, a Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils, which also has the City of Greater Geraldton and the Shires of Chapman Valley and Northampton as members.

Since inception, BROC members have agreed to collaborate on matters of common interest such as resource sharing, community development and capacity building, waste management, regional promotion and advocacy and coastal management.

However, it has become apparent that opportunities for collaboration have reduced significantly and it has often been difficult to develop sufficient agenda material in order to conduct an effective meeting of the BROC. On this basis and following a discussion at its meeting held on 23 March 2012, the BROC resolved:

“(That) Each group to go back and ask if BROC should continue and advise Sheri Moulds at the City of Greater Geraldton who will collate the responses.”

The Shire is in receipt of correspondence from the Shire of Northampton which outlines its desire for the BROC to discontinue.

Officer's Comment:

Whilst the existence of the BROC has provided a convenient local government networking and advocacy group for its members, it is difficult to identify many significant strategic advantages that the Shire has been able to accrue from its BROC membership that could not have been achieved through other channels.

In addition to its own lobbying, networking and advocacy direct with individual stakeholders, and its involvement with the Batavia Rural Group of Council's (which is the Shire's of Chapman Valley, Irwin, and Northampton in order to participate in the Royalties for Regions Country Local Government fund, regional component program) the Shire of Irwin has access to numerous regionally-based groups and agencies such as the Northern Country Zone of the Western Australian Local Government Association, Mid West Regional Road Group, the Mid West Development Commission, Mid West Strategic Infrastructure Group, Regional Development Australia, Mid West Chamber of Commerce and Industry and Geraldton Iron Ore Alliance.

Therefore, it is recommended that Council advises the members of the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) that it no longer supports the continuation of BROC as appropriate alternatives are available in respect to future local government collaboration, networking, and resource sharing.

6.5.8 BATAVIA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (BROC)

FILE REFERENCE:	4.1.13
CORRESPONDENT:	BROC
DATE OF REPORT:	3 April 2012
REPORTING OFFICER:	Garry Keeffe

SUMMARY:

Council to determine if the formation of the Batavia Regional Organisation of Councils (BROC) is to continue.

BACKGROUND:

The BROC (which is a Voluntary Regional Organisation of Councils) is a 'partnership' between the local governments of Chapman Valley, Geraldton, Greenough, Irwin and Northampton that agreed to collaborate on matters of common interest. It was formed in 2003.

The concept of forming a VROC is to attempt to maximize efficiencies and effectiveness of operations in areas such as:

- Resource sharing
- Joint tendering
- Waste management
- Inter-local government relationships
- Cross boundary planning, development and policy issues
- Economic development
- Coastal management
- Lobbying and promotion of the region
- Community development projects
- and other areas of common interest

At the recent BROC meeting the issue of its usefulness and achievements was raised and whether it should be disbanded. It was requested that each BROC member discuss this at their next Council meetings and provide a direction and whether to disband BROC or retain it.

COMMENT:

From a staff perspective the BROC started out with all good intentions but never achieved a lot and do not see its purpose in continuing.

The President and the CEO would often return from attending a BROC meeting wondering what its use really is and that our time could have been spent doing something else.

Since 2003 the BROC hasn't achieved anything of great detail and it appears that local governments get more results by approaching respective authorities, government officials direct than through the BROC. In addition the Northern Zone of the WA Local Government Association is also a better forum for such issues to be raised and pursued.

In summary from a management perspective there is no real purpose for BROC to continue.

VOTING REQUIREMENT:

Simple Majority Required:

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION – ITEM 6.5.8

That Council advise all BROC members that it does not support the continuation of the BROC as it has not achieved anything of real value and do not see it achieving anything in the future.

SHIRE OF NORTHAMPTON
Minutes of Ordinary Meeting of Council held at the Council Chambers, Hampton Road,
Northampton on the 20th April 2012.

4.8.3 REALIGNMENT OF COOLCALALAYA ROAD (ITEM 6.5.4)

Moved Cr PENN, seconded Cr SIMKIN

That Council list a provision of \$50,000 for the re-surveying and alignment of the Coolcalalaya Road in the 2012/13 Budget.

CARRIED 7/0

4.8.4 KALBARRI FORESHORE LANDSCAPE MASTER PLAN (ITEM 6.5.5)

Moved Cr PENN, seconded Cr GLIDDON

That Council advertise the draft Kalbarri Foreshore Landscape Master Plan for a period of two months to seek public comment.

CARRIED 7/0

4.8.5 EXTRA MASS PERMIT – GEORGE GREY DRIVE & PORT GREGORY ROAD (ITEM 6.5.6)

Moved Cr PARKER, seconded Cr CARSON

That Council advise Giacci Bros Pty Ltd and Main Roads WA Geraldton that it does not support the use of truck combinations of 36.5 metres in length on the Port Gregory Road or George Grey Drive due to safety concerns to other road users and the limited areas for safe overtaking.

CARRIED 7/0

4.8.6 BLACK SPOT PROGRAMME – GREY STREET KALBARRI (ITEM 6.5.7)

CEO requested that this item be deleted due to new information arising and therefore the submitting of Black Spot application will remain unchanged.

4.8.7 BATAVIA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS (BROC) (ITEM 6.5.8)

Moved Cr PENN, seconded Cr SIMKIN

That Council advise all BROC members that it does not support the continuation of the BROC as it has not achieved anything of real value and do not see it achieving anything in the future.

CARRIED 7/0

SHIRE OF CHAPMAN VALLEY

UNCONFIRMED MINUTES FOR ORDINARY MEETING OF COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS NABAWA ON WEDNESDAY 16th MAY 2012

AGENDA ITEM:	10.2.2
SUBJECT:	FUTURE OF BATAVIA REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS OF COUNCIL (BROC)
PROPONENT:	BATAVIA REGIONAL ORGANISATION OF COUNCILS
SITE:	N/A
FILE REFERENCE:	404.15
PREVIOUS REFERENCE:	
AUTHOR:	MR STUART BILLINGHAM

DISCLOSURE OF INTEREST

Nil

BACKGROUND

Council has previously discussed its future direction as a member of Batavia Regional Organisations of Council (BROC) at its Ordinary Meeting of Council held Wednesday 18 April 2012.

Each BROC member has been requested to provide a direction in the future of BROC and its possible retention or disbandment.

COMMENT

Further to correspondence received from the Shire of Northampton (attachment 1) and its resolution at its recent Council meeting to not support the continuation of BROC on the basis of its inability to achieve desired outcomes, it is requested that Shire of Chapman Valley reconsider its position and future direction.

STATUTORY ENVIRONMENT

Local Government Act 1995

POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Nil

STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS

Nil

VOTING REQUIREMENTS

Absolute Majority Vote Required. *

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION/ COUNCIL RESOLUTION

MOVED: CR ANTHONY FARRELL	SECONDED: CR BEVERLEY DAVIDSON
That Council resolves to advise all Batavia Regional Organisations of Councils (BROC) members that it supports the decision of disbandment of BROC given its inability to achieve desired outcomes.	
Voting 8/0 CARRIED	
Minute Reference 05/12 - 10	

