



City of **HOBART**

**MEMORANDUM: LORD MAYOR  
DEPUTY LORD MAYOR  
ELECTED MEMBERS**

## **DISCUSSING COUNCIL DECISIONS**

**Meeting: Finance and Governance Committee**

**Meeting date: 7 December  
2021**

**Raised by:** Councillor Coats

### **Question:**


Can the Director advise that when the Lord Mayor is giving a media interview on Council decisions, to what extent can the Lord Mayor reflect or insinuate whether or not they are errors, when their role is to appear on behalf of the Council?

### **Response:**

Under Section 27(1)(e) of the *Local Government Act 1993*, the Lord Mayor has a function to act as the spokesperson of the Council. In addition, under section 27(1A) of the Act, the Lord Mayor or Deputy Lord Mayor is to represent accurately the policies and decisions of the Council in performing the functions of Lord Mayor or Deputy Lord Mayor.

An Elected Member, including the Lord Mayor of the day, can express a personal opinion as long as it is clear that the comment is a personal opinion and not the position of the Council.

*As signatory to this report, I certify that, pursuant to Section 55(1) of the Local Government Act 1993, I hold no interest, as referred to in Section 49 of the Local Government Act 1993, in matters contained in this report.*



Kelly Grigsby  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Date: 9 February 2022  
File Reference: F21/130729