



City of **HOBART**

Memorandum: Lord Mayor
Deputy Lord Mayor
Elected Members

Response to Question Without Notice

COSTS OF MAINTAINING KUNANYI / MOUNT WELLINGTON

Meeting: Parks and Recreation Committee

Meeting date: 13 August 2020

Raised by: Councillor Ewin

Question:

- (a) Does the State Government provide any form of funding toward maintaining the Park, or is the cost borne exclusively by the City of Hobart?
- (b) Is there any way we can recoup any of these costs, since, as I understand it, kunanyi / Mount Wellington is the most visited tourism site in the state; especially when other sites such as Freycinet or Cradle Mountain receive huge amounts of state and federal funding?

Response:

The State Government provides funding for the management of kunanyi / Mount Wellington as follows:

- Funding directly the Wellington Park Management Trust for the employment of the Manager and support staff.
- Funding for the operational costs of the Trust
- Grant funds for specific projects such as the development of the Visitor and Recreation Strategy.
- Parks and Wildlife Service and TasWater, as State government agencies, fund works on land that they are responsible for within Wellington Park.

The City of Hobart funds works on the land owned by the City which includes the Springs precinct, the Summit and most of the Eastern face of kunanyi / Mount Wellington. This is identified as the responsibility of a land owner.

Wellington Park is in large part, a recreational resource for residents of the City of Hobart and the development of facilities and the works undertaken service the demands of the community and visitors.

Recouping the City's costs on kunanyi / Mount Wellington would require careful thought and close engagement with the Trust and other land managers due to the porous nature of access to the facilities in Wellington Park.

There is no mechanism available to the City to recover costs expended on assets in Wellington Park at present.

The imposition of an entrance fee to the Park could be one options to be explored. Charges might take the form of entry fees to the Park for vehicles, or users or parking fees for vehicles using defined car parking spaces.

Infrastructure to collect these fees would need to be approved by the Trust and given the porous nature of access it is likely that only vehicle entry fees and parking fees would be a reliable source of revenue as the only access point is Pinnacle Road. Collection of such fees could be labour intensive.

Any proposal to establish fees for entry or fees for parking in Wellington Park would need to be included in the Wellington Park Management Plan before such fees could be applied.

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.



John Fisher
MANAGER BUSHLAND



Glenn Doyle
DIRECTOR CITY AMENITY

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