

Destination Coromandel and Thames Visitor Information Centre 2015-2018 Funding Agreements

TO Economic Development Committee
FROM Ben Day - DCE
DATE 15 May 2015
SUBJECT **Destination Coromandel and Thames Visitor Information Centre Funding Agreements: 2015 - 2018**

1 Purpose of Report

To approve the funding agreements (2015 - 2018) to operate Destination Coromandel and the Thames Visitor Information Centre.

2 Background

The Council has been funding a Regional Tourism Organisation (RTO) since its inception as Tourism Coromandel in the 1990s.

In 2011, the RTO was restructured as Destination Coromandel (DC), with a Board of three trustees and no industry membership base.

The RTO is a Council Controlled Organisation (CCO), funded by Thames-Coromandel District and Hauraki District Councils.

The Thames-Coromandel District Council made decisions in 2013 and 2014 to transfer the ownership and operations of the district's two major Visitor Information Centres (VIC) located at Thames and Whitianga to the RTO.

The Whitianga VIC was transferred to DC from 1 July 2014 and the Thames centre is now due to join the RTO from 1 July 2015.

A funding agreement is already in place with Destination Coromandel to operate the Whitianga VIC until 30 June 2018.

Council has approved the future funding of the RTO and VICs at its Long Term Plan (LTP) deliberations in May 2015.

3 Issue

The current DC funding agreement expires on 30 June 2015 and the current funding agreement for the Thames VIC, operated by a local Incorporated Society also expires on 30 June 2015; transition plans with DC are well advanced to take over the Thames VIC from 1 July this year.

New funding agreements with DC are therefore required to operate the RTO function and Thames VIC from 1 July 2015 until 30 June 2018.

Hauraki District Council has not confirmed their funding of DC through their LTP process to date.

4 Discussion

The Economic Development Committee is required to approve the attached funding agreements; the agreements have been drafted by the Council's in-house legal team and the financials reflect those in the Council's 2015 LTP.

5 Suggested Resolution(s)

That the Economic Development Committee:

1. Receives the 'Destination Coromandel and Thames Valley Visitor Information Centre 205-2018 Funding Agreements' report dated 15 May 2015.
2. Approve the Funding Agreements for Destination Coromandel and Thames Visitor Information Centre and delegate to the Deputy Mayor and the Deputy CE to sign the contracts on behalf of the Council

References-Tabled/Agenda Attachments

Attachment A *Destination Coromandel Funding Agreement 2015 - 2018*

Attachment B *Thames Visitor Information Centre Funding Agreement 2015 - 2018*

Attachment A

[Attachment A - Destination Coromandel 2015-18 Funding Agreement](#)

Attachment B

Attachment B - Destination Coromandel Visitor Information Centre 2015-...