



GLAMORGAN SPRING BAY
COUNCIL

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MEDIA RELEASE

From: Mayor Bertrand Cadart
Organisation: Glamorgan Spring Bay Council
Contact details: Mayor Bertrand Cadart
Subject: Purchase of new Council Offices in Triabunna
Date: 25/11/13

For immediate release -

The Mayor of the Glamorgan Spring Bay Council, Bertrand Cadart, has announced today that the Council has just finalised the purchase of new Council Chambers and staff offices in Triabunna.

Council will move to the new premises at 5 Esplanade West, Triabunna (formerly the "Triabunna Call Centre") early in 2014.

Mayor Cadart said: *"This is a state of the art commercial building that has been sitting empty in Triabunna for many years and after exploring many options for new office facilities, this building was identified as the best option based on cost effectiveness. The existing Council Chambers at Triabunna are of a very poor standard as an operational office building and it has been brought to our attention continually that they are not up to building safety standards, including not having proper wheel chair access, lunch room facilities or adequate meeting room space. All Council office staff will now be comfortably accommodated in this one centralised building and not spread inefficiently across different buildings and locations. In addition to this, many vehicle accidents have occurred around the entry and exit to the existing Triabunna Council Chambers due to the current access points and this new location will provide much safer access and better parking facilities for staff and visitors to the Council offices.*

Council investigated carefully all of the cost options, including renovating and refurbishing the existing Triabunna Council Chambers in Vicary Street but the option of purchasing such a high quality existing commercial building was by far the most cost effective option. "

As members of the community will be aware, the options regarding office accommodation for Council have been provided for and referenced in previous Annual Plans and Annual Reports. The final decision to purchase the new building was carried unanimously (i.e. voted for by all Councillors) in a closed session of Council in June 2013, as it was a commercial in confidence matter (Section 15, Subsection (2), (e) of the Local Government Act 1993).

The purchase of 5 Esplanade West, Triabunna was very good value as it has the added advantage of Council now having acquired additional land next to the Triabunna Elder Care Units that was lost as part of the original "Call Centre" development. This land is now back in Council's possession and can be put to very good future use for up to an additional 8 Elder Care Units within the community.

The new Council Chambers will provide improved facilities and working space for staff and all visitors to the building for now and well into the future.

The Mayor said:

“This purchase clearly demonstrates Council’s commitment to and future belief in the township of Triabunna as the commercial hub of Glamorgan Spring Bay, situated just over an hour from our capital city Hobart and Hobart Airport. I’m aware there have been many rumours about where the future Council Chambers would be located, including the possibility of Swansea but this announcement puts the rumours to rest.”

Council will seek expressions of interest for the future use of the existing Council Chambers in Vicary Street, Triabunna and Noyes Street, Swansea. Both of these buildings are in prime locations in their respective towns with regards to future development opportunities and have the potential to deliver much needed added economic stimulus for the communities.

Ends

For more information please contact Mayor Bertrand Cadart. Phone: 0407 511 454