



MEDIA RELEASE
Wednesday 19 July 2017

Waratah-Wynyard Council would like to announce that Michael Stretton has tendered his resignation at General Manager.

Mr Stretton advised staff of his decision to relocate with his family to take up the position of General Manager of the City of Launceston.

“I have to say that this has not been an easy decision for me as I have thoroughly enjoyed my time at Waratah-Wynyard and believe that we have made great strides in creating an organisation of which we can all be very proud,” Mr Stretton said.

“In particular, I have really enjoyed working with the Councillors, Executive Management Team and staff over the last 2 ½ years and believe that the organisation is in a very strong position from a strategic, financial and operational perspective.

“I am very proud of what we have achieved as a team during my time here and I believe that the Council is now in good stead to keep moving forward into a very bright future.

“I have said for a while now that I believe that the Waratah-Wynyard municipal area is poised for a period of economic growth and prosperity and markers such as the approval of the Table Cape Resort and the awarding of the Metro bus contract to Elphinstone’s are all serving to reinforce my belief.”

Mr Stretton has had more than 20 years of experience in local government and previously served as the Director of Development Services for Launceston before taking on the General Manager position at Waratah-Wynyard in 2014.

He will replace retiring City of Launceston General Manager, Robert Dobrzynski, and is excited about the new role.

“I am genuinely excited to be re-joining the City of Launceston as General Manager and look forward to applying all that I have learned to guide the organisation to be an industry leading best practice Council, which continues to deliver a progressive and innovative agenda for the City,” he said.

“My family and I believe that now is the perfect time to re-locate back to Launceston as it promises to be such an exciting stage of development and growth for the City through initiatives such as the City Deal, City Heart Project, UTAS relocation, Northbank redevelopment and many others.”

Waratah-Wynyard Mayor Robby Walsh paid tribute to Mr Stretton on his time with Council.

“On behalf of the Councillors and myself I would like to offer my heartfelt congratulations to Michael for his new appointment and while we will miss him here we wish him the very best in his new role,” Mayor Walsh said.

“His time at Waratah-Wynyard has been extremely productive and his relationship with councillors, council staff and community members has created enormous respect.

“He has made significant contributions to what is going to be a very bright future for our municipal area and the region in general.

“Our best wishes are extended to him and his family and congratulations to him on his new appointment with the City of Launceston.”

Mr Stretton will continue in his role as General Manager with Waratah-Wynyard Council until Monday 18 September, with the Council Meeting being his last official duty.

He is due to commence his position with the City of Launceston in mid-October.

Further enquiries may be directed to:- Communications Officer Patrick Fahy on 0427 207 57.

**Authorised for general media distribution by Michael Stretton, General Manager,
Waratah-Wynyard Council on Wednesday 19 July 2017**

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