

WALKER Damien

From: Brett Godfrey [CTPI 49-Sch4]
Sent: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 4:49 PM
To: WALKER Damien
Cc: Leanne (leanne.coddington@queensland.com)
Subject: Potential Conflict

Hi Damien – I spoke to the Minister last Saturday night about my understanding that there is a pending EOI process for a number of prospective commercially provided walks in the State.

I understand these may well be issued with public submissions sought within the short term.

As you may well know I am the controlling shareholder and on the board of the Tasmanian Walking Co p/l. Irrespective of their eminent position in the guided walking market space I have decided that while Chair of TEQ I will not likely participate in any QLD based EOI's. So no issue here I believe.

I am however also a shareholder and hold one of 4 board seats with AWC (Australian Walking Company). AWC has been active in this space for some time now and has been keen to pursue investment in QLD. It is frankly not possible for me to prevent AWC should they decide to participate. They have a small team that assess all opportunities and write the business cases with recommendations to the board.

This second investment is the one I spoke to the Minister about. She mentioned that there is a conflict resolution procedure or arbitrator-like process that can advise on such potential issues?

Are you aware and if so can you provide any guidance over and above declaring my potential conflicts in AWC?

Kind Regards,

Brett

Director-General Information Briefing Note

Title: Mr Brett Godfrey, Chair, Tourism and Events Queensland Board – potential conflict of interest

Recommendation

1. That the Director-General **note** the role of Queensland's Integrity Commissioner in relation to the provision of advice on ethics and integrity matters.

Background

2. Mr Brett Godfrey, Chair, Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) Board has pecuniary interests in the Australian Walking Company (AWC); as a shareholder and Director.
3. The Special Projects Unit (SPU), Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games (DITID) is progressing a number of state-led ecotourism projects in partnership with private sector operators. These projects include the development of the Wangetti and Thorsborne Trails, and investigation of ecotourism experience development on Whitsunday Island, and in the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast regions.

Key Issues

4. Ms Leanne Coddington, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), TEQ is involved in the cross-government Project Control Group for the projects. Mr David Morgans, Director, Destination and Experience Development, TEQ is also directly participating in delivery of the projects and supporting SPU in their project deliberations/decisions.
5. As TEQ is involved in governance arrangements for these projects, due to Mr Godfrey's interests in AWC, there may be a public perception of a conflict of interest should AWC submit a proposal to run a commercial experience under an expression of interest process.
6. One option would appear to be for TEQ to no longer sit on the assessment panel for the upcoming tender for potential operators of the new walks, and TEQ not joining Project Control Group consideration of the assessment panel's recommendations.
7. However, TEQ should await formal advice from the Integrity Commissioner before proceeding with any 'remedial' actions.

Legal implications

8. The role of Queensland's Integrity Commissioner includes the provision of confidential advice on ethics and integrity matters. This advice can be provided to Ministers, members of the Legislative Assembly, ministerial staff, senior public servants, and other designated persons (as defined under the *Integrity Act 2009*).
9. As such, both the Chair and CEO are able to seek the Commissioner's advice on whether there would be a perceived conflict of interest, and options on how these conflicts could be resolved.

Financial implications

10. N/A

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Risks for the department

11. The key risk for DITID is that the public perceives a conflict of interest. This perception could potentially damage the projects' and DITID's reputations.

Media implications

12. There may be negative media arising from the above.

Consultation

13. Consultation has occurred with the Department of the Premier and Cabinet, and the Office of the Queensland Integrity Commissioner.

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RTI Act 2009

28 SEP 2018

Please quote: CTS 26995/18
Contact officer: Mr Arthur Burn
Contact phone: 07 3333 5270



Mr Brett Godfrey
Chair
Tourism and Events Queensland
brett.godfrey@queensland.com

Department of
Innovation,
Tourism Industry
Development and the
Commonwealth Games

Dear Mr Godfrey

Thank you for your email dated 12 September 2018 seeking advice regarding a potential integrity situation arising from your connection with the Australian Walking Company (AWC).

The Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games is working with the Department of Environment and Science (DES) in progressing a number of state-led ecotourism projects in partnership with private sector operators. These projects include the development of the Wangetti and Thorsborne Trails, and investigation of ecotourism experience development on Whitsunday Island and on the Gold Coast and Sunshine Coast regions.

As Tourism and Events Queensland (TEQ) is involved in governance arrangements for these projects, I understand you are concerned there may be public perception of a conflict of interest where AWC might submit proposals for commercially provided walks under the projects.

The role of Dr Nikola Stepanov, Queensland's Integrity Commissioner includes the provision of confidential advice on ethics and integrity matters to Ministers, Members of the Legislative Assembly, Ministerial staff, senior public servants, and other designated persons (as defined under the *Integrity Act 2009*). Both yourself and Ms Leanne Coddington, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), TEQ are able to seek the Commissioner's advice on integrity matters, such as this potential conflict of interest. Further details are available online at www.integrity.qld.gov.au/conflicts-of-interest.aspx.

I suggest you and Ms Coddington jointly write to the Commissioner seeking advice on how this matter could be managed by TEQ.

In doing so, you will need to provide sufficient information for the Commissioner to give this advice. For example, detailing TEQ's role in the governance of the state-led ecotourism projects – the involvement of the CEO in the cross-government Project Control Group, as well as participation of other TEQ officers in project deliberations/decisions. Your letter to the Commissioner should be sent via email at integrity.commissioner@integrity.qld.gov.au.

I hope this advice is of assistance.

Yours sincerely


Damien Walker
Director-General

CC: Ms Leanne Coddington, CEO, TEQ
Leanne.Coddington@queensland.com
MGR@queensland.com

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BRISBANE QLD 4000
PO Box 15168
RPT 18 546 ST QLD 4002

Telephone +61 7 3333 5122
Website www.ditld.qld.gov.au
ABN 83 481 966 722

File A

4 of 21

R

STRANO John

From: STRANO John
Sent: Thursday, 15 February 2018 4:19 PM
To: Heath Garratt
Subject: RE: Visit to Tasmania - potential contacts and links to information

Great
Look forward to it

Regards



Queensland
Government

John Strano
Special Advisor
Special Projects Unit
Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games
P: 07 3452 7715 | E: john.strano@dsd.qld.gov.au |
Level 26 | 111 George Street | Brisbane QLD 4000
PO Box 15009 | City East QLD 4002

From: Heath Garratt [mailto:CTPI 49-Sch4]
Sent: Thursday, 15 February 2018 3:59 PM
To: John Strano <John.Strano@dsdmip.qld.gov.au>
Cc: Phil Dornauf [CTPI 49-Sch4]; Ros Young [CTPI 49-Sch4]
Subject: RE: Visit to Tasmania - potential contacts and links to information

G'day John,
As discussed, 10:30am Wednesday next week should work fine. Our street address is:
Quamby Estate
1145 Westwood Road
Hagley 7292

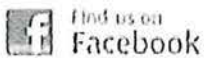
Ros and Phil are expecting to discuss with you the good and the bad related to operating in Tasmania's reserved lands. What's involved in setting up an operation, what the key business risks are, what our obligations and expectations are as a commercial licence/lease holder are...
If you've got anything further to add to that just respond to this email. Otherwise we'll have a good chat next week.

Cheers,
Heath

Heath Garratt
General Manager
Tasmanian Walking Company, PO Box 65, Hagley TAS 7292
CTPI 49-Sch4 P (03) 6392 2211 M CTPI 49-Sch4 F (03) 6392 2277
Tasmanian Walking Company - www.taswalkingco.com.au



Gold 2016 Tasmanian Tourism Awards – Ecotourism | Silver 2016 Tasmanian Tourism Awards – Adventure
Winner 2015 Boutique Hotels – Sustainability | Winner 2014 LITVA Spa Awards – Best Eco Spa
Hall of Fame Tasmanian Tourism Awards - Ecotourism



From: John Strano [mailto:John.Strano@dsd.qld.gov.au]
Sent: Tuesday, 13 February 2018 3:54 PM
To: Elliott, Julie (Parks)
Cc: [redacted] 73(2)Irrelevant; Heath Garratt; [redacted] 73(2)Irrelevant
[redacted] 73(2)Irrelevant
Subject: Re: Visit to Tasmania - potential contacts and links to information

Thanks for saving my life, Julie
See you Monday

Regards
John Strano
Special Advisor
Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development and the Commonwealth Games
111 George St
Brisbane
[redacted] CTPI 49-Sch4

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Elliott, Julie (Parks) <Julie.Elliott@parks.tas.gov.au>
Sent: Tuesday, February 13, 2018 2:08:35 PM
To: John Strano
Cc: [redacted] 73(2)Irrelevant; [redacted] CTPI 49-Sch4; [redacted] 73(2)Irrelevant
[redacted] 73(2)Irrelevant
Subject: Visit to Tasmania - potential contacts and links to information

Hello John

The contacts that Jason suggest are:

Sch3(7)

Heath Garrant - CTPI 49-Sch4 - Tas Walking Company

73(2)Irrelevant

Parks and Wildlife

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/>

60 Great Walks

<http://www.parks.tas.gov.au/file.aspx?id=43050>

73(2)Irrelevant

Regards Julie

Julie Elliott

Executive Assistant

to the Deputy Secretary

Tasmania Parks and Wildlife Service

Level 2, Lands Building, 134 Macquarie Street Hobart

GPO Box 1751 Hobart TAS 7001

General Enquiries: 1300 TASPARKS (1300 827 727)

Direct Ph: (03) 6165 4271 | Fax: (03) 6173 0226

Email: julie.elliott@parks.tas.gov.au

Web: www.parks.tas.gov.au

You  



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the Wonder

www.parks.tas.gov.au

Email Protocol: In line with efficient email protocol, I check email several times per day. If the matter is urgent, please ring me.

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STRANO John

From: Phil Dornauf [CTPI 49-Sch4]
Sent: Wednesday, 21 February 2018 8:29 AM
To: STRANO John
Cc: Ros Young
Subject: Vist to Tasmanian walking Co Wed 10:30am.

Hi John

It can be a bit difficult to find us when you get to Quamby.

Give me a call when you arrive I will come down and meet you in the carpark.

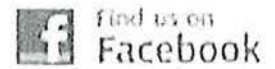
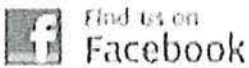
CTPI 49-Sch4

Cheers

Phil Dornauf
Head of Operations
Tasmanian Walking Company, PO Box 65, Hagley TAS 7292
E: [CTPI 49-Sch4] P: (03) 6392 2211 F: (03) 6392 2277 W: [CTPI 49-Sch4]
Tasmanian Walking Company - www.taswalkingco.com.au



Gold 2016 Tasmanian Tourism Awards – Ecotourism | Silver 2016 Tasmanian Tourism Awards – Adventure
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Tasmania Program

David Edwards and John Strano

18 February to 21 February 2018

Sunday 18 February, 2018

8 30 am Depart Brisbane on VA702

12 25pm Arrive Hobart

Collect hire car- Avis

Accommodation-

Lenna of Hobart

20 Runnymede St, Battery Point

03 2320 3900

Monday 19 February, 2018

73(2)Irrelevant

Accommodation

Lenna of Hobart

20 Runnymede St, Battery Point

03 2320 3900

R

Tuesday, 20 February, 2018

Drive north to Derby -- 3 hours 40 mins

Midday Arrive Derby

73(2)Irrelevant

Drive to Launceston – 1 hour 30mins

Pm Arrive Launceston

Accommodation

Mantra Charles Hotel

287 Charles St, Launceston

Ph 03 6337 4100

Wednesday, 21 February, 2018

73(2)Irrelevant

10 30am - Meet Heath Garrett, CEO, Tasmanian Walking Company, Quamby Estate, 1145 Westwood Rd, Hagley Ph CTPI 49-Sch4

Remainder of day- Site visits in Launceston area

17 10pm Depart Launceston on QF2286 for Melbourne.

6.25pm – Arrive in Melbourne

7.15pm – Depart Melbourne on QF634 for Brisbane

8 25pm Arrive Brisbane

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73(2)Irrelevant

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73(2)Irrelevant

From: Gina Woodward <[REDACTED] CTPI 49-Sch4 >
Sent: Thursday, 13 September 2018 1:08 AM
To: Brett Godfrey
Cc: John Strano (John.Strano@dsmip.qld.gov.au)
Subject: Re: QLD walk EOI's

Of course Brett. Many thanks.

John, I'm just at a trade event overseas but will respond with more info later this week.

Cheers, g

From: Brett Godfrey <[REDACTED] CTPI 49-Sch4 >
Date: Wednesday, 12 September 2018 at 4:22 PM
To: Gina Woodward <[REDACTED] CTPI 49-Sch4 >
Cc: "John Strano (John.Strano@dsmip.qld.gov.au)" <John.Strano@dsmip.qld.gov.au>
Subject: QLD walk EOI's

Hi Gina – John works with the QLD Government. I understand they are looking to release some EOI's for potential walks in the State and asked me for some credible operators. I suggested he contact you. I'm sure you could send out a note on behalf of John to the Great Walk operators or perhaps you could given John there details and he can contact himself. I'll leave the 2 of you to agree.

Kind Regards

Brett

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CAMERON David (DITID)

From: SCOTT Darren
Sent: Friday, 15 February 2019 10:22 AM
To: CAMERON David (DITID)
Subject: FW: QLD walk EOI's



Darren Scott
Project Executive Director Investment Development
Special Projects Unit
Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development
and the Commonwealth Games

P + 61 7 3565 9402 | M CTPI 49-Sch4
E: darren.scott@ditid.qld.gov.au | W: www.dtesb.qld.gov.au
Level 26 | 111 George Street | Brisbane QLD 4000 | PO Box 15168 | City East QLD 4002

From: KEATING Steve
Sent: Wednesday, 10 October 2018 8:27 PM
To: SCOTT Darren
Cc: EDWARDS David (DITID)
Subject: Re: QLD walk EOI's

3(2)Irrelevant and Brett Godfrey both engaged and asked to support
Regards

Sent from my iPhone



73(2)Irrelevant

73(2)Irrelevant

From: SCOTT Darren <Darren.Scott@ditid.qld.gov.au>

Date: Wednesday, 10 October 2018 at 10:52 AM

To: Gina Woodward <[REDACTED] CTPI 49-Sch4 [REDACTED]>

Cc: KEATING Steve <Steve.Keating@ditid.qld.gov.au>

Subject: RE: QLD walk EOI's

Hi Gina,

Let's wait until you are back for a proper catch up. In the meantime please see below brief overview.

As Brett G said in the original email, the Queensland Government is looking to offer opportunities for the private sector to create ecotourism experiences in protected areas.

73(2)Irrelevant

Regards,
Darren

<image001.png>Darren Scott

Project Executive Director Investment Development

Special Projects Unit

Department of Innovation, Tourism Industry Development
and the Commonwealth Games

P + 61 7 3565 9402 | M [REDACTED] CTPI 49-Sch4 [REDACTED]

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STRANO John

From: Brett Godfrey [CTPI 49-Sch4]
Sent: Wednesday, 5 September 2018 9:09 AM
To: STRANO John
Subject: Re: Advising QLD gov on national park access and grants

John - [CTPI 49-Sch4] I'll come up with names for you. I'm walking the 3 Capes.

Get [Outlook for Android](#).

From: STRANO John
Sent: Tuesday, 4 September, 11:11 am
Subject: RE: Advising QLD gov on national park access and grants
To: Brett Godfrey

Brett

We are going to go to the market late this month to seek expressions of interest for three projects
-Thorsborne Walk
-Hinchinbrook Is, and
-Cooloola Walk.

Would you be able to suggest five or so likely industry leaders we could alert to the opportunities on an informal basis prior to going out officially?
We have already spoken over the last couple of months to the Experience Co and Chris Morris but I would expect you would have more suggestions.

Regards

John Strano
Special Advisor
Special Projects Unit
Department of Innovation and Tourism Industry Development
and the Commonwealth Games

P 07 3565 9408 Pls note new number

M [CTPI 49-Sch4]
111 George Street, Brisbane QLD 4000
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