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## MEDIA RELEASE

6 January 2022

### Council resolves to hold public meeting

A petition requesting a public meeting to discuss the process undertaken by the Huon Valley Council for recruiting and appointing the new General Manager was considered at a Special Council Meeting on 4 January 2022.

Council resolved to hold and record the public meeting on 4 February 2022 at the Huonville Town Hall. The meeting will be held between 6pm and 8pm and chaired by an independent facilitator. The independent facilitator will be skilled with a sound and practical application of local government legislation and facilitating public meetings.

The petition specifically requests that the Council hold a public meeting to:

- enable a public discussion of the process undertaken by the council for the appointment of the new General Manager,
- consider the implications of the conflict(s) of interest involved, and
- discuss what action(s) the council should undertake to rectify the situation

To require Council to call a public meeting the petition must be signed by at least 5 per cent of the electors of the Huon Valley.

The assessment of the petition found there were 1,378 signatures, around 8.5 per cent of electors. This means Council is responsible for and required to hold a public meeting under Section 60 of the *Local Government Act 1993*. The Council is also required to set the Rules accordingly.

Council will publish the details of the public meeting in the Mercury and the Huon News.

Mayor Bec Enders said the public meeting will meet Public Health directives, therefore registration will be required to attend the meeting. Registration for attendance will be made available on the Council website at least seven days before the meeting.

**Communications & Media Officer**

Huon Valley Council

[communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au](mailto:communications@huonvalley.tas.gov.au)



“An alternative venue may be considered, taking into account the number of registrations, the ability to record the meeting and ensuring that the event remains COVID safe with current advice from Public Health. We will keep people updated through our website and social media channels about any changes.”

The meeting will be held in accordance with the Public Meeting Agenda and Rules for Debate. Details on this and how to make a submission are outlined on our website.

**For more information: Mayor Bec Enders (03) 6264 0300**