

Questions Submitted in Writing – Special Council Meeting – 2 February 2022

Prabha Kutty, Colac

1. **My interrelated questions relates to the case study on page 22 of the environment strategy review report and how it relates to the BSW Climate Alliance that starts in July 2022 and which the majority of Councillors have voted not to join now but with the possibility of joining at a future date.**

Does this mean that we were a member of an informal alliance for 6 years but decided not to join the alliance as a founding member once it was formalized? If so what membership status will we hold in this group from 1 July if, as I understand, we still have a seat at the table? What happens to the Climate Adaptation Plan as it applies to our council?

A related question is whether we have approached the G21 group regarding an alternative alliance (as requested by the majority of councillors) and what has been the outcome?

I ask these questions in accordance with the overarching governance principles relating to council transparency.

Response from General Manager, Environment and Infrastructure

Council voted not to become a founding member of the now established Barwon South West Climate Alliance, allowing others to undertake the work of exploring the governance model and refining the role of the alliance. Council is still invited to consider becoming a member of the alliance and its consideration can be informed by the work done by the founding members. Council will consider membership to the Alliance before the end of the 2021-22 Financial Year.

Council has its own Climate Adaptation Plan, the Colac Otway Climate Chang Adaptation Plan 2017-27 and Council is committed to implementing that plan.

Council's CEO and Mayor approached the G21 group regarding an alternate Alliance and G21 indicated that it has no plans to form or administer an alternate climate change or greenhouse alliance.