



MEDIA STATEMENT | 28 March 2023

For some time, the City of Victor Harbor has been liaising and engaging with Mr Taplin about his marina proposal for The Bluff.

Council was first made aware of the proposal in 2020, and has considered the proposal in line with its [Unsolicited Proposal Policy and Guidelines](#).

The marina proposal has received significant attention from the community due to its scale and location.

At the Ordinary Council meeting held on Monday 27 March 2023, Council resolved to provide an allocation of \$30,000 in the draft 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget for the purposes of undertaking independent community consultation on The Bluff marina proposal.

Formally seeking community feedback will assist Council to make informed decisions on the proposal, and give an opportunity for the community to contribute towards any future decisions.

Subject to further budget deliberations and the project remaining in the final 2023/24 Annual Business Plan and Budget, an independent third party will be engaged to undertake this work and examine community sentiment around Mr Taplin's marina proposal.

City of Victor Harbor Mayor, Dr Moira Jenkins, said this decision places the community's needs and desires at the forefront of Council's decision-making.

"This is a significant proposal that has been put forward. We need to understand our community's views before we can offer our support," said Mayor Jenkins.

"This does not mean the Council endorses the project at this stage; rather, the Council is providing residents and ratepayers with an opportunity to learn more and contribute their thoughts."

It's important to note that consultation is one stage in the decision-making process. In addition to understanding community sentiment, a range of other considerations would need to be considered in regard to Mr Taplin's marina proposal. This includes, but is not limited to, State Government support, land tenure matters, environmental impacts, any heritage limitations, and funding/monetary considerations.

Over the past twelve months, Council has undertaken significant consultation to help shape the development of a Master Plan for The Bluff. The feedback received from our community as part of this consultation will continue to be considered as part of future decision-making.

Council thanks the community for their interest and valuable feedback thus far.