

Save Our Beaches Statement August 2018.

In April this year Council resolved to defer the business case until the Cowes Jetty location could be investigated and to undertake this investigation Council sought additional funding from the Government.

Then Council wrote to the Minister, as per the resolution, and this formalized the position that there would be no more funding.

SOB now put forward the following appropriate action to progress this matter in line with the Communities expectation:

That at the Council meeting in September that the Council resolves:

1. Based on Community Feedback that the Council dismisses all 4 options presented in the business case,
2. The Council retains its support in principle for a car ferry and the other findings in the business case albeit there is now no location nominated,
3. The Council acknowledges the recent business case process has highlighted that there is support from the community to investigate the car ferry but only at the Cowes Jetty,
4. The Council has recently received updated support from the Community to investigate the Cowes Jetty but only if the other 4 options in the business case were dismissed,
5. The Council will write to the Government and inform them of the above and ask the Government if they will assist to progress this matter by either:
 - a. Providing the Council the money required to undertake an investigation which will include
 - i. As the first step appropriate and meaningful community engagement program
 - ii. A detailed traffic and parking impact assessment
 - iii. An assessment on the impacts on the Jetty Triangleor
 - b. Alternatively will the Government undertake these tasks themselves
6. Advise the Government if the new process determines the Cowes Jetty suitable for a car ferry then the Community expects a full Environment Effects Assessment will be conducted as the next step prior to design.

SOB's position always has been and continues to be:

1. We object to any development of a car ferry on the rare north facing beaches of Cowes
2. We support a new process providing it commences with appropriate and meaningful community engagement program.
3. Any new process requires a full Environment Effects Assessment to be conducted before moving from concept to design.

SOB has not opposed the improvement of any existing infrastructure, and will not, unless it breaches our clear and transparent position above.

SOB will not support any further processes until the existing process, which cannot be updated to include the Cowes Jetty area according to Mark Olsen, is completed, rejected, abandoned or terminated in such way that the community is able to gain closure on the current Final Business Case.

SOB acknowledges there is a clear community mandate to investigate the Cowes Jetty and supports the Council following proper process in investigating projects that have wide community support.