Hong Kong

ITEM 17.3 14/07/2020

Council

Council Member Councillor Martin

2019/01923 Public Contact Officer: Ian Hill, Director Growth

MOTION ON NOTICE

Councillor Martin will move a motion and seek a seconder for the matter shown below to facilitate consideration by the Council:

'That Council:

Noting the introduction by China of new laws aimed at stifling demonstrations in Hong Kong, including bans on the display of flags and banners and the chanting of slogans, together with the formal operation of Chinese Government security agencies in Hong Kong and the extradition of Hong Kong citizens to mainland China to face trials:

- 1. Requests the Lord Mayor writes to the Chinese Consul in Adelaide and to the Mayor of Adelaide's Sister City Qingdao, expressing the City of Adelaide's deep concern about the Chinese Government's recent authoritarian curbs on democratic freedoms in Hong Kong.
- 2. Asks the Administration to prepare a report for the August meeting of Council on the most effective means, cost and funding sources of a social and traditional media campaign to invite Hong Kong residents contemplating leaving to consider the benefits of relocating their families and businesses to the City of Adelaide.'

ADMINISTRATION COMMENT

- If Council requests, letters can be prepared by the Lord Mayor to the Chinese Consul in Adelaide and the Mayor of Qingdao regarding democratic freedoms in Hong Kong, however administration suggests advice be sought from appropriate Federal and State Government agencies as ultimately Australia's International Relations Policy is set at a national level.
- 2. The Federal Government has already announced a range of new visa arrangements that will be introduced for students, temporary graduates and skilled workers from Hong Kong who want to live, work and study in Australia. The joint press release from the Honourable Scott Morrison MP, Prime Minister and the Honourable Alan Trudge MP, Acting Minister for Immigration, Citizenship, Migrant Services and Multicultural Affairs, outlining the new Visa arrangements for Hong Kong passport holders can be found here.
- 3. Administration is currently ascertaining more details on measures being developed by the Federal Government through relevant Government agencies.

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