

Notice of Motion, Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood: City of Melbourne Tobacco Investments**Motion**

1. That Council:
 - 1.1. Notes that the guidelines of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) state that government institutions are required to not invest in the tobacco industry. Australia is signatory to this, along with 179 other countries.
 - 1.2. Commits to not directly investing in the tobacco industry or tobacco aligned companies into the future. This commitment will be reflected in the City of Melbourne's Investment Policy when it's next reviewed.
 - 1.3. Requests management write to the Trustees of Council's default superannuation fund Vision Super and request divestment from all tobacco industries.
 - 1.4. Resolves that when the transactional banking services are tendered, respondents will be requested to confirm their exposure and support to the tobacco industry. These responses are to be taken into consideration when deciding to award the transactional banking services contract.
 - 1.5. In line with recommendations made by the Australian Medical Association, requests the Lord Mayor write to the Premier of Victoria expressing Council's support that State Government introduces legislation to formally ban political parties accepting donations from the tobacco industry and limit interactions with the tobacco industry.

Background

2. Tobacco is proven to be harmful to health, causing an estimated 15,000 Australian deaths and six million deaths worldwide per year. All evidence-based research about smoking proves it is harmful to health and community.
3. Article 5.3 of the World Health Organisation Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (FCTC) states that: 'Government institutions and their bodies should not have any financial interest in the tobacco industry, unless they are responsible for managing a Party's ownership interest in a State-owned tobacco industry.'
4. As outlined in the Council Plan 2013-17, a key priority is to protect the community from passive smoking by expanding the number of smoke-free areas in the municipality. CoM has a commitment to protect people from the harms associated with smoking. As such, it is considered appropriate to request our suppliers not to invest in the tobacco industry.
5. Australia is seen as a world leader in reducing tobacco consumption, particularly after the introduction of plain-packaging. State and local governments also have a responsibility to be leaders on this issue.
6. Each year the Australian Medical Association (AMA) provides report cards for how States have performed regarding tobacco control. The AMA has recommended that State Government introduce legislation banning political donations from tobacco companies.
7. Currently almost 50 per cent of superannuation funds have divested from tobacco in Australia.
8. Vision Super, which is CoM's default superannuation fund has not formally divested from tobacco investment.
9. This is an opportunity for CoM to influence local councils across Australia and influence the banking sector's corporate social responsibility performance.

Moved: Deputy Lord Mayor Arron Wood**Seconded: Lord Mayor Robert Doyle**