

**STATUTORY DECLARATION
OATHS ACT 2001**

I (full name) **SARAH ELLEN ASTRID CARSON**

of (residential address) **C/- Town Hall, 50 MACQUARIE STREET, HOBART IN TASMANIA**

Occupation **HALLKEEPING SERVICES COORDINATOR**

do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

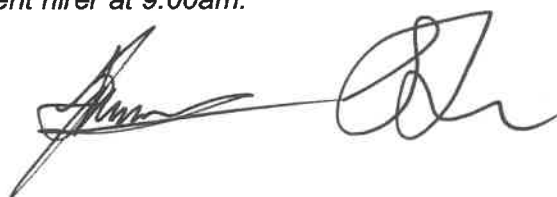
1. I have been asked to provide my recollections of the events leading up to the flying of the transgender banners outside of Hobart Town Hall on 26 February 2022;
2. I am employed by the Hobart City Council as the Hallkeeping Services Co-coordinator. Part of this role includes the responsibility for the operational management of the Hobart Town Hall building.
3. On 24 February 2022 I received an email from the Manager Community Programs, Kimbra Parker, forwarding an enquiry from Working It Out which provided as follows:

"...I'm writing with a request that comes at the suggestion of the Lord Mayor (via another Equality Tasmania board member). I'm told, at the media conference outside Town Hall yesterday regarding Senator Claire Chandler's "Save Women's Sport" Bill and her Forum to take place at the Town Hall on Saturday, that the Lord Mayor suggested we (Equality Tasmania on behalf of the trans community) should arrange /request for the trans flag banners be flown over the Town Hall on the day of the Forum – this Saturday, February 26.

Is there any chance of that happening at such late notice?..."

4. Later on 24 February 2022, I called Kimbra Parker to ask where the banners were located. At the end of that conversation I was advised not to take any action until I was directed as Kimbra was waiting on a decision from the Chief Executive Officer of the Council, Kelly Grigsby;
5. On or around 25 February 2022 I received a telephone call from Kimbra Parker informing me that the Chief Executive Officer had approved the banners being displayed outside of the Town Hall on Saturday 26 February 2022 and she requested that my team make the necessary arrangements to effect this decision;
6. On 25 February 2022 I sent an email to a member of my staff, Paul Synott, directing him to fly the banners. In that email I stated:

"...We have been instructed to display the Transgender flags on both banners from 8.45am – 3.30pm only on the Saturday the 26th February. If you can please display them before you allow access to the event hirer at 9.00am.



The banners being displayed is at request by the Lord Mayor and the CEO. They are just outside my office..."

7. My reference in this email to the banners being displayed at the request of the Lord Mayor was made in error. I believe I formed this misunderstanding by reading the email from Working it Out as being a request *from* the Lord Mayor, rather than a request from Working it Out which was allegedly made following a suggestion by the Lord Mayor that they do so.
8. I now understand that it was the Chief Executive Officer of the Council alone that approved the transgender banners to be flown outside of Hobart Town Hall on 26 February 2022.
9. At no point was I directed by the Lord Mayor to display the transgender banners.

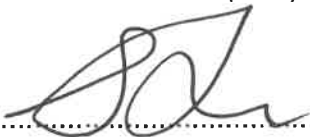
I make this solemn declaration under the *Oaths Act 2001*.

Declared at Hobart in Tasmania

(place)

on 15 September 2022

(date)



(Signature)

Before me



(Justice, Commissioner for Declarations or authorised person)

Adrian Edward Hutchison
Lawyer
c/- 50 Macquarie st
Hobart TAS 7000