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Mayor Officially Welcomes Friends of the Sea

City of Casey Mayor Cr Colin Butler has officially recognised the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society and its ship the *Robert Hunter* as a friendship city to the City of Casey at a civic reception held last Friday evening.

In front of an audience of 12 crew members and more than 60 members of local environmental groups, Cr Butler presented Captain Alex Cornelissen with a plaque commemorating the friendship city arrangement and a City of Casey flag to fly on the *Robert Hunter*.

“The City of Casey is committed to protecting and enhancing its own natural environment and respects the commitment of the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society to protect marine mammals across the globe”, said Cr Butler.

Springfield Ward Councillor Michael Farley, who instigated the friendship city arrangement between Casey and the Sea Shepherd, said “The City of Casey is proud to support the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society in its endeavours to eradicate pirate whaling, poaching, shark finning and unlawful habitat destruction”.

For more information on the Sea Shepherd Conservation Society visit www.seashepherd.org or call 0411 781 324.

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For media information call Ros Britz on 9705 5328 or 0409 969 785.