



Agenda

Council Meeting

Tuesday 12 March 2024, 7:00 pm
Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street,
Dandenong, Victoria 3175



Council Meeting Details

At the time of printing this Agenda, the Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 12 March 2024, will be open to the public to attend in person but will be subject to venue seating capacity. This will be a hybrid meeting consisting of Councillors attending in person and remotely.

If we are unable to accommodate you indoors, you will still be able to watch the webcast live on the Urban Screen in Harmony Square. To view the webcast and stay informed about the status of Council Meetings please visit Council's [website](#).

The Civic Centre basement carpark will be opened to all members of the public during library opening hours. Any parking in this area will be subject to availability and time limits as notified by any signage posted.

Your Councillors

[Mayor Lana Formoso](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Deputy Mayor Richard Lim OAM](#)

[Cr Sophaneth \(Sophie\) Tan](#)

[Cr Tim Dark](#)

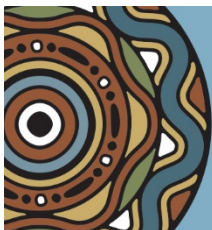
[Cr Loi Truong](#)

[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Angela Long](#)

[Cr Jim Memeti](#)

[Cr Bob Milkovic](#)



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters.

 (03) 8571 1000

 council@cgd.vic.gov.au

 greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



TTY: 133 677

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TIS: 13 14 50



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Bunurong Country

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COUNCIL OBLIGATIONS AND AGENDA REPORTS

Council has several obligations in relation to its Community Vision, Council Plan, Instruments of Legislation and Council policy. These are summarily considered in each Agenda report and further details are added as required. The obligations are as follows:

Community Vision 2040 (Community Vision | Greater Dandenong Council)

After consultation with the Greater Dandenong community on what kind of future they wanted for themselves and our city, the Greater Dandenong People's Panel developed a new Community Vision for 2040:

*The City of Greater Dandenong is a home to all.
It's a city where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity.
We harmonise the community by valuing multiculturalism and the individual.
Our community is healthy, vibrant, innovative and creative.
Our growing city is committed to environmental sustainability.
Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Council Plan 2021-25 (Council Plan 2021-25 | Greater Dandenong Council)

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. The Council Plan has the following key strategic objectives:

- *A socially connected, safe and healthy city*
- *A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts*
- *A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods*
- *A green city committed to a sustainable future*
- *A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes*
- *A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. These are:

- a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- e) innovation and continuous improvement are to be pursued;
- f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Also, in giving effect to the overarching governance principles above, a Council must take into account the following supporting principles:

- a) the community engagement principles (section 56);
- b) the public transparency principles (section 58);
- c) the strategic planning principles (section 89);
- d) the financial management principles (section 101);
- e) the service performance principles (section 106).

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.



The Gender Equality Act 2020

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* came into operation on 31 March 2021 and requires councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality and to promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services. The objects of the Act are as follows:

- a) to promote, encourage and facilitate the achievement of gender equality and improvement in the status of women; and
- b) to support the identification and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs and delivery of services in workplaces and communities; and
- c) to recognise that gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience on the basis of Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and other attributes; and
- d) to redress disadvantage, address stigma, stereotyping, prejudice and violence, and accommodate persons of different genders by way of structural change; and
- e) to enhance economic and social participation by persons of different genders; and
- f) to further promote the right to equality set out in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Council is obligated to think about how its programs and services affect different people and different communities and how we can avoid reinforcing unintentional inequalities. Report authors must consider the requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* and Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy when asking Council to consider or review any issues which have a direct or significant impact on members of the Greater Dandenong community.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

Council, Councillors and members of Council staff are a public authority under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and, as such, are all responsible to act in accordance with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (the Charter). The Charter is founded on the following principles:

- human rights are essential in a democratic and inclusive society that respects the rule of law, human dignity, equality and freedom;
- human rights belong to all people without discrimination, and the diversity of the people of Victoria enhances our community;
- human rights come with responsibilities and must be exercised in a way that respects the human rights of others;
- human rights have a special importance for the Aboriginal people of Victoria, as descendants of Australia's first people, with their diverse spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationship with their traditional lands and waters.

Given this municipality's diversity and inclusiveness, when developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to ensure their report is consistent with the standards set by the Charter.



Consideration of Climate Change and Sustainability

One of the overarching governance principles of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

In January 2020, this Council joined a growing number of cities around Australia and declared a “Climate and Ecological Emergency” and committed this Council to emergency action on climate change. Council has developed a Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 to help the City of Greater Dandenong become a resilient, net zero carbon emission city with an active community prepared for the challenges of changing climate.

When developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to consider what impacts their issue has on Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching principle on climate change and sustainability.

Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

Report authors will consider how their report aligns with existing Council policies, strategies, frameworks or other documents, how they may affect the decision of this report or are relevant to this process.



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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 OPENING OF MEETING BY MAYOR

1.2 ATTENDANCE



1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

Those in the Chamber may stand for this item.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we also pay our respect and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey.

1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

As part of Council's commitment to recognising the cultural and spiritual diversity of our community, the prayer, reflection or affirmation this evening will be offered by Pastor David Owen from Combined Churches Greater Dandenong.



1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 26 February 2024.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 26 February 2024 be confirmed.

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Any interest that a Councillor or staff member has deemed to be significant and has disclosed as either a material or general interest is now considered to be a conflict of interest. Conflict of Interest legislation is detailed in Division 2 – Conflicts of Interest: sections 126, 127, 128, 129 & 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. This legislation can be obtained by contacting the Greater Dandenong Governance Unit on 8571 5216 or by accessing the Victorian Legislation and Parliamentary Documents website at www.legislation.vic.gov.au.

If a Councillor discloses any interest in an item discussed at any Council Meeting (whether they attend or not) they must:

1. complete a disclosure of interest form prior to the meeting;
2. advise the chairperson of the interest immediately before the particular item is considered (if attending the meeting); and
3. leave the chamber while the item is being discussed and during any vote taken (if attending the meeting).

The Councillor will be advised to return to the chamber or meeting room immediately after the item has been considered and the vote is complete.



2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

2.1.1 Documents for Sealing

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk

Attachments: Nil

Executive Summary

1. Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, each Council is a body corporate and a legal entity in its own right. Each Council must therefore have a common seal (like any corporate entity) that is an official sanction of that Council. Sealing a document makes it an official document of Council as a corporate body. Documents that require sealing include agreements, contracts, leases or any other contractual or legally binding document that binds Council to another party.
2. This report recommends that the listed documents be signed and sealed.



Item Summary

3. There is one (1) item being presented to Council's meeting of 12 March 2024 for signing and sealing as follows:
- a) An Instrument of Appointment of Authorised Officer under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*, the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Environment Protection Act 2017*, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, the *Road Management Act 2004*, the *Road Safety Act 1986*, the *Sex Work Act 1994*, Parts 2 and 3 of the *Subdivisions Act 1988*, the *Summary Offences Act 1966*, the *Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998* and the Regulations made under each of those Acts; the Local Laws made under the *Local Government Act 1989* and the *Local Government Act 2020*; and any other Act, Regulation or delegated legislation (including the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme) which relates to the powers of the Council made under the provisions and enactments described. This instrument enables the following Council officer to carry out the statutory responsibilities of the above Acts and is subject to policy and delegations previously adopted by Council:
- Tim Sproule

Recommendation

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.



2.2 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

2.2.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. Petitions and Joint Letters [2.2.1.1 - 2 pages]

Executive Summary

1. Council receives a number of petitions and joint letters on a regular basis that deal with a variety of issues which have an impact upon the City.
2. Issues raised by petitions and joint letters will be investigated and reported back to Council if required.
3. A table containing all details relevant to current petitions and joint letters is provided in Attachment 1. It includes:
 - a) the full text of any petitions or joint letters received;
 - b) petitions or joint letters still being considered for Council response as pending a final response along with the date they were received; and
 - c) the final complete response to any outstanding petition or joint letter previously tabled along with the full text of the original petition or joint letter and the date it was responded to.
4. This report recommends that the listed items in Attachment 1, and the current status of each, be received and noted.



Petitions and Joint Letters Tabled

5. Council received no new petitions and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 12 March 2024.

Note: Where relevant, a summary of the progress of ongoing change.org petitions and any other relevant petitions/joint letters/submissions will be provided in the attachment to this report.

Recommendation

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
22/01/2024	<p>I wish to raise a formal petition to upgrade and replace the current trees in Keysborough South under the Governance Rules item 4.5.10. Some are dead, dying (with disease) and this type of tree that has been planted require extensive maintenance. We all collectively strongly dislike these trees due to the large amount of tree litter they release with excessive leaves, nuts, bark they drop every year and they are causing damage to our homes.</p> <p>Some of us that are a Single Storey dwelling regularly need to climb up onto the roof to clear the gutters and valley channels which is a dangerous and hazardous. This activity needs to be minimised and reduced for the safety of ourselves. One resident needs to wear a harness on their double storey to clean his gutters/channel valleys. This is very dangerous.</p> <p>Furthermore, excessive build up of these leaves/litter has contributed to flooding claims to property in which I have personally been involved with (twice in 5 years).</p> <p>Since speaking to the street residence about the Petition, I've found out that other Residents have had damage and issues with their homes;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • properties have also had flood / ceiling damage into their homes due to excessive leaf/litter build up. • A branch fell onto the home causing damage and subsequent insurance claim. • Large branches also fell which blocked the road which was could of potentially damaged vehicles and/or injured a person – happened twice in the last 3 years. • There has been footpath repairs due to the existing roots from the trees on the western side of the street. • Trees heights affect solar panel effectiveness and one house cannot have Solar system installed due to the trees along Keylana Ave blocking their northern sun –they are asking to have their trees removed as well on that side. Please apply same plan to remove. 	36	In Progress	<p>Responsible Officer: Chief Engineer & Major Projects.</p> <p>Acknowledgment letter sent 23/01/2024 to the head petitioner.</p>

ATT 2.2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
	<p>I am petitioning on behalf of the residents in our street and request the current trees to be replaced with smaller trees that require less maintenance (similar to others). I have been informed that over the last 10 years that over 100 streets in this Municipality have had their trees upgraded and seeking this also performed to our street. We are collectively keen to have the trees replaced.</p> <p>Our Local Councillor Rhonda Garad and Lead Arborist Gareth Pickard have both been to our property and are aware of my situation which has now led to this Petition.</p> <p>Please see following pages with the names the residents/home owners with trees that agree with the replacement of the existing trees along the nature strip.</p>			



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question Time at Council meetings provides an opportunity for members of the public in the gallery to address questions to the Councillors, Delegates and/or officers of the Greater Dandenong City Council. Questions must comply with s. 4.5.8 of Council's Governance Rules.

QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY

Questions are limited to a maximum of three (3) questions per individual. Where time constraints deem it likely that not all questions can be answered within the time allowed for Question Time, the Mayor at his/her discretion may determine only the first question may be presented verbally with others deferred to be managed in the same manner as public questions not verbally presented.

Priority will be given to questions that relate to items on the Council Agenda for that meeting. Questions including any preamble should not exceed 300 words.

- a) All such questions must be received in writing on the prescribed form or as provided for on Council's website and at Ordinary meetings of Council. Where there are more than three (3) questions received from any one individual person, the Chief Executive Officer will determine the three (3) questions to be considered at the meeting.
- b) All such questions must clearly note a request to verbally present the question and must be received by the Chief Executive Officer or other person authorised for this purpose by the Chief Executive Officer no later than:
 - i) the commencement time (7.00pm) of the Ordinary meeting if questions are submitted in person; or
 - ii) noon on the day of the Ordinary meeting if questions are submitted by electronic medium.
- c) A question can only be presented to the meeting if the Chairperson and/or Chief Executive Officer has determined that the question:
 - i) does not relate to a matter of the type described in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (confidential information);
 - ii) does not relate to a matter in respect of which Council or a Delegated Committee has no power to act;
 - iii) is not defamatory, indecent, abusive or objectionable in language or substance, and is not asked to embarrass a Councillor, Delegated Member or Council officer; and
 - iv) is not repetitive of a question already asked or answered (whether at the same or an earlier meeting).
- d) If the Chairperson and/or Chief Executive Officer has determined that the question may not be presented to the Council Meeting or Delegated Committee, then the Chairperson and/or Chief Executive Officer:
 - i) must advise the Meeting accordingly; and
 - ii) will make the question available to Councillors or Members upon request.
 - iii) The Chairperson shall call on members of the gallery who have submitted an accepted question to ask their question verbally if they wish.
- e) The Chairperson, Chief Executive Officer or delegate may then direct that question to be answered by a nominated Councillor or member of Council staff.



-
- f) No debate on, or discussion of, a question or an answer will be permitted other than for the purposes of clarification.
 - g) A Councillor, Delegated Committee Member or member of Council staff nominated to answer a question may:
 - i) seek clarification of the question from the person who submitted it;
 - ii) seek the assistance of another person in answering the question; and
 - iii) defer answering the question, so that the answer may be researched and a written response be provided within ten (10) working days following the Meeting (the question thereby being taken on notice).
 - h) Question time for verbal presentations is limited in duration to not more than twenty (20) minutes. If it appears likely that this time is to be exceeded then a resolution from Council will be required to extend that time if it is deemed appropriate to complete this item.
 - i) The text of each question asked and the response will be recorded in the minutes of the Meeting.



4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 CONTRACTS

4.1.1 Contract 2324-05 Receipt of Commingled Recyclables

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures Deputy Director Chief Engineer & Major Projects
Attachments:	1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Contract No 2324 05 Confidential Attachment 21 Feb 2024 [4.1.1.1 - 2 pages]

Executive Summary

1. This report outlines the tender process undertaken to select a suitably qualified and experienced contractor for the provision of **Receipt of Commingled Recyclables for the City of Greater Dandenong** (CGD). This is a Schedule of Rates based contract.
2. The initial contract term is two (2) years from the date of commencement, with an option to extend the contract by two (2), one (1) year extensions at the sole and absolute discretion of Council.
3. This report recommends that Council awards Contract 2324-05 to **Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd – ABN 29 656 197 134**.
4. The estimated budget expenditure for this contract over the initial two (2) year term is Four Million, Three Hundred and Eighty-Three, Seven Hundred and Eighty-Seven Dollars (\$4,383,787.00) excluding GST.



Background

5. This Contract concerns the receipt, sorting and marketing of Commingled Recyclables for the City of Greater Dandenong.
6. The City of Greater Dandenong includes the suburbs of Bangholme, Dandenong, Dandenong North, Dandenong South, Keysborough, Lyndhurst, Noble Park, Noble Park North, Springvale, and Springvale South.
7. In February 2020, the Victorian Government released 'Recycling Victoria - A new economy policy and action plan' (Policy) that will influence the amount of recyclables deposited in the commingled bin through the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) commencing 1 November 2023.
8. The Policy also requires that Councils provide residents with access to a new glass bin or a glass service by 2027. It is Council's intention that the configuration of this latter service will be informed by community consultation and will be introduced in 2026/2027.

AIMS

9. Council has the following principle aims in entering this Contract:
 - to maximize the diversion of Commingled Recyclables from the waste stream for recycling;
 - to educate the City of Greater Dandenong community to enable an understanding of the advantages of, and the need for recycling;
 - a commitment to ongoing communication and cooperation by the stakeholders (community, Council, and waste management contractors) for the purpose of maintaining and continuous improvement of the system of Commingled Recyclables collection, handling, transport, recovery, and recycling;
 - to have market security for recyclable products; and
 - to ensure that the Contractor is maintaining a high standard of performance in provision of the Services.

Objectives

10. The Objectives of the Contract are to:
 - maintain the provision of a regular and reliable Materials Recoverable Facility (MRF) complying with all legislative requirements including OH&S legislation;
 - provide high standard services, based on best practice principles, that are complementary to national, state, and local waste management plans and policies;
 - provide cost-effective services that offers value for money that provides Council with a known or predictable cost for the Service;
 - minimize the amount of waste disposed to landfill by encouraging and facilitating waste minimization and maximizing recovery of recyclable and reusable components in the waste stream;
 - provide a reliable system for acceptance and sorting of the Commingled Recyclables into individual product types for sale and reprocessing into commodities, using best practice methods and systems;
 - to measure performance of Recyclables recovery including maintaining records of quantities of materials recycled and performance of the Contractor, with regular reporting on performance against key performance criteria specified in this Specification; and
 - establish and maintain community education programs that increase awareness of waste minimization principles and provide up-to-date information on types of recyclable materials.



Tender Process

11. This tender was advertised in The Age Newspaper and on Council's website on Saturday 18 November 2023 and at the close of tenders at 2.00PM Thursday 21 December 2023 two (2) tender submissions were received as follows:

- **Cleanaway Pty Ltd – ABN 79 000 164 938**
- **Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd – ABN 29 656 197 134**

12. Tenderers were required to complete and submit all of Council's tender schedules including the submission of a schedule of rates and prices per item as detailed on Tender Price Schedule 2.

13. Tenderers were also required to be registered with Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance) prior to the tender closing date.

Tender Evaluation

14. The evaluation panel consisted of Council's Manager, Infrastructure Services, Service Unit Leader – Waste and Cleansing, Team Leader - Cleansing, Waste Services Liaison Officer and Contracts Officer with Occupational Health & Safety and Environmental Management consultants providing specialist advice.

15. The Tenders were evaluated using Council's Weighted Attributed Value Selection Method. The advertised evaluation criteria and the allocated weightings for evaluation are as follows:

	Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
1	Price	40%
2	Relevant Experience	25%
3	Capability	20%
4	Social Procurement	5%
5	Local Industry	5%
6	Environmental	5%
7	OH&S Systems (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail
8	Environmental System (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail

16. The Evaluation Criteria 1- 6 are given a point score between 0 (Not Acceptable) and 5 (Excellent) as detailed in the following table:

17. Evaluation Criteria 7 and 8 are given a Pass or Fail via the Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance).

18. Tenders were ranked by panel members against each criteria. Points were awarded on a scale 0 to 5 based on the score parameters listed below.

Score	Description
5	Excellent
4	Very Good
3	Good, better than average
2	Acceptable
1	Marginally acceptable (Success not assured)
0	Not Acceptable



19. Each submission was assessed against all evaluation criteria, to ensure that the tenderers met the standards required for Council contractors. A fail in any criterion would automatically exclude tenderers from further consideration for this contract.
20. All submissions were assessed against all the evaluation criteria to ensure that the tenderers met the standards required for Council contractors. The weighted attribute points scores resulting from the assessment are shown in the following table:

Price Points	Price Points	Non-Price Points	Total Score	OH&S	EMS	Rapid Global
Cleanaway	0.38	2.80	3.18	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Re.Cycle Operations	1.62	2.71	4.33	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global

Note:

The higher the price score – lower the tendered price.

The higher the non-price score – represents better capability and capacity to undertake the service.

21. Based on the above point scores the evaluation panel agreed that this Contract should be awarded to Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd.

22. Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd**The Company:**

- Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd was established in 2021, they are an Australian owned company who are part of the Re.Group group of companies that specialise in the recovery and recycling of resources. Their office, their Material Recoverable Facility (MRF) and Glass Beneficiation Plant (GBP) are located in Thomas Murrell Crescent in Dandenong South.
- In 2022 Re.Group acquired the recyclables processing assets from established recycling business, Polytrade Recycling (at the time, Council's contractor for the receiving of recyclables processing services since 2013). Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd is registered and compliant in Rapid Global.

23. Relevant Experience/Track Record

- Re.Cycle Operations is a proven and capable contractor for the provision of the Receipt of Commingled Recyclables.
- They have been providing all of the services required under this contract to the City of Greater Dandenong under its current entity for 2 years and have provided a very good service during that time.
- Parent company Re.Group is an Australian company that designs, builds, owns, and operates recycling systems. Founded in 2013, Re.Group has rapidly expanded to deepen the impact of recycling work around Australia and New Zealand.
- Re.Group is the parent company of multiple entity groups. This includes Re.Cycle Operations Pty Ltd, Material Recovery Facilities, Re.Grow FOGO Processing, Return-It Container Deposit Schemes and Re.Collect Container Collection.



Financial Implications

24. This is a Schedule of Rates Contract.
25. The approved annual budget for services associated with this contract is \$2,156,845.00 excluding GST for the financial year 2023/2024 and expected budget for 2024/2025 is \$2,226,942.00.
26. The estimated budget expenditure for this contract over the initial two (2) year term is \$4,383,787.00 (excluding GST).

Note:

Schedule of Rates – A schedule of rates contract is one under which the amount that is payable to the contractor is calculated by applying an agreed schedule of rates to the quantity (tonnage) of commingled recyclables received and processed by the contractor.

Social Procurement

Re.Cycle Operations

27. Re.Cycle Operations are a local City of Greater Dandenong Business.
28. They employ people from social enterprises to work at their depots.
29. Where possible Re.Cycle Operations and its parent company say that they will look to achieve the following objectives for the Dandenong South (MRF) over the next 3 years.
- Spend with Victorian social enterprises:
 3% of total annual contract spend in year 1
 4% of total annual contract spend in year 2
 5% of total annual contract spend in year 3
30. They are committed to fostering a diverse and inclusive workplace that values and respects individuals from all backgrounds.
31. Actively engage with APM employment services, Max Employment, Wise Employment, and disability service providers.
32. They commit to increasing the job readiness and or employment of the long term unemployed and migrant, refugees, and asylum seekers.
33. They have a Workplace Anti-Discrimination Policy.

Local Industry

34. Re.Cycle Operations have provided the following estimates for local expenditure.

Contractor	LOCAL CONTENT				Other
	Labour	Materials	Plant	Supervision	
Re.Cycle Operations	(56%) \$2.94M	(10%) \$240K	(10%) \$240K	(33%) \$64.5K	Re.Cycle Operations are a local Greater Dandenong company. Their office and Materials Recyclables Facility (MRF) are located in Dandenong South,



Community and Stakeholder Consultation

35. During the tender evaluation process and in preparation of this report, relevant Council Officers from Council's Operations Centre and Council's Occupational Health & Safety and Environmental Planning were consulted.
36. This matter is not subject to Council's Community Engagement Policy under the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Community Engagement Planning Framework.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

37. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
 - The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - The *Gender Equality Act 2020*.
 - *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*.
 - Climate Change and Sustainability.

Conclusion

38. Overview of Re.Cycle Operations Dandenong Material Recyclables Facility (MRF) in Dandenong South has an operational capacity of greater than 450 tonnes per day, historically 120,000 tonnes per annum;
39. Their overall highest score using Council's Weighted Attributed Value Selection Method. This includes the highest score for their lowest and very competitive price per tonne, for the receipt of commingled recyclables and their very good non price scores, reflecting the best value for money for Council;
40. They are a quality endorsed company and have demonstrated extensive management skills and experience operating its receiving, handling, sorting, processing, packaging, and marketing of recyclables at their materials recyclable facility (MRF) in Dandenong South for Council;
41. They have received a very strong result for the Standard Financial and Performance Assessment (Procurement) company check undertaken by Corporate Scorecard;
42. They are registered and compliant in the Rapid Global system (Council's Contractor risk management compliance database);
43. They have received a Pass for their Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Management Systems;
44. Their cost per tonnes reflects a saving for Council based on their current rate per tonne; and
45. They are a triple certified company with Jas-Anz Certification (Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand, commonly known as JASANZ).



Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. awards Contract No. 2324-05 for the Receipt of Commingled Recyclables to Re.cycle Operations Pty Ltd – ABN 29 656 197 134 for an initial term of two (2) years from 31 March 2024;**
- 2. reserves the option to extend the initial contract term by two (2), twelve (12) month extensions at the sole and absolute discretion of Council; and**
- 3. authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements, any associated documentation with the successful contractor/s and execution of any contract extensions.**



4.2 POLICY AND STRATEGY

4.2.1 Review of Council Policies - Policies for Abolition

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Corporate Development

Attachments: 1. Policies for Abolition (x 3) [4.2.1.1 - 11 pages]

Executive Summary

1. Council policies are in place to ensure accordance with relevant legislation, regulations and best practice. They provide a consistent approach to Council's operational requirements and promote accountability and transparency of Council decisions and actions.
2. Council consistently reviews its organisation policies and recently created a Policy Compliance Register. A significant number of policies have been reviewed and been found to be irrelevant to Council's requirements and/or are superseded and can now be formally abolished.
3. This report recommends that the policies outlined in this report and provided in Attachment 1 be abolished.



Background

4. Essentially, policies developed by Council are aimed at ensuring good governance and decision-making processes, as well as the effective and efficient management of community resources and the day-to-day business of Council. They help govern how Council operates and provide a clear set of principles that provide a definite direction for Council.
5. Each policy is developed in order to address specific matters and objectives as outlined in the Council Plan 2021-25 or as required by legislation.
6. Existing council policies are subject to an ongoing review process to ensure they remain up-to-date and comply with current legislation. Policies are also reviewed and updated if legislation requires it; or when Council's functions, structure or activities change; or when technological advances or new systems are implemented.
7. Council policies should be read in conjunction with any related legislation, relevant internal policies, codes of practice or guidelines. A Council policy is considered to be automatically revoked upon readoption of the latest version of that policy.
8. When a policy is renamed superseded or replaced by an entirely new policy or is no longer required, it must be formally abolished by resolution of Council.

Proposal

9. It is proposed that the following policies be abolished for the reasons provided in the table below:

Policy Name	Reason for Abolition
Community Partnerships Funding Policy	This policy was replaced by the Community Grants Program Policy endorsed by Council at its Meeting on 11 December 2023, however the resolution did not include abolition of the superseded policy.
Community Support Grants Policy	This policy was replaced by the Community Grants Program Policy endorsed by Council at its Meeting on 11 December 2023, however the resolution did not include abolition of the superseded policy.
Service Recognition of Mayors and Councillors Policy	This policy is guided by the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Councillor Service Awards and will be made into a procedure that reflects the same conditions outlined in the policy and within the MAV's Service Awards.

Financial Implications

10. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

11. Council's Policy Compliance Register is regularly reviewed and evaluated by the Executive Team and Senior Management.



Recommendation

That the policies outlined in this report and provided in Attachment 1 be abolished and Council's Policy Compliance Register be updated accordingly.



Greater Dandenong Policy

Community Partnership Funding Policy

Policy Endorsement:	Endorsement required by Council		
Policies Superseded by this Policy	Not applicable		
Directorate	Community Services		
Responsible Officer	Manager Community Wellbeing		
Policy Type	Discretionary		
File Number:	A2055433	Version No:	2
1st Adopted by Council	8 July 2013 Minute No.241	Last Adopted by Council:	25 March 2019 Minute No.1004
Review Period:	Three (3) years	Next Review:	March 2022

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework for the operation and delivery of the Community Partnership Funding Program.

2. Background

Council recognises that fit-for-purpose funding programs can support capacity-building of important local services, support the delivery of projects that contribute to achievement of Councils Plans and Strategies, and provide social and economic benefit to the City of Greater Dandenong. Council also recognises that purpose-built funding programs that create collective action can provide value for money solutions to important issues.

3. Scope

This Policy applies to monetary grants provided through the Community Partnership Funding and applies to Council staff, Councillors, grant recipients and other parties that may become involved in the grants process.

4. Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter – Compatibility Statement

The aims of this Policy support and uphold the intentions of the Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter.



Greater Dandenong Policy

5. References

- Endorsed at the Ordinary Council Meeting 25 March 2019
- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Community Development Framework November 2015.

6. Definitions

The following definitions apply in the reading of this Policy.

Grant	A payment of money by Council to a not-for-profit incorporated association or similar incorporated legal structure for an agreed purpose and subject to conditions.
Community Services	Not-for-profit service organisations, charities or voluntary service groups that provide services to support the community.
School based Community Hubs	Community Hubs based in schools in the City of Greater Dandenong only in relation to grant applications for activities that are not part of core school curriculum and student welfare based.

7. Council Policy

Policy Statement

The Community Partnership Funding Program offers opportunities to a range of non-profit organisations and charities to apply for fit-for-purpose outcomes focused funding to support them build-capacity and deliver important services for the City of Greater Dandenong community.

Policy Principles

The Policy builds on the Commonwealth Grant Guideline principles (2013), adapting these for the City of Greater Dandenong context:

- Collaboration and partnerships between funder and recipient
- Building-capacity of funded organisations
- Open and accessible funding programs
- Timely and efficient administration processes
- Transparent decision processes and outcomes
- Strategic alignment between funding and Council business
- Measurable outcomes from funded programs.



Greater Dandenong Policy

Program Principles (Community Development Framework)

- Building resilience by identifying the strengths that exist within a community and helping harness these to address issues that affect them (Asset based)
- Focusing on neighbourhoods and places where people meet to identify community needs and understand opportunities for improvement (Place based)
- Involving residents in finding solutions to their needs and helping community leaders to foster positive change in their communities (Needs and outcomes focused)
- Supporting residents' active participation in their local community and encouraging them to work together on common goals (Connecting people)
- Supporting and linking residents together to make a difference in the civic life of their community and developing the skills, knowledge, values, and motivation to make the difference through political and non-political processes (Civic participation)
- Establishing partnerships and relationships with community members and organisations to develop trust and collaboration with council (Partnerships and relationships)
- Helping to secure community funding and resources that support community initiatives (Funding focus)
- Delivering initiatives that are developed in a manner that is respectful of diversity and promotes equity and equal access for all (Access and equity).

Implementation Principles

- Budget – will be determined by Council through the annual budget process. Sub-category budgets will be determined at an operational level.
- Assessment and Decision making
 - Officers will conduct an eligibility check on all applications received
 - Multi-stakeholder Advisory Panels will assess applications against assessment criteria and make recommendations for funding
 - Funding recommendations and summary rationale for Building-Capacity Grants, Strategic Project Grants and Sponsorships will be presented to Council for final decision and endorsement
 - Reporting to the public after each round on Council's grant website and in the Annual Report.



Greater Dandenong Policy

- Conditions
 - Grants are subject to conditions which will be outlined in the grant agreement
 - Advisory Panels may recommend additional conditions for funding
 - Grant recipients will be required to complete period reports and acquit grants, including reporting on expenditure of funds and project outcomes
 - Where grant recipients fail to comply with conditions Council shall take appropriate action, such as designating the organisation as ineligible for further grants or taking action to reclaim funds already paid, dependent on the specific circumstances of the case.

- Promotion and Communications
 - The grant program will be widely promoted to ensure program is accessible to all suitable organisations.

Related Documents

- Community Partnership Funding Guidelines.
- Diversity Access & Equity Policy



Greater Dandenong Policy

Community Support Grants Policy

Policy Endorsement:	Council		
Policy Superseded by this Policy	Community Support Grants Policy		
Directorate:	Community Services		
Responsible Officer:	Director of Community Services		
Policy Type:	Discretionary		
File Number:	A6121630	Version No:	3
1 st Adopted by Council	25 February 2013 Minute No. 99	Last Adopted by Council:	23 September 2019 Minute No. 1193
Review Period:	3 years	Next Review:	June 2022

1. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy is to provide a framework for the operation and delivery of the Community Support Grants Program that is based on good governance and a commitment to building community capacity and promoting self-reliance.

2. Background

Council recognises the significant role played by community organisations in providing valuable programs, activities and events that promote healthy community participation. Activities foster social inclusion, community resilience, and an enhancement of residents' health and wellbeing. They celebrate the diversity of the City of Greater Dandenong and promote harmony across the municipality.

Council provides annual funding resources to support, facilitate and encourage these activities through the Community Support Grants Program.

3. Scope

This Policy applies to one-off monetary grants of up to \$10,000 provided by Council.

This Policy covers grants provided by Council to individual artists, community groups and organisations through the Community Support Grants Program.

4. Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter – Compatibility Statement



Greater Dandenong Policy

The aims of this Policy support and uphold the intentions of the Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter.

5. References

- Previous Community Support Grants Policy - Adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting 27 April 2015
- Council Plan 2017-21
- Community Development Framework (Current)
- Community Engagement Policy (Current)
- Diversity, Access and Equity Policy (Current)
- Electronic Gaming Policy (Current)
- Disability Policy (Current)
- Language and Communications Policy (Current)
- Commonwealth Grant Guideline Principle (2013)

6. Definitions

Not-for-profit	A not-for-profit is an organisation that does not operate for the profit, personal gain or other benefit of particular people (for example, its members, the people who run it or their friends or relatives).
Community Group	Not-for-profit or voluntary groups that receive minimal or no funding to run group activities or programs that provide benefit to members and/or the wider community. Includes groups deemed to be providing services and activities that involve and benefit residents of the City of Greater Dandenong, such as sporting and hobby clubs, seniors' groups, youth groups, children's and family's groups, cultural groups, service clubs, environmental groups, and social support groups (e.g. disability support groups).
Community Service Organisation	Not-for-profit service organisations, charities or voluntary service groups that provide services to support the community.
Community Support Grant	A sum of money given for a specific purpose and subject to conditions including that the money is used for an agreed purpose.
Schools	Primary and secondary schools in the City of Greater Dandenong only in relation to grant applications for activities that are not part of core school curriculum and include the broader community.



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Local volunteer groups of affiliated government services Government affiliated local volunteer groups that provide a civic service (such as Country Fire Authority or Victorian State Emergency Services) are eligible for community engagement and awareness raising activities beyond the scope of the Statutory Authority's support.

Individual Artist An individual artist is defined as a practicing artist who is recognised by their peers, is committed to devoting significant time to artistic activity and/or has a history of public presentation.

7. Council Policy

7.1 Policy Statement

Council shall make one-off grants available to community groups and individual artists to support innovative and inspiring projects and activities that contribute to a healthy and vibrant community and enhance community capacity.

The policy objective of the Community Support Grants Program is to provide direct and tangible benefit to residents of the City of Greater Dandenong.

7.2 Policy Principles

The Policy builds on the Commonwealth Grant Guideline principles (2013), adapting these for the City of Greater Dandenong context. These are:

- Collaboration and partnerships between funder and recipient.
- Building-capacity of funded organisations.
- Open and accessible funding programs.
- Timely and efficient administration processes.
- Transparent decision processes and outcomes.
- Strategic alignment between funding and Council business.
- Measurable outcomes from funded programs.

7.3 Program Aims

The aims of the Community Support Grants are consistent with the Greater Dandenong Imagine 2030 Community Plan, the Council Plan and the Community Wellbeing Plan.

The goals of the Community Support Grants are to:

- Contribute to Council's vision and strategic priorities.
- Enhance community capacity in responding to local needs.
- Contribute to improvement of community safety, health and wellbeing.
- Encourage active participation in community life.
- Increase partnership and collaboration.
- Increase intercultural connections, promote understanding and celebrate diversity.



Greater Dandenong Policy

- Promote access and inclusion of individuals or groups that may experience exclusion.
- Have the best sustainable outcome for the local community.

7.4 Implementation Principles

- Budget
 - Determined by Council through the annual budget process.
 - Allocated over two funding rounds per financial year.
- Funding streams:
 - Community Development
 - Arts, Festival and Events
- Information and Support
 - Grant round information, including opening and closing dates are to be publicly advertised through a range of communication mediums.
 - Applicants are encouraged to review relevant documents.
 - Applicants encouraged to seek support from Council staff prior to developing and submitting an application.
- Assessment and Decision making
 - Officers will conduct an eligibility check on all applications received.
 - Multi-stakeholder Independent Assessment Panels will assess applications against assessment criteria and make recommendations to Council for funding.
 - Public reporting after each round on Council's grant website and in the Annual Report.
 - Conflict of Interest
 - Council employees and Councillors involved in the assessment and/or determination of grant applications must adhere to the requirements detailed in the Code of Conduct for Staff or Councillors. Where an Employee or Councillor believes they have a real or perceived conflict of interest the must contact the Governance Business Unit and complete a Conflict of Interest form.
- Conditions
 - Grant applicants are required to provide evidence to demonstrate good governance in their organisation's management and use of Council funds.
 - Where organisations are unable to demonstrate good governance or risks are identified, Council officers will offer support to identify opportunities and training to improve governance processes before a grant is approved.
 - Grants are subject to conditions which will be outlined in the grant agreement.
 - Assessment Panels may recommend additional conditions for funding.
 - Grant recipients will be required to complete period reports and acquit grants, including reporting on expenditure of funds and project outcomes.
 - Where grant recipients fail to comply with conditions Council shall take appropriate action, such as designating the organisation as ineligible for



Greater Dandenong Policy

further grants or taking action to reclaim funds already paid, dependent on the specific circumstances of the case.

- Continuous Improvement
 - Officers will seek to improve program effectiveness and accessibility. Where opportunities to significantly improve the program arise, Council will be notified of any procedural changes.

8. Related Documents

- Community Support Grants Program Guidelines
- Community Response Grants Policy
- Community Partnership Funding Policy



Greater Dandenong Policy

Service Recognition of Mayors and Councillors

Objective ID:	A37055	Authority:	Council
Directorate:	Corporate Services	Responsible Officer:	Manager Governance & Customer Service
Policy Type:	Discretionary	Version No:	3
1 st Adopted by Council	14 September 2009 Minute No. 288	Last Adopted by Council:	9 November 2015 Minute No. 1159
Review Period:	6 months following a general election	Next Review:	May 2017

1. Purpose

The City of Greater Dandenong aims to recognise the service provided by Councillors and Mayors to the Greater Dandenong community.

2. Background

This Policy gives recognition to Mayors and Councillors that have served the community during each full Council term. Further to this the Policy recognises years of extended service provided by Councillors.

3. Scope

All Councillors and Mayors who, after the date of endorsement of this Policy, serve the community of Greater Dandenong will be recognised for the contribution they have made to the City at the end of their Council term and upon completing significant terms of extended service.

Councillors who achieve extended terms of service as a Councillor of 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 years, including time served with the former City of Dandenong and City of Springvale, will be recognised for long service to the community after their anniversary dates.

4. References

- Not Applicable.



Greater Dandenong Policy

5. Definitions

Not Applicable

6. Council Policy

1. Retiring Councillors

Retiring Councillors and Councillors not re-elected will be given a letter under seal recognising their service to the Greater Dandenong Community.

2. Mayoral Recognition

At the end of each Mayoral term the Mayor will be given their mayoral photo in a frame of their choice to the value of \$500 and a letter under seal as recognition of their leadership to the Council and the community.

3. Councillor Recognition

The City of Greater Dandenong will recognise the achievements of the Councillors and Mayors at the end of each full term of Council. A dinner will be held prior to Council entering into caretaker mode in the lead up to Council elections to acknowledge the service of the Council. Each Councillor will be able to invite a guest to share this dinner with them.

Councillors will receive a 200x300mm framed photo of the full Council each year.

4. Extended Service

Councillors who complete extended years of service will be recognised with a certificate under seal from Council for each milestone of 10, 15, 20, 25 or 30 years, including time served with the former City of Dandenong and City of Springvale. Total years of service will include the collective number of years served which may comprise consecutive years and/or a compilation over multiple elected terms.

The certificate under seal will be presented to the respective Councillors at a formal meeting of Council by the Mayor. Where the Mayor is the recipient of the letter, it will be presented by the immediate past Mayor.

Recipients of certificates for extended years of services may invite (1) guest to join them for dinner prior to the Council meeting at which they will be presented with their certificate.

7. Related Documents

Municipal Association of Victoria - Victorian Councillor Service Awards



4.3 OTHER

4.3.1 Draft Minutes of Sustainability Advisory Committee Meetings - March to November 2023

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments: 1. Draft Minutes of Sustainability Advisory Committee meetings March 2023 to November 20 [4.3.1.1 - 13 pages]

Executive Summary

1. At the Council meeting held 23 April 2018, Council resolved in part to *invite Advisory Committees and Reference Groups to submit meeting minutes for Council endorsement*. This resolution also allowed interested Councillors (and those that attend these Committees and Reference Groups) to speak to the meeting about items discussed at these meetings.
2. This report recommends that the Draft Minutes of the Sustainability Advisory Committee meetings held on 8 March 2023, 3 May 2023, 12 July 2023, 6 September 2023 and 1 November 2023 as provided in Attachment 1 to this report be noted by Council.



Background

3. Greater Dandenong Council is represented on a wide range of Committees, Reference Groups and Advisory Groups which frequently reflect the interests of individual Councillors in serving the broader community in their role. A full listing of these appointments is confirmed each November at Council's Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is available via Council's website.
4. The resolution of Council made on 23 April 2018 provides for Minutes of meetings held by Advisory Committees or Reference Groups to be submitted to Council for information purposes and for noting. To ensure they are provided to Council in a timely manner, Minutes of these Advisory Committees or Reference Groups are submitted to Council typically in a draft form (in that they have not yet been adopted by the relevant Committee). If significant material changes occur when they are adopted by the Advisory Committee or Reference Group, then those particular Minutes would then be resubmitted to Council for noting.
5. As such, Draft Minutes are provided as Attachment 1 to this report.
6. There are no financial implications associated with the development and submission of this report.

Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

7. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Sustainable environment.
8. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2021-25:
 - A green city committed to a sustainable future.

Recommendation

That Council notes the Draft Minutes of the meetings for the Sustainability Advisory Committee as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

Advisory Committee or Reference Group Name: Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

Date of Meeting: 8 March 2023

Time of Meeting: 5.30-7.00pm

Meeting Location: Hybrid – in person at Civic Centre (Room 5N1) and Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Judith Sise (JS), Jody Bosman (JBJ), Ward Petherbridge (WP), Asher Coleman (AC), Isabelle Nash (IN), Cr. Rhonda Garad (RG), Graeme Pearman (GP), Jess Harrison (JH)

Apologies: Brett Jackson (BJ), Steph Karras (SK)

Guests: N/A

Minutes: Jess Harrison (JH)

Item No.	Item	Action	Action By
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged Bunurong Country.	JB
2.	Previous Minutes	Minutes confirmed	ALL
3.	Actions Arising	N/A	
4.	Draft Tree Protection Local Law	<p>JB to provide a status update and speak to the Committee regarding the consultation process</p> <p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JB provided an update using presentation. • Message of importance of urban tree canopy cover possibly still hasn't permeated the community • Most concern seems to be around the fee associated with removal, but when considered as part of an overall permit application for development the fee is very minor • However, this is all still up for debate and the survey results will inform this further. • Cert 4 required for staff for enforcement (see policy slide) • Currently 63% oppose a local law • 7.6% are undecided • Could there be different fees for residents/owner occupiers vs developers? i.e. a very small or no fee for residents, very large fee for developers who will benefit and have the cash to spare. JB – the enforcement penalty would hopefully provide the disincentive for developers. • The large fee might be a barrier to entry and would cause people to just say 'never mind' and risk the enforcement fee. • GP – has around 200 trees of this diameter on his property. He feels he already has invested significantly in growing and maintaining the trees. Probably around 50-60% of his property is treed. Mixed feeling about the local law. The intent is fine – we do want more trees and greater coverage. However, it's quite complicated how it filters down to individuals. Around 7 trees have fallen down on his property in the past year and have required significant effort and cost to remove. JB notes that trees that are not structurally sound are exempt from the permit, but it's hard to know until the tree has 	JB

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JB recognised SK’s hard work, dedication and creativity in pulling off such a successful event and thanked her for her efforts. • IN suggested having a main stage and mini stage with alternating music and presentations, rather than a separate talk tent. Alternatively, the face painting stall could be directly next to the talk tent to encourage more people to listen to the presentations next year. <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JH to share full evaluation document with SAC when completed. 	<p>JB</p> <p>IN</p> <p>JH</p>
8.	Living Links Meeting 24/11/22	<p>Discussion of meeting regarding Heatherton Rd Wetlands with Living Links</p> <p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous Melbourne Water contact has moved on – BJ received new contact details on Monday this week • BJ will call new contact next week to bring them up to speed • We will then arrange a formal meeting to move this forward. • JS would like to know whether any conversations have been had with the City of Casey regarding an environmental overlay, or co-sponsoring a planning scheme amendment with Melbourne Water to better protect the land. • JS plans to reach out to The Hon. Gabrielle Williams MP again to keep her informed of the project and seek her support. 	<p>JS / JH (on behalf of BJ)</p>
9.	General business	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WP noted the ‘Trashed or Treasure’ dumped litter display in Harmony Square • JS would like the issue of single use coffee cups at the Springvale Community Hub to be investigated further, including investigating opportunities to enforce this through lease conditions in the future. <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JH to further investigate coffee cup issue and report back to JS. 	<p>ALL</p> <p>JH</p>

Advisory Committee or Reference Group Name:

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

Date of Meeting: 3 May 2023
Time of Meeting: 5.30-7.00pm
Meeting Location: Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Judith Sise (JS), Ward Petherbridge (WP), Rhonda Garad (RG), Graeme Pearman (GP), Jody Bosman (JB), Brett Jackson (BJ), Steph Karras (SK), Jess Harrison (JH)

Apologies: Isabelle Nash (IN), Asher Coleman (AC)

Guests: Luke Mullen (LM)

Minutes: Steph Karras (SK)

Item No.	Item	Action	Action By
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged Bunurong Country.	BJ
2.	Previous Minutes	JB and JS confirmed previous minutes	JB / JS
3.	Actions Arising	N/A	
4.	Draft Tree Protection Local Law and Draft Cat Curfew Local Law	<p>For noting:</p> <p>LM presentation – Cat Curfew:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cat Management Strategy 2022 (10-year plan) put in place, now cat curfew being added as one of a suite of tools to deal with cat overpopulation issue • Focuses: education, community ownership and involvement in issue, financial incentives, stronger laws (curfew and increased trapping capabilities) • Consultation – 356 written submissions received (57% supportive). Type of curfew (46% supported 24 hr, 32% support overnight and 22% not supportive) • Recommendation to Council – implement a 24-hour cat curfew • JS suggested education in primary schools. JB reiterated the education programs will be bespoke. LM noted a key for minority groups would be incentives (i.e. low desexing fees) • RG supported amnesty for those who haven't registered or have been late to register pets in the past (LM noted no existing infringements exist anyway) <p>Tree Protection Local Law:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 226 written submissions (63% support local law) • Recommendations – to proceed with local law • JS wants to see the law stronger – concerned about height minimums and allowance to take down trees that don't belong in the area (feels we can't afford to lose any trees) • JS would like to see the permit fee lowered to \$50 and is concerned about property developments and lack of room for trees • JB – for developers, tree retention sits under the planning scheme not the local law, which is a focus on individuals • BJ – similar to cat curfew, this law is one part of a package of tools including education 	LM

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LM - Replanting requirements are part of the permit WP asked about fines for unlawful tree removal - \$2,000 (penalty units set by state government) JB - Significant tree register has no statutory weight and no additional penalties for removal. Protection comes from trees on heritage register 	
5.	<p>Community Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan (CEMP)</p> <p>Update and group discussion of consultation approach</p>	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consultation to commence on 15 May and run for 6-8 weeks One-page summary of CEMP intention and then a one-page survey <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SAC to please assist with distribution of CEMP consultation survey. Contact SK or JH for hard copies. Look out for an email on 15 May 	<p>JH</p> <p>ALL</p>
6.	<p>Mobile Environmental Education Trailer</p> <p>Update and group discussion of involvement</p>	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Electric van – either Ford E-Transit or LDV E-Deliver 9 (which will be the first Council EV) SAC will have the opportunity to assist with designing the internal education component. JS would like to assist with this. To be charged at EV charger at CGD Operations Centre. A few more CGD fleet EVs to come also (passenger vehicles) 	JH
7.	<p>Gas Transition Feasibility Report</p> <p>Overview of work completed to date and next steps</p>	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility of phasing gas out of Council's assets. Support from Council's Executive Team. Findings: Typical gas uses = hot water, kitchen and cooking, space heating (pool usage component to be assessed externally at a later date) Next steps: finalise report (internal only), embed into asset planning and budget processes, source quotes, complete education regarding benefits of electric kitchens use, seek grant fundings where possible 	JH
8.	<p>General business</p>	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JS re Springvale Community Hub café and their overuse of SUPs. Café owners were unavailable to meet with JH. Talks currently happening to strengthen requirements for commercial operators JS re Heatherton Road – BJ no update. BJ having difficulty reaching the ever-changing main contact. JS to reach out to Gabrielle Williams MP, support from BJ GP re rubbish dumping conversations at a recent street catch up he was at, with concerns about Council's perceived lack of action. RG – Council is currently doing a lot of work as part of a wider campaign to address this issue WP believes a significant amount of the dumping comes from small commercial operators (repeat offenders) RG re Biodiversity Action Plan. Upcoming meet up with multiple Council's to discuss setting up biodiversity network RG re SECCCA – would like to see an effective engagement plan so Councillors and the SAC know what the group is working on and achieving <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information regarding anti-dumping campaign and opportunities for hard waste collection/drop off days to be shared with GP. These notes to also be sent 	JH

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<p>out with next SAC minutes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• New anti-dumping/anti-litter campaign here• Report dumped rubbish here• Information about Homecycle (occurring between 13th of June and 24th of June 2023) here• Hard rubbish collection information here	
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DRAFT

Advisory Committee or Reference Group Name:

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<p>continue to keep the committee updated on any progress.</p> <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JH to request a status update on the soft plastics investigation from the Waste Services team and communicate this back to IN and the committee. 	JH
6.	Climate Changers Forum	<p>JH provided an update on the recent forum held in partnership with Youth Services team.</p> <p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Almost 70 students from 5 secondary schools attended They heard from a youth climate activist, engaged in an environmental leadership workshop and participated in consultation to inform the CEMP IN noted that the timing of delivery of the forum was not ideal as it fell during exams. Additionally, more notice is always better for schools – IN's suggestion is 12 months ideally, but no less than 2 terms. JS noted the primary school environment workshop Council held in 2022 in partnership with CERES was very valuable and suggested running it again – JH noted this could be incorporated into the 2024 Sustainability Festival line up GP noted that 'energy' was not a topic the students had identified as of concern, or where support from Council was required. JH suggested this could be a gap that can be targeted (as energy is one of the biggest opportunities, we have for climate adaptation and mitigation presently). DW noted that the students may not have listed this as a higher priority as they take the transition to renewable energy as a given. 	JH
7.	Sustainability Festival 2024	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2024 Sustainability Festival will be held on Sunday 25th of February at Dandenong Market. JH shared key learnings from this year, including moving stalls conducting consultation away from the stage, and moving speakers to the main stage instead of having a standalone 'talk tent'. WP asked if the environmental education electric van will be present at the Festival? JH confirmed it will. JS suggested bringing back the Sustainability Awards, particularly for schools and businesses. She also supported the consultation bottle cap 'voting game' used this year. IN suggested a sustainable art competition for primary school students, secondary students and adults, and a vegan baking competition Multiple committee members suggested some kind of short video competition, with screening either at the Festival or on the Dandenong/Springvale big screens. GP noted that this summer is forecast to be the hottest on record, which could affect planning for the Festival. However, it could also be an opportunity to motivate people to take action. JH noted this is a consideration in planning for the Festival, and an interactive urban heat and shade tree installation is being planned to demonstrate the value of trees in passive cooling. 	JH
8.	General business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JS thanked JB (not present) and his team for their work in preparing the Tree Protection Local Law, which was supported at the Council meeting held Monday 10th of July 2023. IN echoed JS' thanks and noted she would contact JB directly to ask a question regarding changes to the law. BJ clarified the changes were minor and not material. 	

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• WP asked about electric vehicle chargers at the Dandenong Market – JH noted there should now be two public chargers that are functional (as the charger previously had been very unreliable).	
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Advisory Committee or Reference Group Name:

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

Date of Meeting: 6 September 2023
Time of Meeting: 5.30-7.00pm
Meeting Location: Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Judith Sise (JS), Brett Jackson (BJ), Ward Petherbridge (WP), Rhonda Garad (RG), Isabelle Nash (IN), Graeme Pearman (GP), Steph Karras (SK), Jess Harrison (JH)

Apologies: Jody Bosman (JB), Asher Coleman (AC)

Guests: Darren Wilson (DW)

Minutes: Steph Karras (SK)

Item No.	Item	Action	Action By
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged Bunurong Country.	BJ
2.	Previous Minutes	Moved by GP, seconded by JS.	GP / JS
3.	Actions Arising	N/A	
4.	Community Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan (CEMP)	<p>For noting: Summary of consultation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Financial constraints and lack of time were the main barriers for people not taking climate action. Motivators for taking climate actions were having a sense of responsibility, protecting future generations and reducing risks to themselves, family and friends. Most people understand how climate change will impact them, and most people are taking some sort of climate action. <p>Draft 'schools' theme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JS felt the introduction was good and this reflects what children think but recognising they do ask everything of schools. DW doesn't want an exhaustive list of indicators. The CEMP is broken down into sectors (instead of environmental themes) so we can be really targeted with our approach. DW is trying to build a business case. Schools example – strong focus on partnership with the Resource Smart Schools Program and have a coordinated approach. JS – many schools are struggling with wellbeing and poverty issues, absorbing all the attention of principals – the basics of school resourcing is under pressure. Importance of getting the CEMP out to schools early Term 4 as this is when school planning commences. Also commented that State Government may want certain additions to the curriculum, but this doesn't necessarily translate into actual school curriculums – it just can't fit. DW said we are also focusing on connecting with schools so that students filter information out to their families. GP spoke about a fundamental flaw of our education system – there is so much information out there, we don't need more but why are schools not accessing this? Sounds like we are facing difficulties getting our education system engaged. 	

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GP used an example of parents learning from their children through their take-home schoolwork. IN noted there are many passionate teachers but the biggest issues are time poor teachers – mental health and behavioural issues in the classroom leads to less time to do planning and seek (or even read!) the resources. <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SK via JH to send summary on the outcomes of CEMP initial consultation. DW via JH to send updated draft ‘schools’ theme of CEMP. SAC to send any further feedback on the draft ‘schools’ theme structure to DW 	SK / JH DW / JH ALL
5.	Environmental Education E-Van	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Launch on September 17th – Little Day Out at Ross Reserve Is fit-for-purpose for usage for the Sustainability, Waste and Parks teams. Kitted out with storage, fold out picnic tables, awning, solar phone charging. Custom number plate suggestions will be collected at Little Day Out and via Our Bright Green Future e-news. <p>For action: JH to circulate graphic design images of van to SAC.</p>	JH
6.	Sustainability Festival 2024	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SK presented RG would like to have someone speak about why climate change is causing heatwaves and hot days, by someone with both the climate knowledge and science communication skills. 	SK
7.	General business	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Final meeting for the year is Wednesday 1 November, in-person with a dinner and hybrid option. JS asked about the Tree Protection Local Law and BJ noted he would request an update from the Manager Regulatory Services and circulate this back to the Committee. JS asked for an update on the SCH café single use plastic cups – BJ noted officers responsible for the leasing are well aware of this issue and will update the Committee in due course. <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> BJ to send update on Tree Protection Local Law to the Committee. JH to send list of soft plastic drop off points to SAC. 	BJ JH

Advisory Committee or Reference Group Name:

Sustainability Advisory Committee Meeting

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

Date of Meeting: 1 November 2023
Time of Meeting: 5.30-7.00pm
Meeting Location: Hybrid – in person at Dandenong Civic Centre and Online via Microsoft Teams

Attendees: Judith Sise (JS), Ward Petherbridge (WP), Graeme Pearman (GP), Steph Karras (SK), Jody Bosman (JB), Brett Jackson (BJ), Jess Harrison (JH)

Apologies: Asher Coleman (AC), Rhonda Garad (RG), Isabelle Nash (IN)

Guests: Darren Wilson (DW)

Minutes: Steph Karras (SK)

Item No.	Item	Action	Action By
1.	Welcome and Acknowledgement of Country	The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and acknowledged Bunurong Country.	BJ
2.	Previous Minutes	Previous minutes were accepted and taken as read.	ALL
3.	Actions Arising	N/A	
4.	Draft Community Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan (CEMP) update	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The draft CEMP is currently being reviewed internally Many of the actions focus on utilising existing local connections and networks to effectively target a wider audience GP, JS and DW discussed the importance of equipping teachers with the knowledge to be able to teach about climate change, noting it's really the entire education system that needs to be changed to appropriately include climate change in the curriculum. This is where advocacy is important CEMP is currently scheduled for presentation to the Executive Team in December 	DW
5.	Sustainability Festival 2024 – community EOIs	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The community are invited to run their own sustainability activity or event during February as part of the Sustainability Festival. EOI forms can be found at Greater Dandenong Sustainability Festival Greater Dandenong Council <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please share the Sustainability Festival EOI with anyone in the community who might like to run an event during February 2024 	SK ALL
6.	End of terms and next steps	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All members' terms have now expired An anonymous survey seeking your feedback on the Sustainability Advisory Committee and ideas for the future will be circulated shortly. <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Please complete the Sustainability Advisory Committee survey to be circulated by JH 	
7.	General business	<p>For noting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> After 21 years JB will be finishing with Greater Dandenong Council in February 2024. All members thanked JB for his service and passion, and wished 	ALL

If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

		<p>him good luck on his future endeavours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The environmental education e-van made its first public debut at Halloween in the Park and was well received by the community. JH will organise a time for interested committee members to view the van (likely in early 2024) <p>For action:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> JH to organise a time for the committee members to view the e-van. 	<p>JH</p>
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If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 5235.



4.3.2 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Corporate Development

Attachments: 1. Correspondence Received 19 February - 1 March 2024
[4.3.2.1 - 2 pages]

Executive Summary

1. Subsequent to past Council resolutions in relation to the listing of registered incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 to this report provides a list of this correspondence for the period 19 February – 1 March 2024.

Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 19 February – 1 March 2024 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

Objective

CONNECTED. COLLABORATIVE. COMMUNITY.

Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 19/02/24 & 01/03/24 - for officer action - total = 2

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
A request to the Mayor for a meeting from the CEO of Ability Works Australia to discuss the work conducted by the organisation in Greater Dandenong.	16-Feb-24	19-Feb-24	fA309004	Mayor & Councillors
An invitation to the Mayor from Chandler Park Primary School to attend an assembly to present student leaders with their badges.	19-Feb-24	19-Feb-24	fA309026	Mayor & Councillors

NB: Users assigned may have changed by the time of the Council Meeting. Correct at time of report production only.

Objective

CONNECTED. COLLABORATIVE. COMMUNITY.

Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 19/02/24 & 01/03/24 - for information only - total = 5

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
A letter to the Mayor from Comms Declare asking Council to consider a ban on fossil fuel advertising on council-owned land and at council-sponsored events.	24-Feb-24	24-Feb-24	A10684263	Mayor & Councillors
A letter to the Mayor from the Minister for Planning/Minister for Suburbs regarding Victoria's Housing Statement and the creation of a dedicated case management service.	27-Feb-24	27-Feb-24	A10699369	Mayor & Councillors
An invitation to the Mayor from the Mauritian Golden Age Club to attend its Mothers' Day Celebration in May 2024.	29-Feb-24	01-Mar-24	A10703899	Mayor & Councillors
An invitation to the Mayor from Sikh Volunteers Australia Inc. to attend the Vaisakhi Celebrations/Volunteer Appreciation Day and Kitchen Facility Inauguration in April 2024.	29-Feb-24	01-Mar-24	A10703950	Mayor & Councillors
A request to the Mayor from RISE (Refugee Survivors and Ex-Detainees) to meet and consider a RISE proposal to establish a permaculture farm.	01-Mar-24	01-Mar-24	A10705559	Mayor & Councillors

NB: Users assigned may have changed by the time of the Council Meeting. Correct at time of report production only.



5 NOTICES OF MOTION

A Notice of Motion is a notice setting out the text of a motion proposed to be moved at the next relevant meeting. It must be in writing, signed by a Councillor, and be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer in sufficient time for them to give each Councillor at least 72-hours notice of such notice.

The guidelines for submitting a notice of motion to a Council meeting are included in the current Governance Rules.



6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

The principal purpose of this item in the Council Meeting Agenda is for Councillors to report on their attendance, observations or important matters arising from their liaison or representation with groups for which the Councillor has been formally appointed by Council. In accordance with the documented 'protocol' that applies to either liaisons or representatives, Councillors should raise matters of importance during this item. Other matters may also be reported.

If a Councillor chooses to speak, the name of the conference/event and the Councillor will be noted in the Minutes for that meeting. If a Councillor requires additional information on the conference/event to be listed in the Minutes, they must submit it in writing to a Governance staff member by 12.00pm the day following this Council Meeting.

Question time is provided to enable Councillors to address questions to members of Council staff. The guidelines for asking questions at a Council meeting are included in the current Governance Rules.

Councillors have a total of 15 minutes each to report on their attendances at meetings, conferences or events and to ask questions of Council staff.



7 URGENT BUSINESS

7.1 PROPOSED MOTIONS FOR THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA STATE COUNCIL MEETING - 17 MAY 2024

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk

Recommendation

That an item of urgent business be heard in relation to proposed motions for the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to be held on 17 May 2024.

Executive Summary

1. Greater Dandenong City Council has membership with, and a Councillor representative for, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV). This peak body organisation holds an annual State Council meeting to determine and discuss its strategic focus for the following year's activities. This meeting provides Greater Dandenong City Council with an opportunity to draw state-wide attention across the local government sector to Council's advocacy and engagement priorities that have state-wide relevance.
2. This report recommends that Council endorses the proposed motions outlined in this report and submits these motions in the format required to the MAV prior to the deadline of 18 March 2024.

Background

3. Formed in 1879, the MAV is a membership association and the legislated peak body for Victoria's 79 local councils. The associations offer support to its members which includes specialist policy and advocacy, governance and legislative advice, sector development, insurance and procurement services.
4. The next MAV State Council Meeting will be held on Friday 17 May 2024. At this meeting, the agenda will include consideration of motions from membership councils. The deadline for submission of motions is 18 March 2024.
5. The MAV Rules 2022 require motions to be of strategic relevance to the MAV or be of such significance to local government that they ought to be considered. They should also relate to the MAV's Strategic Plan 2024-2027 'Shaping our Future' which includes the following areas of priority and focus.
 - (a) active local democracy;
 - (b) connected places;
 - (c) health & wellbeing;
 - (d) sustainable economy;
 - (e) FutureGen;
 - (f) First Peoples local government relations;
 - (g) climate & regenerative design;
 - (h) diversity, equity & inclusion;
 - (i) resilience & recovery; and
 - (j) intergenerational infrastructure.
6. As such, Greater Dandenong City Council is proposing that two motions be submitted to the MAV for its State Council meeting scheduled for 17 May 2024.



Proposed Motions for Submission to MAV

MAV Motion 1 - Supporting People Seeking Asylum within our Communities

Preamble

Cost shifting to Local Government and Charities

7. People seeking refugee protection in our communities face major hurdles in accessing federal government-funded support programs. Most are currently ineligible for the Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) Program, the Federal Program to support people seeking asylum during their protection application process.
8. As a result, they rely on support from local governments, community groups for charity or work in exploitative conditions. This cost shifting places huge burdens on local governments and their communities, needlessly places individuals and families at risk of destitution and erodes trust in government processes and institutions. The temporary status of this group creates added challenges, such as difficulty accessing women's refuges or homelessness services, and further education opportunities.
9. The Australian Federal Government has responsibility for immigration policy and providing people seeking protection with a clear and efficient Refugee Status Determination Process, with adequate support mechanisms for those in need.

Details of current situation

10. The SRSS Program has become so narrow and restricted that it fails to meet its intended purpose. Financial assistance delivered through the SRSS Program has been cut by 95% (from \$300 million in 2015-16 to \$15 million in 2022-23) and the number of people assisted has dropped from more than 13,000 in 2017 to 1,600 in 2023. Expenditure on SRSS financial assistance in 2022-23 (\$15 million) was underspent by \$22 million.
11. Charities cannot meet the need for emergency assistance. The demand for help far outstrips what charities and community groups have been able to provide. Homelessness services are reporting an increase in the number of people seeking asylum sleeping on the streets.
12. State governments are also winding back support. After providing some short-term assistance for filling the gap created by the Federal Government's cuts, state governments are now progressively withdrawing.
13. Lengthy delays in visa processing have made the situation much worse. This lack of access to assistance is coupled with large waiting times for decisions for people who apply for protection onshore, with people waiting more than eight years without access to a safety net for a final resolution of their asylum application.

Local Government Response

14. Since 2018, the Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum has been advocating for the rights of people seeking asylum to the Federal Government. Established and chaired by Greater Dandenong City Council, the Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum is now made up of a growing membership of over 40 councils nationwide, who understand this is an issue of national importance – the advocacy for a fairer and swifter Refugee Status Determination System with adequate support systems in place for individuals and families at risk of destitution.



15. Right now, in Australia, there are more than 90,000 people waiting for their application for protection to be finalised. Applications for asylum are clearly stuck in a broken system. This overly slow approach prevents individuals and families gaining the stability that refugee status provides. The result is vulnerable people living in local government communities for years, without access to critical support service such as Centrelink, Medicare, public housing, education, mental health and food.
16. The following motion aligns with the MAV's strategic priorities health, wellbeing, diversity, equity and inclusion and falls within the role of the MAV to be an influencer and advocate as detailed in its 2024-2027 Strategic Plan 'Shaping Our Future'. It recommends that the MAV advocates for reforms or improvements in national community services programs that would help local governments support the Australia Government to deliver on its national objectives, and specifically, reforms to the federally funded Status Resolution Support Services Program so that people seeking asylum within our communities are appropriately supported.

MAV Motion 1 - Supporting People Seeking Asylum within our Communities
Proposed Motion to be submitted to MAV State Council Meeting

The MAV calls on the Victorian Government to advocate to the Australia Government to:

1. *ensure people seeking asylum have a valid bridging visa with associated work and study rights while they await decisions on their protection application, including automating the bridging renewal process;*
2. *expand the Status Resolution Support Services (SRSS) Program eligibility and simplify the application process so that individuals and families seeking asylum who are in need and awaiting the outcome of their protection claims, or awaiting the outcome of the Administrative Appeal Tribunal (AAT) (or Administrative Review Tribunal once the AAT is abolished) can access healthcare, disability, housing support and other essential services; and*
3. *provide improved access to tertiary education options for people seeking asylum (and their children) awaiting the outcome of their protection claims or awaiting the outcome of the AAT (or Administrative Review Tribunal once the AAT is abolished).*

MAV Motion 2 - Road Safety

Preamble

16. Recently there has been an increase in casualty crashes involving vulnerable road users across the state. The Greater Dandenong community has raised safety concerns following recent fatal crashes on arterial roads involving school aged pedestrians, as they made their way to/from school.
17. There are currently several 'tools' used to reduce the risk to pedestrians, which are described below.

School Speed Zones (SSZ)

18. SSZs serve a specific and important function in reducing risk to all road users on roads directly adjacent to schools. However, these risks can increase on neighbouring roads or road segments outside the extent of the SSZ, particularly for younger (school aged) pedestrians. This has been tragically demonstrated by recent fatal crashes which occurred on arterial roads outside of SSZ.



19. Whilst the speed limit signage associated with the SSZ provides visual cues to motorists, similar cues may not exist on nearby local and arterial roads. Motorists may not be aware that during specific times of the day there may be an increase in pedestrian activity along such routes and may not be exercising the same level of caution.

Children's (School) Crossings

20. Such crossings aid younger pedestrians to safely cross the road and are often supervised. This may assist at 'satellite' sites, where a crossing is located away from a school along a major route. The Victorian Government has previously committed to the roll out of a new Schools Crossing Risk Assessment Framework, which would assist with identifying the suitability of suggested locations for such crossings. Earlier advice, provided in October 2023, indicated the roll out was imminent, however no further update has been forthcoming.

Drop off / Pick up and Parking Facilities

21. Further to the above, there is additional strain on the local road network resulting from the Victorian Governments expansion, consolidation, or construction of new schools with limited to no input from local councils. This can make it extremely difficult to facilitate safe and efficient drop off, pick-up and parking activities. The Victorian Government should be liaising with local councils to address these issues at the planning stage and provide sufficient funding to address these matters wherever necessary.

MAV Motion 2 – Road Safety

Proposed Motion to be submitted to MAV State Council Meeting

The MAV advocates to the Victorian Government to:

- 1. develop broader road safety messaging and education campaigns to address risks on roads neighbouring schools (not just School Speed Zones);*
- 2. implement and adequately resource the roll-out of the new School Crossing Risk Assessment Framework; and*
- 3. provide local government with greater input on school planning decisions and provide investment to assist with pick-up, drop-off and parking facilities wherever necessary.*

Financial Implications

22. There are no financial implications associated with the submission of motions to the MAV State Council Meeting.

Conclusion

23. It is recommended that the proposed motions be endorsed by Council and submitted to the MAV under the submission criteria under which they will be accepted.



Motion

That Council:

- 1. endorses the proposed motions to the Municipal Association of Victoria as outlined in this report;**
- 2. authorises the Chief Executive Officer and/or the Manager Governance, Legal & Risk to make any minor changes to improve wording of the motions and/or update the motions relative to the issues discussed in this report that may occur between this Council Meeting and the date of submission of the motions; and**
- 3. authorises the Manager Governance, Legal & Risk to submit the motions outlined in this report to the Municipal Association of Victoria under the submissions criteria which they will be accepted.**



8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS