



**Minutes**

**Council Meeting**

Tuesday 11 June 2024, 7:00 pm  
Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street,  
Dandenong, Victoria 3175

[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)



## Council Meeting Details

At the time of printing this Agenda, the Council Meeting to be held on Tuesday 11 June 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 Bob Milkovic](#)

[Deputy Mayor Richard Lim OAM](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Cr Phillip Danh](#)

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

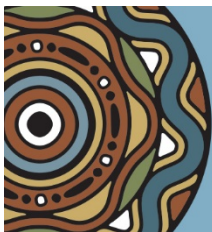
[Cr Tim Dark](#)

[Cr Loi Truong](#)

[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Angela Long](#)

[Cr Jim Memeti](#)



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](mailto:council@cgd.vic.gov.au)

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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.



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## 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. Reports 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.



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## 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

Cr Lana Formoso opened the Meeting at 7.00 pm.

### 1.2 ATTENDANCE

#### **Apologies**

Nil.

#### **Councillors Present**

Cr Lana Formoso, Mayor (Chair), Cr Richard Lim OAM, Deputy Mayor, Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Tim Dark, Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Angela Long, Cr Jim Memeti (remote), Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong.

#### **Officers Present**

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer; Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures; Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening; Andrew Foley, Executive Director Corporate Development (remote); Lisa Roberts, Manager Governance, Legal & Risk.



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### 1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

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

All remained standing as Mr Shamim Navidi, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, read the following:

*"O Thou compassionate Lord, Thou Who art generous and able! We are servants of Thine sheltered beneath Thy providence. Cast Thy glance of favor upon us. Give light to our eyes, hearing to our ears, and understanding and love to our hearts. Render our souls joyous and happy through Thy glad tidings.*

*O Lord! Point out to us the pathway of Thy kingdom and resuscitate all of us through the breaths of the Holy Spirit. Bestow upon us life everlasting and confer upon us never-ending honor. Unify mankind and illumine the world of humanity.*

*May we all follow Thy pathway, long for Thy good pleasure and seek the mysteries of Thy kingdom. O God! Unite us and connect our hearts with Thy indissoluble bond. Verily, Thou art the Giver, Thou art the Kind One and Thou art the Almighty."*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF YOUNG LEADERS

Mayor Lana Formoso acknowledged the Young Leaders that were in attendance.





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## 1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 27 May 2024.

### Recommendation

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 27 May 2024 be confirmed.**

### MINUTE No.1076

**Moved by: Cr Angela Long**

**Seconded by: Cr Richard Lim OAM**

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 27 May 2024 be confirmed.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**

## 1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Jim Memeti disclosed a direct material conflict of interest of a non-pecuniary nature (s 128 of the *Local Government Act 2020*) in 4.2.3 Appointment of Non-Executive Director - Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) as he is the Director of a company that has a stall at the Dandenong Market. Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber prior to discussion and voting on this item.



## 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 11 June 2024 for signing and sealing as follows:
  - a) A letter of recognition to Rachael White, City Futures for 10 years of service to the Greater Dandenong City Council.

### Officer Recommendation

**That the listed document be signed and sealed.**

#### **MINUTE No.1078**

**Moved by: Cr Richard Lim OAM**

**Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic**

**That the listed document be signed and sealed.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**



## 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 1 [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 11 June 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.*

### **Officer Recommendation**

**That this report and its attachment be received and noted.**

#### **MINUTE No.1079**

**Moved by: Cr Angela Long**

**Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong**

**That this report and its attachment be received and noted.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
22/05/2024	<p>We the undersigned would like the Greater Dandenong City Council to address the traffic and parking issues faced by all residents in Power Street, Dandenong, especially those who live between Macpherson Street and Clow Street and surrounding side streets, when there are events held on the soccer grounds and also in the Sports Hall (religious gatherings &amp; basketball) at St Johns Regional College – Dandenong campus.</p> <p>Over the last 12-month period, the residents enjoyed no traffic and parking issues for only a period of 4-6 weeks (mid December 2023 to mid to January 2024). From mid to late January 2024 the parking and traffic issues have already started and will quadruple at the start of Term 2. All throughout terms 2, 3 &amp; 4 we faced issues regarding illegal parking (in No Parking zone), ½ on road ½ off road and at times driveways being blocked (partially and fully) by cars parking across and in driveways.</p> <p>The main times of issue are Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4.30pm to 7.00pm, Saturday mornings from 9.00am to 3.00pm / 5.00pm (which increases from 8 / 8.30am to 8.00pm during terms 2, 3 &amp; 4 when the basketball competition also gets underway).</p> <p>Sundays when there are religious gatherings on a Sunday morning starting from 9 / 9.30am to 1.00pm (also on occasion longer).</p> <p>With this brings reduced access to driveways and along the road overall, if there has been rain, then people are parking on grassed areas and then subsequently getting bogged and then there is the added pressure of tow trucks blocking the road so that there is no traffic moving in either direction. It is also extremely dangerous if residents are trying to exit their driveway as it is extremely difficult to see oncoming traffic from either direction due to the number of cars parked partly off and on the street, often along both sides of the streets. Children crossing the street are also in danger. With all this also comes with people walking along the road, instead of crossing to the footpath and walking along it, instead of on the road.</p>	46	In Progress	<p>Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures.</p> <p>Petition acknowledged by Governance.</p>

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
	<p>Also, during these times local residents are unable to have any functions involving friends and family in their homes, as there is nowhere for any visitors to park. For example at Orthodox Easter, several residents in Nova Drive, had no visitor access. There is also no where for families dropping off at school without dropping off illegally</p> <p>If for some reason there was a need for response by emergency services to any house there would be very little room and/or access for multiple vehicles eg all services responding such as Police, Fire and Ambulance services. One large fire tanker would have trouble navigating the winding street and then there would be no movement of traffic in either direction.</p> <p>We feel that if St Johns Regional College is going to hire out their facilities, then it is their responsibility to provide adequate off road / onsite parking facilities to ensure that there is no disruptions for local residents.</p> <p>Please note enclosed school plan which shows onsite parking for staff only and satellite image showing an area near Clow Street as a possible parking area with gate access.</p>			



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### 3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

#### **Question**

**Susan Smith, Dandenong**

It has now been almost 4 months since the last co-design session for the Dandenong Community Hub.

The session resulted in significant changes being suggested, and also a number of significant unanswered questions. Simply put, the concept design was far from settled.

A majority of participants wanted further co-design sessions in line with the April 2023 resolution of Council for the concept design of the Dandenong Community Hub to be finalised, I stress finalised via co-design.

When will there be further co-design sessions to finalise the concept design of the Dandenong Community Hub?

#### **Response**

**Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

We are pleased to have now received feedback from the Architects on required next steps.

While further co-design sessions will be required to finalise the concept design, before they can proceed there are several items that need to be worked through.

For example, a broader precinct plan will inform vehicle and pedestrian management, and discussions are underway regarding potential options regarding parking, noting that the preference is to accommodate an active play area.

Officers are currently working through these and will provide further information on future sessions as soon as possible.

#### **Question**

**Jacob Dudman-Doyle, Dandenong**

When they do the new upgrades at the Frederick Wachter Reserve and playground, be sure that you build shelters for shade near the playground and around the reserve.

#### **Response**

**Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Providing shade is an important consideration for Council in the design of all new playgrounds and parks.

In terms of the Frederick Wachter Reserve, shelters and trees will be a high priority as we progress the design of this area.

Council has also recently completed the installation of a new shelter next to the playground at this reserve to increase the shade and amenity of this area for the community.





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**Question****Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong**

Dandenong CBD does not have any water refill stations in its public areas. This is something that all other councils have like Casey, Stonnington, Glen Eira, Cardinia and Monash to name just a few councils already providing this service to its residents.

Can Council please explain why Dandenong residents are being disadvantaged by Council not providing this essential service like most other councils already are doing?

**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

The replacement of water fountains in Dandenong CBD with capacity for refilling water bottles and reservoirs for dogs has been considered by Council's Placemaking and Revitalization team.

The current drinking fountains are fit for purpose. When these assets require replacement Council will further consider replacing them with multi-functional drinking fountains which will include a water bottle filling spout and a reservoir for dogs.

**Question****Pam Naylor, Noble Park**

Has Greater Dandenong Council requested the State Government hold the direction hearings and particularly public hearings for the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme Amendment C229gdan - Sandown Racecourse amendment in Greater Dandenong so that Greater Dandenong residents can have their say?

**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Council officers have had initial discussions with the Sandown Racecourse Advisory Committee regarding the location of the hearing. At this stage the committee has not determined the location. Officers will continue to liaise with the committee regarding this.

However, the committee have advised that it is likely that people will be able to attend either in person at the set location or online to provide greater flexibility.

Once a location is finalised, we will update the community accordingly.

**Question****Pam Naylor, Noble Park**

When Greater Dandenong Council make a submission to Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme Amendment C229gdan i.e. Sandown Racecourse amendment will it include the preservation of the trees on the site, which are highly concentrated on the eastern side of the site and if not, why not?

This seems to be a sensible way of providing passive open space and at the same time preserving one of the largest collection of mature trees in the whole of Greater Dandenong.



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## **Response**

### **Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Council officers have identified many large trees on the site and believe it is important that they are retained.

As such, the draft Council submission for the Sandown Racecourse planning scheme amendment, which will be considered later in tonight's Agenda, does raise the issue of the retention of the 200 plus trees that have been identified as being of Very High or High value.

The draft submission recommends that these trees be protected by way of locating them in conservation areas to preserve them in perpetuity.

## **Question**

### **Elizabeth Grasso, Keysborough**

As per the CGD website, the City of Greater of Dandenong is committed to protecting, managing, promoting and celebrating its history and heritage. By recording and celebrating the history, culture and the achievements of the people of Greater Dandenong we teach understanding and appreciation of our heritage.

Effective management today will ensure that things of value, beauty and importance to the community are preserved for future generations to enjoy.

Obviously this does not apply to the 1877 old Methodist chapel in Keysborough.

An incredible opportunity lost with Council voting against purchasing the historic buildings and land, how is Council going to protect it from developers and demolition by neglect now?

## **Response**

### **Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

The buildings on site are protected under the Heritage Overlay in the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme.

As such, any future re-development of this site would require a planning permit application to be submitted and approved by Council. In considering this application, the heritage values of the site would need to be appropriately considered and addressed before the permit could be approved.

Therefore, while Council has determined not to purchase the site, the buildings are still provided protection under the Heritage Overlay.



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## Question

### **Matthew Kirwan, Noble Park**

Until recently it has been a tradition of Greater Dandenong Council that Council meeting minutes be as open and transparent as legally possible, and for closed meetings to be rare. This has been something that this city could be proud of; making it a leader among Melbourne councils for open, transparent and, importantly, accountable democratic local governance. But, last meeting the increasing secrecy reached new levels with a report to Council about purchasing a piece of land.

Contractual information is understandably of a confidential nature, but in the minutes of the meeting, the location of the open space is not given, who voted for and against purchasing the land is not given, and even the final outcome not to purchase the land is not given. If it was not for the Dandenong Journal I would have no idea what happened at all.

Given that each of these matters are clearly in the public interest, on what grounds does Council justify omitting these matters in the minutes of the last Council meeting:

- a) The location of the site proposed to be purchased;
- b) Whether Council resolved to purchase or not purchase the land; and
- c) The Councillors who voted for and against the proposal?

## Response

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Greater Dandenong Council prides itself on Council meetings being as open and transparent as possible, and this will continue.

However, there are rare occasions where certain matters require Council to close a meeting due to the confidential nature of an item.

This was the case at the 27 May 2024 Council meeting where one item contained confidential information on a privately owned property that was not appropriate to be in the public realm, and as such the questions posed will not be directly responded to.

While this is the case in this instance, as stated above, the need to close a meeting is very rare and Council will continue to ensure meetings are as open as possible.

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**Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.**

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## PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
27/05/24 PQT20	Gaye Guest, Keysborough	<p><b>51a Douglas Street</b></p> <p>It was a sad day when important information about the sentinel river red gum trees only becomes known publicly 4 days before a Council meeting. This information was not shared in real time with Council's Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee, the Historical Society or the Greater Dandenong Environment group. The lack of transparency over local issues in a timely manner is alarming, given the historical significance of these trees that are of a great age and have kept watch over our suburb for many years. The Bilston river red gum was saved when the owner sold the land it stood on to the Department of Forestry to protect it. A wonderful heritage outcome.</p> <p>Our own Council policy documents, at least 5 in total, should automatically protect these trees. Four (4) items in the Agenda tonight are a complete package and cannot be discussed as individual items. Would Council advocate for these two (2) river red gums to stay in the hands of the residents, for the deplorable sum of \$155,000 as this offer is a fire sale</p>	Executive Director City Futures	06/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> Question taken on notice.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 06/06/2024:</b> Council advocated for the trees to be retained during the planning amendment and permit process. As previously mentioned, the Minister for Planning made a decision to grant a permit to remove the trees.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		fraction of their actual worth?			
27/05/24 PQT23	Eddie Kolar, Keysborough	<p><b>Trucks on Chapel Road, Keysborough</b> Dear Cr Garad, I have contacted you on 10 May 2024 without response – asking about trucks parking on Chapel Road, Keysborough after hours between Westwood Boulevard and Tyers Lane, causing potential accident traffic hazard.</p> <p><b>Comment</b> <b>Cr Rhonda Garad</b> This resident contacts me every month as he is very conscientious. For 4 years we have been notifying Council of trucks in the area specified. Council does go and fine them, but they just reappear.</p>	Executive Director Community Strengthening	05/05/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> We will investigate that and provide a response.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 05/06/2024:</b> Illegal truck parking is common in areas such as Keysborough, where residential precincts intersect with industrial zones and major transport hubs.</p> <p>Council's Parking Compliance team conduct daily proactive patrols of Chapel Road, between Westwood Boulevard and Tyers Lane, Keysborough. All vehicles that are observed to be parking illegally receive appropriate enforcement action.</p> <p>Officers will continue to monitor this area; however, we also encourage you to continue to report these issues through the following options:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a report in the Snap, Send, Solve app.</li> <li>2. Complete the online form in the 'Report an issue' page on Council's website – Report an issue Report an issue   Greater Dandenong Council.</li> <li>3. Call customer service on 8571 1000.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>
27/05/24 PQT24	Frank Strangers, Bangholme	<p><b>Harwood Road - Bangholme</b> Given that I live only 900 kms from this Council building and a stones throw from large corporations, why is</p>	Executive Director City Futures	23/05/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> It was taken on notice at the last Council meeting but is still under investigation. The officer will get in touch with you.</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		<p>it that our road is still a dirt road, we still do not have sufficient street lighting and the it looks like a rubbish tip. I have counted at least eight (8) large piles of concrete, building, rubble and soil. Each pile scattered on both sides of the road and sometimes on the road – which is a danger. It has been there for over a month. How long is this going to happen and why is our voice not heard?</p> <p><b>Comment</b> <b>Cr Rhonda Garad</b> One (1) of the reasons that area is different to the commercial area is because it is part of the Green Wedge. The Green Wedge management plan advocates to keep it in a countrified way, so that is why there is minimal lighting.</p>			<p><b>Further response provided 23/05/2024:</b> Road surfaces are generally contingent on the adjacent land usage. The unsealed surface of Harwood Road is currently suitable for the adjacent land usage and would not become a priority to be altered (sealed) unless the adjacent land use changed substantially.</p> <p>With regards to the limited street lighting, again, this is generally associated with land use. Whilst suburban areas have more street lighting, roads in rural and sparsely developed areas generally have less street lighting, often only having flag lighting at intersections. If there are specific locations where you believe lighting may be appropriate, please let Council know and our engineers can investigate.</p> <p>On the matter of the speed limit signage, roads which do not have speed limit signs posted are subject to the default speed limit for either the built-up (urban) or rural areas. On Harwood Road, where conditions can vary greatly, drivers are required to drive to the conditions. Posted speed limits can create an expectation of a safe speed which may be inappropriate for the given conditions. With this in mind Council's engineers advise they have no current plans to install posted speed limits</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>along this road.</p> <p>Illegally dumped rubbish is a significant (and growing) problem throughout the municipality, especially in the more remote 'rural' locations like Harwood Road, Bangholme. Despite several proactive initiatives including the dumped rubbish 'Hot Spots' program, installation of covert and overt CCTV cameras at 'problem' locations, and the recent dumped rubbish public awareness campaign, Council still relies on members of the public to report incidents of dumped rubbish once sighted, as we may not even be aware of these until they are reported.</p> <p>Once reported, illegally dumped rubbish is collected by Council staff within 10 working days. There has never been any prior discussion about the installation of cameras on Harwood Road, however this is something that the Waste and Cleansing team will now consider.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>
27/05/24 PQT26	Pam Naylor, Noble Park	<p><b>Community involvement, urban gardens and trees</b></p> <p>Will there be any community initiatives to involve local residents in the stewardship of the new plantings and to raise awareness about the benefits of urban gardens and trees in Noble Park?</p>	Executive Director City Futures	05/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b></p> <p>Question taken on notice as three (3) questions had already been asked.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 05/06/2024:</b></p> <p>I advise Council provides a range of environmental education and engagement programs throughout the year with a focus</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>on protecting and enhancing biodiversity and increasing canopy cover to green our city. These include community planting days throughout winter and spring, gardens for wildlife and environmental engagement stalls and indigenous plant giveaways at Council facilitated events. Residents of Noble Park and across our City who are interested in participating and would like to find out further information, can subscribe to Councils E-News 'Our Bright Green Future' on our website, or via the following link <a href="#">Our Bright Green Future News   Greater Dandenong Council</a>.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>
27/05/24 PQT27	Zoe Mohl, Springvale	<p><b>51a Douglas Street</b> With the removal of the large river red gum at 51a Douglas Street, which provides significant shade in Noble Park's business precinct, what measures will the council implement to protect the community from the rising urban heat effect?</p>	Executive Director City Futures	06/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> Question taken on notice as three (3) questions had already been asked.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 06/06/2024:</b> Council has an on-going tree planting program that has seen over 20,000 trees planted on public land across the municipality in the last 10 years, and Council plans to continue to plant approximately 2,000 trees each year. In addition, Council has commenced an activity centres tree planting program that will see new tree planting in Noble Park, Dandenong and Springvale activity centres. This work, along with other Council initiatives, will assist in protecting the community against the challenge of the urban heat island effect.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>





## 4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

### 4.1 POLICY AND STRATEGY

#### 4.1.1 Review of Council Policies - Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Executive Director Corporate Development Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy May 2024 - For Readoption [4.1.1.1 - 6 pages]</li><li>2. Policy Roadside Fatality Memorials 2018 - Existing [4.1.1.2 - 4 pages]</li></ol>

#### Executive Summary

1. Council policies are in place to ensure accordance with 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 continually reviews its organisational policies and recently created a policy register to assist in the review process. The Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy is due for review and readoption by Council to ensure it remains up to date with current organisational practices.
3. This report recommends that the Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy outlined in the report and provided in Attachment 1 be readopted.



## Background

4. Policies developed by Council aim to ensure good governance and decision-making processes, along with consistent, 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 to give a definite direction for Council.
5. Each policy is developed to address specific matters and objectives as outlined in the Council Plan 2021-2025 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 technology advances and new systems are required and 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 the policy. The existing policy that will be revoked is provided in Attachment 2 to this report.
8. Ongoing review of all Council policies identified the need to review and readopt the Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy

## Key Points / Issues / Discussion

9. There have been no changes to this policy other than updating its format and the references and related documents contained within it.

## Financial Implications

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

## Community and Stakeholder Consultation

11. This policy was reviewed and evaluated by the Executive Team prior to being presented to Council in this report.

## Officer Recommendation

**That Council APPROVES the Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.**

### **MINUTE No.1080**

**Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly**

**Seconded by: Cr Richard Lim OAM**

**That Council APPROVES the Roadside Fatalities Memorial Policy as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**



## Roadside Fatality Memorials Policy

Policy Endorsement:	Council		
Policy Superseded by this Policy:			
Directorate:	Business, Engineering and Major Projects		
Responsible Officer:	Manager Transport and Civil Development		
Policy Type:	Discretionary		
File Number:		Version No:	
1 <sup>st</sup> Adopted by Council	Minute No.	Last Adopted by Council:	Minute No.
Review Period:	4 Years	Next Review:	Feb 2027

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## 1. POLICY OBJECTIVE

This policy sets guidelines for the placement of roadside fatality memorials on local roads within the City of Greater Dandenong. Control on the placement of memorials on roadsides under the jurisdiction of road authorities other than the City of Greater Dandenong remains vested with the respective road authorities.

## 2. BACKGROUND

Greater Dandenong City Council recognises that some members of the community wish to mark the location of, or commemorate, a fatal crash on the local road network by the placement of a temporary roadside memorial.

## 3. SCOPE

This policy applies to all temporary roadside memorials erected on roads managed by Greater Dandenong City Council.

## 4. DEFINITIONS

A roadside memorial is any object temporarily erected or placed within the road reserve to commemorate/indicate a road fatality. Memorials may include items such as flowers, wreaths, toys or any type of temporary inscriptions.

## 5. POLICY

### Policy Statement

Council will deal sensitively with requests for the placement of temporary roadside memorials on local roads.

### Objectives

This policy will assist grieving members of the community affected by roadside fatalities at a time when emotions sometimes do not allow for clear thinking on these matters. This would enable workers in the field of road trauma to immediately identify relevant protocols, allowing families and loved ones to respond appropriately in the placement of a roadside memorial.

### Detailed Requirements and Performance

In dealing with requests, the following criteria will be considered:

#### Location

1. A memorial should be located in a position where it will not distract drivers' attention from the driver task or interfere with the role of any traffic control item.
2. A memorial should be located in a position where it will not be hazardous to passing traffic, pedestrians or prevent appropriate maintenance of the road reserve. VicRoads Supplement to Austroads Guide to Road Design (AGRD) Part 6: Roadside design, safety & barriers (2020) should be used to assess this.
3. Applicants should be made aware of any possible risks in visiting roadside memorials and should be advised on safe practices in this regard e.g. Stopping clear of traffic.
4. Wherever possible, the location should be chosen to minimise risk.

### **Construction**

1. A memorial must be constructed of material or installed in a way that will not interfere with road users or cause injury if struck by a vehicle or pedestrians and shall be of a temporary nature only.
2. Only one memorial is to be placed at a fatal crash site to commemorate the loss of a loved one/s.

### **Other**

1. Any objection or complaint from nearby residents or from road users regarding any aspects of memorials, including the activity of visitors to the memorial, should be carefully considered and if necessary, the memorial should be relocated or removed.
2. Applicants should be advised that Greater Dandenong City Council is not able to accept responsibility for the maintenance of memorials, or any loss, damage, removal or relocation of roadside memorials which may occur due to road maintenance or construction activities.
3. In general, a time limit of one month will be allowed for memorials to be placed within road reserves. Council reserves the right to remove and dispose of such temporary memorials at any time following a period of one month after the initial placement without prior warning to the applicant.
4. Arrangements for the placement of temporary memorials shall be made with Council in accordance with the policy guidelines.
5. In special circumstances a request to extend the time limit of one month may be sought.

### **Exceptions**

The implementation of this policy within the City of Greater Dandenong is affected by VicRoads' Roadside Fatality Memorials Policy which allows permanent memorials to be established on roads under the jurisdiction of VicRoads.

## **6. RESPONSE TO THE OVERARCHING GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020**

All matters relevant to the *Local Government Act 2020* have been considered in the preparation of this policy and are consistent with the standards set by the Act.

## **7. CHARTER OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES ACT 2006 – COMPATIBILITY STATEMENT**

All matters relevant to the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* have been considered in the preparation of this policy and are consistent with the standards set by the Charter.

## **8. RESPONSE TO THE GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020**

Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy and the *Gender Equality Act 2020* have been considered in the preparation of this policy but are not relevant to its contents.

The policy is purely administrative in nature and does not benefit any one gender group over any other.

## 9. CONSIDERATION OF CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABILITY

Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy 2020-2030 and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching governance principle on climate change and sustainability have been considered in the preparation of this policy but are not relevant to its contents.

## 10. RESPONSIBILITIES

Assessment of suitable locations of temporary roadside memorials is to be undertaken by Council Officers from the Transport or Strategic Transport teams, with input as necessary from Council's Parking Management Officers and Works Services Officers.

## 11. REPORTING, MONITORING AND REVIEW

Review of this policy should occur every four years, under the direction of the Manager Transport and Civil Development.

## 12. REFERENCES AND RELATED DOCUMENTS

- Greater Dandenong City Council - Council Plan 2021-2025
- VicRoads – Roadside Fatality Memorials Policy
- *Road Management Act 2004*
- *Local Government Act 2020*
- *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*

This policy should be read and implemented in conjunction with the provisions of the:

- Code of Practice for Worksite Safety - Traffic Management August 2010, and
- Relevant Australian Standards, AustRoads Guidelines and appropriate VicRoads supplements.





# Greater Dandenong Policy

## Roadside Fatality Memorials

EDRMS Object id:	A671070	Directorate:	Engineering Services
Authority:	Council	Responsible Officer:	Asset Planning Team Leader
Policy Type:	Discretionary	Version No:	4
1 <sup>st</sup> Adopted by Council	27 October 2003 Minute No. 224	Last Adopted by Council:	12 May 2014 Minute No. 565
Review Period:	4 years	Next Review:	April 2018

### 1. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to set guidelines for the placement of roadside fatality memorials on local roads within the City of Greater Dandenong. Control on the placement of memorials on roadsides under the jurisdiction of road authorities other than the City of Greater Dandenong remains vested with the respective road authorities.

### 2. Background

The City of Greater Dandenong recognises that some members of the community wish to mark the location of, or commemorate a fatal crash on the local road network by the placement of a temporary roadside memorial.

### 3. Scope

This policy applies to all temporary roadside memorials erected on roads managed by the City of Greater Dandenong.

### 4. Human Rights and Responsibilities Charter – Compatibility Statement

All matters relevant to the Victorian Human Rights Charter have been considered in the preparation of this Policy and are consistent with the standards set by the Charter.



# Greater Dandenong Policy

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## 5. References

Council Plan 2013-2017

Vic Roads – Roadside Fatality Memorials Policy

Road Management Act 2004

Local Government Act 1989

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006

## 6. Definitions

A roadside memorial is any object temporarily erected or placed within the road reserve to commemorate/indicate a road fatality. Memorials may include items such as flowers, wreaths, toys or any type of temporary inscriptions.

## 7. Council Policy

### Policy Statement

Council will deal sensitively with requests for the placement of temporary roadside memorials on local roads.

### Objectives

This policy will assist grieving members of the community affected by roadside fatalities at a time when emotions sometimes do not allow for clear thinking on these matters. This would enable workers in the field of road trauma to immediately identify relevant protocols, allowing families and loved ones to respond appropriately in the placement of a roadside memorial.



# Greater Dandenong Policy

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## Detailed Requirements and Performance

In dealing with requests, the following criteria will be considered:

### **Location**

1. A memorial should be located in a position where it will not distract drivers' attention from the driver task or interfere with the role of any traffic control item.
2. A memorial should be located in a position where it will not be hazardous to passing traffic, pedestrians or prevent appropriate maintenance of the road reserve. VicRoads' Clear Zone Guidelines (Road Design Guidelines Part 3, Section 3.9 Clear Zones) should be used to assess this.
3. Applicants should be made aware of any possible risks in visiting roadside memorials and should be advised on safe practices in this regard eg. Stopping clear of traffic.
4. Wherever possible, the location should be chosen to minimise risk.

### **Construction**

1. A memorial must be constructed of material or installed in a way that will not interfere with road users or cause injury if struck by a vehicle or pedestrians and shall be of a temporary nature only.
2. Only one memorial is to be placed at a fatal crash site to commemorate the loss of a loved one/s

### **Other**

1. Any objection or complaint from nearby residents or from road users regarding any aspects of memorials, including the activity of visitors to the memorial, should be carefully considered and if necessary the memorial should be relocated or removed.
2. Applicants should be advised that the City of Greater Dandenong is not able to accept responsibility for the maintenance of memorials, any loss, damage, removal or relocation of roadside memorials that may occur due to road maintenance or construction activities.
3. In general, a time limit of one month will be allowed for memorials to be placed within road reserves. Council reserves the right to remove and dispose of such temporary memorials at any time following a period of one month after the initial placement without prior warning to the applicant.
4. Arrangements for the placement of temporary memorials shall be made with Council in accordance with the policy guidelines.



# Greater Dandenong Policy

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5. In special circumstances a request to extend the time limit of one month may be sort.

## Exceptions

The implementation of this policy within the City of Greater Dandenong is affected by VicRoads' Roadside Fatality Memorials policy that allows permanent memorials to be established on roads under the jurisdiction of VicRoads.

## 8. Related Documents

This policy should be read and implemented in conjunction with the provisions of the:

- Code of Practice for Worksite safety-Traffic Management December 2004, and
- VicRoads Clear Zone Guidelines.



## 4.2 OTHER

### 4.2.1 Medium Grants Program 2024 Round 1

<b>Responsible Officer:</b>	Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening
<b>Attachments:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Medium Grants Program 2024 Round One - Community Development Grants [4.2.1.1 - 1 page]</li><li>2. Medium Grants Program 2024 Round One - Arts Festivals and Events Grants [4.2.1.2 - 1 page]</li></ol>

#### Executive Summary

1. Through the Medium Grants Program (formerly Community Support Grants Program) Council offers not-for-profit community groups, organisations and individual artists the opportunity to apply for one-off grants to support delivery of projects, programs and events that benefit the Greater Dandenong community.
2. This report outlines the assessment of applications submitted to four (4) grant categories under the **2024 Medium Grants Program Round One**:
  1. Community Development.
  2. Climate Change Action.
  3. Arts, Festivals and Events.
  4. Individual Artist.
3. All applications have been checked for eligibility by Council officers and assessed by an independent Community Grants Assessment Panel. The Panel recommendations are presented in this report.
4. This report recommends that Council endorses the recommendations for Medium Grants Program 2024 Round One as outlined in the attachments to this report.



## Background

5. The Community Funding Program and Policy Review was conducted from April to December 2023. The outcome of the Review resulted in a new consolidated Community Grants Program Policy and an updated Community Grants Program that incorporates strategic, governance, and operational improvements and responds to emerging community needs.
6. The newly endorsed Medium Grants Program contains four (4) grant categories:
  1. Community Development.
  2. Climate Change Action (newly establish category).
  3. Arts, Festivals and Events.
  4. Individual Artist.
7. Under the program there are two (2) funding rounds per annum. **This report considers Round One applications.**

## Key Points / Issues / Discussion

### Eligibility Check

8. Applications made to the Medium Grants Program undergo an eligibility check by Council officers to ensure that applicants are:
  - incorporated non-profit organisations (unless auspiced),
  - meeting key compliance requirements of Consumer Affairs Victoria, and
  - have met past grants acquittal reporting requirements of Council.
9. Applications deemed *eligible* are progressed for assessment. *Ineligible* applications do not progress, and officers will advise applicants of this outcome upon endorsement of this Report.

### Community Grants Assessment Panels

10. Community Grants Assessment Panels include community representatives and Council officers with broad experience and diverse knowledge.
11. Panel members are governed by a Terms of Reference and a signed Code of Conduct. Each member completed an induction process and throughout the training and assessment process were supported by Council officers.
12. For each grant category individual panel members were tasked to complete an initial online assessment. These assessment scores were then consolidated and presented to a scheduled panel meeting for qualitative discussion and final recommendations.

### Round One of the 2024 Medium Grants Program

13. Round One of the 2024 Medium Grants Program was opened online on Monday 12 February 2024 and closed Tuesday 12 March 2024.
14. The round was highly promoted via electronic and printed material, through Council networks and social media.



15. Grant information and writing workshops were offered in person and via online platforms. Applicants also had opportunity to access face-to-face and remote support from Council officers to assist them develop grant applications.

### **Category 1 - Community Development Grants**

16. This grant category offers single year grants of up to \$10,000 for projects that build community capacity, foster social inclusion, create healthy partnerships, prevent family violence, advance gender equity, and promote community harmony and participation.
17. A total of 30 applications were submitted to the Community Development Grants category. One (1) application was ruled ineligible.
18. This left a total of 29 applications to be assessed seeking total funding of \$225,699.49.
19. The Community Grants Assessment Panel members individually assessed applications online from 5 to 19 April 2024. The Panel convened on 7 May 2024 to qualitatively discuss the consolidated applications and make final recommendations. Following this it is recommended that **14** applications be funded a total of **\$69,834.94**.
20. A list of all applications recommended for funding through the Community Development category is provided in Attachment 1.

### **Category 2 - Climate Change Action Grants**

21. This grant category offers single year grants of up to \$5,000 for projects that deliver climate-related or other positive environmental outcome and assist Council in its commitment to tackling climate change.
22. A total of one (1) application was submitted to the Climate Change Action Grants category and subsequently was withdrawn by the applicant.
23. No applications were assessed under this category in this round.
24. Officers will work with relevant Council units to enhance promotion of this new funding category for future funding rounds.

### **Category 3 – Arts, Festivals and Events Grants**

25. This grant category offers single year grants of up to \$10,000 for projects that promote community connection, cross cultural exchange, and appreciation of cultural diversity. Arts, festivals, and events play an integral part in building and supporting broad community involvement and social cohesion.
26. A total of 29 applications were submitted to the Arts, Festivals and Event Grants category. One (1) application was ruled ineligible.
27. This left a total of 28 applications to be assessed seeking total funding of \$241,927.50.
28. The Community Grants Assessment Panel member individually assessed applications online from 5 to 19 April 2024. The Panel convened on 1 May 2024 to qualitatively discuss the consolidated applications and make final recommendations. Following this it is recommended that **13** applications be funded a total of **\$80,568**.
29. A list of all applications recommended for funding through the Arts, Festivals and Events category is provided in Attachment 2.



### Category 4 - Individual Artist Grants

30. This grant category offers single year grants of up to \$5,000 to individuals to develop community-based arts/cultural projects, develop relationships with community and create art that responds to community needs.
31. No application was submitted to the Individual Artist Grants category.
32. Officers will work with relevant Council units to enhance promotion of this funding category for future funding rounds.

### Support for Unsuccessful Applicants

33. All unsuccessful applicants will be contacted by officers and offered feedback and assistance to support them to submit an application to the 2024 Medium Grants Program Round Two.
34. This round is scheduled to open in July 2024.

### Grant Acquittal Reports

35. Grant recipients are required to submit a grant acquittal report within one month of the project being completed. The report will include a description of the activities delivered and outcomes achieved by the grant recipients and detail on how the funds were spent.

### Proposal

36. It is proposed that Council endorse the recommendations (as shown in Attachments 1 and 2) for funding through the following categories:
  - a. Attachment 1 – Community Development Grants – Round One
  - b. Attachment 2 – Arts, Festivals and Events Grants – Round One
37. For the 2024 Community Development Grant Round One there are **14** applications recommended for funding as listed in Attachment 1.
38. For the 2024 Arts, Festivals and Events Grant Round One there are **13** applications recommended for funding as listed in Attachment 2.

### Financial Implications

39. The financial implications associated with this report are a one-off cost of **\$150,402.94** (= \$69,834.94 + \$80,568) with no ongoing costs in future year budgets.
40. The Medium Grants Program has a budget of **\$366,400** for the 2024-25 financial year and this leaves **\$215,997.06** (= \$366,400 - \$150,402.94) to be allocated in Round Two.

### Community and Stakeholder Consultation

41. During the assessment process Council Officers consulted with staff from across the organisations to seek information and advice regarding the merits of all funding applications.
42. Officers conducted extensive eligibility checks of applications including compliance documentation, financial report, past grants acquittal history and other matters where relevant.
43. All eligible applications were assessed by Community Grants Assessment Panels. Panels include community representatives who submitted expressions of interest and Council officers with broad experience and diverse knowledge.
44. Community Grants Assessment Panel's recommendations of eligible applications for funding are presented for endorsement.





## Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

45. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
- Safe and peaceful community.
  - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
  - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
  - Sustainable environment.
  - Mind, body and spirit.
  - Art and culture.
46. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
47. 2021-25:
- 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.

## Legislative and Policy Obligations

48. 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*.
  - Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

## Conclusion

49. This report recommends funding of the 2024 Medium Grants Program – Round One.
50. These recommendations are presented to Council for endorsement.

## Officer Recommendation

### That Council:

1. **ENDORSES** the awarding of Community Development Grants (Round One) to applicants as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report; and
2. **ENDORSES** the awarding of Arts, Festivals and Events Grants (Round One) to applicants as outlined in Attachment 2 of this report.



**MINUTE No.1081**

**Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh**

**Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly**

**That Council:**

- 1. ENDORSES the awarding of Community Development Grants (Round One) to applicants as outlined in Attachment 1 of this report; and**
- 2. ENDORSES the awarding of Arts, Festivals and Events Grants (Round One) to applicants as outlined in Attachment 2 of this report.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**

**Medium Grants Program 2024 - Round 1**

**Community Development Grants - Round 1**

Organisation	Project Title	Recommended Amount
Afghan Women's Organisation Victoria	Afghan Senior Women's Social Inclusion Program 2024	\$9,800.00
Arabic Women Seniors Group Inc.	Well Being Program	\$2,560.00
Dandenong South Primary School Community Hub	Annual Women's Health Forum 2024	\$4,036.50
Greater Dandenong Football Club	Soccer for All	\$4,980.00
Headspace Dandenong (EACH)	My Support Pocket Card	\$4,400.00
Interfaith Network City of Greater Dandenong	'Share the Load'	\$8,435.00
Keysborough Scout Group	Camp program for local Scouts	\$8,703.00
Lighthouse Foundation	Southern Hub Home - Therapeutic Play and Study Equipment	\$5,330.44
Project Respect	Improving inclusion for women with experience in the sex industry	\$9,910.00
Road Safety Education Limited	Road Safety Education for Vulnerable Greater Dandenong Young Drivers	\$5,000.00
Serbian Social Services and Support Inc.	Serbian Social Services and Support Inc. - Planned Group Activities	\$1,500.00
South East Volunteers Inc.	'Get Involved - Be Included'	\$1,680.00
St. Pauls South-Eastern Suburbs Maltese Seniors Association Inc.	Springvale Maltese Seniors Association	\$1,500.00
Victorian Afghan Students Association	Empower Youth: Skills Development, Talent Showcase and Story-telling	\$2,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$69,834.94</b>

**Medium Grants Program 2024 - Round 1**

**Arts, Festivals and Events Grants – Round 1**

Organisation	Project Title	Recommended Amount
Active lifestyle 101	Dandenong Martial Arts Festival	\$6,500.00
Afghan Australian Philanthropic	Afghan Eid and New Year celebration	\$8,000.00
Australian Society of Graduate Tamils Inc.	Tamil Youth Cultural Night	\$6,500.00
Bengali Puja and Cultural Society of Victoria	Bengali New Year Celebration 2024	\$4,500.00
Bharathi Academy	Melbourne Tamil Theatre Festival 2024 - Connecting Communities	\$10,000.00
Cantonese Art Association Inc.	Celebrating 2024 Moon Festival	\$2,488.00
Indian Business Women Network Inc.	Spirit of Dandenong	\$6,500.00
Liberty Unity Organization Life Global Foundation Australia (LUOLGFA) Inc	Luo Life Women Cultural Harmony 2024 Showcase	\$5,000.00
Malayalee Association of Victoria Inc.	MAV Onam Festival Celebration at Springvale Town Hall	\$6,500.00
Melbourne Malayali Youth Society	Melam 2024	\$5,580.00
Somaliland Union of Victoria Inc.	EID Festival & Greater Dandenong Soccer Tournament	\$7,000.00
Victorian Amateur Judo Union Inc.	Australian Kodokan Judo Association National Championship	\$7,000.00
Xinjiang Chinese Association of Australia Inc.	Multicultural Singing and Dancing Event	\$5,000.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$80,568.00</b>



## 4.2.2 South East Leisure Pty Ltd - Appointment of Board Members

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director Community Strengthening  
**Attachments:** Nil

### Executive Summary

1. This report details South East Leisure Pty Ltd (SEL) successful management and operational delivery of Council's major aquatic and leisure facilities. At its meeting on 8 February 2021, Council endorsed the establishment of a proprietary company limited for the purposes of managing four of Council's major leisure facilities from 1 July 2022, including appointing a Chair and Board of Directors for SEL for an initial term of three (3) years. The initial board member terms are due to expire in June 2024.
2. This report recommends the reappointment of two (2) existing Directors for a period of 12 months, one (1) existing Director for a period of two (2) years and the recruitment of three (3) new Directors for a period of two (2) years, in line with Clause 9 of the Constitution that governs SEL.
3. This report also recommends the appointment of an interim Chairperson for up to six (6) months while a new Chairperson is recruited.



## Background

4. After consideration of various management models, Council determined to establish a proprietary company limited to manage the following four major aquatic and leisure facilities in the City of Greater Dandenong from 1 July 2022:

- Dandenong Oasis Aquatic Centre
- Noble Park Aquatic Centre
- Springers Leisure Centre
- Dandenong Stadium.

Following Council's resolution, South East Leisure Pty Ltd (SEL) was legally established and began several key governance processes including the establishment of a Company Constitution and Board of Directors to ensure it was ready to manage the facilities from this date.

5. Council's resolution on 8 February 2021 also included the establishment and appointment of a Chair and Board of Directors for SEL for an initial term of three (3) years. This term is due to expire in June 2024. Key elements of the Constitution for SEL include the following in relation to the appointment of board members and chair positions:

- The Board will comprise of a minimum of one and a maximum of seven (7) Directors.
- Directors will be appointed by the Shareholder (Council) for a term of up to three (3) years.
- Directors will be limited to a maximum continuous term of nine (9) years.
- The Shareholder will appoint the Board Chair.

6. Under the constitution that governs SEL, Clause 9.1.2(a) provides that a shareholder (Council) may, by resolution appoint a person as a Director for a term stated in their notice of appointment of up to three (3) years; and a director who has reached the end of the term of their appointment under Clause 9.1.2(a) is eligible for reappointment, provided that their total continuous term of appointment as a director is not more than nine (9) years.

7. Interviews for the position of Board Director were held on Monday 17 May 2021 and Tuesday 25 May 2021. At the conclusion of the interview process, the panel determined to endorse the following candidates as Directors of South East Leisure Pty Ltd:

- Mr Steven Wright
- Dr Malak Sukkar
- Ms Laura Buckley
- Mr Domenic Isola
- Mr Tim Cockayne
- Mr Mick Jaensch.

(Mr Domenic Isola did not take up his appointment and has not served as a Board Director for SEL)



8. With the initial term of the SEL board members ending, Council engaged external auditors to conduct a 'Desktop Review of Governance Systems and Processes' in early 2024. This external review considered key governance aspects, to assist in identifying any improvement opportunities and/or areas that are working well. The review included feedback and input from SEL Directors, the Company Secretary, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Council's key representatives.
9. The review highlighted that through its initial tenure, the SEL Board has successfully managed and operated Council's aquatic and recreational facilities, providing a robust governance framework that provides key stakeholders with confidence that the organisation is fulfilling its stewardship with due diligence resulting in positive outcomes for the community.

### Key Points / Issues / Discussion

10. Key recommendations of the review include:

Succession planning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The need for implementation of a staggered approach when appointing new Directors (currently all SEL Director terms expire in June 2024). This will assist in maintaining continuity of service in the event of a sudden departure or change in leadership.</li></ul>
Skills and diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The need for Director with adequate facilities management and/or recreational management experience.</li><li>• The need for improved gender diversity, an opportunity to explore increased cultural diversity within the Board.</li></ul>
Strategic planning and oversight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The need for SEL Board to be more strategic by primarily focusing on the strategic direction and long-term vision of SEL, with its primary function being to provide strategic guidance, monitoring performance against strategic objectives, and evaluating the overall health and sustainability of SEL.</li></ul> <p>(The need for a more operational focus initial during establishment phase is acknowledged)</p>

11. Informed by these recommendations, and with the current term of all Directors ending, immediate opportunity exists to respond to these recommendations.
12. It is therefore recommended that Council reappoints three (3) current board members into a second term:
  - Dr Malak Sukkar, for a further term of two (2) years,
  - Mr Tim Cockayne, for a further term of one (1) year, and
  - Mr Mick Jaensch, for a further term of one (1) year.
13. And recruits three (3) new Directors; inclusive of a new Chairperson, for a period of two (2) years.
14. This will create a staggered approach to Director tenure, while maintaining continuity for SEL. Further staggering should be considered as part of future Director recruitment processes.



15. It is noted that an outcome of this recommendation is that Ms Laura Buckley will cease to hold a position as Director at the end of her current term (30 June 2024); and that after a leave of absence Ms Buckley has advised she is not able to extend her Directorship.
16. It is also noted that Mr Steven Wright, Director and Chairperson would also cease to hold a position as Director at the end of his current term (30 June 2024); enabling the recruitment of three (3) new Directors and subsequently the staggering of future terms.
17. To ensure continuity during the recruitment process, it is recommended that in addition to a one (1) year reappointment, Mr Tim Cockayne be appointed as interim Chairperson for up to six (6) months.
18. Prior to his appointment to the SEL Board in 2021, Mr Cockayne served as Director on the Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) Board from 2015-2020 and was appointed interim Chair of DMPL in June 2020 until March 2021.
19. Per the recommendation of Mr Cockayne's appointment in 2021, Mr Cockayne holds a Master of Business Administration and is a Graduate of Australian Institute of Company Directors. Through several CEO, Managing Director and General Manager roles in the private sector has gained strong skills in strategy, marketing, retail, sales and finance.

### **Financial Implications**

20. There will be an additional operational cost with the appointment of one (1) of the new Directors, as one of the Director positions is currently vacant. This cost will be met through SEL operational budget lines, in line with the company constitution and management services agreement.

### **Community and Stakeholder Consultation**

21. In accordance with the Constitution that governs SEL, Council, as the Shareholder is responsible for the appointment of SEL Directors.

### **Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan**

22. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
  - Safe and peaceful community.
  - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
  - Mind, body and spirit.
23. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
24. 2021-25:
  - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
  - A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods.
  - A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.





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## Legislative and Policy Obligations

25. 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*.
  - *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*.

## Conclusion

26. As outlined in this report, SEL has successfully transitioned into the management and operational delivery of Council's major aquatic and leisure facilities. With the expiry of all existing Director terms occurring in June 2024, the opportunity exists to further enhance SEL governance through the staggering of Director terms and diversification of Director skills and expertise.

## Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **REAPPOINTS** two (2) existing Directors for a period of 12 months, (Tim Cockayne and Mick Jaensch);
2. **REPOINTS** one (1) existing Director for a period of two (2) years (Dr Malak Sukkar);
3. **RECRUITS** three (3) new Directors for a period of two (2) years;
4. **APPOINTS** Tim Cockayne as interim Chairperson for up to six (6) months while a new Chairperson is recruited; and
5. **RECOGNISES** the contributions of Mr Steven Wright and Ms Laura Buckley, outgoing SEL Directors, by way of a signed letter under seal.

### MINUTE No.1082

**Moved by:** Cr Sean O'Reilly

**Seconded by:** Cr Phillip Danh

**That Council:**

1. **REAPPOINTS** two (2) existing Directors for a period of 12 months, (Tim Cockayne and Mick Jaensch);
2. **REPOINTS** one (1) existing Director for a period of two (2) years (Dr Malak Sukkar);
3. **RECRUITS** three (3) new Directors for a period of two (2) years;
4. **APPOINTS** Tim Cockayne as interim Chairperson for up to six (6) months while a new Chairperson is recruited; and
5. **RECOGNISES** the contributions of Mr Steven Wright and Ms Laura Buckley, outgoing SEL Directors, by way of a signed letter under seal.

**CARRIED 11 / 0**



### 4.2.3 Appointment of Non-Executive Director - Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL)

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**Cr Jim Memeti disclosed a direct material conflict of interest of a non-pecuniary nature (s128) in this Item as he is the director of a company that has a stall at the Dandenong Market. Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber prior to discussion and voting.**

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**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director Corporate Development

**Attachments:** Nil

#### **Executive Summary**

1. The Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) Board is comprised of five (5) appointed Non-Executive Directors.
2. There is currently a vacancy for a Director due to one Director recently not seeking reappointment.
3. This report recommends to Council the appointment of Mr Daryl Stubbings as a Non-Executive Director of DMPL for a term of two (2) years commencing 22 July 2024.



## Background

4. DMPL was established in September 2012 as a means of Council establishing a skills-based Board to drive the strategic direction and operations of the Dandenong Market. Since then, the Board has provided an extremely valuable service to Council and the Market has continued to evolve and develop including initiatives such as the introduction of Sunday trading, night markets and a full program of festivals and events.
5. DMPL consists of five (5) Directors appointed by Council under the terms of the DMPL Constitution (which requires Director appointments to be made by the Shareholder (Council)).
6. There is currently a Director vacancy due to one Director recently not seeking reappointment.

## Key Points / Issues / Discussion

7. Under the Constitution that governs Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL), Clause 9.1 provides that the number of company directors shall be not less than two (2) nor more than five (5). It further provides that the Shareholder (Council) may, by resolution, appoint a person as a director for a term up to three (3) years. A total continuous term of appointment as a director cannot be more than nine (9) years.
8. On the 1 February 2024, Pip Stocks advised that she would be retiring as Director of the DMPL Board at the conclusion of her term in March and would not be seeking re-appointment due to the demands and short-term requirements of her own businesses.
9. Given these changes, the Board reviewed its skills assessment again and determined that there remained one key area that could strengthen its composition. This was Property Asset and Development. This skill was considered important given the maturity of the Dandenong Market assets and infrastructure and the need to develop short, medium and long-term solutions that address the subsequent increasing operational challenges and costs.
10. DMPL appointed Galvin-Rowley Executive to conduct a search for suitable candidates. After a comprehensive recruitment process, an impressive field of candidates were short listed and interviewed. The interview panel, comprised of Andrew Foley (Executive Director Corporate Development, City of Greater Dandenong, Donna McMaster (Chair, DMPL) and Jim Cooper (Director and Chair Audit and Risk Committee, DMPL) unanimously determined that Daryl Stubbings be appointed into the vacant Director position.
11. Daryl is an experienced Executive with expertise across Real Estate Investment having worked for both ASX listed and domestic wholesale institutions. He has key strengths in building and maintaining relationships with a diverse range of stakeholders in dynamic, fast paced environments.
12. Daryl's qualifications include Bachelor of Business (Property) from RMIT, underpinned with 30+ years experience in leaderships roles in the Property/Asset management sector.
13. Daryl's previous Board roles:
  - a. QIC Property
  - b. Shopping Centre Council of Australia
  - c. Capital Parking
14. Most recently and since 2015, Daryl has been Director, Australian Investment Management, QIC responsible for delivering investment returns from a real estate portfolio of \$16.2B across retail, commercial and residential sectors. Each of the real estate assets Daryl has managed had a 20-year master plan. Daryl led the refurbishment of Melbourne Emporium and 80 Collins Street, the latter a \$800m project.



15. It proposed to re-appoint Mr Daryl Stubbings as a non-Executive Director of the DMPL Board for a term of two (2) years commencing 22 July, 2024.
16. The appointment of Mr Stubbings would address a recently identified gap in the Board skills, namely Property Asset and Development. The DMPL Board has adequate coverage of all other skills outlined in its skill matrix.

### **Financial Implications**

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

### **Community and Stakeholder Consultation**

18. There was no community or stakeholder consultation for this report.

### **Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan**

19. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
  - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
  - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
20. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
21. 2021-25:
  - A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods.
  - A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes.
  - A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.

### **Legislative and Policy Obligations**

22. 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*.
  - Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

### **Conclusion**

23. Under the Constitution that governs Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL), Clause 9.1 provides that the number of company directors shall be not less than two (2) nor more than five (5). It further provides that the Shareholder (Council) may, by resolution, appoint a person as a director for a term up to three (3) years. A total continuous term of appointment as a director cannot be more than nine (9) years.
24. DMPL currently operates with five (5) Director positions, with one position currently vacant.
25. Following an extensive recruitment process It is proposed to appoint Mr Daryl Stubbings as a Non-Executive Director for a term of two (2) years commencing 22 July, 2024, which is consistent with the DMPL Constitution.



### **Officer Recommendation**

**That Council appoints Mr Daryl Stubbings as a Non-Executive Director of the Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) Board for a period of two (2) years commencing on 22 July 2024 and concluding on 21 July 2026 (inclusive).**

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**Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber at 7.25 pm.**

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### **MINUTE No.1083**

**Moved by: Cr Angela Long**

**Seconded by: Cr Tim Dark**

**That Council appoints Mr Daryl Stubbings as a Non-Executive Director of the Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) Board for a period of two (2) years commencing on 22 July 2024 and concluding on 21 July 2026 (inclusive).**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**

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**Cr Jim Memeti returned to the Chamber at 7.29 pm.**

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#### 4.2.4 Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director City Futures  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### Executive Summary

1. This report provides the Council with an update on the Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board program which is concluding following recent advice from the Victorian Government.
2. This report is for noting.



## Background

3. The Victorian Government's Suburban Revitalisation program identifies and supports the delivery of local projects in activity centres across metropolitan Melbourne. This work strengthens the liveability of our suburbs by driving economic opportunities and jobs growth closer to where Melburnians live.
4. Noble Park was identified as a priority revitalisation site to leverage recent growth and capitalise on new infrastructure to unlock Noble Park's full potential and attract additional investment to speed up the social and economic recovery of the impacts of Covid19.
5. The Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board was established in 2021. The Board provides a local voice to the Victorian Government's Suburban Revitalisation program, working with local communities to identify opportunities for locally-led projects to make Noble Park thrive.

## Key Points / Issues / Discussion

6. Council was recently advised that the Victorian Government, following the recent State Budget, has made a decision to wrap up the Suburban Revitalisation Board program.
7. The final Noble Park Revitalisation Board meeting was held on 23 May 2024 and acknowledged the significant achievements of the Board and local initiatives.
8. The Department of Transport and Planning will continue to oversee the remaining funded projects, including those that were recently endorsed by the Board, as they are progressively delivered over the next 12 month period.
9. Since 2020, the Board endorsed \$3.99 million towards 41 projects with a total project value of \$8.92 million, not including the additional projects recently endorsed by the Board.
10. The Board should be acknowledged for the supported investments in local infrastructure, local business support and community development initiatives that have improved liveability and opportunities for local communities to come together. Importantly, the Board has championed collaborative work in place, across all tiers of government, local service providers and business.

## Financial Implications

11. There are no financial implications associated with this report.
12. The additional projects recently endorsed by the Board, some of which included financial and in-kind contributions from the Council will continue to be delivered as planned over the next 12 month period.

## Community and Stakeholder Consultation

13. The various projects delivered by the Board have involved significant community and stakeholder consultation.
14. Current and new projects recently endorsed by the Board will continue this consultation.



## Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

15. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
  - Safe and peaceful community.
  - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
  - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
  - Sustainable environment.
  - Mind, body and spirit.
  - Art and culture.
16. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
17. 2021-25:
  - 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.

## Legislative and Policy Obligations

18. 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:
  - Greater Dandenong Place Making Framework.
  - Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board Vision Statement.

## Conclusion

19. We are thankful for the contribution from the State Government and the Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board over the last four years.
20. Officers will continue to deliver the remaining funded projects for Noble Park with oversight from the Department of Transport and Planning.
21. Council will look at an option of establishing an advisory committee to oversee the next twelve months delivery of the projects.





### **Officer Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- 1. NOTES that the Victorian State Government have ceased the Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board after four (4) years of funding; and**
- 2. APPROVES the continuation of the Board Membership as a Noble Park Revitalisation Advisory Committee until 31 December 2024, to ensure continuity of existing projects and activities associated with the former Board.**

#### **MINUTE No.1084**

**Moved by: Cr Sophie Tan**

**Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh**

**That Council:**

- 1. NOTES that the Victorian State Government have ceased the Noble Park Suburban Revitalisation Board after four (4) years of funding; and**
- 2. APPROVES the continuation of the Board Membership as a Noble Park Revitalisation Advisory Committee until 31 December 2024, to ensure continuity of existing projects and activities associated with the former Board.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**



## 4.2.5 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director Corporate Development  
**Attachments:** 1. Correspondence Received 20-31 May 2024 [4.2.5.1 - 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 20-31 May 2024.

### Officer Recommendation

**That the listed items for the period 20-31 May 2024 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.**

#### MINUTE No.1085

**Moved by: Cr Richard Lim OAM**

**Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly**

**That the listed items for the period 20-31 May 2024 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.**

**CARRIED 11 / 0**

## Objective

CONNECTED. COLLABORATIVE. COMMUNITY.

### Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 20/05/24 & 31/05/24 - for officer action - total = 3

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
A request from a Noble Park resident for assistance in expediting the matter of a stolen car with Victoria Police and the provision of support.	19-May-24	20-May-24	fA317123	Mayor & Councillors Office
A request from a resident regarding the high risk traffic area near Sirius College in Chapel Road Keysborough.	22-May-24	23-May-24	fA317459	Mayor & Councillors Office
And email to the Mayor from Settlement Services International regarding the Mayor's recent discussion with an SSI member at the Norwuz Festival .	29-May-24	29-May-24	fA318070	Mayor & Councillors Office

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

## Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 20/05/24 & 31/05/24 - for information only - total = 5

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
A letter to the Mayor from the Minister for Local Government regarding adoption of final report recommendations by the Victorian Electoral Commission in relation to its recent ward boundary review.	28-May-24	28-May-24	A11006458	Governance
An invitation to the Mayor and Councillors from the City of Darebin and the Alliance for Gambling Reform to the event: Politics to Policy on 4 June 2024.	24-May-24	27-May-24	A10981127	Mayor & Councillors Office
An email of complaint from a Dandenong resident regarding Australia Day, and unregistered cars and the speed zone in Plunkett Street, Dandenong.	25-May-24	27-May-24	A10983881	Mayor & Councillors Office
A response to the Mayor from the Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories in relation to funding for an upgrade to the pedestrian crossing facility on Stud Road, Dandenong.	09-May-24	31-May-24	A11000515	Mayor & Councillors Office
An invitation to the Mayor from St John's German Lutheran Church to commemorate the appointment of a new Pastor of the Church on 13 October 2024.	31-May-24	31-May-24	A11004669	Mayor & Councillors Office

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



## 4.2.6 Sandown Racecourse Redevelopment - Planning Scheme Amendment C229

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director City Futures

**Attachments:** 1. Draft Submission on Draft Amendment C 229 gdan to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme [4.2.6.1 - 19 pages]

### Executive Summary

1. This report provides an overview of the proposed Sandown Racecourse Redevelopment Planning Scheme Amendment C229gdan which would facilitate the future urban renewal of the site, advises of the public exhibition period and the officer recommended submission in response to the exhibited documentation.
2. This report recommends that Council:
  - 1) ENDORSES the attached draft submission for the purposes of Council's submission in response to the exhibited Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C229, in the form generally attached but with any alterations or corrections deemed necessary by delegated officers under the current Greater Dandenong Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff; and
  - 2) NOTES Council will participate in the Sandown Advisory Committee Hearing and that Council's advocacy position at (and further submission to) the Committee Hearing will be generally in line with the issues raised in the submission referred to in Item 1 above, but will include:
    - a) any necessary modifications in accordance with internal and external advice; and
    - b) any other changes or additions deemed necessary by delegated officers under the current Greater Dandenong Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff.



## Background

3. The Sandown Racecourse consists of 112 hectares, and is bounded by the rail corridor to the south, Corrigan Road to the east, Princes Hwy to the north and an existing open space and residential area to the west. The site is currently used for both motor racing and horse racing, and contains a heritage listed grandstand. Mile Creek also runs through the site.
4. The Melbourne Racing Club (MRC) are the owners of the Sandown Racecourse, and are proposing to rezone this site via Planning Scheme Amendment C229 (PSA C229). The proposed rezoning would lead to the development of approximately 7,500 dwellings to house 16,000 residents, along with 20,000sqm of commercial/ industrial development, a new town centre, public open space, various community facilities, and infrastructure upgrades.
5. The site is currently zoned predominantly Special Use Zone – Schedule 1, the purpose of which is to ‘recognise and provide for the Sandown Racecourse, Motor Racing Circuit, Greyhound Racing Track and associated uses’. The Urban Floodway Zone also runs through the site, along the Mile Creek catchment. This zoning is supported by several overlays, including the Heritage Overlay, which protects the historic grandstand, and the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay.
6. The proposed rezoning would result in the site being rezoned to the Comprehensive Development Zone (CDZ), with a supporting Sandown Racecourse Local Policy and Sandown Racecourse Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP). A new Environmental Audit Overlay and Development Contribution Plan Overlay are also proposed.
7. The MRC initially engaged with Council officers in 2017 to begin preparation of draft development plans and associated planning controls. In 2021, the MRC submitted documentation to Council in support of the planning scheme amendment, and requested that Council seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to formally prepare PSA C229, and undertake the exhibition process.
8. In September 2022, Council submitted a request to the Minister for Planning to seek authorisation to formally prepare PSA C229. In December 2022, DTP (on behalf of the Minister) requested further information, which was provided by Council to DTP in July 2023.
9. In December 2023, the Minister for Planning advised that they will be ‘calling in’ PSA C229, meaning the Minister becomes the planning authority responsible for assessing the matter. The Minister advised that they will undertake a public exhibition process, and establish an advisory committee, being the Sandown Racecourse Advisory Committee, to consider the amendment and any submissions resulting from the exhibition period.
10. The exhibition period is occurring from 20 May to 24 June 2024, and during this period Council is required to make a submission. The content of Council’s submission is the purpose of this Council report.
11. Following the public exhibition period a Directions Hearing will be held, where the advisory committee will establish the direction and process for the Hearing. This is scheduled for 17 July 2024.
12. The Hearing will then commence the week of 12 August 2024, and will run for an estimated 30 days. All submitters will have the opportunity to present their submission to the advisory committee. During the Hearing, the advisory committee will consider and assess the proposal, including any submissions made.



## Key Points / Issues / Discussion

13. Planning Scheme Amendment C229 and the resulting redevelopment of the Sandown Racecourse would be one of the largest developments to occur in Greater Dandenong in many years, and has the potential to create transformational change for the municipality. Given the extent of the proposed redevelopment, there many factors to consider, which are set out below, and will form the recommended Council submission to the proposal:

### Principle of the proposed redevelopment

14. The principle of redeveloping the Sandown Racecourse site primarily for residential development, along with some limited commercial/ retail development, a new town centre, public open space, various community facilities, and infrastructure upgrades is generally supported by officers.
15. This site is one of the largest urban renewal sites in Melbourne and has the potential to provide significant benefit if planned and implemented correctly. The development of a site of this size will assist in addressing the current housing crisis and meeting State government housing targets. It also has the potential to limit the amount of higher density development that will be required in the municipality's existing residential areas in future years.
16. In addition, many other community benefits could be achieved through the correct planning and implementation of this site, including providing large areas of public open space for the wider community to enjoy, and additional community facilities including a community centre, school, and indoor recreation centre, and upgraded transport infrastructure.
17. However, officers have concerns regarding the rollout of development. The MRC have proposed that the site will be developed over a 20-year period, and that it is likely that horse racing will continue for several years after development commences. The continuation of horse racing is likely to impede the efficient and timely development of the site, and result in scattered areas of development that are disjointed. In addition, the primary areas of open space are located inside the horse racing track, meaning they will either be unlikely to be developed until after horse racing ceases, or will not be easily accessible for the community.
18. Officers are also concerned about the timing and sequencing of development, including the lack of certainty around the timing and sequencing of the delivery of infrastructure and the logic of the proposed indicative sequencing.
19. Officers also wish to ensure that should the density of the development increase through the planning scheme amendment process (the advisory committee asked the MRC to consider greater density) that infrastructure and facilities are also increased proportionally, including open space, community facilities, and transport infrastructure.
20. A plan of subdivision should also be provided as part of the planning scheme amendment process that confirms the location and size of land areas for all infrastructure and facilities, including open space, transport, and community facilities.

### Planning Process

21. The planning scheme amendment documents propose splitting the site into four precincts, being the Princes Precinct, West Precinct, East Precinct and Town Centre Precinct. Following the approval of the planning scheme amendment, a 'gateway' approach to developing each of these precincts has been proposed by the MRC. The gateway approach would be as follows.



22. The developer of a precinct would be required to develop a Precinct Plan that is accompanied by the relevant technical reports set out in the CDZ and submit this to Responsible Authority (RA). The RA would then undertake a public exhibition process and refer the plan to referral authorities. The RA would then make a decision on the Precinct Plan.
23. Once the Precinct Plan is approved, planning permit applications can be submitted for sections of the Precinct Plan area. These planning permit applications must be consistent with the approved Precinct Plan.
24. Officers are generally supportive of this process, however there are concerns regarding the status of the Precinct Plan process, and in particular the public exhibition of Precinct Plans. The proposed exhibition process for the Precinct Plans is not part of the formal notice requirements set out in the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, and as such submitters will not have appeal rights to VCAT (in the way they might with respect to a planning permit application), which may result in unrealistic expectations. In addition, there is a lot of detail and reporting being deferred to this stage of the process, with only 14 days for submitters to review the information and make a submission.
25. Furthermore, the precincts that are approved first have the potential to utilise more than their fair share of the 7,500 dwellings proposed across the site, resulting in a potentially uneven distribution across the site. Officers are of the view that the planning controls should make it clear that 7,500 is the maximum number of dwellings, and that greater density guidance should be included for each precinct at this planning scheme amendment stage to ensure even density distribution across the site.
26. As the detail regarding the development of the precincts is being deferred to the Precinct Plan stage, officers also consider that further guidance needs to be provided in the CDP as to the vision and character of each precinct, and how the precinct interacts with its existing interfaces and interfaces with other new precincts.
27. Clarity should also be provided to confirm if Council, or another authority, will be the Responsible Authority for the future planning processes, including Precinct Plans, Section 173 agreements and planning permit applications. Officers recommend that Council should be the Responsible Authority for all future stages.
28. Officers also consider that there are improvements and changes that should be made to the drafting of the CDZ3 to ensure the control is clear in what it seeks to achieve and operates appropriately.

### **Housing/ Urban Form**

29. The site is proposed to be home to 7,500 new dwellings, which will be constructed over a 20-year period. It is anticipated that this will be made up of 70% apartments and 30% townhouses/standalone dwellings, and the density will average 70 dwellings per hectare across the site.
30. It is intended to focus higher heights and density in the centre of the site, including around the town centre and public open space areas. Height and density will then taper down as development moves outwards towards the adjoining existing development.
31. The following sets out proposed heights and densities for each precinct:
  - Princes Precinct – 2-6 storeys (dwelling yield 60-80 dwellings per hectare)
  - West Precinct – 2-6 storeys (dwelling yield 40-60 dwellings per hectare)
  - Town Centre Precinct – 2-12 storeys (dwelling yield 40-100 dwellings per hectare)
  - East Precinct – 2-6 storeys (dwelling yield 40-60 dwellings per hectare)





32. The form of development will be considerably different to many other areas of Greater Dandenong, in that 70% of the dwelling stock is proposed to be apartment buildings up to 12 storeys in height. However, the proposed development will assist in addressing the existing housing crisis and meeting the state governments housing targets. If an appropriate mix of affordable housing can be achieved, the development will also assist in addressing the housing affordability crisis.
33. To give an indication of the level of density proposed, below are some recent examples of newer developments, and the resulting densities:
- Yarrabend – Alphington Paper Mills: 2,500 dwellings (151 dwellings per hectare)
  - CSIRO Highett: 1020 dwellings (110 dwellings per hectare)
  - Burwood Brickworks : 920 dwellings (47 dwellings per hectare)
  - Keysborough South residential development (CGD): 5360 dwellings (15 dwellings per hectare)
  - Yarraman Village (CGD): 167 dwellings (53 dwellings per hectare)
  - Carre Residences (CGD): 239 dwellings (33 dwellings per hectare)
34. Officers engaged an urban design consultant to undertake review of the proposed urban form and supporting urban design principles. They were generally supportive of these, however did require initial changes to the documents, which were updated accordingly. While this is a much denser form of development than is generally found in Greater Dandenong, the density is proposed to be located centrally on the site, and as such will have limited impacts on the surrounding area. The urban design principles (if sufficiently clear) will also ensure appropriate design outcomes can be achieved.
35. Given the housing required to support the wider community, the central location of the higher density, and the design guidelines proposed, officers are generally supportive of the proposed housing and urban form outcomes proposed.
36. However, this support is subject to the following:
- a. the proposed heights and density being capped by way of mandatory requirements;
  - b. there is clearer guidance regarding appropriate height and transition to the existing low-scale residential areas, including ensuring the highest heights are located centrally on the site and within precincts, with heights tapering down from the centre to the edges of the site and precincts; and
  - c. there is clearer guidance regarding the vision, character and design objectives for each precinct (in particular, more guidance is required in relation to the Town Centre Precinct and its relationship to the train station), more certainty regarding the location of the proposed densities and heights, and further context in relation to existing interfaces and beyond.
37. Officers also query whether the proposed typologies accurately reflect current and future housing expectations for this area (in terms of what the market and future occupants will realistically demand).



## Employment

38. Within the site itself, there are opportunities for commercial development along the Princes Hwy frontage, and retail opportunities in the new town centre. There may also be employment opportunities as part of the re-use of the grandstand. It is estimated that these opportunities will generate approximately 800 jobs. However, the primary purpose of the redevelopment is for residential purposes. Officers require more information about how the proposed retail and commercial uses will impact the operation of nearby centres, including the Springvale and Noble Park Activity Centres. While officers are supportive of some new retail and commercial areas, it is important that established centres are not adversely affected.
39. In addition, officers do not support a secondary activity node and believe that the new school and community facilities would be better co-located with the primary activity node, open space areas and grandstand.

## Open Space

40. The site is proposed to contain 8.7 hectares of unencumbered (fully usable) public open space, which equates to 10.1% of the net developable area of the site. 7 hectares of this will be comprised of two areas directly east and west of Mile Creek, inside the current horse racing track. These two areas will cater for football/ cricket ovals, soccer pitches, and supporting infrastructure such as playgrounds, walking paths etc. The remaining 1.7 hectares will be comprised of Neighbourhood and Local parks throughout the site.
41. The site is also proposed to contain 8 hectares of encumbered (not fully usable) open space, being the Mile Creek corridor. While this will be open space, it is encumbered due to its flood mitigation role for Mile Creek.
42. Officers are generally supportive of the area of public open space to be provided, which exceeds the requirement set out in the Planning Scheme (based on 7,500 dwellings). However, officers consider:
  - a. the two large open space areas should be combined into one area of 7 hectares to provide more flexibility and efficiency of use; and
  - b. there needs to be better connection between and integration with Warner Reserve and Ross Reserve, which will also increase active links and movement through the site.
43. Officers are also concerned about the potential timing of the development of the proposed two main areas of public open space, or the access to these areas, if horse racing continues in the medium to long term. Both of these proposed open space areas are located inside the existing horse racing track, meaning they potentially won't be able to be developed until horse racing has finished, or limited access will be available to these areas, as people will need to cross the track (tunnel, bridge etc.) in way that does not result in easy and safe access for all.
44. There is also concern with the potential loss of unencumbered public open space to flood storage areas. The Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP) shows that approximately half of one of the large areas of open space inside the horse racing track will be required as a temporary flood storage area. The future Mile Creek and Police Road Drain Concept Master Plan may also trigger the need for additional proposed unencumbered public open space to be required for flood mitigation. As such, officers recommend that all of the detailed drainage and water plans are developed at the planning scheme amendment stage, so it is clear at this stage as to what areas of public open space are unencumbered, and which will be encumbered (required for flood mitigation purposes). This is discussed in more detail in the Drainage section below.



45. Draft Clause 53.01 – Public Open Space Contribution and Subdivision states that a public open space contribution of 2% is required. The MRC then state that the remaining 8.1% is identified in other documentation, which totals the 10.1% of public open space proposed to be provided.
46. Officers do not support Clause 53.01 only stating a 2% public open space contribution. Relying on other documentation for the remaining 8.1% is likely to create confusion and challenges with potential future landowners, who believe they are only required to provide 2% public open space. Officers recommend that Clause 53.01 should state the public open space requirement is 10.1% to avoid any issues in the future.

### **Environment**

47. The proposal states that it will have a strong focus on delivering a highly sustainable product, however the detail for this is proposed to be deferred until the Precinct Plan stage to ensure that best practice at that time can be incorporated into the development and there is a lack of clear commitments in the Amendment documentation.
48. Officers agree that there is merit in undertaking more detailed sustainability planning at the Precinct Plan stage to ensure best practice at that time is incorporated. However, officers are also of the view that this development provides an excellent opportunity to create a development that is a sustainability leader to not only minimise the impacts of the development on the environment, but also reduce running costs of dwellings for residents in the future. To this extent, officers recommend that documentation:
  - a. is developed as part of the planning scheme amendment process that sets out these high level goals including clear commitments, and can form part of the approved planning scheme amendment documents;
  - b. is amended to place more importance on climate resilience and mitigation; and
  - c. commits to developing a Climate Adaption and Community Resilience Plan for the site as a whole.
49. This will future proof any risk of developers at the Precinct Plan stage trying to 'water down' the sustainability credentials of the site.
50. It is also understood that the existing lake and soil are contaminated. It is vital that detailed plans are put in place at this early stage to ensure this is handled correctly, and does not adversely impact on the surrounding environment.
51. The site contains over 200 trees that have been identified in the submitted arborist report as being of Very High or High value. The report does not provide any detail regarding how these trees are going to be protected in perpetuity, and rather shows a lot of these trees located in proposed residential areas.
52. Greater Dandenong has a low level of canopy coverage, and the potential loss of these trees would further impact on canopy coverage and the multiple benefits canopy cover brings to the community. As such, officers recommend that the trees identified as being of Very High and High value be located in conservation areas to protect them in perpetuity, and ensure these trees can provide on-going benefits to future and existing residents.

### **Transport**

53. The proposal will include substantial upgrades to the surrounding road network, as well as a new road network within the site. The site will include a main boulevard from Princes Hwy through to Corrigan Road, a secondary boulevard that will in part follow the horse racing track, and local roads.



54. There is a public transport route proposed along the boulevards that will include three bus stops, and an upgraded train station that will operate as a multi-nodal interchange.
55. External to the site, Corrigan Road will be upgraded, along with the following intersections:
  - Overpass at Princes Hwy (existing entry to site)
  - Princes Hwy/ Corrigan Rd
  - Corrigan Rd/ Racecourse Rd
  - Corrigan Rd/ New access (near Allister Rd)
56. Officers are generally supportive of the proposed road network, and upgrades. However, there is concern around:
  - a. the timing of the proposed development and delivery of infrastructure, including the timing for the upgraded train station that is proposed to operate as a multi-nodal interchange. This will be a key infrastructure piece for this new community, and as such it needs to be ensured that it is upgraded in a timely manner;
  - b. waste collection and street sweeping services, particularly given the proposal includes some higher density, multi-unit developments;
  - c. the timing and sequencing of infrastructure and the need to ensure it is provided in a timely manner, in order to appropriately service the new residents as the site is developed;
  - d. who is responsible for delivery and implementation of infrastructure;
  - e. public road designs should meet Council design standards; and
  - f. a plan should show a minimum network of public roads including any roads with anticipated bus routes and any roads providing direct connection between two public roads.
57. Officers also recommend that the opportunities for active transport be established at the planning scheme amendment stage. In addition, while detailed car parking arrangements are for a later date, provision needs to be established now through guidelines/ principles etc. to ensure there is adequate public and private parking throughout the site.

### **Community Facilities**

58. The proposal includes the development of a primary school, multi-purpose community facility to provide for 3 and 4 year old kindergarten, childcare, maternal health and community meeting spaces, and a multi court recreational facility (subject to a needs analysis).
59. Officers are supportive of providing community facilities, however raise the following concerns:
  - a. officers are concerned that there may be a shortage in the provision of the proposed community facilities because (amongst other things) some of the documentation that supports the current level of proposed community facilities refers to out of date documents or relies on out of date information. Officers are also concerned that the proposed community facilities are not based on the most up to date population projections and relevant legislation, guidelines and standards. For example, officers are concerned that the proposed capacity of the early years centre does not align with demand and up to date projected populations;
  - b. officers are concerned about the timing and sequencing of the community facilities as well as the maintenance of the facilities and how they will integrate with surrounding spaces;
  - c. officers are concerned that the proposal relies on existing surrounding facilities, which are already oversubscribed;
  - d. further guidance should be provided in relation to the provision for public art;



- e. as noted above, officers are not supportive of a secondary activity node, and are of the view that the new school and community facilities would be better co-located with the primary activity node, open space areas and grandstand; and
- f. officers reiterate that, if resident numbers increase through the planning scheme amendment process, the extent of facilities will need to be increased accordingly.

### **Affordable Housing**

- 60. The proposal includes a provision to provide 5% of the total dwellings within each Precinct Plan for affordable housing. The requirement to provide this is included in the CDZ, and would require a Section 173 agreement to bring this into effect.
- 61. Whilst it is positive to have this 5% figure included in the CDZ, it is recommended that this figure be increased to 20%. Victoria is in the grip of a significant housing affordability crisis, which is likely to continue in the medium to long term. As such, significant developments such as this need to provide a meaningful amount of genuinely affordable housing, and to do this it is considered that 20% of all dwellings should be provided for this purpose. Figures greater than 5% have been approved on other similar large urban renewal developments across Melbourne, and this should also occur at this site.
- 62. Officers also recommend that a clear implementation plan for affordable housing is established. This should focus on how the location and distribution of these dwellings will be determined, and then built, particularly if there are multiple landowners in each precinct in the future.

### **Drainage**

- 63. The site is encumbered by the Mile Creek drainage channel and Police Road main drain that convey stormwater through the site. These two drain networks are managed by Melbourne Water.
- 64. The CDZ requires a Mile Creek and Police Road Drain Concept Master Plan to be prepared prior to the approval of a Precinct Plan. The plan is required to detail hydraulic modelling to demonstrate that there will be no increase in peak flows as a result of the development, a regeneration strategy for Mile Creek, details of the required flow capacity to manage stormwater and flood flows effectively, and provision of a delivery plan for the works.
- 65. A Section 173 agreement will then be required to ensure the delivery of the Mile Creek and Police Drain Concept Master Plan.
- 66. Officers are of the view that the Mile Creek and Police Drain Concept Master Plan should be required as part of the planning scheme amendment phase, and not deferred to a later date. This plan is required at the planning scheme amendment phase so there is clarity on the extent of land required to manage stormwater and flood flows, which potentially could be significant and adversely impact on open space intended to be unencumbered.
- 67. The plan is also required now to prove that stormwater and flood flows can be managed on site, and not adversely impact on land downstream. Officers are concerned that if PSA C229 is approved, and at a later date it eventuates that stormwater cannot be effectively managed on site, what the implications of this will be for surrounding existing residents, new residents within the Sandown development, and Council.



68. In addition to the above concerns, officers consider there is a significant lack of information in the documentation regarding flooding impacts and flood management on the site. As a result, there is insufficient information to make informed decisions about the impacts of flooding on the site. For example:
- a. flood studies are out of date and need to be updated;
  - b. the Sandown Racecourse Drainage Strategy (Cardno, August 2020) report indicates the need for 18,000 cubic metres of flood storage in addition to the proposed 60m reserve width channel during a 1% AEP storm event. However, the amendment documentation does not demonstrate how this is to be provided throughout the site. A further flood study and plan are required to show the location of onsite flood storage outside of the proposed 60m channel during a 1% AEP storm event;
  - c. the proposed channel should be 100m (not 60m) if there are any recreation areas near the naturalised channel (passive or active);
  - d. there is no plan proposed to mitigate impacts on downstream properties;
  - e. the MRC has not responded to previous recommendations and concerns raised by Melbourne Water and South East Water in a report in 2020; and
  - f. hydraulic modelling and a flood impact assessment report is required to demonstrate that the various AEP flood levels are not increased as a result of development, and which should consider development conditions, including taking into account climate change.

### **Infrastructure Delivery**

69. As with all large developments, there are a number of infrastructure upgrades required to facilitate the development. To this extent, the MRC have proposed the use of a Development Contributions Plan (DCP) to fund some of these works.
70. The MRC have proposed that the DCP fund the four external intersection upgrades, and Corrigan Road upgrade as set out in the Transport section above. It is also proposed that the new community facility, and construction of the public open space areas be funded by the DCP.
71. Local and connector roads, land for public open space, land for the intersectional works and Corrigan Road upgrades, drainage works, and infrastructure works required by utility service providers will not be included in the DCP, and rather will be directly provided by the developer/land owner.
72. While it is positive to limit the amount of items within the DCP, officers are of the view that given this site is all currently in one ownership (MRC), there is no need for a DCP, and rather these items can directly be provided by the MRC or by way of a Section 173 agreement.
73. During previous discussions, the MRC have indicated that they are agreeable to this.
74. It is acknowledged that DCP's can be a good option to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of costs for large infrastructure items when there are multiple landowners, however they almost always end up with a shortfall due to construction costs significantly outpacing CPI over time. This results in Council's having to fund the difference between the money received and the final cost of the infrastructure. Given the large DCP costs in this instance and current single ownership of the site, it is vital that a DCP isn't implemented, and rather the MRC, as the single landowner, directly fund the cost of the works that are required.



75. In addition to the above, officers raise the following concerns with the proposed DCP:
- a. there appears to be some items missing from the proposed DCP (for example, components included in the multimodal interchange (including but not limited to bus parking bays and shelters, real-time service information, direct pedestrian access to the station entrance, quality bicycle facilities), the midblock pedestrian signals on Princes Highway, indoor recreation facility, and a shared path along Corrigan Road);
  - b. there is a lack of certainty around the timing and sequencing of development and delivery of infrastructure, and how that process will be managed; and
  - c. given the passage of time, the adequacy of the proposed charge levels (and potential gaps in the overall funding for the infrastructure) and the proposed triggers for the provision of the infrastructure need to be reviewed.
76. Finally, given the significant on-going maintenance costs to Council that will result from this new infrastructure, officers consider it desirable that future owners play a role in contributing to the costs of on-going maintenance.

### **Heritage**

77. The Sandown Racecourse grandstand has state level heritage significance, and is also covered by the Heritage Overlay in the Planning Scheme. The MRC have developed a plan that will provide guidance on the future direction of the grandstand, and how it may be re-purposed in the future.
78. Officers are supportive of it being protected and re-purposed appropriately to preserve its historical significance. However, officers recommend that it is made clear that Council will not take ownership or management of this structure, and therefore be responsible for its on-going upkeep and use. Accordingly, further detail about the use, management and maintenance of the grandstand (and the use of the area in which the grandstand is located) is required.

### **Financial Implications**

79. The financial implications associated with this report involve a cost in the current and next financial year of approximately \$150,000 to \$200,000. There is no current amount allocated in Council's Annual Budget for these costs.
80. When the site is developed, there will be potentially be significant on-going rates income for Council, however there will also be on-going maintenance costs. The figures relating to this will need to be determined at a later date.

### **Community and Stakeholder Consultation**

81. Consultation in relation to PSA C229 is being undertaken in accordance with the Minister for Planning appointed advisory committee process, during which interested parties, including residents, have the opportunity to make a submission on the proposal.
82. The public exhibition period runs from 20 May to 24 June 2024, and consultation is being undertaken in the following way:
- Sending letters to approximately 4,600 residents surrounding the site
  - Placing information on the Engage Victoria website, in local newspapers, and at Council customer service centres
  - Council has created a link on its website to the Engage Victoria website.
83. Following the public exhibition period, a public hearing will be held, where all submitters will have the opportunity to present their submissions.



### **Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan**

84. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
- Safe and peaceful community.
  - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
  - Sustainable environment.
85. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
86. 2021-25:
- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
  - 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.

### **Legislative and Policy Obligations**

87. 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.
  - Climate Change and Sustainability.

### **Conclusion**

88. The Sandown Racecourse site presents an opportunity for one of the largest urban renewal redevelopment projects in Melbourne, and has the potential to provide huge benefits if planned and implemented correctly. It is recommended that Council submits the submission attached in response to the public exhibition period, which supports the principle of the redevelopment, while detailing the several concerns outlined in this report.





## Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **ENDORSES** the attached draft submission for the purposes of Council's submission in response to the exhibited Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C229, in the form generally attached but with any alterations or corrections deemed necessary by delegated officers under the current Greater Dandenong Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff; and
2. **NOTES** Council will participate in the Sandown Advisory Committee Hearing and that Council's advocacy position at (and further submission to) the Committee Hearing will be generally in line with the issues raised in the submission referred to in Item 1 above, but will include:
  - a) any necessary modifications in accordance with internal and external advice; and
  - b) any other changes or additions deemed necessary by delegated officers under the current Greater Dandenong Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff.

### **MINUTE No.1086**

**Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly**

**Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong**

**That Council:**

1. **ENDORSES** the attached draft submission for the purposes of Council's submission in response to the exhibited Draft Planning Scheme Amendment C229, in the form generally attached but with any alterations or corrections deemed necessary by delegated officers under the current Greater Dandenong Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff; and
2. **NOTES** Council will participate in the Sandown Advisory Committee Hearing and that Council's advocacy position at (and further submission to) the Committee Hearing will be generally in line with the issues raised in the submission referred to in Item 1 above, but will include:
  - a) any necessary modifications in accordance with internal and external advice; and
  - b) any other changes or additions deemed necessary by delegated officers under the current Greater Dandenong Instrument of Delegation by Council to Members of Council Staff.

**CARRIED 11 / 0**

**Submission on Draft Amendment C229gdan to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme  
by Greater Dandenong City Council**

**INTRODUCTION**

This submission is made by Greater Dandenong City Council (**Council**) in response to the exhibition of Draft Amendment C229gdan (**Amendment**) to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme (**Scheme**).

In summary, the Amendment proposes to facilitate the redevelopment of the Sandown Racecourse, Springvale (**Subject Land**) by introducing a new planning framework which will allow 7,500 new dwellings, 20,000 square metres of retail and commercial space, community facilities and public open space to be developed on the Subject Land over a period of 20+ years.

The Amendment has been prepared by the owner of the Subject Land, the Melbourne Racing Club (**Proponent**).

The Sandown Racecourse Advisory Committee (**Committee**) has been appointed by the Minister for Planning (**Minister**) under section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (Act)* to advise the Minister on all relevant matters associated with the proposed redevelopment of Sandown Racecourse, including whether the Amendment should be approved and in what form.

The Minister has indicated to Council that, following consideration of any submissions received and the recommendations of the Committee, the Minister will make a final decision on whether to prepare, adopt and approve the Amendment under s 20(4) of the Act.

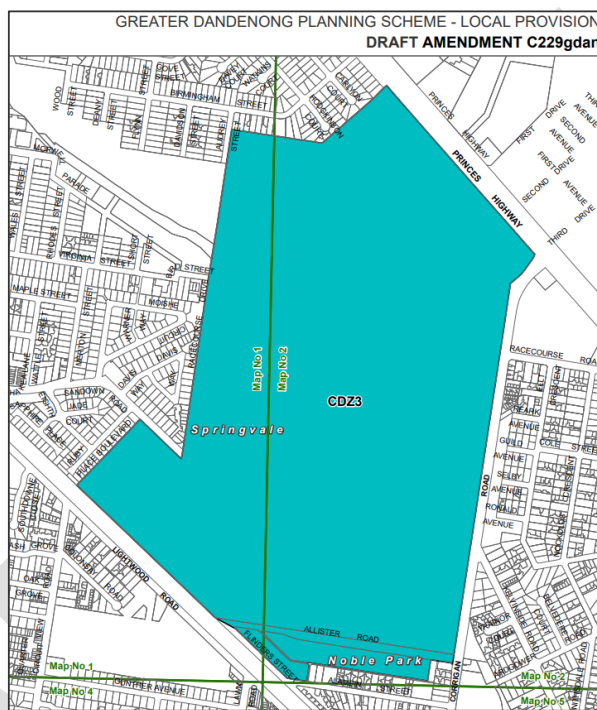
**Summary of the Amendment**

The Amendment proposes to rezone the Subject Land to the Comprehensive Development Zone – Schedule 3 (**CDZ3**), and introduce:

- a new Sandown Racecourse Local Policy at clause 22.13;
- a new Environmental Audit Overlay (**EAO**);
- a new Development Contributions Plan Overlay – Schedule 4 (**DCPO4**);
- two new incorporated documents into the schedule to clause 72.04:
  - *Sandown Racecourse Comprehensive Development Plan (CDP)*; and
  - *Sandown Racecourse Development Contributions Plan (DCP)*;
- seven new background documents into the schedule to clause 72.08:
  - *Sandown Racecourse Conservation Management Plan* (Lovell Chen, September 2017);
  - *Sandown Racecourse Design Guide* (NH Architecture, August 2020);
  - *Sandown Racecourse Drainage Strategy* (Cardno, August 2020);
  - *Sandown Racecourse Integrated Transport Plan* (Cardno, August 2020);
  - *Sandown Racecourse Integrated Water Management Strategy* (CJ Arms, September 2019);

- Sandown Racecourse Interpretation Strategy (Lovell Chen, September 2019); and
- Sandown Racecourse Sustainability Strategy (Arup, September 2019).

The Subject Land is currently predominantly zoned Special Use Zone – Schedule 1 (**SUZ1**), the purpose of which is to 'recognise and provide for the Sandown Racecourse, Motor Racing Circuit, Greyhound Racing Track and associated uses'. The SUZ1 will remain over the greyhound track to the south-west of the Subject Land. The Urban Floodway Zone (**UFZ**) runs through the Subject Land along the Mile Creek catchment, and is proposed to be replaced by the CDZ3, which will result in the entirety of the Subject Land being zoned CDZ3. An extract of the proposed CDZ3 map (as exhibited) is included below:



Source: Exhibited Amendment - zoning map 001

The Subject Land is also presently affected by the Heritage Overlay – Schedule 54 (**HO54**), which relates to the historic grandstand to the west of the racetrack, and the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (**LSIO**), along the Mile Creek catchment. The Amendment proposes to reduce the HO54 extent to just the heritage grandstand and its curtilage, rather than extending over the whole of the Subject Land. There are no changes proposed to the LSIO as part of the Amendment.

### Background to the Amendment

Since late 2017, the Proponent has engaged with Council officers in relation to the preparation of draft development plans and associated planning controls for the Subject Land.

In 2021, the Proponent submitted documentation to Council in support of a planning scheme amendment to rezone and facilitate development of the Subject Land. The Proponent asked Council to request authorisation from the Minister to prepare and exhibit the Amendment, in its role as planning authority for the Subject Land.

On 9 September 2022, Council requested authorisation from the Minister to prepare and exhibit the Amendment.

On 12 December 2022, the Department of Transport and Planning (**DTP**) requested further information from Council relating to detailed drafting matters, development contributions and public open space contributions.

On 4 July 2023, in response to the further information request, Council provided DTP with a revised CDP and DCP.

On 2 March 2024, the Committee was appointed by the Minister under section 151 of the Act.

On 18 March 2024, the Committee held an 'inception meeting' with the Proponent and relevant agencies, including DTP, Heritage Victoria, Department of Education, Council, Melbourne Water and EPA Victoria (**Agencies**) to consider relevant information and documents in order to gain an understanding of the proposal and Amendment. The Agencies were provided with an opportunity to explain whether, from their perspective, there was any information required to be prepared or updated prior to public exhibition of the Amendment.

Following further information from the Proponent, on 3 April 2024, the Committee confirmed that, subject to the provision of some updated documentation, the Amendment could proceed to public exhibition. The Committee also provided a 'without prejudice' Stage 1 Initial Assessment Report.

On 3 May 2024, the Proponent provided its response to the Committee's Stage 1 Initial Assessment Report and updated draft Amendment documents including updated background/supporting documents.

Public exhibition of the Amendment commenced on 20 May 2024 (for a period of 25 business days). Submissions are due to be lodged in response to exhibition by 24 June 2024.

Following exhibition, a directions hearing is expected to be held on 17 July 2024 and a Committee hearing is expected to commence in the week of 12 August 2024 for up to 30 sitting days (sitting 4 days per week).

### **The Subject Land**

In summary, the Subject Land:

- consists of 48 titles over approximately 112.25 ha;
- is currently used as a horse racing track, motorsport circuit and entertainment centre;
- adjoins the Sandown Park Train Station and includes the Sandown Park Grandstand which is listed on the Victorian Heritage Register (H2391); and
- is bound by:
  - the Princes Highway to the northeast;
  - Corrigan Road to the east;
  - residential properties to the south;
  - the Pakenham-Cranbourne Railway corridor to the southeast; and
  - residential properties and Warner Reserve to the west.

The below image shows the Subject Land and surrounding interfaces:



Source: draft Explanatory Report

## KEY ISSUES

At the outset, Council recognises that the proposed redevelopment of the Subject Land will result in one of the largest residential developments in Greater Dandenong in many years, and will significantly change the density and typology of residential development in this part of Springvale. It also has the potential to result in significant benefits for future residents of the development, and residents of Greater Dandenong more broadly, due to the proposed new public open space areas, community facilities and public infrastructure (including upgraded transport infrastructure).

Council is generally supportive of the concept of rezoning the Subject Land to facilitate a predominately residential development on the Subject Land, together with some appropriately located commercial/retail development, a new town centre, public open space, community facilities and infrastructure upgrades.

Council is also generally supportive of the use of the CDZ to do this.

However, there are a number of outstanding matters that Council submits ought to be considered and addressed before the Amendment progresses further. Council has summarised the key issues, and its response, below.

Council reserves its right to add to and expand on these issues during the Committee hearing process, including in response to expert evidence.

**Proposed new planning framework**

The Amendment documents propose to split the Subject Land into four precincts.

The four precincts are described in the CDP, and comprise:

- **Princes Precinct:** which is located at the Princes Highway frontage and is intended to be predominantly commercial;
- **West Precinct:** which is located in the western portion of the Subject Land and is intended to be predominantly residential;
- **Town Centre Precinct:** which is located in the south-western portion of the Subject Land, adjacent to the Sandown Park Train Station, and is intended to accommodate a new town centre (which will comprise a mix of uses and higher residential densities), the heritage listed grandstand, open space, and multimodal transport interchange; and
- **East Precinct:** which is located in the eastern portion of the Subject Land, adjacent to Corrigan Road, and is intended to accommodate a new school site, community facility, open space, and residential uses.

The location of each precinct is shown on the map extract below.



Source: Map 1 to Schedule 3 to Clause 37.02, Exhibited CDZ3

The Amendment proposes a 'gateway' approach to the development of each of these precincts, which consists of the following framework:

▪ *Step one: approval of the Amendment and CDP*

Upon approval of the Amendment, the CDP would be incorporated into the Scheme. The CDP sets out:

- the vision and objectives for the Subject Land and each of the proposed precincts;
- indicative staging of development;
- key infrastructure commitments; and
- requirements and guidelines for future development, including built form guidance for future development.

The objectives and requirements in the CDP for future development are intended to be mandatory. The guidelines are intended to be discretionary.

▪ *Step two: preparation and approval of the Mile Creek and Police Road Drain Concept Master Plan (**Master Plan**) and the entering into of section 173 agreements*

The CDZ3 requires that:

- before any permit is granted for subdivision or development (certain permits are excluded from this requirement), or the approval of a Precinct Plan, or any other such time as agreed between the owner of the land and the responsible authority:
  - the Master Plan must be prepared to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and drainage authority. The Master Plan must include the information set out in clause 3.0 of the CDZ3; and
  - an agreement under s 173 of the Act must be entered into between the owner of the land, the responsible authority and the drainage authority in relation to the Master Plan providing for the matters set out in clause 3.0 of the CDZ3;
- before any permit is granted for subdivision or development (certain permits are excluded from this requirement), or the approval of a Precinct Plan, an agreement under s 173 of the Act must be entered into between the owner of the land and the responsible authority in relation to the provision of 5% affordable housing as set out in clause 3.0 of the CDZ3.

▪ *Step three: Precinct Plans*

The CDZ3 requires that, before any permit is granted for subdivision or development (certain permits are excluded from this requirement), a Precinct Plan must be prepared and approved for the Precinct, or part of the Precinct to which the permit application applies. The Precinct Plan must be:

- accompanied by the information and reports set out in clause 3.0 of the CDZ3; and
- exhibited for a period of at least 14 days.

Before the responsible authority approves the Precinct Plan, it must consider (among other things) any submissions received in response to notice of the Precinct Plan, any comments

from any relevant referral authorities and whether the Precinct Plan is consistent with the CDP and DCP.

▪ *Step four: planning permit applications*

Once a Precinct Plan is approved, planning permit applications can be submitted for the Precinct Plan area (or parts of the Precinct Plan area). These planning permit applications must be consistent with the CDP and the approved Precinct Plan.

The CDZ (parent provision or schedule 3) provides that:

- an application for use of land and/or buildings and works is exempt from the notice requirements of s 52(1) (a) (b) and (d), the decision requirements of s 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of s 82(1) of the Act if it is generally consistent with the CDP; and
- an application for the subdivision of land is exempt from the notice requirements of s 52(1) (a) (b) and (d), the decision requirements of s 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of s 82(1) of the Act.

While Council is generally supportive of this 'gateway' process, Council has concerns in respect of the following:

- Clarity is required as to whether it is Council, or some other authority, who will be the responsible authority for assessing and approving the Precinct Plans, the Master Plan, the permit applications, and for the purposes of the s 173 agreements.
- The proposed exhibition process for the Precinct Plans is not part of the formal notice requirements set out in the Act (i.e. such as s 52 of the Act in respect of permit applications). As such, submitters will not have any appeal rights to VCAT in respect of the responsible authority's decision to approve a Precinct Plan. This may result in confusion and unrealistic expectations for submitters participating in the process. In addition, there is a lot of detail and reporting being deferred to the Precinct Plan stage, rather than being provided at this stage of the process, with very little time for submitters to review the information and make a submission, and no right to be heard at a public hearing or appeal to VCAT.
- The CDP proposes 7,500 new dwellings on the Subject Land (and includes a mandatory objective to 'support the growth of Melbourne and the Monash NEIC through the provision of 7,500 dwellings' on the Subject Land). However, the CDZ3 purports to allow for consideration of more than 7,500 dwellings<sup>1</sup>. Council is also concerned that the precincts approved first have the potential to utilise more than their fair share of the 7,500 dwellings proposed across the Subject Land, which may result in an uneven distribution across the site. Council considers that clearer guidance is required in the CDP and CDZ3 in respect of the expected density for each precinct to provide certainty and ensure equitable density distribution across the site. Council also considers the CDP and CDZ3 should it make it clear that 7,500 is the maximum number of dwellings (this is particularly important in circumstances where the provision of public infrastructure has been based on a maximum of 7,500 dwellings).
- As the detail regarding the development of the precincts is being deferred to the Precinct Plan stage, Council considers that further guidance needs to be provided in the CDP as to the vision and character of each precinct, and how the precinct interacts with its existing interfaces and interfaces with other new precincts. Council is of the view that not enough direction is currently provided with respect to the design and character of each of the

<sup>1</sup> The CDZ3 states under 'Precinct Plan': '*If a Precinct Plan nominates that the total yield across all precincts will exceed 7,500 dwellings, the applicant must demonstrate that that the Precinct Plan has appropriately considered any impact of the additional dwellings on existing and proposed site infrastructure and community facilities, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.*'



precincts, particularly the Town Centre Precinct and its relationship and interface with the train station (including from an urban design perspective).

- The CDZ3 should make it clear that the notice exemptions only apply to subdivision applications if the application is generally consistent with the CDP.
- Improvements and changes are required to the drafting of the CDZ3. Some examples of Council's concerns with the drafting of the CDZ3 include (but are not limited to):
  - The CDZ3 provides that the Master Plan must be approved and agreements entered into 'before a permit is granted, or the approval of a Precinct Plan...' However, the CDZ3 also provides that a precinct plan must be prepared before a permit is granted. Accordingly, Council does not consider the reference to permits is required in relation to the Master Plan and agreements.
  - The CDZ3 provides that, prior to deciding whether to approve a precinct plan, the responsible authority must consider 'the comments of any authority required to be consulted', however the CDZ3 does not include any requirements for consultation with authorities.
  - There is some unnecessary repetition in the CDZ3.
  - The CDZ3 refers to the old *Environment Protection Act 1970*, rather than the current act.

There are other drafting issues with the CDZ3, which Council will set out in a track change version of the CDZ3 for the Committee hearing.

#### **Timing and sequencing of redevelopment**

The CDP indicates the Subject Land will be developed over a 20+ year period, and it is likely that horse racing will continue for several years after development commences.

Council is concerned that the continuation of horse racing may impact on the timely and efficient delivery of the proposed redevelopment and result in scattered areas of development, lacking integration and connection. In addition, the primary areas of open space are located inside the horse racing track, which means they will either not be developed until after horse racing ceases, or community access to the areas of open space will be limited.

Council is also concerned about the timing and sequencing of development, including (but not limited to):

- the lack of certainty around the timing and sequencing of development and delivery of infrastructure;
- the logic of the proposed indicative sequencing;
- the timing and sequencing of the development of the Town Centre Precinct and access to the train station;
- the timing and sequencing of the transport links and active transport links; and
- the timing and sequencing of the community facilities.

Council is concerned that precincts, or areas of precincts, may be redeveloped in an ad hoc or disjointed way with no direct or convenient access to public transport, public infrastructure and community facilities. For example, while the Princes Precinct may have direct access onto Princes Highway, it would have no direct access to the train station.

### **Infrastructure delivery**

Due to the size and extent of the proposed redevelopment, there are numerous new infrastructure items as well as infrastructure upgrades required to facilitate the redevelopment and ensure future residents of the development have the appropriate and necessary infrastructure and services.

The Proponent has proposed the use of the DCP to fund some of these works, which is proposed to be incorporated into the Scheme as part of the Amendment. A community infrastructure levy is proposed for the sports pavilion.

The DCP proposes to fund the following:

- four external intersection upgrades;
- Corrigan Road upgrade;
- community facility; and
- construction of the public open space areas.

The Amendment documents also show a proposed indoor recreation facility, however it is not clear how (and by who) this will be funded if it is required. Council considers it should be made clear in the Amendment documents that the developer/landowner will be required to fund this.

The following infrastructure items will also be provided as part of the redevelopment, however these are proposed to be provided directly by the developer/landowner, and will not be included in the DCP:

- local and connector roads;
- land for public open space;
- land for intersectional works and Corrigan Road upgrades;
- drainage works; and
- infrastructure works required by utility service providers.

While Council is generally supportive of the types of infrastructure items proposed to be funded by the DCP, Council raises the following concerns:

- Council has concerns regarding the mechanism (i.e. the use of a DCP), which is elaborated on below;
- Council considers there are some items missing from the proposed DCP (for example, components included in the multimodal interchange (including but not limited to bus parking bays and shelters, real-time service information, direct pedestrian access to the station entrance, quality bicycle facilities), the midblock pedestrian signals on Princes Highway, and a shared path along Corrigan Road);
- Council has concerns regarding the lack of certainty around the timing and sequencing of development and delivery of infrastructure, and how that process will be managed; and
- Council is presently reviewing the adequacy of the proposed charge levels (and potential gaps in the overall funding for the infrastructure) and the proposed triggers for the provision of the infrastructure and will make further submissions on this during the Committee hearing.

In terms of the proposed mechanism, Council does not support the use of a DCP for the Subject Land. As the Subject Land is in one ownership, Council considers that the relevant infrastructure items

should be provided directly by the landowner, and implemented by way of a section 173 agreement, rather than a DCP.

In previous discussions with the Proponent, Council understood the Proponent to be agreeable to this, however Council has not been provided with a copy of a draft section 173 agreement to date.

While Council acknowledges that DCPs can be an appropriate and desirable option to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of costs for large infrastructure items when there are multiple landowners, it is not uncommon for DCPs to result in a shortfall of funding due to construction costs significantly outstripping CPI over time. Councils are often left to fund the difference between the funds received under the DCP and the final cost of the infrastructure.

Given the high infrastructure costs involved in the proposed redevelopment of the Subject Land, and the Subject Land currently being in single ownership, Council considers a section 173 agreement to be the most appropriate mechanism for the delivery of the infrastructure, and would ensure the Proponent, as the single landowner, will be directly responsible for funding and providing the totality of the infrastructure required.

In addition, given the significant on-going maintenance costs to Council that will result from this extensive new infrastructure, Council considers it desirable that future owners play a role in contributing to the costs of on-going maintenance.

In terms of the infrastructure and facilities proposed to be provided, this is based on a density of 7,500 new dwellings (approximately 16,000 new residents), and on information that Council is concerned may now be out of date or inaccurate.

Council wishes to make it clear that if greater density is proposed through the Amendment process, infrastructure and facilities would need to be increased proportionally, including open space areas, community facilities, and transport infrastructure.

Furthermore, given the passage of time since the Amendment was first proposed, Council is presently reviewing the adequacy and suitability of the extent and size of, and the need for, the proposed infrastructure and facilities against the most up to date population projections and relevant legislation, guidelines and standards, and will make further submissions on this during the Committee hearing.

Council also considers there should be an indication as to whether power will be underground and above ground, as this could have impacts on the built form, trees and telecommunications.

Finally, it is Council's preference that a proposed plan of subdivision be provided as part of the Amendment process to confirm the location and size of land areas proposed for all infrastructure and facilities, including the open space areas, transport infrastructure, and community facilities.

Specific issues in relation to the community facilities, transport infrastructure, open space and drainage are set out in further detail below.

### **Housing/ Urban Form and Density**

The CDP anticipates the redevelopment of the Subject Land will deliver an average density of around 70 dwellings per hectare through a mix of dwelling typologies (such as townhouses, triplexes, quadplexes, walk ups, multi- dwelling, mixed-use and apartment developments). In total, the CDP seeks to provide 7,500 dwellings on the Subject Land (and approximately 16,000 people) at completion. The dwelling yield per precinct is set out below.

- **Princes Precinct:** 2-6 storeys (dwelling yield 60-80 per hectare);
- **West Precinct:** 2-6 storeys (dwelling yield 40-60 per hectare);
- **Town Centre Precinct:** 2-12 storeys (dwelling yield 40-100 per hectare); and

- **East Precinct:** 2-6 storeys (dwelling yield 40-60 per hectare).

The density of development is proposed to be concentrated at the centre of the site and decreases towards adjoining existing development. The indicative urban form for each precinct is shown on the map extract below.

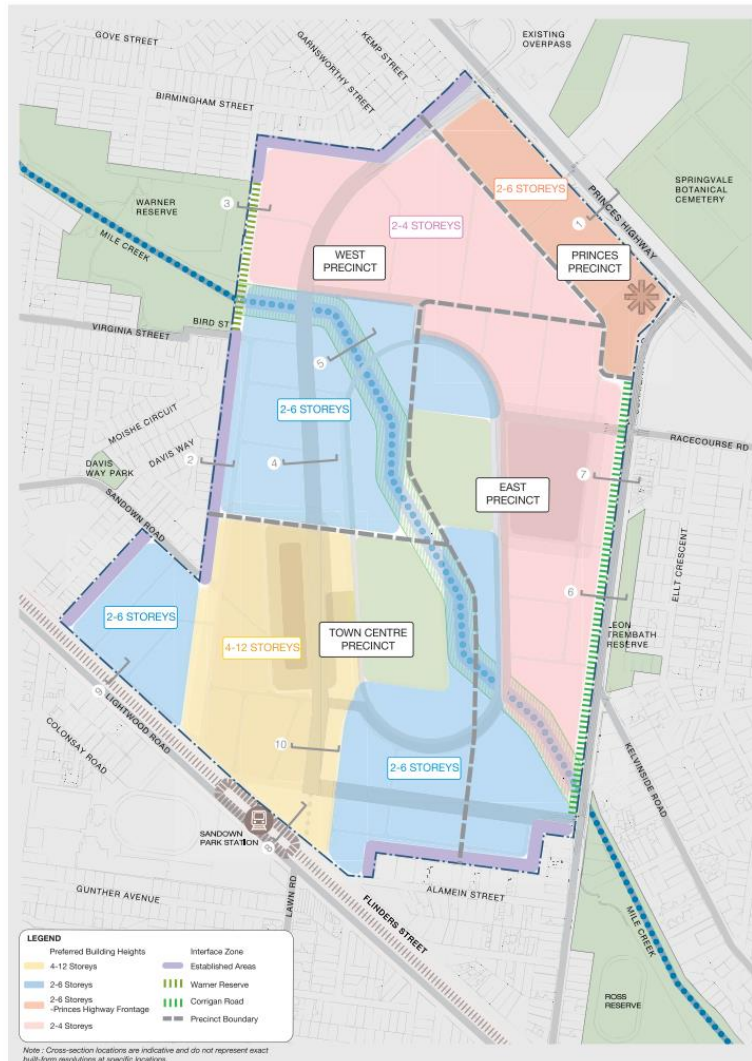


Figure 12 Indicative Urban Form Plan

Source: CDP, as exhibited, p. 35.

Council is generally supportive of the proposed density and urban form, provided:

- the heights and density are capped by way of mandatory requirements. This is because the proposed public infrastructure is based on 7,500 dwellings, and while Council is generally comfortable with the proposed heights (for the reasons set out below), Council's position is based on the heights in the indicative urban form plan, and not something higher;
- there is clearer guidance regarding appropriate height and transition to the existing low-scale residential areas. For example, Council would like to see greater clarity in the CDP to ensure the higher heights are located centrally on the site around the open space and town

centre, with heights tapering down from the centre to the edges of the Subject Land to accord with the existing form of development adjoining the Subject Land; and

- there is clearer urban design guidance in the CDP to better guide development outcomes, including a clear vision, character statement and design objectives for each precinct, more certainty regarding the location of the proposed densities and heights (the CDP currently includes a broad range of heights for each precinct), and further context in relation to existing interfaces and beyond.

Council also queries whether the proposed typologies accurately reflect current and future housing expectations for this area (in terms of what the market and future occupants will realistically demand).

While Council acknowledges that the proposed typology and form of development is more concentrated compared to other areas of the municipality, Council considers that:

- the increased density will support the broader community by providing additional housing, including diversity of housing, consistent with the State Government's housing policy;
- the impact of the development on established residential areas can be minimised by concentrating higher height and density towards the centre of the Subject Land (subject to providing further guidance in the CDP regarding appropriate height and transitions at the interface with existing residential areas);
- the proposed accompanying public infrastructure is designed to accommodate the increased density and population (subject to capping the heights and density by way of mandatory requirements and Council's review<sup>2</sup>); and
- the proposed density is considered to be generally acceptable having regard to the following recent examples of new development on large redevelopment sites in Greater Dandenong and other municipalities:
  - Yarrabend (Yarra City Council) – Alphington Paper Mills: 2,500 dwellings (151 dwellings per hectare);
  - CSIRO Highett (Bayside City Council): 1020 dwellings (110 dwellings per hectare);
  - Burwood Brickworks (Whitehorse City Council): 920 dwellings (47 dwellings per hectare);
  - Keysborough South residential development (City of Greater Dandenong): 5360 dwellings (15 dwellings per hectare);
  - Yarraman Village (City of Greater Dandenong): 167 dwellings (53 dwellings per hectare); and
  - Carre Residences (City of Greater Dandenong): 239 dwellings (33 dwellings per hectare).

Council also notes that a peer review undertaken by Hansen Partnership, generally supported the proposed urban form (subject to some recommendations which were addressed by the Proponent).

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<sup>2</sup> As noted above, given the passage of time since the Amendment was first proposed, Council is presently reviewing the adequacy and suitability of the extent and size of, and the need for, the proposed infrastructure and facilities against the most up to date population projections and relevant legislation, guidelines and standards, and will make further submissions on this during the Committee hearing.

## Employment

The Amendment seeks a predominately residential development on the Subject Land, and limits commercial and retail uses to the Primary and Secondary Activity Nodes and along the Princes Highway interface. The purpose of each commercial area is set out below:

- **Primary Activity Node:** located in the Town Centre Precinct and is intended to be of a similar scale to a neighbourhood centre. The commercial uses proposed here are close to Sandown Park Station and will maximise transit oriented development and 20 minute neighbourhood outcomes;
- **Secondary Activity Node:** surrounds the proposed new school and community facilities in the East Precinct and will comprise some smaller scale retail opportunities; and
- **Princes Highway interface:** will accommodate an existing hospitality and entertainment venue and provide an opportunity for larger commercial and mixed-use development that will benefit from a high exposure location.

Council is generally supportive of some limited new retail and commercial uses on the Subject Land, provided it does not have an adverse impact on the operation of established commercial areas within the City of Greater Dandenong, such as the Springvale and Noble Park Activity Centres. It is estimated that the above commercial areas combined with potential employment opportunities associated with the re-use of the grandstand will generate approximately 800 jobs. Council considers that further information should be provided to demonstrate the new retail and commercial uses will not adversely affect the Springvale and Noble Park Activity Centres.

In addition, Council is not supportive of a secondary activity node, and is of the view that the new school and community facilities would be better co-located with the primary activity node, open space areas and grandstand.

## Open space

The Amendment proposes the following:

- 8.7 hectares of unencumbered open space (equating to 10.1% of the net developable area of the Subject Land), which will comprise of the following:
  - 7 hectares comprising two areas directly east and west of Mile Creek, inside the current horse racing track. These two areas are intended to cater for active recreation such as football/ cricket ovals, soccer pitches, as well as supporting infrastructure such as playgrounds and walking paths; and
  - 1.7 hectares comprising passive open space including neighbourhood and local parks throughout the site;
- 8 hectares of encumbered open space (Mile Creek corridor). While this is proposed to be open space, it is encumbered (i.e. not fully usable) due to its flood mitigation role for Mile Creek during flood events.

Council is generally supportive of the area of public open space to be provided, which exceeds the requirement set out in the Scheme (based on 7,500 dwellings). However, Council considers the two large open space areas should be provided as one combined area of 7 hectares, to ensure greater flexibility and efficiency of use. For example, if the 7 hectares is provided in two different areas, infrastructure and services such as car parks and pavilions will need to be duplicated, which is inefficient and costly. Any relocation of the 7 hectare public open space area on the site should then further consider the location of the local and neighbourhood parks to ensure fair and equitable access to open space for all. In addition, as noted above, if greater density is proposed through the

Amendment process, infrastructure and facilities would need to be increased proportionally, including open space areas.

Council also has the following outstanding concerns in relation to these proposed open space areas:

- As noted above, Council is concerned about the timing of the delivery of the two main areas of public open space (noting they should be combined into one area as detailed above), and community access to these areas, if horse racing continues in the medium to long term. Both of these proposed open space areas are located inside the existing horse racing track, which means they will either not be able to be developed until the horse racing ceases, or limited access will be available to these areas (because residents would need to cross the race track which may be difficult and/or unsafe).
- Council is also concerned about the potential loss of unencumbered public open space to flood storage areas. This is because the CDP shows that approximately half of one of the large areas of open space inside the horse racing track will be required as a temporary flood storage area. The future Master Plan may also result in the need for additional areas of public open space to be required for flood mitigation. Accordingly, Council considers it is important for the Master Plan to be prepared now, so it is clear which areas of open space will be unencumbered (and can be appropriately used for the purposes currently proposed, including active recreation) and which areas will be encumbered (and required for flood mitigation purposes). This is discussed in more detail in the Drainage section below.
- Council considers there needs to be better connection between and integration with Warner Reserve and Ross Reserve, which will also enable better and more efficient movement through the site.

In addition, Council considers that the Schedule to Clause 53.01 should be updated (from 2% to 10.1%) to reflect the 10.1% contribution amount for the site identified in other relevant Amendment documents, including the CDP, to ensure consistency between the CDP and the Schedule to Clause 53.01 and avoid future confusion.

### **Drainage**

The Subject Land is encumbered by the Mile Creek drainage channel and Police Road main drain that convey stormwater through the site. These two drain networks are managed by Melbourne Water.

As noted above, the CDZ3 requires the Master Plan to be prepared prior to certain planning permits being issued or Precinct Plans being approved. The Master Plan is required to include the following:

- hydraulic modelling to demonstrate that there will be no increase in peak flows as a result of the development;
- a regeneration strategy for Mile Creek;
- details of the required flow capacity to manage stormwater and flood flows effectively; and
- provision of a delivery plan for the works.

The CDZ3 requires a section 173 agreement to be entered into to ensure the delivery of the process and outcomes envisaged in the Master Plan, the provision of access roads and landscaping and the construction of the stormwater management system, and the identification of the entity responsible for the ongoing maintenance and management of the watercourses, lakes and wetlands created as part of the development.

As noted above, Council considers that the Master Plan should be prepared now, as part of the Amendment process, and not deferred to a later date. This is because:

- Council considers it is critical there is clarity on the extent of land required to manage stormwater and flood flows, because this could potentially impact on the amount and use of unencumbered open space proposed to be provided; and
- Council considers it is necessary to demonstrate now that stormwater and flood flows can be managed on site, and not adversely impact on land downstream. Council is concerned that if the Amendment is approved, and it is subsequently discovered that stormwater cannot be effectively managed on site, there could be implications for future occupants of the site, as well as surrounding existing residents and other downstream users.

Council also has concerns around the lack of clarity as to ongoing maintenance and management of the watercourses, lakes and wetlands created as part of the development, which is proposed to be deferred to the s 173 agreement. The entity responsible should be clarified now.

In addition to the above concerns, Council considers there is a significant lack of information in the Amendment regarding flooding impacts and flood management on the Subject Land. As a result, Council submits there is insufficient information to make informed decisions about the impacts of flooding on the site. For example:

- flood studies are out of date and need to be updated;
- the *Sandown Racecourse Drainage Strategy* (Cardno, August 2020) report indicates the need for 18,000 cubic metres of flood storage in addition to the proposed 60m reserve width channel during a 1% AEP storm event. However, the Amendment documentation does not demonstrate how this is to be provided throughout the Subject Land. A further flood study and plan are required to show the location of onsite flood storage outside of the proposed 60m channel during a 1% AEP storm event;
- the proposed channel should be 100m (not 60m) if there are any recreation areas near the naturalised channel (passive or active);
- there is no plan proposed to mitigate impacts on downstream properties;
- the Proponent has not responded to previous recommendations and concerns raised by Melbourne Water and South East Water in a report in 2020; and
- hydraulic modelling and a flood impact assessment report is required to demonstrate that the various AEP flood levels are not increased as a result of development, and which should consider development conditions, including taking into account climate change.

### **Sustainability**

The Amendment indicates there will be a strong focus on sustainability, however the detail of this has been deferred to the Precinct Plan stage to achieve best practice at that time.

In particular, the Amendment proposes the following:

- to provide sustainable buildings and energy efficient homes, designed and constructed to meet the changing needs of occupants across their lifetime;
- to deliver a subdivision pattern and layouts that provide opportunities for domestic-scale renewable energy production and supports passive design; and
- to incorporate ESD principles in the development of infrastructure, public spaces and buildings.



While Council is generally supportive of the Amendment's focus on sustainability, Council considers the Amendment documentation could be improved in respect of sustainability outcomes for the site, and requires more detail. In particular:

- the Amendment documentation should provide more detail about how sustainability objectives and requirements will be achieved, including clear commitments. It is acknowledged that the Precinct Plan stage offers an opportunity to undertake more detailed sustainability planning. However, it is important that high level goals are specified now to strengthen the proposal's commitment to sustainability and ensure that the sustainability credentials of the site are not compromised during the Precinct Planning stage;
- a Climate Adaptation and Community Resilience Plan should be prepared for the site as a whole; and
- the Amendment documentation should provide more detail about the management of the contaminated lake and soil.

### Vegetation

In relation to vegetation on the site, Council notes that there are 107 trees identified as being of Very High Value, and 109 trees identified as being of High Value. It also appears that decisions regarding the retention and protection of these valuable trees have been deferred to the Precinct Plan stage.

Council considers that conservation areas should be established to ensure that the 216 trees of Very High or High value identified in the arborist report are retained and protected, and the Tree Assessment Report should be updated to reflect current conditions.

### Transport

The Amendment proposes active transport connections, public transport and road networks. The proposed transport arrangements are summarised below.

- **Active transport** will provide links where possible to the Caulfield – Dandenong Rail Trail, the Mile Creek Corridor, Corrigan Road, Sandown Road and the Princes Highway.
- **Public transport** will capitalise on the direct access to Sandown Park Station by upgrading the station and establishing a multimodal interchange. A bus capable street network will be provided – primarily along the a main boulevard from Princes Highway and a secondary boulevard that will partly follow the existing horse racing track – to link new development to activity nodes as well as the broader external metropolitan network. Key destinations/bus stops are:
  - Princes Highway;
  - Town Centre; and
  - the school.
- **Road networks** within the site, and substantial upgrades to the surrounding roads, are proposed. Corrigan Road will be upgraded as well as the following intersections to provide vehicular access to the site:
  - the overpass at Princes Highway (existing entry to site);
  - Princes Highway/ Corrigan Road;
  - Corrigan Road/ Racecourse Road; and

- Corrigan Road/ New access (near Allister Road).

Council is generally supportive of the proposed transport network and upgrades but raises the following concerns:

- further guidance about car parking, and ensuring appropriate car parking provision, is required (including ensuring the road and transport network provide adequate parking to minimise potential negative impacts to open space and road reservations);
- further guidance, and consideration of, waste collection and street sweeping services is required, particularly given the proposal includes some higher density, multi-unit developments;
- more certainty is needed in relation to the timing and sequencing of infrastructure to ensure it is provided in a timely manner, in order to appropriately service the new residents as the site is developed, and more certainty is needed around who is responsible for delivery and implementation of that infrastructure. This should include the upgrades to Sandown train station. Council is presently reviewing this and will make further submissions on this during the Committee hearing;
- public road designs should meet Council design standards; and
- a plan should show a minimum network of public roads including any roads with anticipated bus routes and any roads providing direct connection between two public roads.

### **Community Facilities**

The Amendment proposes the following community facilities:

- community centre (to be part of the school site), which will include:
  - kindergarten;
  - early years facility;
  - maternal health;
  - community meeting spaces;
- primary school;
- indoor recreational facility including multi-court stadium (subject to needs analysis); and
- open space areas, comprising:
  - 7 hectares of unencumbered open space for sporting fields, pavilion, and supporting park infrastructure;
  - 1.7 hectares of unencumbered passive open space including neighbourhood and local parks, with supporting park infrastructure; and
  - 8 hectares of encumbered open space including upgrade of Mile Creek with paths and supporting park infrastructure.

Council is generally supportive of the provision of new community facilities to service future residents of the Subject Land, however, as noted above, Council raises the following concerns in relation to the proposed community facilities:

- if resident numbers increase through the Amendment process, the extent of community facilities will need to increase proportionally;
- Council is concerned there is an over-reliance on existing facilities outside the Subject Land within the surrounding area that are already operating at full capacity;
- Council is concerned that some of the documentation relied on to support the current level of proposed community facilities is out of date, or refers to out of date reports or policies;
- Council is concerned there may be a shortage in the provision of the proposed community facilities. As noted above, Council is presently reviewing this and will make further submissions on this during the Committee hearing;
- Council is concerned about the timing and sequencing of the community facilities, potential co-location and ongoing maintenance of the facilities, and how these will integrate with surrounding spaces;
- further guidance should be provided in relation to the provision of and opportunities for public art; and
- as noted above, Council is not supportive of a secondary activity node, and is of the view that the new school and community facilities would be better co-located with the primary activity node, open space areas and grandstand.

### **Affordable Housing**

The CDZ specifies that 5% of the total dwellings within each Precinct Plan must be affordable. This is to be facilitated by a section 173 agreement which is the mechanism supported by the *Planning and Building Legislation Amendment (Housing Affordability and Other Matters) Act 2017 (Housing Affordability Act)*.

However, Council submits the CDZ should require 20% (not 5%) of total dwellings to be affordable. Affordable housing is a key social and economic issue, and is supported by the following policy and strategies:

- Clause 16.01-2S (Housing affordability) of the Scheme seeks to deliver more affordable housing closer to jobs, transport and services through the facilitation of a mix of private, affordable and social housing in activity centres and urban renewal precincts;
- Direction 2.3 of *Plan Melbourne* seeks to increase the supply of social and affordable housing; and
- Social and affordable housing is a 'top 3' priority in Victoria's *30 Year Infrastructure Strategy* (December 2016).

Victoria is presently affected by a significant housing affordability crisis, which is likely to continue in the medium to long term.

Finally, Council believes the Amendment documentation should provide more detail regarding:

- what is meant by affordable housing;
- the affordable housing mix;
- the location of affordable housing; and
- the proposed delivery mechanism.

### **Heritage**

The Sandown Racecourse grandstand has state level heritage significance and, as stated above, is covered by the HO54 in the Scheme. The Amendment documentation includes a plan to re-purpose the grandstand while preserving its historical significance.

Council generally supports the Amendment's approach to heritage but cannot take responsibility for the on-going management and maintenance of the grandstand. Accordingly, further detail about the use, management and maintenance of the grandstand (and the use of the area in which the grandstand is located) is required.

### **CONCLUSION**

Council reserves its right to add to and expand on these issues during the Committee hearing process, including in response to expert evidence.



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## 5 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.



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## 6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

### Question

#### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

The Djerring bike trail provides a fantastic route for residents commuting from Dandenong to the city. However, despite having lights installed along the trail, they are seldom turned on between Springvale and Westall but also throughout Noble Park and Dandenong.

Is this the responsibility of Council? If so, why are the lights either not activated or poorly maintained?

Considering residents have persistently raised concerns about this issue for several years without resolution, could Council be held legally liable for any injuries resulting from the unresolved problem?

### Response

#### **Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

The section of Djerring trail between Westall and Springvale Road has not yet been handed over to Council and is still the responsibility of VicTrack and Metro Trains Melbourne (MTM).

Council officers will follow up directly with VicTrack and MTM to investigate and repair the faulty/non-functioning lights.

### Question

#### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

Do we have an anticipated hand over time?

### Response

#### **Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

I am not certain of the hand over time. I will investigate and advise.

### Question

#### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

Is Council aware of the discrepancy in speed signage on different sides of Pillars Road, Keysborough in a specific section? I understand this is not one of our roads, but have we taken any measures to address it?

### Response

#### **Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Council officers were not aware of the speed limit signage discrepancy on Pillars Road. Thank you for bringing that to our attention. Officers will shortly visit the site to investigate the matter and seek to rectify as soon as possible.

### Question

#### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

Is that section part of the stage three (3) upgrade of Perry Road, Keysborough? If not, the hazard that is currently posed by the safety rail being in disrepair needs fixing. Can Council contact the authority and asked to have it repaired? It has been a state of disrepair for about three (3) years.



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**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

I will need to confirm which stage of the works this relates to. However, I can advise that the damaged guard rail is Council responsibility and has recently been identified by our inspectors. The works to repair the rail are due to be completed by the end of June 2024.

**Question****Cr Rhonda Garad**

Is it possible to update the Council website on the Perry Road, Keysborough upgrade? It is currently out of date.

**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Yes, we will update the website.

**Question****Cr Rhonda Garad**

What measures has Council taken to enforce planting on the front sections of businesses beyond Keys Road in Perry Road, Keysborough?

**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

The developments which interface with Perry Road all have conditions on the planning permits to ensure planting is provided within landscape setbacks.

If the planting on individual sites does not meet the requirements of these plans then Council has the ability to enforce these permit conditions.

**Question****Cr Rhonda Garad**

Is there a time frame at which that planting is required to be completed? Those businesses have been there for quite some time.

**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Yes, there will be a time frame on the planning permit. The exact time frame regarding this site I am unable to confirm tonight but will follow up and advise.

**Comment****Cr Angela Long**

On Tuesday 28 May 2024, I attended an online meeting for the Dandenong Market Pty Ltd.

On Thursday 30 May 2024, I attended the smoking ceremony for Reconciliation Week at the fire pit at Springvale Civic Centre.

On Friday 31 May 2024, I attended the 19th Victorian Aboriginal Remembrance service at the Melbourne Shrine.



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On Saturday 1 June 2024, I attended the soccer match between Dandenong City and St Albans Saints. Dandenong City won 2-nil.

On Tuesday 4 June 2024, I attended a meeting of the Roadsafes South East Committee in Dandenong Civic Centre.

### **Question**

#### **Cr Angela Long**

I received a phone call from a very irate resident about graffiti on fencing and rubbish on vacant land in Dandenong. I have reported this many times and nothing seems to be done. I have sent the photos to identify the problem that this resident is so frustrated over.

### **Response**

#### **Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

I can confirm that we have previously been made aware of the unsightly mess of the vacant land and have acted on it accordingly. The site was cleaned up as recently as May 2024, however it appears new rubbish has been dumped since then.

After becoming aware yesterday that the issue has again arisen, our Local Law Officers have attended today to again address the problem with the owners.

We will again follow this process through to resolution.

We strongly encourage all residents to report such issues directly through SNAP SEND SOLVE so that we can act on such issues as quickly as possible.

### **Question**

#### **Cr Angela Long**

There is a Telstra pit in Dandenong that has sunken and may be a tripping hazard, please could this be rectified as soon as possible. I have also sent a photo of this.

### **Response**

#### **Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

Council officers have inspected the path and Telstra pit in Dandenong, and I can advise that the sunken pit does not meet Council's service standards for path hazards. Where there is damage to Telstra infrastructure, this can be reported via their website: [www.telstra.com.au/forms/report-damage-to-telstra-equipment](http://www.telstra.com.au/forms/report-damage-to-telstra-equipment) In this instance, Council officers have already reported this pit to Telstra, and Telstra staff/ contractors will inspect the pit and undertake any works, if required.

### **Comment**

#### **Cr Jim Memeti**

I would like to say a big thank you to our Council staff. I received many emails from our community regarding the Keneally Reserve, new off-leash area. Originally it was not intended to be fully fenced, but after receiving many complaints from our community and then advocating to our officers, that area of the reserve is fully fenced off. Once again thank you to our staff. It was very dangerous as Keneally Reserve backs onto Dandenong Creek, so it was important to make sure that animals would not be able to go to the creek. It is unknown what could happen if animals did go down to the creek, especially when we have heavy rain and a lot of water in the creek. Thank you to our staff for fully fencing the off leash dog park.





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## **Question**

### **Cr Jim Memeti**

I was recently at the Dandenong Thunder game at George Andrews Reserve. They were very happy with their new lights. But there was one problem. Unfortunately, they cannot be switched on at 500 lux. Currently, they have only been allowed to switch on to 300 lux, which is still a lot better than what they had.

My understanding is that there is not efficient electricity to turn it up that high. There needs to be an electricity upgrade. Can Council officers please let me know when that electricity upgrade will happen so the light can be turned on at 500 lux which is what was originally meant to happen?

## **Response**

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Question taken on notice.

## **Comment**

### **Cr Richard Lim OAM, Deputy Mayor**

On Monday 27 May 2024, I attended the Reconciliation Week flag raising ceremony at Harmony Square. After that I went straight to the art exhibition of Noble Park Community Centre. After that I attended a meeting with the committee members on Noble Park Committee Centre, mainly regarding raising funding for Monash Hospital. The committee also asked me to provide a health seminar some time in the future.

On Thursday 30 Mat 2024, I attended the CGD Youth, Libraries & Springvale Hub Reconciliation Week event.

On Friday 31 May 2024, I had a chance to tour Springvale Activity Centre with our Chief Executive Officer, Jacque Weatherill, to understand what else we can do for Spring Activity Centre.

On Wednesday, 5 June 2024, I had a chance to represent Pharmacy Guild with Pharmacy Guild representatives and Health Minister Mary-Anne Thomas who came to Springvale. The point was to inform all the Victorians about our pilot study in Pharmacies and to ease pressure of the Health Care system. Around 10000 consultations have been delivered as part of the Labor Government Pharmacist Committee statewide pilot ensuring that Victorians receive good health care, especially the basic healthcare. Pharmacies can do a lot of things nowadays in our state. If you wish to know more about this you can as your local pharmacy. We are trying to follow England and other European countries model.

That night I also attended the Monash Health Foundation's Inaugural Donor Appreciation. Thank you to all the donors that are supporting Monash Health over the last couple of years. We had around 200 people attend.

On Sunday 8 June 2024, I attended an event celebrating World Environment Day with our Mayor Lana Formoso. We had a chance to plant a lot of trees on that day. That night, I attended a fundraising event to build a new church organized by St. Thomas Syrian-Malabar Parish Melbourne South-East.



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## **Question**

### **Cr Sean O'Reilly**

The Springvale Districts Football Netball Club that operates from Springvale Reserve is growing. They are male and female and their dedicated space which they can put things in and not have to move them has not grown in accordance with the success of the club's growth.

In terms of their dedicated meeting space, which is comparatively small, could you provide a comparison of the dedicated sheltered space in square metres per member between Springvale Districts Football Netball Club and similar clubs in our municipality?

Secondly, what plans does this Council have to accommodate the growth of Springvale Districts Football Netball Club, particularly regarding the addition of netball teams on site? It is a welcome addition to have more females participating in sport in Springvale, whereas previously they have had to be outside of this municipality in Dingley. That growth does present problems, they are good problems, and this Council should welcome them.

Thirdly, considering that Springvale Districts Football Netball Club is the primary user of the ground during football season, why is this club required to pay the full hiring rate for casual access?

## **Response**

### **Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

In terms of the square metreage allocation comparison, I will take that on notice and come back to you.

It is fabulous that the club is growing, particularly in terms of netball and I understand they will be adding on some junior teams, which is great news. Council is happy to meet with the club and work through what their growth projections look like and how we can support those. I am more than happy to facilitate that meeting and invite you to be involved.

In terms of being the primary user of the grounds and having to pay the full fee, the function rooms there are actually a civic facility, and they do get used by the community for a range of both community groups and individuals within the community for different events. Council have endorsed the fees and charges schedule, and they are the fees that are charged for use of any of our civic function rooms. That said, in recognition of this club and its history with this site, as well as its growth and needing the support with additional space, we do have arrangements in that location for that club where they do receive a significantly discounted rate. That covers the costs of cleaning after events, which is important, as you can imagine. If we then have other people hiring that facility, we need to ensure that the cleanliness meets the required standards.

We do try to work with the club, and we are keen to continue working with them, whilst also ensuring that the broader community has access to this civic facility in a fair and accessible way.



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## **Comment**

### **Cr Phillip Danh**

Last week I had the pleasure of visiting Belvedere Age Care, along with Mayor Lana Formoso for their annual Italian Republic Day celebrations. It is a momentous occasion for a lot of the residents celebrating the time that their motherland back in Italy, exercised their universal suffrage following the horrors of the Second World War, establishing a new society based on the principles of freedom and democracy. Those are the values that we hold so dearly and that so many in our communities from different backgrounds went searching for when they sought to make Australia home. I am also humbled by the warm hospitality provided and the friendliness of the residents as they welcome me with open arms and of course, delicious food.

I have also had the pleasure of catching up with the team at the Noble Park Community Centre and I am grateful for their time. Their efforts in providing such essential services to our community in Noble Park does not go unnoticed and I commend them and their volunteers for their work.

I would like to offer some reflection and feedback to Council. Our conversations on the engagement of youth in our community provided an important perspective on how we can continue to engage with the next generation of future leaders in our community and to prepare them for the challenges of tomorrow. Neighbourhood houses like the Noble Park Community Centre have programs providing low-cost services for young people teaching essential life skills, often not taught at schools, such as basic cooking classes. I sense that there is an aspiration to expand these sorts of programs that help to equip youth with things like organising your finances, apply for a tax file number and write an email so that they can apply for work.

I have been given examples of young people that have been given volunteering and work opportunities at neighbourhood houses, and how this has helped to teach professional skill sets to extremely capable young individuals who would not have gained such experiences elsewhere. These experiences have helped to improve their ability to organize, manage tasks, and most crucially, strengthen their communication skills. We take little things for granted, like the ability to conduct small talk that goes a long way in improving prospects of employment and professional development, especially for a young person from a disadvantaged background.

I think there is an opportunity there for Council to assist local organisations like neighbourhood houses to ensure that the capacity to take on new local young people through professional, potentially paid development pathways. After all we will be helping them help their local communities and I think that is a win-win for all of us. I hope that leaves for some helpful feedback on how Council can take these steps to develop these skills so that they can take personal responsibility to pursue their own prosperous futures as well.

I would also like to congratulate Lisa Roberts (Manager Governance, Legal & Risk) for all your years of service here at Council. I know our time working together has been short but you have been extremely helpful in making sure that I have felt settled and ensured I knew how to find everything I need. I am very grateful for your all your advice you have imparted without judgment in the past. Everyone I have spoken to speaks very highly of you. I wish you all the best in your future in endeavours.



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**Question****Cr Sophie Tan**

Over the past two (2) weeks I have had the opportunity to visit our local businesses who are struggling with the cost of living. Rent is very high, and some cannot afford to hire staff.

I know that in the past we have helped our small and medium sized businesses. Is Council able to do anything to help these struggling businesses now? If someone wanted to install an outdoor dining area, can we assist?

**Response****Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

The outdoor dining program funding from the State Government finished in 2022. However, we understand that businesses are currently having challenges, so if any business wanted support or to explore outdoor dining programs, I would ask them to directly contact Council.

**Question****Cr Sophie Tan**

How much does it cost to install an outdoor area at a restaurant?

**Response****Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

It is hard to give an exact figure because it depends on the location and what they are looking for. We are happy to work with any business to understand what their requirement is.

**Question****Cr Sophie Tan**

Can you please provide an update on the Blackspot program upgrade on Railway Parade, Noble Park?

**Response****Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

I do not know the exact time frame, I will check with the project team and come back to you.

**Question****Cr Tim Dark**

I have had residents raise the issue of parking along Stanley Road, Keysborough between the Dandenong Bypass and Church Road. There are 74 townhouses in rapid succession on the left-hand side. It has been raised to Council previously, but I wanted to find out whether we had any further investigation. Is there going to be indentation parking or additional parking for people, because there is no visitor car park allocation within this townhouse development? Parking is extremely difficult at any time of the day or night. This is then putting pressure on the neighbouring streets.

**Response****Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer**

Question taken on notice.



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**Question****Cr Tim Dark**

I know in the past, there have been conversations regarding the Keysborough Scout Hall, and its potential relocation or renovation, given the age of it. It is looking substantially dilapidated and it fronts just off Cheltenham Road, Keysborough, with lots of traffic going by. What are the Scouts or relevant group intending on doing regarding renovating the building to bring it up to a safe standard?

**Response****Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

We will investigate and provide the information back to you.

**Question****Cr Tim Dark**

There has been a big increase in graffiti around the municipality. What graffiti removal items does Council have for the residents to use? I know we used to have buckets and a service to report it, but what is the current process?

**Response****Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

Residents are responsible for their own properties. Council can provide them a graffiti cleaning pack. Residents can contact customer service on 8571 1000 or [council@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@cgd.vic.gov.au), and we can send out a pack to help clean. We do recommend that any graffiti is reported to VicPol, who ideally are able to come out to try and ascertain if there is anyone that they can pursue in relation to the graffiti. But we do also understand that they have a significant backlog at the moment. If it is on Council property, please use SNAP SEND SOLVE so our cleansing team can attend as soon as possible.

**Question****Cr Tim Dark**

There is a very small park and seating area at the corner of Merrimack and Barncroft Crescent, Keysborough. Is this a Council reserve or privately owned? If it is a Council facility, can we find out what is happening with it? All it has is a very small shelter, one (1) picnic bench and about five (5) rubbish bins. It is in the middle of a decent number of townhouses.

**Response****Brett Jackson, Acting Executive Director City Futures**

I will take that on notice and confirm exactly who owns it. I suspect if it is located within a townhouse development it may well be body corporate owned.



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**Comment****Cr Tim Dark**

I would like to thank Lisa Roberts (Manager Governance, Legal & Risk) for the support that she has provided Councillors. When I was first elected, the very first person I met was Lisa and she said "I am the manager of Governance", I said "does that mean I am going to have anything to do with you?" She said "there is going to be a lot, you will deal with me on a weekly basis". I had no idea at 23 years old, anything about governance rules, codes, policies, procedures. I went into the first Council meeting completely blind. If it was not for Ms Roberts giving me a guide for moving and seconding Motions, I would have had no idea. So, congratulations on your new role with State Government, and I wish you well.

**Comment****Cr Lana Formoso, Mayor**

I was not going to mention that, but I will thank you as well for all of your guidance in this role and being such an incredible addition to this organisation, in such an important role in governance. So, thank you so much Ms Roberts, for your hard work and dedication at Greater Dandenong City Council for the last 21 years.

Earlier this evening our young ambassadors asked us what some of the challenges are we have as Councillors. One (1) of the things that I actually did miss this evening was the fact that my youngest son, Hugo, was announced as a golf ambassador. So, I just wanted to say a big shout out to him, and congratulations. I am sorry that I was not there, but I hope you are enjoying the cheesecake. But it is times like this that we do miss with our family and special events because of the role that we have as Councillors. So just wanted to make a special note of that.

**Comment tabled****Cr Lana Formoso, Mayor**

On Tuesday 28 May 2024, I attended the Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce meet and greet.

On Thursday 30 May 2024, I attended the Now More Than Ever City of Greater Dandenong Youth, Libraries and Springvale Hub Reconciliation week event. Later that day, I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria's Mayor and CEO dinner.

On Friday 31 May 2024, I attended the 19<sup>th</sup> Victorian Aboriginal Remembrance Service, Shrine of Remembrance. Later that day, I attended the Italian Republic Fest hosted by Belvedere Aged Care.

I also attended the Get Active Get Moving prize ceremony at Lyndale Greens Primary School.

On Saturday 1 June 2024, I attended the Dandenong City vs Melbourne Knights game.

On Tuesday 4 June 2024, I visited the Noble Park Community Centre.

On Wednesday 5 June 2024, I attended the Mayoral Taskforce Canberra Delegation meeting online. Later that day, I attended the candlelight concert for Monash Health at Athenaeum Theatre.

On Thursday 6 June 2024, I attended the Greater Dandenong City Council Audit & Risk meeting.



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On Friday 7 June 2024, I attended the opening of Just Cuts new salon at Parkmore Shopping Centre.

On Saturday 8 June 2024, I attended the World Environment Day event hosted by Gudwara Sri Guru Nanak Darbar.

On Sunday 9 June 2024, I attended the Celebrating World Environment Day community planting at Greaves Reserve.

Later that day, I attended the “Raja Parba” celebration hosted by the Vic chapter of Orioz (Odia-Indian community).

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**Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.**

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## COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
13/05/24 CQT9	Cr Tim Dark	<p><b>Footpath integrity and comprehensive review</b></p> <p>I was running around my ward on the weekend, preparing for a marathon and I looked at the state of our footpaths around the municipality. I know that the quality of the footpaths usually has been audited and I know in the past, we have had a separate contract that came to Council, where there the footpath was scanned with a truck with some lasers. It was done to assess the structural integrity of the footpath, the rise and fall, and the state's accord.</p> <p>I just want to find out if we are intending on doing that and how we are supposed to gauge the changes in footpath natural movement?</p>	Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy		<p><b>Initial response provided 13/05/2024:</b></p> <p>Yes, we had the comprehensive footpath review, I believe in 2021 or a bit earlier. At the moment, we are looking at some of the conditions of footpaths and the roads and a few other assets that we have, including buildings. We will update Councillors on the plans we have going forward. We are conscious of the time that has gone into the comprehensive collection.</p> <p>However, our team in the Operations Center are looking at the footpaths periodically. That comprehensive condition data that you are mentioning has not been done, but we are working towards that through the budget and how we can do it again.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</b></p>
27/05/24 CQT1	Cr Tim Dark	<p><b>Parkland Reserve, Keysborough</b></p> <p>I received a query from a resident in Keysborough regarding Parkland Reserve, Keysborough. There have been upgrades performed to the reserve with a path and trail. It is not a large park, but it is one that does get a lot of use. The upgrades were done and then came to a halt. The resident was wondering whether there were any further upgrades, whether there is any potential for additional seating or planting. Could this please be investigated?</p>	Executive Director City Futures	06/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b></p> <p>Question taken on notice.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 06/06/2024:</b></p> <p>Parkland Court Reserve in Keysborough is a small local park. Capital works funding was received in 2022-23 to make improvements to the reserve, including tree planting, a picnic table setting, park benches and gravel paving, all of which have been completed. There are no further works planned for this park in the current financial year or next financial year, however officers can review opportunities for additional seating and further landscape improvements as part of CIP considerations for future years.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>



Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
27/05/24 CQT2	Cr Tim Dark	<p><b>Rowley Allan Reserve, Keysborough</b> There is a significant block to the right-hand side of the Lawn Bowls Club at Rowley Allan Reserve, Keysborough. Conversation suggests there is a request from the Country Fire Authority (CFA) to house a new fire station there, in a Council reserve, in an area where there is not much open space. Has the CFA, State Emergency Service (SES) or any of the Ministers in the State Government had any conversations or correspondence to Council regarding this specific site and where is it currently at with that correspondence?</p>	Chief Executive Officer	03/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> There have been some informal conversations about the possibility. I have been awaiting a formal letter from one of the agencies, and to date I have not received anything. I plan to contact the new CEO of the SES and discuss if there is any interest.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 03/06/2024:</b> I can confirm that in response to your query I have rung Greg Leach, CEO of the Victorian State Emergency Service (SES) to ascertain whether there is any formal interest in the Council Land on Cheltenham Road, Keysborough for a future SES/CFA Site.</p> <p>I advised Mr Leach as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been informal discussion with the previous CEO of the SES about the inadequacy of the current Keysborough SES facilities.</li> <li>• There had also been informal discussions about the possibility of potentially exploring a new joint SES and CFA facility on Council land in Cheltenham Road Keysborough</li> <li>• The City of Greater Dandenong has received no formal approach or correspondence about either of the aforementioned points, and as such will not commit any resources towards investigation/exploration of such matters until a formal approach is made.</li> </ul> <p>The SES CEO responded that they currently have limited budget for capital projects and are burdened with a range of competing priorities. He thanked me for my call and will get back to</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					me if there is any interest.  <b>COMPLETED</b>
27/05/24 CQT3	Cr Bob Milkovic	<p><b>Antisocial behaviour, Dandenong North</b></p> <p>I have received complaints from residents along Cardinia Close and Sylvan Court, Dandenong North regarding the Council owned land that runs along Brady Road up to number eleven Cardinia Close. There has been antisocial behaviour at all hours of night with many incidents and police are attending the property, which is apparently Council owned property. They have discovered a lot of stolen goods. Whoever operates this property, leases it out from Council or illegally uses it, they seem to be using and abusing. Could we organise a site inspection to determine ownership? Can this be stopped as residents directly opposite are disturbed at 3am? All those people bought houses along police paddocks so they can enjoy the peace and quiet.</p>	Executive Director Community Strengthening	05/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> Question taken on notice.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 05/06/2024:</b> Following investigations, Council officers can confirm that the plot of land on Cardinia Crescent (Cardinia Reserve, 1-9 Cardinia Crescent) is owned by Council and a portion of the reserve is currently used as a horse paddock. It is also adjoined to horse grazing land owned by the Melbourne Water Corporation (MWC).</p> <p>Dandenong Police recovered 2 stolen vehicles (1 x trailer, 1 x caravan) in the vicinity of Cardinia Close on 13 April 2024, however these were located at a private address, not on Council land. On 28 May 2024, police attended Cardinia Close on the report of 3 people practicing Archery in the horse paddock. Police attended and the 3 people had left prior to their arrival. No other matters, including anti-social behaviour have been reported.</p> <p>Police confirmed that they will attend the location on reports of anti-social behaviour, and residents are encouraged to contact 000 in the event of an emergency or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 to report criminal activity.</p> <p><b>COMPLETED</b></p>
27/05/24 CQT6	Cr Rhonda Garad	<p><b>Improving governance processes</b></p> <p>Since CGD introduced the Councillor Contact Register in 2021 aimed at making all Councillor-developer contact transparent, the Sandon Review has</p>	Executive Director Corporate Development	03/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> We have not received specific advice, but we have received notification of the Local Government Amendment (Governance and Integrity) Bill 2024 which is currently before</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		<p>taken place. Has Council received any advice or correspondence on updating or improving governance processes following the release of Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission's (IBAC) recommendations in June last year?</p> <p><b>Comment</b> <b>Cr Rhonda Garad</b> The Amendment covers code of conduct and other issues related to Council laws and behaviour, it does not cover governance. It would be great if we could have a briefing session.</p>			<p>State Parliament (second reading moved on 1 May 2024).</p> <p>This proposed legislation goes some of way to address the recommendations of IBAC's Operation Sandon Report and we await the final form of the legislation. Councillors are able to view the Bill at <a href="http://www.legislation.vic.gov.au">www.legislation.vic.gov.au</a>.</p> <p>If Councillors wish, the issue can be raised at a Councillor Briefing Session once the new legislation receives Royal Assent.</p> <p><b>A Councillor Briefing Session has been booked with Maddocks in July 2024.</b></p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>
27/05/24 CQT7	Cr Sophie Tan	<p><b>Abandoned vehicles</b> I have received more concerns from a business owner in Popes Road, Keysborough regarding abandoned or unregistered vehicles. They are causing damage to the business and the environment, also making it hard for people to find parking. Is there an update on this investigation yet?</p>	Executive Director Community Strengthening / Executive Director City Futures	31/05/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> Currently, the parking and Local Law officers are investigating. I will provide you an update once the investigations are complete.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 31/05/2024:</b> Council is aware of the concerns that have been raised at this location.</p> <p>Council officers attended this location in mid-May 2024 and engaged with business owners on Popes Road to address several issues like unregistered vehicles, dumped rubbish and unsightliness of some of the properties. Officers continue to attend this location on a weekly basis to monitor the situation.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>
27/05/24 CQT11	Cr Phillip Danh	<p><b>Fotheringham Reserve floodlights</b> I was approached by a member of the newly relocated Greater Dandenong</p>	Executive Director Community	03/06/2024	<p><b>Initial response provided 27/05/2024:</b> I will look into the progress of that and give you some feedback. It is one of the facilities that we</p>

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		<p>football club who noted that the floodlights are currently faulty at Fotheringham Reserve, impacting the junior teams ability to train. Especially now that we are heading into the winter months and the evenings are beginning sooner. I was advised that this has already been raised with Council in the past, but the club is still waiting for an update. Is there an update on the matter at all?</p>	<p>Strengthening</p>		<p>are looking to upgrade.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 03/06/2024:</b> Council contractors have completed repairs to the damaged light at WJ Turner Reserve (in late April 2024) to make all the floodlights operational, which should help provide adequate lighting for training purposes. While there is limited floodlighting at both reserves (Fotheringham Reserve and WJ Turner Reserve), we do believe that there is adequate lighting to allow the club to train throughout the season.</p> <p>The Club is currently allocated both Fotheringham Reserve and WJ Turner Reserve, with the two (2) grounds available to the club increasing the club's capacity to train at both venues under lights, and appropriately program training for all participants. The club has requested that Council install two (2) additional floodlights and we have provided feedback that Council unfortunately does not have the budget or the detailed designs for two (2) new additional lights at WJ Turner Reserve. The design for new lights will be considered as part of the Sports Facilities Plan and Council's annual capital works program. Additionally, any temporary lights would need to comply with lighting standards, which is cost prohibitive, and Council do not have the budget to provide portable lights at Turner Reserve. There are a number of other Reserves with similar lighting challenges.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>



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## 7 URGENT BUSINESS

No business may be admitted as urgent business unless it:

- a) relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the Agenda; and
- b) cannot safely or conveniently be deferred until the next ordinary meeting and unless agreed to by a majority of those Councillors present at the meeting.



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## 8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.12 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lana Formoso". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'L'.

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Signature