

**Local Government Mayoral Taskforce supporting People Seeking Asylum
Minutes – Executive Meeting No. 6 Wednesday 16th January 2018
Hume City Council, 1079 Pascoe Vale Road, Broadmeadows**

Chairperson: Mayor, Cr Roz Blades (*Greater Dandenong*)

Attendees: Mayor, Cr Lucinda Congreve (*Brimbank*), India Mortlock (*Brimbank*), Terri Soumilas (*Brimbank*), Deputy Mayor, Cr Susanne Newton (*Darebin Council*), Mandy Bathgate (*Darebin Council*), Cr Matthew Kirwan (*Greater Dandenong*), Peter Johnstone (*Greater Dandenong*), Fran McKechnie (*Greater Dandenong*) – Minute Taker, Marek Krol (*Greater Dandenong*) – Minute Taker, Amber Cassidy (*Hobsons Bay*), Mayor, Cr Carly Moore (*Hume*), Julie Andrews (*Hume*), Carmen Frawley (*Hume*), Pamela Kosij (*Monash*), Karl Hale (*Moreland*), Nalika Peiris (*Moreland*), Cristina Del Frate (*Yarra*)

Guests: Daniel Scoullar (*Social Change Projects*), Meghan Hopper (*Moonee Valley*)

Apologies: Mayor, Cr Natalie Abboud (*Moreland*), Kate McCaughey (*Moonee Valley*)

Agenda Item	Discussion Points/Comments	Follow up Actions / Who
1. Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Cr Roz Blades welcomed everyone. • Apologies noted 	
2. Endorsement of Minutes of Previous Meeting	Previous minutes moved by Cr Matthew Kirwan Seconded:	
3. Review of Outstanding Action Items	Further in meeting	

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<p>4. General status of <i>Back Your Neighbour</i> campaign including decisions at teleconference on 8th January relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) engaging Social Change Projects b) funding and resourcing mechanisms c) current campaign objectives 		
<p>5. Review of Phase 1 – Social Change Projects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 19 Member Councils (as part of Taskforce) and 23 councils across Australia supporting the campaign is a great achievement in such a short time frame. • Agenda Group (AG) worked very hard to insure media exposure of the campaign, albeit media reach was low. Good collateral was created by AG and continues to be utilised in mobilising community support for the campaign. • Taskforce Secretariat's capacity increased with dedicated campaign 0.6 EFT officer and will be central point of contact for the campaign. • Councils advised to generate social media content as certain regions of Victoria have more compelling stories (e.g. families being exited from SRSS payments) • Potential similarities with Back Your Neighbour and Amnesty's My New Neighbour were raised, and possibility to merge both campaigns. However, My New Neighbour is directed at community sponsorship; very different campaign. Possibility to support each other's campaigns. • Councils can discuss increased funding from local State MPs for community organisations 	

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6. Back Your Neighbour campaign Phase 2 – overview of Social Change Projects proposal (inc. approach, inclusions, exclusions, Council involvement etc)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phase Two: Building community networks and political pressure. Political problem not just a social problem. • Engage with local and community organisations (e.g. asylum seeker and refugee community groups, unions, churches), building a network of political pressure to reverse cuts. • Refine the campaign's ask around the State Government. Focus on the humanitarian aspect. • ALP policy platform – need to solidify Federal Labor's commitment and timeline with reversing the SRSS cuts. Require further information and clarification. 	
7. Back Your Neighbour campaign workshop		
8. Social media status / going forward		
9. Membership Growth Update		
10. Terms of Reference Change		
11. Regional/Local Updates		
12. Other Business		
13. Next Meeting	Wednesday 13 February 2019, 1:00pm-3.00pm, Hobsons Bay City Council, 115 Civic Parade, Altona	
14. Close		

Other proposed meeting dates and venues (to be confirmed)

Wednesday, 13 March

Monash

Wednesday, 17 April

Greater Dandenong