



**GREATER
DANDENONG**
City of Opportunity

AGENDA MONDAY 10 OCTOBER 2022

Commencing at 7:00 PM

COUNCIL MEETING

At the time of printing this Agenda, the Council Meeting to be held on Monday 10 October 2022, will be open to the public but will be subject to venue seating capacity.

This will be a hybrid meeting consisting of Councillors attending in person and remotely.

The meeting will be open to the public to attend in person.

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 of 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.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong VIC 3175

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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

1.2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

Council acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong people and pays our respects to their Elders past, present and emerging while also recognising their deep and continuing connections to climate, culture and country.

We also pay our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders and acknowledge their journey.

1.3 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

As part of Council's commitment to recognising the cultural and spiritual diversity of our community, the prayer this evening will be offered by Chandilian Kurukkal from the Hindu Community, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network.

1.4 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Meeting of Council held 26 September 2022.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Meeting of Council held 26 September 2022 be confirmed.

1.5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

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

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

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

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

1.6 ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Audit and Risk Committee held a meeting on 26 August 2022 and Minutes of this meeting, as summarised in the following table, are presented to Council for adoption.

Item	Topic
1.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed, discussed and noted the following end of financial year reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dandenong Market Pty Ltd Annual Financial Statements 2021-22• Dandenong Market Pty Ltd 2021-22 Annual Report• South East Leisure Pty Ltd Annual Financial Statements 2021-22• Draft Consolidated Annual Financial Statements and Council Performance Statement 2021-22• LGPRF 2021-22 End of Financial Year Summary
2.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed, discussed and noted the following reports with Council officers and the external auditor:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) – VAGO Closing Report and Draft Management Representation Letter for the Financial Year 2021-22• South East Leisure Pty Ltd (SEL) – VAGO Closing Report, Final Management Letter and Management Representation Letter for the Financial Year 2021-22• Greater Dandenong City Council consolidated – VAGO Closing Report, Final Management Letter and Management Representation Letter for the Financial Year 2021-22
3.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed its Annual Work Plan and Council's rolling Internal Control Environment Plan.</p>
4.	<p>The Audit and Risk Committee noted a number of Council reports submitted to the Committee which included the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary Financial Report 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022 (Interim)• Status on Internal Audit Actions• Internal Audit Program Update• Annual Leave Liability• Integrity Body Reports• Annual Freedom of Information Report 2021-2022• Annual report on Councillor Reimbursement of Expenses• Review of CEO and Councillor Purchasing Card Transactions 1 July 2021 – 30 June 2022

1.6 ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES (Cont.)

Note: Cr Jim Memeti disclosed a conflict of interest in any matters relating to the Dandenong Market as he is a Director of a company that has a stall at the market. He left the meeting during discussion and voting on any items pertaining to Dandenong Market Pty Ltd.

Recommendation

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 26 August 2022 be adopted.

2 OFFICERS' REPORTS - PART ONE

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR TABLING

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

File Id:	qA228025
Responsible Officer:	Manager Governance
Attachments:	Petitions and Joint Letters

Report Summary

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.

Issues raised by petitions and joint letters will be investigated and reported back to Council if required.

A table containing all details relevant to current petitions and joint letters is provided in Attachment 1. It includes:

1. **the full text of any petitions or joint letters received;**
2. petitions or joint letters still being considered for Council response as pending a final response along with the date they were received; and
3. 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.

Note: On occasions, submissions are received that are addressed to Councillors which do not qualify as petitions or joint letters under Council's current Governance Rules. These are also tabled.

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters (Cont.)

Petitions and Joint Letters Tabled

Council received no new petitions and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 10 October 2022.

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

Recommendation

That this report and Attachment be received and noted.

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters (Cont.)

DOCUMENTS FOR TABLING

PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

ATTACHMENT 1

PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

PAGES 6 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 1000.

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters (Cont.)

Date Received	• Petition Text (Prayer)	No. of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
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If the details of the attachment are unclear, please contact Governance on 8571 1000.

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3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC

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

QUESTIONS FROM THE GALLERY

Questions are limited to a maximum of three (3) questions per individual. Where time constraints deem it likely that not all questions can be answered within the time allowed for Question Time, the Mayor at his/her discretion may determine only the first question may be presented verbally with others deferred to be managed in the same manner as public questions not verbally presented. Priority will be given to questions that relate to items on the Council Agenda for that meeting. Questions including any preamble should not exceed 300 words.

a) All such questions must be received in writing on the prescribed form or as provided for on Council's website and at Ordinary meetings of Council. Where there are more than three (3) questions received from any one individual person, the Chief Executive Officer will determine the three (3) questions to be considered at the meeting.

b) All such questions must clearly note a request to verbally present the question and must be received by the Chief Executive Officer or other person authorised for this purpose by the Chief Executive Officer no later than:

- i) the commencement time (7.00pm) of the Ordinary meeting if questions are submitted in person; or
- ii) noon on the day of the Ordinary meeting if questions are submitted by electronic medium.

c) A question can only be presented to the meeting if the Chairperson and/or Chief Executive Officer has determined that the question:

- i) does not relate to a matter of the type described in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (confidential information);
- ii) does not relate to a matter in respect of which Council or a Delegated Committee has no power to act;
- iii) is not defamatory, indecent, abusive or objectionable in language or substance, and is not asked to embarrass a Councillor, Delegated Member or Council officer; and
- iv) is not repetitive of a question already asked or answered (whether at the same or an earlier meeting).

d) If the Chairperson and/or Chief Executive Officer has determined that the question may not be presented to the Council Meeting or Delegated Committee, then the Chairperson and/or Chief Executive Officer:

- i) must advise the Meeting accordingly; and
- ii) will make the question available to Councillors or Members upon request.

3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC (Cont.)

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

4 OFFICERS' REPORTS - PART TWO

4.1 POLICY AND STRATEGY

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25

File Id:	A9117024
Responsible Officer:	Director Community Services
Attachments:	Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25

1. Report Summary

The Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Attachment 1) results from the 10 March 2020 Council endorsement of a two-year Collective Impact Grant Program to develop an Anti-Poverty Strategy. The Strategy has been designed in partnership with a consortium of non-government service agencies that support vulnerable members of the community. This report outlines the Strategy development including consultation with over 120 community members sharing their lived experience of poverty, mapping of the service sector, and workshops with participation of diverse stakeholders.

The Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy is designed to be held by Council whilst offering opportunity and guidance for external stakeholders to contribute to delivering components of the strategy.

This report includes a proposal to provide additional resources to deliver the Strategy, funded from existing grant savings of \$395,663 over the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years.

At the Councillor briefing session on 19 September 2022 three (3) implementation resource options were presented to Councillors and they indicated a preference towards the option that provides the greatest impact that could be achieved for the Greater Dandenong community. This is the recommended option presented in this report.

2. Recommendation Summary

This report recommends that the Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 be endorsed by Council and that Council endorses increasing existing staff resourcing by 15.2 hours per week to 30 June 2023, and 38 hours per week from 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2025 inclusive. This is equivalent to the EFT component for the 2022-23 financial year being increased by 0.4 EFT from the date of endorsement until 30 June 2023 and a further 1.0 EFT per annum for financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25.

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

3. Background

In Australia a widely accepted poverty line is under 50 per cent of median income. Socio-economic disadvantage goes beyond economics, describing people within our community that cannot participate in activities many of us take for granted. Poverty can take place during any time within a lifespan; therefore, the Strategy needs to consider the diversity in the area.

The Victorian Council of Social Services (VCOSS) poverty map shows that the overall rates of Victorians living in poverty in individual suburbs in Greater Dandenong ranges from 18 per cent (Keysborough and Noble Park North) to 25 per cent (Dandenong).

Current sources, including 2021 Census first release findings, reveal high levels of financial hardship and poverty in Greater Dandenong across a range of measures:

- Average individual incomes are 74 per cent of the metropolitan average and the second lowest in Melbourne.
- Health care card holders form 7.1 per cent of the population, the third (3) highest level in Melbourne. This figure does not include people seeking asylum or some other visa types that are unable to access health care cards.
- Aged pension recipients equal 68 per cent of the population aged 65 years or more.
- Home ownership costs have trebled on average in the 25 years to 2021, from 3.2 to 10.3 the average household income.
- Rental affordability has dropped from 80 percent in 2000 to 9 per cent in 2022.
- Rent assistance is the highest rate in Victoria with 20 per cent of households, almost twice the metropolitan level of 11 per cent.
- English fluency is limited with 14 per cent having limited fluency, the highest level in Victoria.
- Unemployment is 8.6 per cent - the fourth (4) highest rate in Melbourne.
- EGM losses stood at \$103 million in 2021-22, a sum equivalent to \$802 per adult – nearly twice the metropolitan average and the second highest rate in Victoria.

Since June 2022 community agencies have reported an increased demand for support to maintain housing, provide emergency and food relief and financial counselling. Reported causes for this are the ongoing effects of COVID-19, compounded by the rise in cost of living, and additional support sought by new arrivals from Afghanistan and the Ukraine.

The Draft Strategy (Attachment 1) has been designed in partnership with a consortium of non-government service agencies that support vulnerable members of the community. The Draft Strategy has been informed through consultation with over 120 community members sharing their lived experience of poverty, mapping of the sector, and workshops with participation of diverse stakeholders.

4. Discussion

Development of the Draft Strategy has included reviewing data related to poverty and assessing the capacity of community members to access and navigate the support sector.

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

Data and service mapping

Mapping of relevant services in Greater Dandenong area finds there are significant numbers of services operating in the municipality:

Key learnings

- 459 registered charities within a 6km radius of Noble Park, including 213 serving financially disadvantaged people.
- 51 Job Service Agencies.
- 27 material aid providers within Greater Dandenong as a primary service area have been funded by Council or State Government during 2021-22.

Poverty is an issue for all of society, and if addressed benefits everyone. People in poverty have poorer health outcomes, levels of education and higher levels of social exclusion and stigma. People in poverty are rarely able to participate in initiatives that mitigate key issues such as climate change, gender equality or health.

Listening to people with lived experience of poverty is crucial to identifying individual and systemic issues and improving their outcomes.

People with lived experience of poverty did not know the extent of services available. Webpages and applications often relied upon by services are not always accessible to people experiencing poverty, due to the inability to afford data, often further complicated by language barriers.

Other barriers to service coordination and partnership are that many services: compete for limited funding; lack time and resources to improve coordination and referral pathways; have differing processes and priorities, and their funding providers are unable to share funding details with each other.

Services are passionate and hardworking, but capacity varies greatly from fully voluntary to professional and often competing for funding.

5. Proposal

This report proposes the Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 be endorsed by Council and that Council endorses increasing existing staff resourcing by 15.2 hours per week to 30 June 2023, and 38 hours per week from 1 July 2023 – 30 June 2025 inclusive. This is equivalent to the EFT component for the 2022-23 financial year being increased by 0.4 EFT from the date of endorsement until 30 June 2023 and a further 1.0 EFT per annum for financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25. This facilitates:

- 1EFT Band 6 role for duration of strategy (to June 2025) to:
 - **Full** coordination with current and future consortium members and other stakeholders and identify 'no-cost solutions' to barriers where possible.
 - **To support a codesign process for implementation of the Strategy with the voice of lived experience.**

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

- **Focal point for other levels of government to engage in Strategy.**
- **More capacity** to source **and apply for** external funding opportunities to support Council and community to deliver anti-poverty work.
- Future implementation of an Anti-Poverty **Collective Impact** Grants Program with \$75,000 budget for FY 2023-24 and 2024-25 for capacity supports and/or grants for innovative solutions for targeted priorities.
- Link existing funded initiatives into the Anti-Poverty Strategy.

6. Financial Implications

The financial implications associated with this report is \$394,530 until 30 June 2025 being funded from existing grant savings of \$395,663 over the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years from the Community Partnership Grant Funding Budget.

The current year financial cost compares to the amount included in the Annual Budget of \$160,000 and future year costs are included in identified savings in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

7. Consultation

The Anti-Poverty Strategy has been developed with significant consultation. This includes:

- An online survey open during October 2021.
- Individual interviews and case studies were conducted with over 100 community members who have lived experience of poverty.
- Four consultation workshops with community members who have lived experience of poverty. There were 44 participants in total.
- Interviews were undertaken with Council volunteers to gain a broader community perspective.
- Internal business units from across Council were consulted.
- The draft strategy was reviewed by consortium members and others involved in the consultation process
- Learning was consolidated and discussed at Anti-Poverty forum workshops with diverse stakeholders in March 2022.

8. Community Vision 2040 and Council Plan 2021-25 – Strategic Objectives, Strategies and Plans

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 Great 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.*

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community.

8.1 Community Vision 2040

This report is consistent with the Community Vision 2040 and its accompanying principles:

- Safe and peaceful community
- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities
- Sustainable environment
- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism
- Mind, Body and Spirit
- Art and Culture.

8.2 Council Plan 2021-25

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. This report is consistent with the following 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.

9. 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.

In its intention to reduce poverty, the Anti-Poverty Strategy strives to achieve the best outcomes for the municipal community and alleviate the harmful social and economic impacts of poverty as required under the act.

The Anti-Poverty strategy reflects a collaborative effort in advocacy and seeks to improve understanding and collaboration across all levels of government to reduce poverty.

The Anti-Poverty strategy seeks to improve the economic and social sustainability for individual community members and in doing so increase the opportunity for residents to engage in climate change initiatives.

The municipal community has been engaged in the consultation process and will continue to be engaged throughout the life of the Anti-Poverty Strategy, with the voice of lived experience centred in the conversation to reflect best practice.

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

This report will be considered by Council in an open public meeting and minutes of the meeting and decisions will be published reflects transparency in the way the strategy shall be considered as the act requires.

10. 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).

All matters relevant to the Victorian Human Rights Charter have been considered in the preparation of this report and are consistent with the standards set by the Charter. The Strategy, by addressing socio-economic disadvantage will reduce barriers to the right to take part in public life and other human rights identified in the Charter.

11. 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 Strategy explicitly advances this purpose, with its consideration of the needs, concerns and circumstances of women, men and gender diverse people, in its emphasis upon positive efforts to engage all genders in the consultation process and activities, and in affirming the importance of the prevention of violence and respect for the rights of women and others in our community to respect and equal opportunity. The Strategy acknowledges gender inequality is compounded by many forms of disadvantage particularly based on Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race. The Strategy seeks to enhance economic and social participation of all regardless of gender.

11.1 Gender Impact Assessment

The gender impact assessment toolkit provided by The Victorian Commission for Gender Equality in the Public Sector was used to create a gender impact assessment for The Strategy. The gender impact assessment will be reviewed on an annual basis to ensure actions developed under the Strategy align with the *Gender Equality Act 2020*.

The gender impact assessment recommended that all members of the community from vulnerable groups outlined in the impact assessment and mentioned at the beginning of the Anti-poverty Strategy be included in a co-design process to continue the implementation and development of the Anti-Poverty Strategy. Also, that current and future partners or funders have undergone gender and cultural competency training or be willing to do so.

Best practice indicates including people in the co design process helps to take ownership of the situation and allows for choices to be made by them instead of for them. The most vulnerable groups include women, LGBTQI+, single parents and people with stories of migration. Each of these groups have different needs therefore responses are to be tailored with special consideration to the most vulnerable in the community. This does not exclude other sectors of the community it ensures equity could be achieved.

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

12. 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.

People living in poverty are disproportionately affected by climate change. Studies link climate change to causes of poverty in the following area:

- Food Insecurity
- Drought/bush fire
- Energy poverty
- Food wastage
- Stewardship.

Studies linking poverty to climate change and sustainability believe you cannot solve one problem without investing in the other. The Strategy supports the Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 by supporting the most vulnerable in the community to engage in climate action.

13. Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

The following action plans and strategies are related to the Anti-Poverty strategy as they are referencing people most vulnerable as indicated in the Anti-Poverty Strategy or are related to long term sustainability goals of the Strategy.

- Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Thematic Plan
- Greater Dandenong Housing Strategy 2014-2024
- Greater Dandenong Community Safety Plan 2015-22
- Sustainability Strategy 2016-30
- Positive Aging Strategy 2017-2025
- Greater Dandenong Disability Action Plan 2017-23

The following policies are related to the Anti-Poverty Strategy as they guided the continuous development of the strategy

- Community Partnership Funding Policy 2019
- Diversity, Access and Equity Policy 2021
- Community Engagement Policy 2021

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

14. Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. endorses the Draft Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25; and**
- 2. endorses allocation of \$394,530 in grant savings over the 2022-23 and 2023-24 financial years to increase existing Anti-Poverty staff resourcing by 15.2 hours per week to 30 June 2023, and 38 hours per week from July 2023 – June 2025 inclusive. This is equivalent to the EFT component for the 2022-23 financial year being increase by 0.4 EFT from the date of endorsement until 30 June 2023 and a further 1.0 EFT per annum for financial years 2023-24 and 2024-25.**

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

POLICY AND STRATEGY

ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY 2022-25

ATTACHMENT 1

ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY 2022-25

PAGES 12 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 1000.

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



Introduction


Greater Dandenong City Council is committed to supporting all people within the community and understands that people experiencing poverty are often unable to participate in community life. People in poverty often must make difficult choices between paying the electricity bill or buying groceries. Poverty is a whole of community issue. By developing the Anti-Poverty Strategy Greater Dandenong Council aims for the city to be a place where people experiencing poverty have the power and resources to share in life's possibilities and potential.

Greater Dandenong City Council established a consortium made up of agencies working with people in poverty to guide the consultation process and connect Council with people experiencing poverty. The consortium and over 120 people with lived experience of poverty contributed to the development of the Strategy.

Defining poverty

Establishing a definition for people experiencing poverty is not easy. International poverty lines are set as a proportion of median income, and define a level of income, below which people are regarded as living in poverty. It is widely accepted in Australia economically to use 50 per cent of median income.

Socio-economic disadvantage goes beyond economics, describing people within our community that cannot participate in activities many of us take for granted. Poverty can take place during any time within a lifespan, therefore the strategy needs to consider the diversity in the area. We know that some people are disproportionately affected by poverty in our communities - women, migrants, refugees, people seeking asylum, young people, the LGBTQI+ community and seniors.



4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



Our community

Greater Dandenong is the most culturally diverse community in Australia, with 64 per cent of its residents born overseas, residents from 157 different birthplaces and languages other than English spoken by over two-thirds (70 per cent) of its residents – the highest level in the State.

Average individual incomes are 74per cent of the metropolitan average and the second lowest in Melbourne.

In the 2016 Census 31 per cent of local families with children had no parent in paid employment – the highest level in metropolitan Melbourne and substantially more than the State level of 19 per cent.

The 2020 Victorian Health Survey recorded that 13 per cent of residents of Greater Dandenong had run out of money to buy food at some time during the previous year – the second highest level of food insecurity in the state.

Unemployment rates in Greater Dandenong stood at 8.6 per cent in June 2021 – unemployment was highest in Dandenong at 12 per cent, lowest in Keysborough, at 5 per cent.

Population Level Outcome

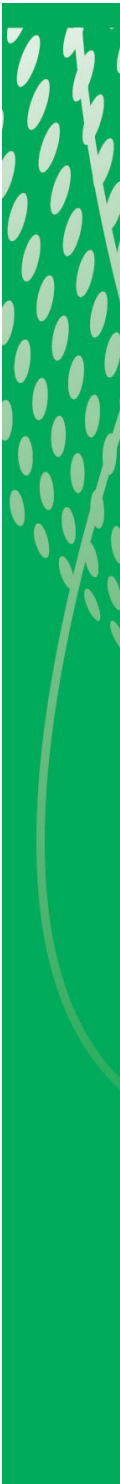
People currently living in poverty in the City of Greater Dandenong and surrounds have the power and resources to share in life's possibilities and potential.

About the Anti-Poverty Strategy

We know this work will take 10-15 years of effort and focus to achieve change at a population level. This Strategy is focused on the first 3 years of this journey. In this first 3 years there is a focus on:

- Lifting the voice of those with lived experience.
- Building a shared understanding of poverty.
- Strengthening the way we collaborate and work together to understand and challenge poverty.
- Engaging government and other decision makers - some who see tackling poverty as their work, and others who don't.
- Strengthening local/place-based community connection.

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



This Strategy, while informed by the past and the 'now', is about the future. Council understands that we are already holding work through the Anti-Poverty Consortium and that this Strategy will shift both how and what this work looks like.

Poverty will only decrease if we can make it everyone's business. It will take a collective effort from those who believe challenging poverty is their business and those who think it is not their role in the system and/or society.

Who will benefit from the Strategy

Council knows that some people are disproportionately affected by poverty in our communities - women, migrants, refugees, people seeking asylum, young people, the LGBTQI+ community and seniors. The Anti-Poverty Consortium will focus on cohorts within the Strategy based on evidence against the following:


- *Who is least empowered?*
- *Whose potential is most undermined by poverty in our community?*
- *What does the Anti-Poverty Consortium have the most control and influence over?*

If we work together to influence and create the conditions for people to move out of poverty, we all benefit. Council believes that we are all a part of the solution.

How we will know we are making an impact

We will undertake our work as learners, trying something, reflecting on our work together, and changing what we do as we learn what works. We will also stop doing what does not work.

We will measure the impact of what we do, not only the numbers of people we reach.



4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

Roles in delivering the Strategy

- The Council's role is to hold the Strategy as central to addressing poverty. This will require dedicated resourcing.
- Council will also resource and lead aspects of the work that align with the Council Plan, Council's Budget and other strategies within Council that align with the Anti-Poverty Strategy.
- The role of the Anti-Poverty Consortium is to lead the implementation of the Strategy.

Our work towards our desired outcome

<i>Domains of Work and Strategic Priorities</i>			
Shifting people's experience of poverty through a holistic, collaborative approach.	Services are 'serving' people experiencing poverty to achieve their goals.	Influence all levels of government to align policy and resources to prevent and address the impacts of poverty.	Strengthen and embed the voice of lived experience in addressing poverty to maximise impact of the work
<p><i>Priority 1:</i> Work across the system to minimise social isolation and the impacts.</p> <p><i>Priority 2:</i> Challenge stigma associated with poverty.</p> <p><i>Priority 3:</i> Influence those who work in systems impacted by poverty.</p>	<p><i>Priority 4:</i> Increase service accessibility.</p> <p><i>Priority 5:</i> Work within the rhythm of the community.</p> <p><i>Priority 6:</i> Utilise the voice of lived experience in service design.</p>	<p><i>Priority 7:</i> Increase connections with, between and across governments.</p> <p><i>Priority 8:</i> Increase alignment of policy and practice.</p> <p><i>Priority 9:</i> Improve how data is used for decision making, progress and impact.</p> <p><i>Priority 10:</i> Maximise influence in policy and funding effecting locally led and locally relevant strategies to address poverty.</p>	<p><i>Priority 11:</i> Lift hope for the future for people living in poverty.</p> <p><i>Priority 12:</i> Place the voice of those experiencing poverty at the centre of decisions that impact them.</p>

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

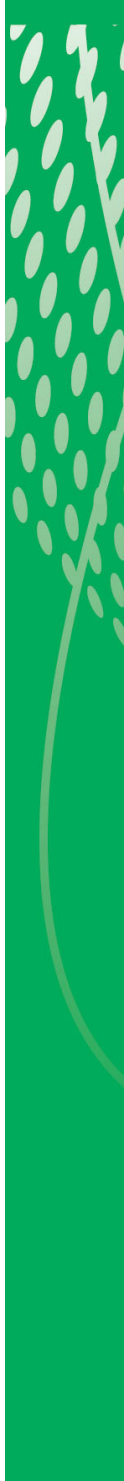
**Domain 1:
 Shifting people's experience of poverty through a holistic, collaborative approach.**

What is being called for

- Efforts are aligned to understand poverty, its causes, the experiences of those living with poverty and how we tackle this together
- Poverty is decoupled from shame
- The causes of poverty are being addressed through collaboration
- Women, migrants, seniors and young people to access employment and education opportunities to get out of poverty

Strategic Priorities and Motivation (What we will work on and why)	Strategic Actions (How we will achieve our priorities)
<p><i>Priority 1:</i> Work across the system to minimise social isolation and the impacts. <i>Community connection and participation is critical in addressing poverty.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and address factors that are contributing to social isolation for people experiencing poverty in CGD • Develop community connection and participation opportunities for people experiencing poverty in ways that build equity and reduce stigma
<p><i>Priority 2:</i> Challenge stigma associated with poverty. <i>Poverty is a structural issue that requires us to remove the label from the people and focus on systems that perpetuate poverty.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a shared understanding of 'poverty' and its causes • Build capacity across the system to work with the voice of lived experience rather than those speaking on behalf of such people • Develop messaging and communication strategies to re-frame poverty in CGD and surrounds • Build a shared language around poverty, causes, impacts that reduces stigma

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



<p><i>Priority 3: Influence those who work in systems impacted by poverty. When people move out of poverty, everyone benefits. This is not for specialist services to tackle but for everyone.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an understanding of the 'ecosystem' of poverty • Connect anti-poverty work with other local collaborative efforts in housing, education and employment • Connect anti-poverty work with local collaborative work in mental health and other forms of disability because mental health issues are both a consequence of poverty and a cause of poverty • Engage people who do not see their role as addressing or responding to poverty but work in and contribute to related areas such as job or wealth creation
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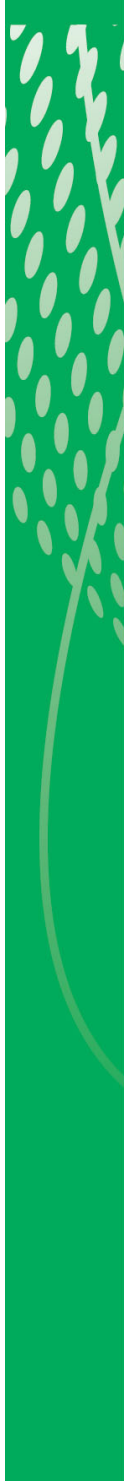
Domain 2:
Services are 'serving' people experiencing poverty to achieve their goals.

- What is being called for
- People are part of shaping solutions that impact them
 - Services are deeply connected with people experiencing poverty in their own communities
 - Service access is equitable, seamless and local
 - Services meet the needs of people experiencing poverty in ways that work for them

<p>Strategic Priorities and Motivation (What we will work on and why)</p> <p><i>Priority 4: Increase service accessibility. Being able to access local services that are connected to people experiencing poverty in their own communities builds equity.</i></p>	<p>Strategic Actions (How we will achieve our priorities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understand and challenge exclusion from programs due to eligibility criteria • Establish 'smaller' gateways in local communities (suburbs) to facilitate access and communication with the service system actors • Advocate for accessible services in line with what people experiencing poverty are calling for
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4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



<p><i>Priority 5: Work within the rhythm of the community. Service providers understanding the community by connecting with people living in poverty in their own communities is vital to achieve success.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide and maximise networking and communication structures and processes across the service system based on 'place' (LGA, suburb) not issue (e.g. housing, education, health) • Identify key place based, grassroots agencies that can act as connectors and communicators between community and services • Utilise how people connect and get their information within their local area to communicate to work with and for community
<p><i>Priority 6: Utilise the voice of lived experience in service design. Bringing the wisdom and expertise of people with lived experience in the design, delivery and evaluation of services improves service outcomes and impact.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify safe places for the voice of lived experience to inform the work on an ongoing basis • Identify organisations who are holding the voice of lived experience in the design and delivery of their work. Share how to do this with others in the service system • Promote co-design of service solutions with people living in poverty

**Domain 3:
 Influence all levels of government to align policy and resources to prevent and address the impacts of poverty.**

What is being called for

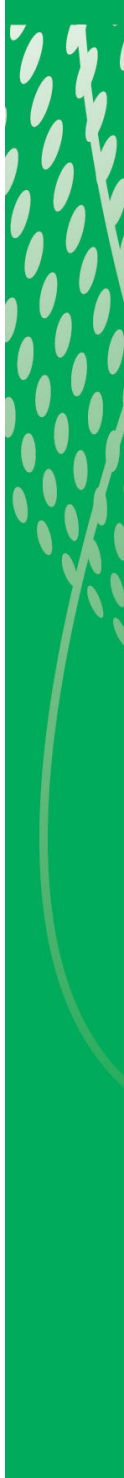
- Policies align to positively impact the lives of people experiencing poverty
- Policy and funding decisions are based on deep understanding of community context
- Resources are allocated and aligned to prevent poverty
- Policies work for everyone in addressing and preventing poverty
- Policies reflect and build equity (e.g. gender equity, financial equity)



4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)

Strategic Priorities and Motivation (What we will work on and why)	Strategic Actions (How we will achieve our priorities)
<p><i>Priority 7: Increase connections with, between and across governments. Connections improve collaboration between and within levels of government.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximise existing and future communication mechanisms across local and other jurisdictions to influence relevant policy and resource allocation • Include cross jurisdictional (local, state and federal governments) representatives in networking opportunities • Include cross jurisdictional (local, state and federal governments) representatives in designing and tackling solutions to poverty within the CGD • Work collaboratively between the Anti-Poverty Consortium and the Community Revitalisation Partnership and other key partnerships impacting on poverty
<p><i>Priority 8: Increase alignment of policy and practice. Aligning work to address poverty with work on other influencing factors will improve collaboration and effectiveness.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish an 'anti-poverty' impact indicator that would apply across various policies • Align policy and strategies across CGD Council and consortium organisations that impact on poverty • Align the Anti-Poverty Strategy and the Economic development and employment work with all strategies across the CGD Council
<p><i>Priority 9: Improve how data is used with for decision making, progress and impact. Improving how data is used to make decisions and the role everyone plays in this improves quality and impact while building equity.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop information sharing processes to inform change within State and Federal government portfolios • Develop two-way communication and learning cycles using data, with community as well as funders and policy makers • Influence for sharing of data with services, community and collaborators to learn and shape solutions to address poverty with governments • Establish connections to share information, learning and relationships to work across issue and community boundaries

4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



<p><i>Priority 10: Maximise influence in policy and funding effecting locally led and locally relevant strategies to address poverty. Policy and funding strengthens our work when it aligns with the objectives of our strategy.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bring the voice of the community directly to government decision makers across government bureaucracy • Learn what problems/issues are facing government and offer local solutions when these issues are impacting on poverty • Maximise and seek specific and locally relevant funding to catalyse local solutions • Influence funders to evaluate impact, not just throughputs • Maximise opportunities for greater alignment between government levels on policy and investment to lift the voice of those living in poverty and to provide scaffolding of poverty
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Domain 4: Strengthen and embed the voice of lived experience in addressing poverty to maximise impact of the work

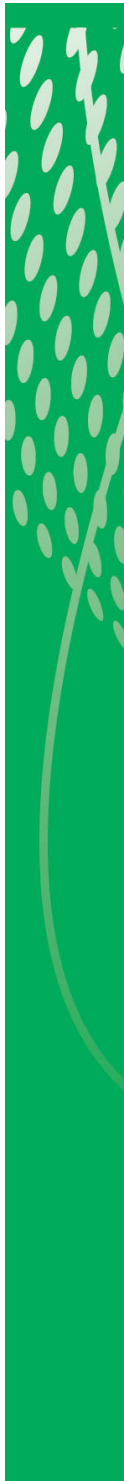
What is being called for

- People living in poverty feel hopeful for a better future
- People feel heard and empowered
- People have a voice in policy design and resource allocation
- People have a sense of hope and confidence they can achieve their goals

<p>Strategic Priorities and Motivation (What we will work on and why)</p> <p>Priority 11: Lift hope for the future for people living in poverty. <i>People without hope do not believe their voice is important enough to be heard.</i></p>	<p>Strategic Actions (How we will achieve our priorities)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a sense of belonging in the community for those living in poverty • Use the voice of those who have or are moving out of poverty to convey hope to others • Celebrate success stories through videos - people need to see it
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4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



<p>Priority 12: Place the voice of those experiencing poverty at the centre of decisions that impact them.</p> <p><i>Change happens when we bring peoples thinking to build understanding, not just solutions.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provide resources to local community enabling critical thinking and choice in making decisions about their economic and social participation• Utilise community spaces to engage local community in places where they live• Develop 'voice inclusion' strategies for and with specific groups of people (Women/ children/LGBTQ+ and young people need approaches specific to their needs)• Use community voice to advocate within the political and broader systems• Make community a part of the process - bring all stakeholders and decision makers to conversations locally (not just advocacy)• Ensure opportunities and mechanisms for connection are culturally and linguistically appropriate and embrace the diversity of our community
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4.2 OTHER

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022

File Id:	A9112636
Responsible Officer:	Director Community Services
Attachments:	Arts Advisory Board Terms of Reference

1. Report Summary

The formation of the Arts Advisory Board was endorsed on 26 June 2017. The endorsed Terms of Reference (Attachment 1) articulate the purpose and objectives of the Board, and provide for appropriate and relevant membership, advice and collaboration.

This report identifies the process of seeking new independent Arts Advisory Board Member nominations and recommends two (2) members accordingly.

A total of 12 nominations were received for two (2) vacant positions, each applicant was assessed against the key selection criteria, along with phone interviews and referee checks.

This report also recommends that three (3) current independent members of the Arts Advisory Board have their tenure extended by an additional 12 months to compensate for COVID-19 lockdowns, which hindered the opportunity to actively participate as Board Members.

2. Recommendation Summary

This report recommends that Council:

- Endorse the two (2) proposed nominees to join the Arts Advisory Board.
- Extend the Term of Appointment for existing Arts Advisory Board Members until 2 March 2025.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

3. Background

On 26 June 2017 Council initially endorsed the formation of the Arts Advisory Board, with the Terms of Reference being updated and endorsed by Council on 30 November 2020.

The Arts Advisory Board is an advisory group that supports Council's vision for arts and culture across Greater Dandenong, including the delivery of *Discover/ Create / Share* City of Greater Dandenong Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022-2026. Including, providing strategic input, advocacy and specialised knowledge to assist in steering the growth and support of arts in the city.

The Arts Advisory Board membership is supported by three (3) current and active Working Groups, all chaired by Arts Advisory Board members and providing ongoing advice to support the actions of the board. These include:

- Public Art Working Group
- Community Connections Working Group
- The Drum Working Group.

The Arts Advisory Board Terms of Reference stipulate that that the Board will consist of up to five independent members and will include representatives from the following:

- Councillor representative/s (appointed as part of the Annual Statutory process)
- One Council Senior Officer
- Up to five (5) external independent persons.

In October 2021 and April 2022, two (2) of the five (5) independent members tendered their resignation, each due to unique individual circumstances. It was decided to advertise for both vacancies in a single campaign, after the endorsement of the new Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy, in order to ensure candidates could align with the most up to date policy direction.

4. Proposal

Call for Nominations

A call for nominations for independent members of the Board was open to the public from Monday 18 July until Sunday 14 August 2022.

Twelve independent member applications were received via direct email or an online nomination form, with two (2) independent member vacancies available.

Assessment of Applications

The nominations received were of a high calibre of experience and community awareness and were received locally and from across Melbourne. Each application was assessed against the selection criteria as outlined in the Terms of Reference:

- Relevant demonstrated experience and expertise.
- Sound knowledge and understanding of local issues that are relevant to their interest area.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

- Knowledge and experience with community and/or business networks and linkages within the City of Greater Dandenong.
- Reasoning as to their passion for arts in Greater Dandenong.
- Previous Board and/or Committee experience.

In addition, the current Arts Advisory Board recognised areas of additional experience and expertise that would also be highly beneficial. These were listed as part of all advertising and promotions and considered at the time of assessment.

- First Nations arts.
- Refugee and/or Asylum Seeker arts.
- Creative or cultural facilities.
- Creative industry / business.
- Marketing.
- Philanthropy / fundraising / sponsorship.
- Cultural tourism.
- Local artists from within the City of Greater Dandenong were also encouraged to apply.

As per the Terms of Reference, a selection panel was convened to assess nominations and make a recommendation to Council for consideration and endorsement.

Panel members included:

- Acting Director Community Services
- Acting Manager Community Arts, Culture and Library Services
- Coordinator Arts and Cultural Development
- Coordinator Drum Theatre.

Once a shortlist was compiled, interviews, reference checks and pre-requisite checks were also completed.

New Arts Advisory Board Members

The two (2) recommended individuals for the Arts Advisory Board vacancies have extensive leadership and committee experience, industry knowledge and passion as well as high level understanding of the arts sector.

Their skillsets and expertise complement those of other independent board members.

Proposed New Members

Emily Siddons

Emily is a senior leader in the arts and cultural sector specialising in exhibitions, programming and audience development with extensive experience across major organisations including:

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

- Museums Victoria
- The National Gallery of Victoria
- The Australian Centre for the Moving Image.

Emily is currently occupying a leadership role as Exhibition and Programs Manager at the National Communications Museum, the storage facility of which is located in Dandenong. Emily holds a Curatorial PhD exploring new models of engagement for museums. Emily also brings an in depth understanding and experience of funding structures, audience development strategies and experimental arts across multiple disciplines.

Leng Te

Leng brings sixteen years of experience in strategic communications and marketing, including eleven years for creative industries courses. In addition, Leng was the former operations director for an arts production company; a magazine editor for a not-for-profit organisation; a published author of *Inspiring Stories for Youth*; and winner of the Young Australian Christian Writer's Award. Leng is a songwriter and musician with multiple recorded projects, including a full-length album (*Garden of Delights*) and music written for Salvation Army resources and short films.

Leng is a long-term resident of the City of Greater Dandenong and as such feels an understanding of many of the needs of its residents, including some understanding of how people engage with its arts spaces and programs. As a person with a refugee background, Leng also understands first-hand the issues faced by newly arrived residents.

Extension of Term of Appointment (current members)

The term of appointment for members of the Arts Advisory Board is for a three-year period. The term for current members is due to conclude on 2 March 2024.

Given the major disruptions to operations and programming due to COVID-19 lockdowns, along with reduced membership due to resignations, it is proposed to extend the term of appointment for all current members to 2 March 2025. This will enable all members to be active and contribute to the Board and local community for the entire term of their appointment.

The current membership endorsed on 22 February 2021 and requested for extension includes:

- Roh Singh – Arts Advisory Board Chair
- Oz Malik – Chair of Community Connections Working Group
- Mish Eisen – Chair of Public Art Working Group.

5. Financial Implications

The financial implications associated with this report involve a cost in the current financial year of \$3,000 per annum per ordinary independent member and \$5,000 per annum for the chairperson, totalling \$17,000 from 2022-2023 operational budget. Anticipated ongoing costs in future years is \$17,000 per annum.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

The current year financial cost compares to the amount included in the Annual Budget of \$17,255 and future year costs are included in Council's Long Term Financial Plan.

6. Consultation

A public call for nominations was undertaken over a 28-day period and utilised a broad range of promotional channels including:

- print and digital avenues
- local media
- national arts sector advertising and
- e-newsletters (both national and local).

Incumbent members of the Arts Advisory Board were consulted in the lead up to the nominations being advertised and were requested to share the opportunity through their networks.

All applicants were assessed in relation to the selection criteria included in the Arts Advisory Board Terms of Reference.

7. Community Vision 2040 and Council Plan 2021-25 – Strategic Objectives, Strategies and Plans

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 Great 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.*

7.1 Community Vision 2040

This report is consistent with the Community Vision 2040 and its accompanying principles:

- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities
- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism
- Mind, Body and Spirit
- Art and Culture.

7.2 Council Plan 2021-25

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

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

- 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 city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes
- A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.

8. 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.

This report takes into consideration the overarching governance principles and explains through the various sections how this activity has addressed the relevant key areas.

9. 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).

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

- Section 13 – Right to privacy and reputation;
- Section 14 – Right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief;
- Section 15 – Right to freedom of expression;
- Section 16 – Right to peaceful assembly and freedom of association;
- Section 18 – Right to have the opportunity to take part in public life and to vote;
- Section 19 – Right to enjoy one's culture, practice religion or use one's own language and in the case of Aboriginal persons, the right to have distinct cultural rights.

10. 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 topic (of this report) is purely administrative in nature and does not benefit any one gender group over any other.

11. 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.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

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.

This report has no impact on Council’s Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council’s Climate Change Emergency Strategy 2020-2030 or the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching governance principle on climate change and sustainability. As it is administrative in nature. However, this will be considered in all Arts Advisory Committee actions.

12. Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

This item directly relates to *Discover/ Create / Share* City of Greater Dandenong Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022 - 2026. It also links to the Council Plan – specifically strategic objective 2: *A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.*

Activity of the Arts Advisory Board and working groups also relates and/or contributes to:

- Asset Management Strategy
- Community Development Framework
- Children’s Plan
- Open Space Strategy
- Libraries Strategy
- Placemaking Framework

This item increases the level of service that we are providing to the community.

13. Conclusion

The Arts Advisory Board is an advisory group that supports Council’s vision for arts and culture across Greater Dandenong and supports delivery of the *Discover/ Create / Share* City of Greater Dandenong Arts, Culture and Heritage Strategy 2022 - 2026. Including providing strategic input, advocacy and specialised knowledge to assist in steering the growth and support of arts in the city.

Following two (2) vacancies of independent members of the Arts Advisory Board, applications were sought from the public to nominate for these positions over a 28 day period. Twelve applications were received and were assessed against the selection criteria as outlined in Arts Advisory Board Terms of Reference (Attachment 1). Two (2) applicants are recommended for endorsement as new independent members of the Arts Advisory Board 2022 to 2025.

Three (3) current independent members sit on the Arts Advisory Board. They have experienced significant disruptions to fully participate in their roles due to COVID-19 lockdowns and subsequent restrictions on operations and programming. Therefore, it is proposed to extend their term of appointment by twelve months to 2 March 2025.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

14. Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. endorses the recommended applicants, Emily Siddons and Leng Te as independent members of the Arts Advisory Board until 2025; and**

- 2. endorses the extension of the current independent members of the Arts Advisory Board:**
 - Roh Singh – Arts Advisory Board Chair;**
 - Oz Malik – Chair of Community Connections Working Group; and**
 - Mish Eisen – Chair of Public Art Working Group until 2 March 2025.**

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

OTHER

**ARTS ADVISORY BOARD NEW COMMITTEE MEMBER NOMINATIONS -
2022**

ATTACHMENT 1

**ARTS ADVISORY BOARD TERMS OF
REFERENCE**

PAGES 9 (including cover)

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

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)



Arts Advisory Board

Terms of Reference

PURPOSE

The Arts Advisory Board has been established to support Greater Dandenong's vision for arts and culture across the municipality and provide strategic input, advocacy and specialised knowledge to guide Council's efforts to promote, support and grow arts in the City of Greater Dandenong. The key role of the Board is to provide independent advice and monitor and oversee the implementation of the City of Greater Dandenong Arts and Cultural Heritage Strategy.

The Arts Advisory Board replaces a number of related Advisory Committees and expands and builds on their previous scope, duties and responsibilities to advise Council on a diverse and comprehensive range of matters regarding arts and culture.

The City of Greater Dandenong plays a key role in the planning, development and support of arts and culture throughout the city. The Arts Advisory Board will address issues supporting arts and culture including:

- Oversight of the Arts and Cultural Heritage Strategy and other strategic plans such as the Drum Theatre Strategic Plan.
- Cultural venues – Heritage Hill Museum, Arts Centre and Historic Garden, Walker Street Gallery and Arts Centre, Masonic Hall Dandenong and Drum Theatre.
- Cultural participation including arts programs, projects, festivals and events.
- Support of community arts initiatives.
- Creative aspects of the built and public environment including public art.
- Support and development of local and emerging artists.
- Partnerships, funding and advocacy.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Arts Advisory Board are to:

- Provide advice to Council regarding the strategic direction for arts and culture.
- Provide high-level input into the planning and management processes for arts and cultural venues and programs.
- Provide high-level advice and influence required to guide arts capital investment outcomes.
- Balance community benefit with the strategic oversight of Council's capital and operational investments for the arts.
- Consider and advocate for funding and sponsorship opportunities as they arise.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

- Advise Council on effective marketing and visitor attraction strategies for arts and cultural venues and programs.
- Develop and promote interest in the arts.
- Support and develop local and emerging artists.
- Support community arts initiatives.
- Consider and provide advice on key Government initiatives, issues, programs and reviews.
- Monitor community feedback and changing trends regarding arts and culture engagement.

REPORTING REQUIREMENT

In accordance with Council's statutory reporting, a yearly report will be provided to Council. The nominated Councillor/s will have the opportunity to speak to the report on behalf of the Arts Advisory Board. Advice may also be provided to Council through Infosum to Councillors or a scheduled Councillor Briefing Session.

TERM OF APPOINTMENT

The Arts Advisory Board is an advisory group appointed by Council. The Advisory Board's role is to report to Council and provide appropriate advice and recommendations on matters relevant to these Terms of Reference in order to facilitate decision-making by Council. The process for appointment to the Advisory Board will be undertaken for all members in accordance with the selection process outlined in these Terms of Reference.

Independent members will be appointed to the Board for a period up to 3 years.

MEMBERSHIP

The Arts Advisory Board will consist of up to five (5) independent members and will include representatives from the following:

- Councillor representative/s (appointed as part of the annual statutory process)
- One Council Senior Officer
- Up to five (5) external independent persons
 - At least one will need to represent the interests of the local arts community.
 - At least one will need to be a local artist (in any form) and represent the interests of the local artist community.

Members of Arts Advisory Board are free to resign at any time. Should vacancies arise due to resignation or inability to attend the minimum number of meetings during the life of this Advisory Board, these shall be addressed through the Selection Process.

If Council receives a request for membership in addition to the appointed members, such a request will only be considered if a vacancy exists.

In the event of a vacancy on the Advisory Board being created for any reason, the position shall be filled through the process described the Selection Process. The Board may resolve to leave the vacancy unfilled for an agreed period of time.

The term for any member appointed part way through the life of the Arts Advisory Board shall expire in line with the other members of the Advisory Board.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

ROLE OF THE COUNCILLOR/S

One or more Councillors shall normally be appointed annually at the Special Council meeting to determine Councillor Representation on Advisory Committees or otherwise by Council resolution. A substitute Councillor can be nominated to attend should the appointed Councillor(s) be unavailable. Should Councillors be nominated on the Arts Advisory Board, the Councillor(s) will:

- Be appointed by Council in accordance with the annual statutory Council appointments
- Act as a link between Council and the Arts Advisory Board
- At all times act in accordance with the Code of Conduct – Councillors, 12th Edition.

ROLE OF THE COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEMBER

A senior Council Executive member (non-voting) shall be nominated by Council's Chief Executive Officer and reported to Council at the Special Council Meeting referred to above to appoint the Councillor members.

ROLE OF THE CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson shall be an external independent member appointed by Council for purposes of the inaugural Advisory Board and then elected annually by the members. In the absence of the Chairperson from a meeting, the meeting will appoint an acting Chairperson who shall still be an external independent member.

ROLE OF THE EXTERNAL INDEPENDENT PERSONS

Council will endeavor to appoint external independent members that bring a range of complementary skills to the Advisory Board. Appointments of external persons shall be made by Council resolution and be for a three (3) year term. Members can only be appointed for three consecutive terms.

Remuneration will be paid to each external independent member of the Arts Advisory Board at the rate of \$3000 per annum for a Member and \$5000 per annum for the Chairperson.

SELECTION PROCESS

External independent members of the Arts Advisory Board will be achieved by calling for nominations. Specific representatives may also be invited to nominate. A nomination form must be completed by interested representatives and all nominations will be assessed against the Criteria for Membership.

CRITERIA FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

Nominees for membership of an Arts Advisory Board must be able to demonstrate:

- Senior experience and expertise in the following areas:
 - Performing arts
 - Arts and cultural activities
 - Business

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

- Finance
- Marketing, communications and promotions
- Fundraising, philanthropy and sponsorship
- Government relations
- Tourism
- An ability to constructively participate in an advisory capacity and exercise a range of views that reflect the diversity of the community
- Sound knowledge and understanding of local issues that are relevant to the interest area
- Knowledge and experience with community and/or business networks and linkages within the Greater Dandenong
- A willingness to contribute positively to meetings in a fair and unbiased manner
- An ability to look beyond personal interests for the benefit of the community and residents of Greater Dandenong
- A capacity to commit to the Arts Advisory Board for the required duration
- A willingness to the commit time and contribute to Arts Advisory Board activities and tasks outside regular board meetings

SELECTION PANEL

When the appointment of members of the Arts Advisory Board is required and nominations are received, the following selection panel shall convene:

- A Senior member of Council (CEO or Director)
- A Council Senior staff member from a service area that is relevant to the Arts Advisory Board.

All nominations will be assessed by the selection panel against the selection criteria.

A recommendation about the membership of the Arts Advisory Board will then be made for the consideration and endorsement of Council.

It is noted that once the Arts Advisory Board has been appointed, the selection panel will be disbanded.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

Through advice and timely information from the Arts Advisory Board, Council will be better informed and equipped to promote, support and grow arts in the City of Greater Dandenong.

Specific responsibilities of the Arts Advisory Board are to:

- Provide advice to Council for supporting and investing in arts and culture across the municipality, through
 - provision of quality facilities
 - diverse and accessible programs and projects
 - strong business and community partnerships
 - support of local and emerging artists
 - support of community arts initiatives
 - increasing participation of Greater Dandenong residents and visitors in Council and community initiated arts programs and initiatives
- Provide advice to Council on the implementation of relevant arts and cultural strategies

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

- Strengthen advocacy and act as champion for the arts in Greater Dandenong
- Provide a forum for discussion on arts industry trends and best practice in both the Local Government and arts sectors
- Represent the interests of all members in the community and act in the best interests of Council
- Act with integrity, confidentiality and objectivity.

MEETINGS OF THE ARTS ADVISORY BOARD

The Arts Advisory Board will meet a minimum of four times per year and at least once every quarter. Additional meetings will be convened at the discretion of the Chairperson or at the written request of any member of the Arts Advisory Board.

A schedule of meetings will be developed and agreed to by the members annually.

Under special circumstances a meeting may be cancelled or re-scheduled.

All meetings shall be held in a central Council venue to be decided by the Advisory Board.

WORKING GROUP/S

Working groups of the Arts Advisory Board will be established within six (6) months of the initial meeting of the Advisory Board. Working groups will report to and be chaired by one of the members of the Arts Advisory Board. Working groups will have a defined purpose i.e. they may be set up for a particular project, field of arts or particular stakeholder group.

The Advisory Board will refine the role, responsibility and resourcing of working groups, ensuring that overall responsibilities of the working groups are to:

- Ensure broad and diverse representation of the local community in arts interests.
- Provide information and feedback to the Arts Advisory Board on arts issues.
- Advocate for arts and arts engagement across the municipality.
- Support the implementation of relevant arts and cultural strategies.
- Implement particular actions or roles of the Advisory Board.

The Advisory Board will retain the ability to conclude the working groups or the groups' formal relationship with the Advisory Board at its discretion and/or at the achievement of its objectives.

Working groups will consist of a broad and diverse representation of the local community including, but not limited to:

- Residents
- Artists and creators
- Businesses
- Schools, (Primary, Secondary, and/or Tertiary)
- Community Groups
- Community Agencies
- Other

The Working groups will meet a minimum of two (2) times per year and at least once every financial half year. Additional meetings will be convened by the Arts Advisory Board, as

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

required. The activities of the working groups will be reported at meetings of the Arts Advisory Board.

Council staff will provide administrative support and service expertise to the Working groups.

ATTENDANCE AND RECORD OF MEETINGS

All meetings will have an agenda. Minutes of the meeting will record attendees, apologies, decisions and actions.

The Chairperson will oversee the preparation of the agenda in consultation with Council staff. It is noted that any member may submit agenda items prior to the finalisation and distribution of the agenda.

Council staff will provide administrative support and service expertise to the Arts Advisory Board and will ensure the timely preparation and distribution of agendas and minutes.

Advisory Board members will be expected to demonstrate their commitment and due diligence by the preparation for, attendance at, and active participation in, Advisory Board meetings. It is expected that each member of the Arts Advisory Board will attend a minimum of four meetings each year.

CHAIRPERSON

The Chairperson will be selected from the membership by the Advisory Board.

The appointed Chairperson is responsible for the conduct of meetings, ensuring fair and equitable opportunities for views to be discussed by all members of the Advisory Board.

QUORUM AND VOTING

Decisions requires a quorum of three (3), comprising at least two (2) external independent members.

It is preferable that decisions are made at meetings by reaching a consensus; however there may be circumstances where a matter is decided by a vote. Each member is entitled to one vote, except that the Chairperson may exercise a casting vote.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Local Government Act identifies direct and indirect conflicts of interest which require disclosure as and when they arise. Members of the Advisory Board must be fully aware of their responsibilities with regard to the management of interests in relation to the discharge of their duties as a member of the Advisory Board.

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE

The relevant Director will determine the appropriate officers to attend the Advisory Board meetings from time to time. Officers may also be co-opted to attend Working Group meetings as required.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)

REPORTING

The Advisory Board shall report annually to the Council summarising the activities of the Advisory Board during the previous financial year.

The Chairperson may be invited to attend Councillor Briefing Sessions on an "as needs basis" as part of the Advisory Board's performance report to Council.

GENERAL

The Advisory Board should address issues brought to the attention of the Advisory Board including responding to requests from Council for advice that are within the parameters of the Advisory Board's Terms of Reference.

4.2.1 Arts Advisory Board New Committee Member Nominations - 2022 (Cont.)



Code of Conduct for Members of the Arts Advisory Board

Iagree to:

- ✓ Attend Advisory Board meetings and provide apologies in advance where attendance is not possible.
- ✓ Act in an advisory capacity by disseminating authorised information within the community and provide insight and advice into arts sector and community perspectives.
- ✓ Seek at all times to obtain and represent the views of the broader community.
- ✓ Respect the ideas and beliefs of all members and provide an atmosphere where all members feel comfortable to participate.
- ✓ Contribute in a positive way to finding solutions to issues or concerns.
- ✓ At all times act in good faith, with honesty and integrity and apply the skills and expertise I possess with diligence and care.
- ✓ Notify Council of any potential conflict of interest that may arise with respect to my participation on the Advisory Board.
- ✓ Allow Council to promote my participation in the Advisory Board in order to promote, support and grow arts in the City of Greater Dandenong.
- ✓ Not disseminate confidential information that is discussed at the Advisory Board meetings as advised by the Advisory Board chair.
- ✓ Not make any media comment on behalf of the Advisory Board in relation to the project unless approved by the Advisory Board chair.
- ✓ At all times act in accordance with the Agreed Meeting Etiquette.
- ✓ Declare any conflict of interest, direct or indirect, which may impact on my ability to carry out my duties with impartiality.

Signed: _____

Name: _____

Date: _____

Arts Advisory Board

4.2.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings

File Id: fA25545
Responsible Officer: Manager Governance

1. Report Summary

As part of Council's ongoing efforts to improve transparency in Council processes, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be of a confidential nature) are reported on at Council meetings.

The matters listed in this report were presented to Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings for the period 19-26 September 2022.

2. Recommendation Summary

This report recommends that the information contained within it be received and noted.

4.2.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (Cont.)

3. Background

The Executive Management Team and associated staff at Greater Dandenong City Council host Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meeting on a regular basis (weekly) to inform Councillors about the work officers are undertaking, share information, obtain feedback and discuss strategies and options for current and future work.

To ensure transparency in this process matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be confidential under the *Local Government Act 2020*) are reported on at Council meetings. This report represents matters discussed at the Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings for the period 19-26 September 2022.

4. Matters Presented for Discussion

Item		Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting
1.	<p><i>Arts Advisory Board – New Committee Member</i></p> <p>Councillors were provided with an overview of proposed Arts Advisory Board member nominations for consideration and feedback prior to being endorsed by Council. It was also proposed that current members of the Board have their tenure extended by an additional 12 months to compensate for the pandemic lockdowns.</p>	<p><i>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 September 2022</i></p>
2.	<p><i>Events Review</i></p> <p>Councillors were provided with a summary of current practices and trends for each annual Council-delivered event and discussed improvement recommendations and options with Council officers.</p>	<p><i>CBS – 19 September 2022</i></p>
3.	<p><i>Dandenong Community Hub Variations (x3) and Costing Estimates</i></p> <p>After a number of community consultations, information sessions and Councillor workshops in 2021 and early 2022, Councillors were provided with three alternative building layout models for the proposed Dandenong Community Hub incorporating costing estimates for each option and an updated demographic profile for the immediate surrounding area. Further community consultation and information sessions on the three options will be scheduled.</p>	<p><i>CBS – 19 September 2022</i></p>

4.2.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (Cont.)

4.	<i>Anti-Poverty Strategy</i> Subsequent to endorsing a two-year Collective Impact Grant Program on 10 March 2020, Councillors were provided with a proposed Anti-Poverty Strategy which was designed in partnership with a consortium of non-government service agencies that support vulnerable members of the community.	<i>CBS – 19 September 2022</i>
5.	<i>Discussion</i> Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: a. safety in Greater Dandenong; b. proposals to redevelop Dandenong Plaza; and c. a major crime that recently occurred in Noble Park.	
6.	<i>Discussion</i> Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: a. Australia Day Award nomination closing date; b. Greater Dandenong table tennis feasibility study and options; c. the Keysborough South Community Hub tender process (CONFIDENTIAL); d. options for a candidate forum leading into the State elections; and e. Agenda items for the Council Meeting of 26 September 2022.	<i>Pre-Council Meeting – 26 September 2022</i>

5. Apologies

- There were no apologies received.

6. Community Vision 2040 and Council Plan 2021-25 – Strategic Objectives, Strategies and Plans

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:

4.2.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (Cont.)

*The City of Great 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.*

6.1 Community Vision 2040

This report is consistent with the Community Vision 2040 and its accompanying principles:

- Safe and peaceful community
- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities
- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism
- Mind, Body and Spirit
- Art and Culture.

6.2 Council Plan 2021-25

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. This report is consistent with the following 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 city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes
- A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.

7. The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA2020) states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.

Reporting on matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings gives effect to the overarching governance principles (in particular, section 9(i) of the *Local Government Act 2020*) in that the transparency of Council actions and information is ensured.

8. Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

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

4.2.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (Cont.)

9. 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.

Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy and the *Gender Equality Act 2020* have been considered in the preparation of this report but are not relevant to its contents because it is a reporting mechanism only. The report does not have the potential to influence broader social norms and gender roles nor does it benefit any one gender group over any other.

10. 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.

This report has no impact on Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy 2020-2030 or the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching governance principle on climate change and sustainability because it is purely administrative in nature and is a reporting mechanism only.

11. Recommendation

That:

- 1. the information contained in this report be received and noted; and**
- 2. the information discussed at the Pre-Council Meeting held on 26 September 2022 [Item 6(c)] that was declared confidential under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* remains confidential until further advisement, unless that information forms the subject of a subsequent Council report.**

4.2.3 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

File Id:	qA283304
Responsible Officer:	Manager Governance
Attachments:	Correspondence Received 19-30 September 2022

Report Summary

Subsequent to resolutions made by Council on 11 November 2013 and 25 February 2014 in relation to a listing of incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 provides a list of this correspondence for the period 19-30 September 2022.

Recommendation

That the listed items provided in Attachment 1 for the period 19-30 September 2022 be received and noted.

4.2.3 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors (Cont.)

OTHER

**LIST OF REGISTERED CORRESPONDENCE TO MAYOR AND
COUNCILLORS**

ATTACHMENT 1

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED
19-30 SEPTEMBER 2022**

PAGES 3 (including cover)

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

4.2.3 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors (Cont.)



Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 19/09/22 & 30/09/22 - for officer action - total = 0

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
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No correspondence received in this category.

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

4.2.3 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors (Cont.)



Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 19/09/22 & 30/09/22 - for information only - total = 1

Correspondence Name	Correspondence Dated	Date Record Created	Objective ID	User Currently Assigned
Invitation to the Mayor to attend the Annual State Remembrance Service at the Springvale War Cemetery on 06/11/2022 at 1.00pm.	13-Sep-22	21-Sep-22	A9137090	Mayor and Councillors EA

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

5 NOTICES OF MOTION

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

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

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

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

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

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

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

7 OFFICER'S REPORTS - PART THREE

7.1 Request to Consider an "In Camera" Matter

File Id: A9161243
Responsible Officer: Manager Governance
Attachments:

Report

Under section 66(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, a Council Meeting must be open to the public unless Council considers it necessary to close the meeting to the public because of circumstances that apply

Under section 66(2), these circumstances are:

- a. the meeting is to consider confidential information; or
- b. security reasons; or
- c. it is necessary to do so to enable the meeting to proceed in an orderly manner.

The following report (Item No.??? in this Agenda), contains confidential information under section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. Under section 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the information is determined to be predominantly personal information, being information specifically dealing with the appointment of a Chief Executive Officer, which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about person(s) and their personal affairs.

For this reason, the following matter, (Item 7.2 – Appointment of Chief Executive Officer), requires a resolution to move “in camera” or, in other words, to be closed to the public.

Recommendation

That, in accordance with section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, the meeting be closed to members of the public to enable Council to confidentially discuss and determine Item 7.2 - Appointment of Chief Executive Officer “in camera”.

Note:

The Chair will ask that all members of the public and media and some Council officers leave the Council Chamber to allow for confidential discussion of Item 7.2 Appointment of Chief Executive Officer.

7.2 Appointment of Chief Executive Officer (CONFIDENTIAL under section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020)

File Id:	A9154247
Responsible Officer:	Manager Governance
Attachments:	Draft Contract of Employment – Chief Executive Officer

Report Summary

The employment contract for Council's current Chief Executive Officer (CEO), John Bennie PSM, expires on 30 November 2022 and, in mid-June 2022, he indicated he will not be renewing his contract. The recruitment process for a new CEO therefore commenced in mid-June 2022 and is detailed in this report.

Recommendation Summary

Council proposes to endorse the preferred candidate for the position of Chief Executive Officer at Greater Dandenong City Council and specify a commencement date and length of tenure.

8 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.
- 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.