



**GREATER
DANDENONG**
City of Opportunity

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

MONDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2022
Commencing at 7:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS
225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong VIC 3175

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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Sean O'Reilly.

Councillors Present

Cr Jim Memeti (Chair)

Cr Tim Dark, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Eden Foster, Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Angela Long, Cr Richard Lim OAM, Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sophie Tan (remotely), Cr Loi Truong.

Officers Present

John Bennie PSM, Chief Executive Officer, Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design and Amenity, Marcus Foster, Acting Director Community Services, Paul Kearsley, Director of Business, Engineering & Major Projects, Michelle Hansen, Executive Manager Finance and Information Technology, Kylie Sprague, Executive Manager Communications and Customer Service, Lisa Roberts, Manager Governance.

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 STATEMENT FROM THE MAYOR

Tonight is an important night for this Council. One in which we will deliberate, discuss and decide on a preferred candidate for the position of Chief Executive Officer of Greater Dandenong City Council.

This is listed as Item 7.2 in tonight's Agenda. The information contained in Item 7.2 is deemed to be confidential and it will be considered "in camera" or, in other words, considered in a session that is closed to the public under section 66(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The decision on this item will remain confidential until a public statement is made later this week or early next week.

After the item is considered, the meeting will reopen to the public for any Urgent Business.

1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

All remained standing as Chandilian Kurukkal from the Hindu Community, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, read the following prayer:

'O Lord Ganesha, one with a huge body, a curved elephant trunk and whose brilliance is equal to billions of Suns,

May you always remove all obstacles from my endeavours.'

1.5 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.

MINUTE 582

Moved by: Cr Angela Long
Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

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

CARRIED

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

1.7 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

1.7 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.

MINUTE 583

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad
Seconded by: Cr Eden Foster

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

CARRIED

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.

MINUTE 584

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong
Seconded by: Cr Richard Lim OAM

That this report and Attachment be received and noted.

CARRIED

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.

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters (Cont.)

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3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC

There were not public questions received at tonight's Council meeting.

John Bennie PSM, Chief Executive Officer tabled responses to public questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.

3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC (Cont.)

PUBLIC QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
12/09/22 PQT10	Earl Misso, Dandenong North	<p>Seeking change in Governance Rules Having worked for the Melbourne and Moorabbin Councils for many years, I have observed, and now feel strongly, that any ratepayer should be able to put forward a question freely at any Council meeting and receive a reply without having to go through submitting their question in writing before the meeting. Can section 4.5.8 of the Governance Rules that outlines how our public question time must be conducted, be added to the agenda as an item for discussion at a future Council meeting?</p>	Manager Governance	03/10/2022	<p>Initial response provided 12/09/22: There is a process that needs to be followed for amending the Governance Rules under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i>, so I will take the question on notice and give you a full response after I have discussed it further with the Councillors.</p> <p>Further response 03/10/22: I met with Mr Misso on 03/10/2022 and we discussed this question at length. I advised that this particular provision in the Governance Rules had been in place prior to the Governance Rules being established in 2020 and were part of the previous Meeting Procedure Local Law for many, many years. I outlined the process for changing the Governance Rules under the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> (the Act). The process includes a consultation period with the Greater Dandenong community and I advised that this would be the time for Mr Misso to raise his proposed changes. The next scheduled review of the Governance Rules is scheduled in early 2024. No reviews are scheduled before that time and no changes can be made to the Rules unless a review is undertaken in accordance with the Act.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>

3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
12/09/22	Earl Misso, Dandenong North	<p>Removing the serving of food and beverages to Councillors and staff prior to Council Meetings I propose that the practice of serving food and alcohol prior to Council meetings is now inappropriate. I have discussed this matter with a number of Councillors, including John Bennie, who is not a Councillor, and I feel that it is time to get this matter onto the agenda for discussion at future Council meetings.</p>	Manager Governance	03/10/2022	<p>Initial response provided 12/09/22: This is another one that I would like to discuss further with Councillors and come back to you. I will take the question on notice and come back to you in more detail.</p> <p>Further response 03/10/22: I met with Mr Misso on 03/10/2022 and we discussed this question at length. I advised Mr Misso that the practice of providing a meal to Councillors prior to a Council Meeting, when most of them have come straight from their working environment, is reasonable. The practice of providing a meal to staff (in lieu of a meal allowance) when they have worked a certain number of hours within one day is mandatory. The current consumption of alcohol prior to Council Meetings is actually negligible and while it may be provided, it is rarely consumed. The issue was discussed with Councillors at the Councillor Briefing Session held on 3 October 2022 and it was agreed that alcohol will no longer be provided prior to Council Meetings.</p>
12/09/22 PQT6	Tina Congues, Dandenong	<p>Opening the Civic Centre basement car park to the public post COVID-19 restrictions Now, with COVID restrictions having been removed, what is causing the Dandenong Civic Centre underground carpark still to be inaccessible to the public?</p>	Chief Executive Officer	06/10/2022	<p style="text-align: center;">COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 12/09/22: I can advise that Council has taken a staged approach to the re-opening of many facilities, including the carpark. The carpark is indeed open to the public on Monday evenings when Council meetings are conducted. We realise that that is not a significant opening, but it is one step in the</p>

Question Time Public – Questions Taken on Notice & Requiring Further Action

3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 PQT11	Gaye Guest, Dandenong	<p>Queries regarding planning and building compliance When a house is up for sale and maybe sold with a suspected carport that became a wraparound veranda of the exterior of two sides of the house and then was converted into an outside kitchen with walls and window is this legal? If this structure is not legal, what is the process to get it removed? Is it the vendor's responsibility or the buyer's responsibility? Why are our planning laws so loose in the beginning to allow these inferior builds and the Premier was quoted recently saying planning comes under Council's list of responsibility, yet Council says it is bound by State Government laws So what is the truth? Will this structure remain standing?</p>	Director City Planning, Design and Amenity	07/10/2022	<p>direction of re-opening. The broader question of its accessibility to the public at other times, I will need to take on notice and discuss with officers who have responsibility for managing the facility.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/22: The basement carpark will re-open to the public on Monday, 10 October 2022.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: It is a really important question. This is an issue that comes up frequently for our building surveying team. Council's investigations have found that currently, there is no legislative requirement for us a council and for property owners to disclose what structures do or do not have permits on a property during the sale. Our advice to all potential property purchasers is to undertake a building and pest inspection and request a property search from your local council where the property is located before entering into a contract of sale. This will also ensure unlawful structures or deficiencies are identified prior to the sale. In relation to the suspected unlawful building work that you have mentioned, if you could provide further details in relation to the property that you raise, we are happy to have an officer investigate.</p>

Question Time Public – Questions Taken on Notice & Requiring Further Action

3 / 4

3 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>Further response provided 07/10/22: Property address provided, issues have been investigated multiple times and where appropriate action has been taken where necessary.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>

At the Ordinary meeting of Council on Monday, 24 March 2014, Council resolved to change the way Councillors and Public questions taken on notice are answered and recorded from 14 April 2014 meeting of Council onwards.

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.**

MINUTE 585

Moved by: Cr Eden Foster
Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

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.**

CARRIED

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

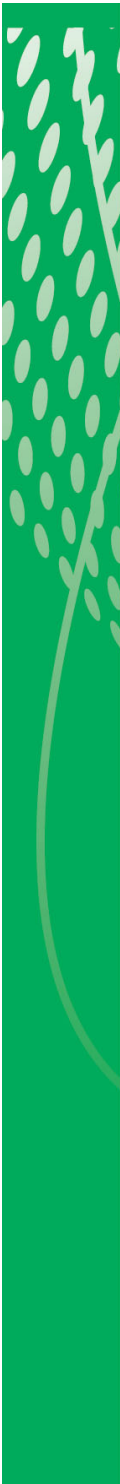
People currently living in poverty in the City of Greater Dandenong and surrounds have the power and resources to share in life's possibilities and potential.

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.)

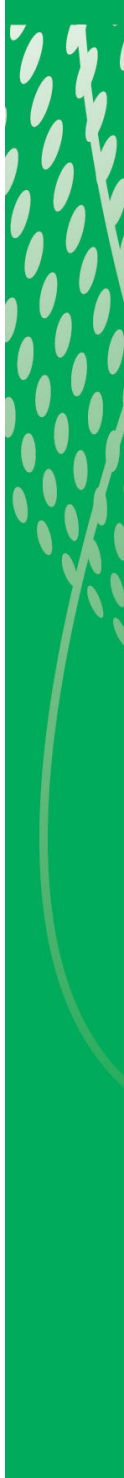
**Domain 1:
 Shifting people's experience of poverty through a holistic, collaborative approach.**

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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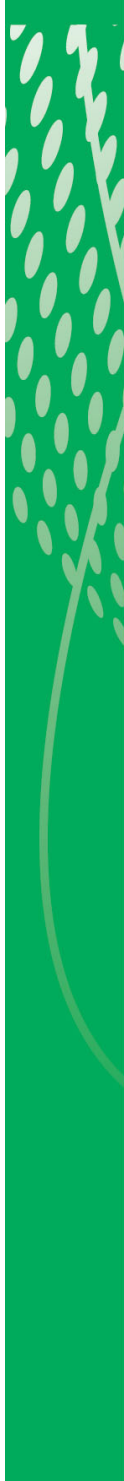
Domain 2:
Services are 'serving' people experiencing poverty to achieve their goals.

- 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

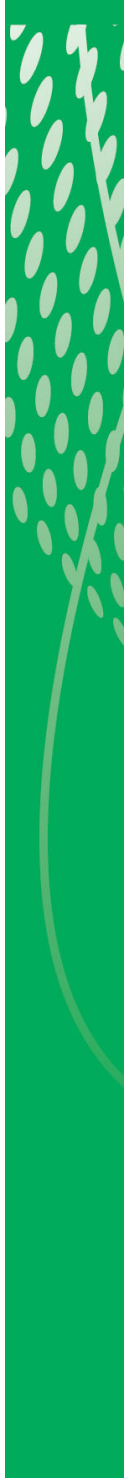
**Domain 3:
 Influence all levels of government to align policy and resources to prevent and address the impacts of poverty.**

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)



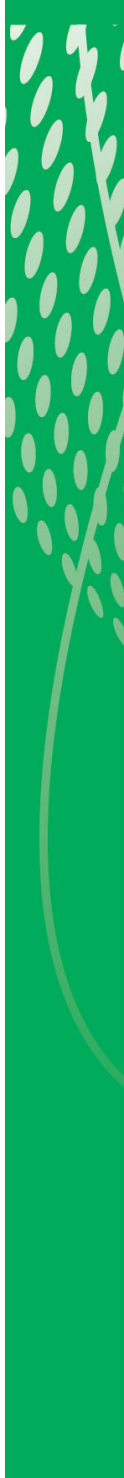
4.1.1 Anti-Poverty Strategy 2022-25 (Cont.)



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

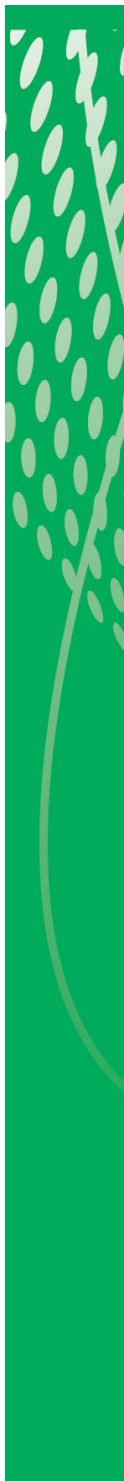
What is being called for

- 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.**

MINUTE 586

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad
Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

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.**

CARRIED

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>Arts Advisory Board – New Committee Member</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>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 September 2022</p>
2.	<p>Events Review</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>CBS – 19 September 2022</p>
3.	<p>Dandenong Community Hub Variations (x3) and Costing Estimates</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>CBS – 19 September 2022</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.

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

MINUTE 587

Moved by: Cr Angela Long

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

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.

CARRIED

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.

MINUTE 588

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

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

CARRIED

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

Nil.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Comment

Cr Loi Truong

On Wednesday 28 September 2022 I attended a meeting to interview the candidates for the City of Greater Dandenong Chief Executive Officer position with Mayor Jim Memeti and other Councillors.

On Friday 30 September 2022 I attended International Pashtun Culture Day with Mayor Jim Memeti and Councillor Richard Lim OAM.

On Saturday 1 October 2022 I attended the official opening of the Burden Park Tennis facility following its redevelopment with a representative for the Minister of Community Sport, Mayor Jim Memeti, Councillor Angela Long and Councillor Sean O'Reilly.

On Wednesday 5 October 2022 I attended a citizenship ceremony with the Mayor Jim Memeti and Councillor Richard Lim OAM.

On Thursday 6 October 2022 I attended Wellsprings for Women Fundraising Dinner with Mayor Jim Memeti, Deputy Mayor Eden Foster, Councillor Angela Long, Councillor Rhonda, Councillor Lana Formoso and Councillor Richard Lim OAM.

On Saturday 8 October 2022 I attended the Ross Reserve Sports Pavilion and soccer pitch tour with the Mayor Jim Memeti, Deputy Mayor Eden Foster, Councillor Angela Long, Councillor Sean O'Reilly, Councillor Lana Formoso, Councillor Rhonda Garad, Councillor Richard Lim OAM and Councillor Sophie Tan.

Comment

Cr Eden Foster

On Saturday 1 October 2022 I attended the Grand Opening of the Maralinga Community Garden with Mayor Jim Memeti and Councillor Sophie Tan. It was fantastic to see the start-up of this long awaited community garden. The committee has fought really hard to set this up. Having a look at it and how it brings together local residents to grow their own produce is great. We know our backyards are getting smaller, so it is a great opportunity for the residents to grow fresh produce and a great opportunity for members of our community to connect with one another. It was a fantastic opening.

On Thursday 6 October 2022 I also attended the Wellsprings for Women Fundraising Dinner with guest speaker Rosie Batty. She is quite an inspiration, a woman of resilience and strength, and I think there was no dry eye in the Springvale City Hall when she spoke. It was an event not to miss and was well attended. Wellsprings for Women offers hospitality and are very welcoming and their own cultural cuisine was fantastic.

On Saturday 8 October 2022 all of us but two, attended the site visit with the Premier of Victoria to the Ross Reserve Pavilion and Noble Park Aquatic Centre (NPAC) gym. I cannot wait for the gym to open. I have told myself I will return to the gym and I will stick to that promise once NPAC is open. So please hold me accountable to that.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

This was also followed by the Parkfield Reserve Cricket Nets Redevelopment Official Opening. I would like to take the opportunity to thank the State Government for their contribution of \$100,000 to the cricket nets. They look amazing and I am sure that Parkfield Cricket Club will definitely benefit from the new nets and the relocation of the nets.

On Sunday 9 October 2022 I attended with Mayor Jim Memeti and Councillor Garad, the Victorian Hazara Community Vigil in commemoration of the young victims of the recent terror attack at the Kaaj Higher Education Centre in Kabul in Afghanistan. As a community we need to show our solidarity in the pursuit to stop the Hazara genocide in Afghanistan and the numbers showed great solidarity for this movement. It was a very moving event and it is an unfortunate thing that something like this brings this many people together, but there was a lot of passion in Harmony Square last night.

Question

Cr Eden Foster

My first question relates to the Callander Road, Noble Park drainage works. I drove down Callander Road just the other day and saw the massive concrete drain pipes sitting on the nature strip. I know there are residents who have questions about the drainage works. I understand they are much needed because of the drainage issues there. How much disruption will this cause the local residents and when will the work aim to be completed?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

I can advise that the project involves the installation of some very large pipes and they are to resolve an outstanding matter with drainage in the area. There will be very large trenches built within the roadway and to undertake these works safely, there will need to be road closures in place during these works. Unfortunately, this means that there will be some impact on residents.

The project team and contractor are aware of the disruptive nature of the project and are working to minimise the impacts where possible. Traffic will face a short detour along neighbouring roads around the site, although properties within the limits of the works will obviously face a greater impact. These properties have been the large focus of preconstruction planning. One mitigation measure to be employed is the utilisation of a dedicated traffic controller to assist residents entering and exiting their own properties.

Much of the time residents will have relatively free vehicle access to their properties, although there may well be delays, requirements to access from a particular direction. Any properties directly impacted will be managed individually, with the traffic controller looking after their communication and requirements during these works, and I understand that those conversations have commenced with local residents.

The project is scheduled to be completed by the end of March 2023, with the bulk of the traffic disruptions ending by late January, early February 2023, depending on the weather.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Question

Cr Eden Foster

My next question is about the Ian Street streetscape revitalisation. I know that a number of businesses have been impacted by the closure of Ian Street and I was just wondering how this is progressing and when it is expected to be completed?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

Construction works are approximately 70% complete and the project is expected to be completed late this month. The works have been programmed to maintain pedestrian access to all shops during normal trading hours and whilst the road has been closed in two stages, the Mons Parade end is now complete and Heatherton Road end currently underway. To facilitate the construction of kerb extensions and raised pedestrian platforms, limited parking has been maintained at all times. Signage has been installed promoting that the shops are still open along Ian Street. Information bulletins and face-to-face discussions have been occurring on a weekly basis with local traders to inform them of the likely impact that each stage of the works will have on the shopping strip.

Council is currently engaging with the traders to determine potential place making projects that can be implemented in the shopping strip post the completion of construction. Funded by the Noble Park Revitalisation Board, these projects are expected to further enhance the precinct and attract increased patronage in addition to the streetscape improvement works. Unfortunately works of this scale cannot easily be completed without some level of disruption.

Question

Cr Eden Foster

Another question also in relation to the Ian Street precinct. Notably the laneway that is parallel to Ian Street. There appears to be reoccurring concerns of dumped rubbish and even a stench in the laneway because of this dumped rubbish. It is obviously causing an annoyance to the local businesses and residents in the area. What has been Council's response to address this given that I have brought this matter up in previous meetings and would they consider placing a mobile camera in this area as has been done elsewhere in the community?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

The dumped rubbish was collected on Friday. I have been advised that Mr Bosman's team (Director City Planning, Design & Amenity) in local laws have added this location to their regular patrols so that hopefully we can get into a pattern of identifying any particular behaviours of dumping. However, I can advise that the new CCTV trailer is currently being commissioned down at the operations centre and we are hoping to have it placed in the Ian Street laneway next week. We hope this will deter people from dumping rubbish.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

I would like to refer back to the Anti-Poverty Strategy item earlier tonight. I want to commend Council for their approach they have taken to this strategy, which is a different approach to prior methods. Council have taken a systemic approach and recognised that the system is disintegrated and that there is a need for high level coordination and navigation, and a role for Council in pulling the services together and making sure that people do not get lost through the cracks.

I commend Council on their approach to the strategy. Just to draw your attention to the scale of the problem I want to read four statistics which will help us realise what we are facing in this municipality. Rental affordability has dropped from 80% two years ago, to 9% this year. A dramatic drop in the availability of rental accommodation. Rental assistance is the highest rate in Victoria with 20% of households, almost twice the metropolitan rate.

Unemployment is 8.6%, the fourth highest rate in Melbourne and, in fact, youth unemployment is around 20%. Losses to electronic gaming machines, stands at around \$103m, which is an indication of people trying to increase income too. I just want to highlight those to remind us of the enormous job the Council has in trying to address poverty in our community and that the distance between haves and have nots in our community is ever widening.

Last night, on Sunday 9 October 2022, Mayor Jim Memeti, Deputy Mayor Eden Foster and myself attended Harmony Square where thousands of people gathered from the Hazara community and allies to the Hazara community. Vigils were held not only in Melbourne but in every capital city in Australia. There was a national allegiance to support the Hazara community. In fact, a global movement is currently being undertaken to call on governments everywhere to recognise what is happening in Afghanistan to the Hazara community at this moment, the continual atrocities the community there is facing, and to assist in stopping the Hazara genocide. It was a very moving night, the Mayor made an extraordinary speech and showed that Council is allies to the Hazara community and that we stand by them in this time of need.

On Thursday 6 October 2022, collectively we also attended the Wellsprings for Women Fundraising Dinner. Wellsprings is a local organisation that supports women born overseas in a number of areas, in terms of literacy, gaining access to employment and also those experiencing violence in intimate relationships. It is a very important organisation, they do a tremendous job, and it was great to see the local support they had at that event.

The Mayoral Taskforce, which is auspiced by the City of Greater Dandenong, has been very active. Speaking to politicians post-election, looking for timeframes for coming good on promises such as the elimination of Temporary Protection Visas and Safe Haven Enterprise Visas so that people in the City of Dandenong who have been waiting almost a decade, living in limbo with no support, that their needs could be addressed very quickly. We have had pleasing feedback, that the Labor Government have injected enormous amount of funds or are about to, to fix a very broken system. However, there may be years until the 800 to 900 thousand individuals are processed. We are calling in the short-term for work and study rights to redress some of the skill shortage in Dandenong, but also to improve the short-term quality of life for asylum seekers and refugees.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

My first question tonight is regarding the proposed Dandenong Wellbeing Centre. The average spend on municipal pools is between 40 to 60 million dollars. The Dandenong pool was put out to tender at around \$62m. We are now told the cost is heading close to \$100m, roughly a 40% increase. Is this a justifiable increase and the best use of ratepayers' funds, and are we building yet another art gallery or a fit for purpose energy efficient municipal pool that we can both afford to build and afford to run?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

I will just go through some of the issues that you have raised in your question.

I do want to clarify, however, that the Dandenong pool has not been put out to tender. The reference to \$62m is a working figure, not based on a tender process. However, it is based on the Aquatic Strategy which was finalised in 2019 and it included what I would describe as a fairly basic sketch plan which identified floor area only.

It did not identify costings on anything, including ESD, materials and finishes. It is what we would call the most basic of plans that we get priced and it is very early on in the process. That is where the reference to \$62m comes from. It also does not include an allocated sum of \$20.7m, which was discussed with Council in February of 2022, for works included at the Mills Reserve Precinct Plan. Some of those works included matters such as a car park, a public plaza and a sports pavilion. Council at a later Mills Reserve Precinct Advisory Group (MPAG) committee meeting, identified as being included within the concept of the wellbeing centre. That increased the price to \$83.3m. We then undertook a schematic design process and now we are in detailed design process.

At the end of the schematic design process back in February 2022 we advised Council, again at an MPAG committee meeting, that the cost was approximately \$94m. That included the sports pavilion. It included the car park and the public plaza and site works to the precinct. That increase was from \$83.3 to \$94.1. We are now currently in the detailed design process and we will be presenting the details of the detailed design cost plan. We will be presenting that to Council at the next MPAG in a couple of weeks.

The brief that was approved in the aquatic strategy, which is based and assists in the costs plan, has not expanded or changed since the adoption of the aquatic strategy in 2019. What we hope to do at the next Council briefing, which will be the MPAG in a fortnight, is to provide full financial modelling, and budget impacts will be discussed so that Councillors can identify how best to deal with the increasing costs related to such a facility.

The current increase in costs are related to where the market is positioning itself with regards to construction material costs and that is something that we can confirm with Council at that meeting. I will say that Council's final decision on tendering and the building of such a building will not take place until Council's budget sessions next year and by then we are hoping to have received some additional State funding, as we asked for on the weekend with the Premier. We will continue to ask for funding until the doors open to this facility if Council considers it appropriate to build at that time.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

There are reports that some municipal swimming pools are having to restrict hours of operation due to high energy costs. The biggest cost is heating and the biggest loss of heating is due to vast areas of glass and high ceilings. What is the percentage of glass in this building design? Why do we need 9-metre high ceilings? And what is the energy efficiency rating of this building?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

I can advise that I am not aware of any pools that are having to restrict hours, but I am happy to be advised. All I can suggest maybe is that some of them are closing because they may be inefficient in terms of their energy usage and cannot afford to be run. With regards to this building, and what Council is trying to achieve, is that we hope to achieve a six-star green star rating, which is an international standard, that is, a world standard, of appropriate energy efficiency for the building.

It also performs and has standards beyond Council policies and strategies. We are very mindful of the ESD principles and the energy efficiency rating for this building. For all of these issues I will point to the coming MPAG, where matters related to the percentage of glass and the need for certain ceiling heights, can be discussed with Council. It is important to get a direction from Council at that meeting and we are more than happy to consider any variations to the design that would then lead to improvements in its sustainability. We have the best consultants on board that we can seek further questions and answers. Our aim is to answer these questions at the MPAG and answer any further questions during that session that we hope to have in two weeks.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

It has been a couple of months since I asked this question, but the last time I asked there was meant to be a report on the implementation of the Sustainability Strategy by now. There currently seems to be a two-month wait. They used to be detailed and well-regarded annual reports on the Sustainability Strategy until three years ago when they stopped. When is the next Sustainability Strategy report coming to the Council for endorsement?

Response

Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

When this question was raised at a Council meeting on 22 August 2022, I advised that due to a number of factors Council has unfortunately not been able to complete the Annual Sustainability Report over the last couple of years. In that response I gave the assurance, as I do now, that Council officers remain committed to producing these reports moving forward. The Annual Sustainability data is currently being collated as part of the Greater Dandenong Sustainability Strategy Five-Year Refresh and this will be publicly available by the end of this calendar year.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

Just to clarify that the Sustainability Five-Year Refresh will be available or is that the Sustainability Strategy?

Response

Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

The Five-Year Refresh, the update on all that data, will be available by the end of this calendar year.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

Why didn't the Anti-Poverty Strategy go out for a normal 28 day public exhibition period before coming to Council for endorsement?

Response

Marcus Foster, Acting Director Community Services

The Anti-Poverty Strategy was intentionally developed through a person centred multistage and supported consultation process with people with lived experience of poverty. The strategy was developed in partnership with a consortium of non-government services, agencies that support vulnerable members of the community. In addition to these agencies over 120 community members and key stakeholders were involved in its development. With such focus it was not placed on general exhibition for wider public comment.

Comment

Cr Angela Long

On Saturday 1 October 2022, I attended the Official Opening of the Burden Park Tennis Facility following its redevelopment.

On Thursday 6 October 2022, I attended the Wellsprings for Women Fundraising Dinner at Springvale City Hall.

On Friday 7 October 2022 I attended the opening ceremony of the Statewide Koori Netball and Football Carnival held at Springers in Keysborough.

On Saturday 8 October 2022 I attended the tour of the Ross Reserve Sports Pavilion and soccer pitch. I also attended the NPAC redevelopment tour. I then attended the Official Opening of the Parkville Reserve Cricket Nets Redevelopment.

Question

Cr Angela Long

A resident advised they had not received the monthly Council magazine. The resident was advised that it is sent to households that the owners own, not rental properties. Is this true?

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Response

Kylie Sprague, Executive Manager Communications and Customer Service

No, that is not true. It gets delivered by Australia Post and it should be delivered to every letterbox. I can get an address from you, and I am happy to follow that up.

Comment

Cr Angela Long

The resident visited Council and picked up the last two issues and requested she be sent future issues at that time.

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso

I have been attending some of the events with my fellow colleagues which I will not elaborate on as they have been well covered.

Question

Cr Lana Formoso

I have a question regarding ongoing car parking issues surrounding schools specifically Silverton Primary School. I have received numerous complaints from residents. Do Council have sufficient officers or do we have a shortage? There seems to be many complaints. Driveways are being blocked and residents are not able to enter or exit their own property.

Response

Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

We certainly place a high priority on schools at the drop-off and pick-up times. Do we have enough officers? I am currently working on a plan to expand the number of officers we have. That will help not only with monitoring schools in those areas, but more generally. I think that as the city grows, and as the demands on all services grows, we would naturally undertake those kinds of assessments.

When you say, do we have enough? Will we ever have enough? I believe we can currently cover the schools where the highest amount of pressure is. But we certainly are looking at expanding the size of the teams that are currently in operation.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Question

Cr Lana Formoso

Another question I have for your department is about feral cats. I have sent you an email regarding this. There seems to be a huge amount of feral cats that residents are now not only noticing but finding very annoying. What are we doing about this situation particularly when they come out late at night and we do not have officers working in the evening, apart from offering the cat traps for residents to catch the feral cats themselves?

I feel like a broken record having this conversation not so long ago where I caught four feral cats myself. I kind of felt like I was doing the work for Council. What are we doing in terms of eradicating this issue? As I mentioned previously, we have had over a million feral cats since the pandemic started and I presume it is still growing.

Response

Jody Bosman, Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

We have developed a Cat Strategy as you may be aware of if you were in the briefing session where it was discussed. Feral cats are a particular problem where the solution to the problem starts with dealing with the cats that are not feral, how we get the registration of the cats and how we deal with those before they get to become feral cats.

It is a rather detailed and complex strategy and it is not one that is going to see an immediate reduction in the number of feral cats. Both within the rural area around the municipality or in the urban areas themselves, feral cats are a problem. We have spent a couple of years working out the strategy. It has been well researched.

The manager of regulatory services did the presentation and what I think would probably be easier to convey to you, rather than tonight, is to set up a session between myself, the manager of regulatory services and yourself, and talk you through the cat strategy and how we hope to achieve a point where hopefully we get some control. We will never eradicate feral cats altogether, but we will bring some improvement to the situation of feral cats in the municipality.

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso

I have also sent you an email about a resident having some issues so I hope that can be sorted as quickly as possible.

My last comment for this evening is that today is World Mental Health Day. Its theme this year is awareness for longing and connection. I would really like to bring that to everyone's attention and make sure that everybody in our community is looking after their mental health.

If they need any assistance all the resources are available on our website and if they could contact their local GP. As a physical education and health teacher I find this topic very important. Obviously post-pandemic there are many issues regarding mental health.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Comment

Cr Richard Lim OAM

The last fortnight I have attended many functions.

On Tuesday 27 September 2022 I had a chance to meet with the body corporate to discuss issues related to the cleanliness of the Springvale Activity Centre especially around Buckingham Avenue. We aimed to educate all the business owners to look after their loading zones and keep them clean. Some business owners also raised concerns about congestion at each loading zone that causes lots of problems in the Springvale Activity Centre. Those issues were raised to Mr Jody Bosman (Director City Planning, Design & Amenity) and he is willing to take care of that. Hopefully Council can fine those that illegally park behind the loading zone of businesses. Additionally, they requested Council to provide more disabled parking at the Springvale Activity Centre. I have highlighted some parking spots to them, but they are still dissatisfied. I advised that I would discuss this with the relevant department.

On Thursday 29 September 2022, I attended the Burden Park Bowling Club for a presentation of badges to long serving bowling club members. I was unexpectedly given a chance to make a speech about health and wellbeing for seniors. They wanted me to thank Council for their signage. They have wanted to install signage for over two years prior to my election. A big thank you to Mr Jody Bosman and his department that provided this magnificent signage. They are very happy with it. On that day I also had a meeting with the director of Monash Health with Mayor Jim Memeti, Lee Tarlamis MP and with another gentleman who is a business owner and also a member of Monash Health. The meeting was held to discuss how to raise more funds for Monash Children's Hospital and their Emergency Department. That was the most important point to the meeting. We want to organise some more functions and raise awareness and for the Mayor to attend. In the last two months, my pharmacy raised \$5,668 for Monash Children's Hospital. Every two months we ask the Monash Health director to come to collect the money. We have also requested business owners to spread the word that we are going to organise a charity dinner and a flower ceremony next year for Monash Health and Monash Children's Hospital. Most importantly we are going to have a Gala Dinner at the Palladium, Crown. They requested I organise a table for Councillors and the Mayor. If you are kind enough to be part of the Gala Dinner for Monash Children's Hospital that would be wonderful because it is a fantastic event every year, I have attended many times. Try to save money now to attend Councillors, it is honestly excellent.

On Friday 30 September 2022 I attended the International Pashtun Culture Day with Mayor Jim Memeti and Councillor Loi Truong. It was a fantastic event. They celebrated their cultures through music and dancing.

On Monday 3 October 2022, Mr Kevin Van Boxtel (Manager Business and Revitalisation) and his team organised a place making revitalisation event. It was very informative and hopefully we have a plan that will apply for the future as well.

On Wednesday 5 October I attend the citizenship ceremony with Mayor Jim Memeti and Councillor Loi Truong.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

On Thursday 6 October 2022 I had a meeting with Councillor Nicky Luo from City of Monash and Mr John Mullahy, Labor candidate for Glen Waverley. We discussed how we could create a partnership between our City and theirs because we are neighbours and they are really interested in Springvale. We can share ideas, experiences and how to promote each other. We discussed many more things at that meeting. The good thing is that Councillor Nicky Luo really wants to be part of mental health promotion. Mayor Jim Memeti is probably already aware of that. She wants to look after the Springvale community also. She also would not mind being part of my health seminars to provide to various community groups which is great and she wants to be part of my charity. Any charity that I organise she wants to be part of such as the Monash Children's Hospital, the Salvation Army Red Shield Appeal that we just set up not long ago, last July and Cambodia Vision.

On the same day, I attended the Wellsprings for Women Fundraising Dinner with Mayor Jim Memeti and other Councillors. My pharmacy had a chance to donate \$1,000 for Wellsprings for Women.

On Saturday, 8 October 2022 we had a tour of the Ross Reserve Sports Pavillion and soccer pitch. This was part of the Parkfield Reserve Cricket Nets Redevelopment Official Opening with the Premier and also the Mayor, Councillors and Mr Lee Tarlamis MP.

Question

Cr Richard Lim OAM

In the last fortnight so many people have complained to me about the homeless and beggars that sleep rough. It does not seem to matter how I explain to them, they have to understand that it is not just the Council's problem, it is the police, States and Federal governments problem too.

I want to ask what the best answer is that I can provide to people regarding this issue? Even committee members of Springvale Asian Business Association (SABA) still do not understand, they always think that I am the best person to fix the problem. I have explained to one of the prominent members of SABA that we try to do our best. They still do not seem to understand whenever I explain to them. What is a quick and easy answer I can provide?

Response

Marcus Foster, Director Community Services

In regard to homelessness, I can point to some information regarding the Council's involvement in the Functional Zero, the Dandenong zero rough sleeper project, which is a project of which the lead partner is Launch Housing. We provide officer support to facilitate the four primary meeting groups that take place under the auspice of that project. There is a service coordination group which meets once per week to discuss individual clients on the By-Name List. There is also a hotspots group that meets fortnightly with many of the service organisations like Launch Housing, Monash Health, Cornerstone, Salvation Army, CMY, WAYSS. There is also an improvement group which explores and looks at challenges to the project and explores solutions, and also the executive which meets once per quarter.

The official launch of the By-Name List is also looking to be launched in January or early February in 2023. These are some of the things that we are doing in this State.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Comment

Cr Bob Milkovic

The highlight of the past two weeks for me was a trip to Adelaide to attend the Karadjordje Cup, which is the largest Serbian soccer tournament in Australia held every year in a different city of Australia. It was held for the first time post COVID-19. It is quite an important cup for the Serbian community. There are some 20-odd clubs with around 35 teams, including women's teams, under 18s and over 18s. There are even over 35s participating.

This year it was held in Adelaide. The competition for these tournaments is always quite stiff and Melbourne is host to six soccer clubs, some on this side of town and some on the other side of town. I am happy to report that next year, in 2023 the Cup will be held at the Serbian Sports Centre in Keysborough. We will have two to three thousand people visiting from all over Australia. This year in Adelaide, there were more families in attendance than ever before. People were not coming just to play but bringing kids along with them and I think it is because people were locked up for two years. Next year in October, the date is to be confirmed, we will be hosting the great soccer tournament within our municipality. That was the highlight of my past two weeks.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

May I have an update on the Rowley Allan Reserve extension. I believe there was a meeting held during the week between the anchor clubs and Council officers. I have received correspondence from all of them. There has been an allocation or a conversation about an allocation of approximately \$200,000 for some temporary extensions for change rooms. The clubs are obviously excited I was caught off guard by it. Can I please get an update of exactly what is happening down at the reserve in terms of the pavilions and the allocation the funding?

Can I have an update on the shipping containers that I believe have had quite a substantial amount of water egressing? The cricket club opened it up to find their cricket gear had substantial damage and there have been many donations since.

Response

Marcus Foster, Director Community Services

In regard to the specific funding apportionments of the different projects at Rowley Allen Reserve, I will take that question on notice. Regarding the shipping container I will defer to my colleague Mr Paul Kearsley (Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects).

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

I can advise that we have installed ventilation into the containers to fix the problem that was related to condensation occurring within their boxes of equipment. We hope that with the introduction of those ventilation holes that will not happen ongoing into the future.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Question

Cr Tim Dark

I received a phone call from a couple of parents from Chandler Park Primary School regarding the intersection of Cochrane Avenue and Chandler Road, Keysborough. During school hours there are large amounts of traffic banking up. People have been parking all over the road and it is quite a distance to get up to where the school crossing supervisors are. Can officers investigate how the traffic is flowing and moving during those times. Apparently it is banking all the way up to Cheltenham Road and Chandler Road thus causing a substantial holdup.

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

Traffic engineers will investigate, specifically during school times.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

As you drive from Greens Road up Perry Road towards Bangholme Road, Keysborough on the left-hand side the trees are overgrown substantially. You cannot see the school zone '60' traffic sign that is there until you are right on top of it. Mount Hira school requested the tree be cut back to allow a line of sight to improve traffic.

There have been many conversations and pictures sent to me about the disintegration of Perry Road. There has been a temporary patch applied. It is higher than the road itself and people are hitting it and deviating across the other side of the road. When I drove down there the other day, I noticed it is falling apart and that is probably an understatement. I know that we have funding within the budget and plans to duplicate the road and to expand it, but given the timeframe between the two if we could please look at what options to deal with the substantial cracking of potholes?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

We will investigate both issues. The issue with the road may well be that it is, as you point out, part of the Capital Works Program for this financial year. I can get an update on the timing of that and investigate further patching to the road while we wait for the reconstruction.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Comment

Cr Sophie Tan

I would like to report the few events I have attended the last two weeks.

On Saturday 1 October 2022 I attended the Grand Opening of the Maralinga Community Garden. Congratulations to the committee for the great work. Thank you to Gardenworld, Biofilta, Keysborough Bunnings, Noble Park Keysborough Lions Club, Dingley Rotary club, students from Noble Park Secondary College and Council staff for their support as well.

On Sunday 8 October 2022 I also attended the Ross Reserve Pavilion and soccer pitch tour with the Victorian Premier Dan Andrews MP and Mr Lee Tarlamis MP. Through you, Mayor, could we write a letter of appreciation to the Victorian Government? I know that the Victorian Government has partnered with Council on many projects, especially with the Noble Park Revitalisation Board. Many major projects have been completed because of their assistance. Could we please get a letter in writing and send it to the Revitalisation Board?

I want to congratulate all our staff, especially the Directorate of Business, Engineering and Major Projects for all your great work, especially with the soccer pitch, and the Noble Park Aquatic Centre. The project cost is \$6.9m and we received \$3.3m of funding from the Victorian Government. The project will be completed by the end of December 2022, which is exciting.

Can pricing for swimming pool and gyms be placed clearly on Council's website? If we could make it more user friendly and easy for our residents to find?

This question was noted for further action.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan

My first question are follow up questions in relation to a street light request. This is on Maralinga Avenue, Keysborough. A resident requested a streetlight, there is no streetlight around the avenue. It makes it hard for residents to drive or walk around there. It is requested on No.1 and No.7 Maralinga Avenue. Do we have any updates on this yet?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

I take that question on notice.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan

My second question is regarding the petanque court that was completed at the Noble Park Community Centre which was part of the CIP project that I requested. Recently I have received complaints from residents. They saw a few groups have built their own court at the Alan Corrigan Reserve. Could the relevant officer please investigate? A few groups are doing some illegal games on the reserve. Please inform the residents to use the correct court which is located at the Noble Park Community Centre.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

Officers will investigate.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan

My third question is regarding faulty and broken traffic lights. There are a few, one is opposite the Sandown Park station and on the weekend the one on Kingsley Avenue in Keysborough. What is the process with faulty traffic lights?

Response

Paul Kearsley, Director Business, Engineering & Major Projects

I think the second one you referred to was fixed over the weekend. There were a couple of minor issues with the equipment. The first one you referred to I am not aware of that so I will take that question on notice. With regards to traffic lights, it can come down to which road it is on, whether it is a Department of Transport road, or whether it is a Council road. I will wait for further information from you on your first example and then I will follow up with the officers.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan

My last question is regarding our complaints process. We have a resident who is concerned with staff issues. For anything relating to staff issues we do have a complaint process on our website, for some reason it is hard for residents to search for information on our website on how to submit a complaint. Could the relevant officer provide some instructions, something that is easy and user friendly for our residents to search on our website?

Response

Kylie Sprague, Executive Manager Communications and Customer Service

We do have a Complaints Policy that was adopted just a couple of months ago by Council. That is all detailed on our website, as is our complaints resolution process, but if anyone is having difficulty with that, I would be happy to speak to them and assist them through that if that was suitable. Otherwise if it is a complaint against staff, we do have a very specific process for that as well. So again, I would be happy to speak to the resident and help them through that if needed.

Comment

Cr Sophie Tan

I will send through some information to you. But for future reference, if there is anything we can put on our website. Anything to do with a complaint they can submit a report online so it goes straight to our website. It is difficult to find anything relevant, especially with residents who are not really tech savvy.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Comment

Jim Memeti, Mayor

Thanks to Councillor Formoso, for reminding us that today is Mental Health Day. I am an Australian Mental Health Ambassador and I work very closely with the Mental Health Foundation Australian in Victoria and nationally. We have members in all states and, as Councillor Richard Lim OAM mentioned, Councillor Nicky Luo will be joining that mental health ambassador so we can work together being neighbouring Councillors. It is World Mental Health Day today. The theme for 2022 is 'Making Mental Health and Well-being for All a Global Priority'. The World Health Organisation recommends taking the day to reconnect and rekindle efforts to protect and improve mental health as it is important to do things that improve your mental health. Make sure everybody is fine, everybody is well. It is something that is important and it is right throughout all communities. It does not discriminate based on colour, nationality or religion. It is very important that you do things to make sure you stay healthy and mental health is something that is touched by all of us. We all know somebody that is struggling with it.

Some events that I attended over the last fortnight are as follows.

On Friday 30 September 2022 I attended the Bengali Association of Victoria Durga Puja (Spring) Festival. I also attended the International Pashtun Culture Day at Springvale City Hall. I think there were about 1,000 people in attendance. Pashtun culture at its best, music, fashion parades both men's and women's. It was really nice to be at the Pashtun Culture Day. It was held in Brisbane, Sydney, and Melbourne was the last one.

On Saturday 1 October 2022 I attended the Grand Opening of the Maralinga Community Garden. I think that is fantastic, we are now starting to get other groups coming to visit Council to see how they can open their own community garden which is fantastic. As Deputy Mayor Eden Foster mentioned before, unfortunately our backyards are getting smaller and smaller and smaller, and so these kinds of facilities are great. People can rent a patch out. But it is not just about growing vegetables. I think it is more than that. As I just spoke about mental health, it is about getting people out of their own home, own unit, own flat, whatever it is, connecting with other people in the community, meeting up with other people, having a chat, having a laugh, talking about vegetables or talking about the weather. I think these community gardens are happening right across Victoria and Australia and now they are happening in Greater Dandenong. There are two or three other groups that have visited me and I look forward to working with them. I would like to congratulate the Maralinga committee on setting a very high example and they are the benchmark. I advise other groups to chat to them as they will help you and provide good advice. Congratulations to the Maralinga community.

On the same day I attended the official opening of the Burden Park Tennis Facility following its redevelopment. Six beautiful courts, brand new fencing, 350 lux lighting. The best courts I have seen in the City of Greater Dandenong. I was not a bad player in my young days, but unfortunately not very good now. I can still hit the ball but I cannot chase it. If it comes straight at me I can hit it back, but if I have to move left or right it becomes difficult. With a bit of training at the NPAC gym, as Deputy Mayor Eden Foster mentioned, and maybe shedding a few kilos then I can chase the ball. It is a great facility and I am really happy for the Burden Park Tennis Club. They are a fantastic group with over 100 members, and I told them that their club is only going to grow because they have got first class facilities.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

It was open that day with former Mayor and Councillor Heang Tak who is now the State member for Clarinda. There was \$1m contributed from the State Government to get those tennis courts up to first class standards. Hopefully we get from Burden Park maybe a Kyrgios or another player of that calibre and these first class facilities do help ensure we do get great talent in our area.

On Monday 3 October 2022 I attended the GSEM meeting with my colleagues from Casey Council in Cardinia. Thompson Road goes to a dead end so they are campaigning for Thompsons Road to connect to Koo Wee Rup Road and that will help businesses from Greater Dandenong when they need to use that arterial. I am campaigning there for my neighbour colleagues.

On Wednesday 5 October 2022 I also attended the citizenship ceremony with my colleagues Councillor Richard Lim OAM and Loi Truong which is something very humbling and something that I love doing. I tell the story how the three of us are very similar to everybody in that room getting their certificate. I was a migrant. I came to Australia when I was two and I go on about that. Then I speak about Councillor Lim who arrived in Australia in 1980 as a refugee and the same with Councillor Truong in 1983. Councillor Truong always makes us laugh when he says when he first came to Australia he saw the 'No Standing' sign near the bus stop so he was walking around the bus stop so he was not standing waiting for the bus. These kinds of things are very challenging for our new migrants. These are some of the things that are different to people who come from different countries and have to learn to read these signs. As much as they sound ridiculous to somebody who has never seen one they think they are not allowed to stand there.

On Thursday 6 October 2022 I had the pleasure of hosting the Wellsprings for Women Fundraiser Dinner at Springvale City Hall which was a fantastic event. Wellsprings for Women do some fantastic work and they have been doing it for over three decades now. I was very happy to be able to help their cause and raise plenty of money for the fundraiser.

As mentioned, Rosie Batty AO was a guest speaker. I do not know how she does it. We all know her story and what she has gone through, but to give speeches like that, there were people with tears coming down their eyes. It was great to have her at Springvale City Hall. The Springvale City Hall has seen many, many great speakers. Gough Whitlam in the 70s made a speech there and in 2009 Malcolm Fraser, a Liberal Prime Minister, made a speech to 1,000 people and I think 95 per cent of those people were Labor members and he got a standing ovation. I was in the room that day. The City Hall is a gem for this municipality and I am really proud of it and the redevelopment and it is great to show off our facilities.

On Saturday 8 October 2022, I attended the Ross Reserve Sports Pavilion and soccer pitch tour with Premier Dan Andrews. We also attended the NPAC redevelopment tour. That is progressing well. The facilities at Ross Reserve are first class. Council has spent in excess of \$20m there. The facilities are first class including the skate park, barbecue facilities, children's playground area and all abilities playground area. We also have \$2.5m in our budget for the athletics track. That is another gem in our City. We just keep on delivering and I think we do punch well above our weight, and I love telling these stories. It does not matter where you live, I always say people in Greater Dandenong have first class facilities and we as Council keep on delivering them, and I am very proud that these new facilities are going to be open very shortly.

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

After that we visited the Parkfield Reserve Cricket Nets Redevelopment Official Opening. The cricket nets have been relocated. They were close to somebody's home and they would hear noise all the time in the afternoon. They have now been relocated to another area of the reserve and that facility at Parkfield is now becoming first class. They are looking forward to having their clubrooms improved in the next couple of years and that will be completion there. It is a really good outcome and the cricket club had their smile from ear to ear.

On Sunday 9 October 2022 I attended the Victorian Hazara Community Vigil in commemoration of the victims of the recent terror attack at the Kaaj Higher Education Centre in Dasht-e-Barchi in Kabul, Afghanistan. There were approximately 5,000 people in attendance last night in Harmony Square. Very, very sad. We have one of the largest Afghan communities in the south east and they reside in our municipality. It was good to stand side by side with them in solidarity and give them comfort. We had about five of members of the Federal Parliament in attendance. This is happening too often and I know there's a hash tag #StopHazaraGenocide which has had millions and millions and millions of hits. It is just too common and these senseless bombings and killings of mainly Afghan Hazara girls, which is very sad. As Dr Monique Ryan, who is the Federal Member for Kooyong, said, she is a doctor and went to university and these girls will not have that opportunity, and many girls in that country will not have an opportunity for education. It is really sad and our thoughts and prayers go out to all those families that have been affected.

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

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT1	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Rowley Allen Reserve Master Plan progress Gabrielle Williams MP, local member for Dandenong, attended the Rowley Allen Reserve to have a meeting with the Anchor clubs and tenants. I have raised in the past about the support that Council has in place to do with the infrastructure, and also the delivery of the Master Plan. It has become quite concerning, given the lack of action and movement with the Master Plan. I am aware that Gabrielle Williams wrote to the Council expressing some concerns.</p> <p>I just want to find out: (1) How we are progressing with the Master Plan? (2) What we are doing, given now we have State members of parliament concerned?</p>	Director Community Services	04/10/2022	<p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: I will take that question on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 04/10/22: The Rowley Allan Reserve Concept Plan aims to deliver a wide range of improvements across the football, netball, cricket and community facilities and open spaces. Given the significant number of improvements within the concept plan, estimated total cost of \$11+ million, and the need to balance the annual capital works program across all facilities in City of Greater Dandenong, a staged approach to delivering these works will take place over the next 10 years.</p> <p>Stage one (the netball court redevelopment and construction of an additional smaller netball court), has recently been completed. The next stages for delivery include upgrades to the oval lighting, female-friendly change room amenities and the canteen and kitchen, pending approval of budget bids.</p> <p>Jim Davine provided an update to Gabrielle Williams MP on the delivery of the Concept Plan on 15 September 2022. Jim and Council</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT2	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Resident query in relation to the development and earthworks in Coomoora Road, Springvale South My next question is from a resident. I know it has been raised in a Council meeting previously, to do with the development of Coomoora Road, Springvale South. The resident is trying to get a copy of the plans. I have raised this in a couple of Council meetings now, and there still has been no action. The resident called me today expressing dismay and wondering what mail service we are using to send the plans, because it has now been well over a month and nothing has been received. Can this be followed up as a matter of urgency? The resident has raised concerns given the amount of earthworks going on, and other people in the street are also concerned. The resident would like to receive some plans before the development is finished.</p>	Director City Planning, Design and Amenity	28/09/2022	<p>officers met with the Keysborough Football Netball Club on 2 September 2022 to discuss timeframes and next steps in the Concept Plan delivery. Council officers will continue to liaise closely with the club throughout the delivery of the Concept Plan and provide updates on key milestones to Gabrielle Williams MP.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMPLETED</p>
<p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: We will action that straightaway and get somebody to respond as soon as possible.</p> <p>Further response provided 28/09/22: I can inform you that officers have been regularly trying to contact the resident, without success. Unfortunately, we cannot give out copies of the endorsed plans, but they can be viewed in person, or obtained through the Freedom of Information process. This information has been previously provided to resident several months ago.</p> <p>Will Stewart (Manager of Statutory Planning), will call again tomorrow, with a view to visit the resident on Friday to allow him to view a copy of the plans and relevant documents, alleviating any</p>					

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT3	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Resident query in relation to person who was subject of a dog attack</p> <p>I received a phone call over the long weekend from a resident, and I have raised this in a previous Council meeting. There have been many emails regarding being subjected to a dog attack. Council advised they would get in touch. I raised this in the following Council meeting, still nothing. I raised a second time and via email. Still nothing. Then over the weekend, I received another phone call asking whether I had asked Council about it. It has now been literally over a month, well and truly into the second month and we still have had no action. Can somebody please call the resident and raise concerns about the dog attack? That would be greatly appreciated.</p>	Director City Planning, Design and Amenity	06/10/2022	<p>concerns he may have. If we do not receive a response, we would like to request your assistance to ask the resident to contact Will Stewart (03 8571 1526) to arrange a suitable time to view the documents.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: We will make sure that happens.</p> <p>Further response provided 28/09/22: I can inform you that officers have been in regular contact with the victim of the attack. This contact has been via a series of phone calls and face to face meetings to obtain witness statements and provide information on the process to investigate and prosecute these matters. Council's last correspondence was in late August to inform the victim that the matter was submitted to court for a hearing on 6th October 2022. As is the normal process during sensitive matters like this, all correspondence is limited to the parties involved in the attack.</p> <p>However, following the repeated requests from the victim of the attack to be contacted in relation to this matter, Luke Mullen (Manager Regulatory Services) will make contact this week and see what</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT4	Cr Tim Dark	<p>Wachter Reserve upgrades I have a supplementary question to that asked at the last Council meeting, regarding the Frederick Wachter Reserve upgrades. I am aware that at this stage one of the playgrounds is projected to be open in the first week of October. The boardwalk will hopefully be installed before my 30th birthday. There are some other things that are occurring as well at the reserve. The Keysborough Tennis Club have not heard anything about the upgrades of the lights and whether the tender has been issued. Can Council relay to the club who the tender provider is and when they are estimating the completion of the lights? The club is very, very excited because they have not had that sort of excitement of having something upgraded.</p>	Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects	06/10/2022	<p>further assistance can be provided. COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: Yes, we certainly will. We can contact them to advise them of the nature of the tender and who has been awarded, but also the timing of when it is expected to start.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/22: The Sport & Recreation Team are in regular communication with the Keysborough Tennis Club and provided the below update last week on the timelines for the Lighting Upgrade Project at Wachter Reserve. Wachter Reserve Tennis Club Lighting Upgrade Project: The tender for this project has recently been awarded, we do not have a program as yet. However, there will be a fairly long lead time on the light fittings and poles, we would therefore not expect on ground works to commence in earnest until February next year, some peripheral cabling works are likely to commence prior in preparedness for the poles and light fittings. The target end date for the project to be completed and commissioned is the end of April.</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

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6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT5	Cr Sophie Tan	<p>Query regarding dumped rubbish on the corner of Corrigan Road and Henry Street in Noble Park I have a question regarding rubbish dumping. This is occurring on the corner of Corrigan and Henry Street, Noble Park, right in front of a flat. There is rubbish being dumped there all the time, week in, week out. Can the relevant officer do something about this? Can a sign be put there or can fines be issued? Because you cannot get rid of this rubbish each week. We must do something about this, it is right in front of the main road.</p>	Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects		<p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: If I can obtain the address then we can send our officers out. Two things, one is a compliance issue which I can refer to Mr Jamie Thorley (Acting Director City Planning, Design and Amenity) to see whether or not we can catch them as they are doing the dumping. With regards to the other process, we can get our education officer out to speak to the tenants or the occupants of the block of apartments with regards to providing information about it. If it does get worse or it continues, then we will have the option of putting our CCTV cameras there if that is what we need to do. But let us start the process by investigating first and then we can see what we can do.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/22: Locals Laws officers investigated this site on 27 September 2022 and were unable to find anything in the dumped rubbish with identification that could lead them back to a specific unit or address. While on site, they also placed a hard waste brochure in each of the unit letterboxes. The Cleansing 'Hot Spots' crew then removed the dumped rubbish later that day.</p>

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT8	Cr Sophie Tan	2A Frank Street Open Space area in Noble Park Is it correct that the 2A Frank Street Open Space will be completed by this month? When are we going to do an	Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects	05/10/2022	<p>Council records indicate that we have removed dumped rubbish from the units at 137 Corrigan Road a total of 13 times in the last 12 months (8 of which have been in response to customer requests). Similarly, dumped rubbish has been removed from Henry Street a total of 55 times in the past 12 months (21 of which have been in response to customer requests).</p> <p>Both Corrigan Road (south of Heatherton Road) and Henry Street already form part of Council's Dumped Rubbish 'Hot Spots' Program with a regular weekly proactive collection on Mondays.</p> <p>Council's Waste, Cleansing & Local Laws teams are also working together on a number of other initiatives to address dumped rubbish at this and other problem sites including liaison with the owners corporations and leasing agents for these properties to better educate and manage the behaviours of their tenants & the use of CCTV cameras so we can identify, fine and/or prosecute any offenders caught.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: I will take that question on notice. I am not aware of any particular dates when it may be completed.</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

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6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		opening for the 2A Frank Street Open Space?			<p>It is complicated as the relevant State Minister is involved. Of course, we are running out of time in terms of that process because they need to be completed by 1 November 2022 prior to caretaker. I can certainly get some information to you about its completion. We have several Minister visits outlined and we are waiting on some feedback on whether or not they are taking place. You will probably start to see those appearing in your calendars, depending on where they are located.</p> <p>Further response provided 05/10/22: The Frank Street Project is now progressing well given the difficulties with labour/material shortages and the substantial rainfall that has fallen over the last two months delaying the exposed aggregate concrete pours. The project is currently around 75% complete and we now expect that the new civic space will reach practical completion and be open to the public early November 2022.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/22: A launch of the new open space area will be planned for early 2023.</p>

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Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT9	Cr Richard Lim OAM	<p>Springvale Boulevard suggestion I have a suggestion. The Springvale Boulevard has already been finished but we are still waiting for the lights. Paul Kearsley (Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects) informed me that we probably must wait until the end of October 2022 to receive all those materials for the streetlights from overseas. My suggestion is if we can make the street more attractive by planting flowers? I frequently tell Mayor Jim Mernit that Dandenong looks fantastic, so why can we not do something resembling that for the Boulevards Grand Opening? Many people say that the street looks good and that it is very big and very spacious, but it looks like a country road, and it is not very flattering.</p>	Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects	06/10/2022	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: We can certainly look at installing some. We do have the use of some moveable planting, and those sorts of things. I could get Kevin Van Boxtel to have a look at whether or not they are available for certain parts of Springvale Boulevard. We would have to probably locate them where we have enough width in the footpath because they are quite large. We have used them previously in other parts of Springvale on occasion. We can certainly look at whether we can do that. With regards to other factors of the Boulevard, we are currently going through a process of checking all the defects and certainly, there are several them.</p> <p>This is generally usual, in these large construction projects. But the contractor will be obligated to come back and fix some of those issues. We hope that we would be able to give you an update in a couple of weeks on those matters.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/20/22: The pedestrian lights have arrived and their installation has commenced and they should be operational early next week.</p>

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>The Springvale Boulevard plant selection for the project reflects the rich cultural diversity of the precinct with a framework of Australian plants, mixed with exotic display gardens at key locations along the street. Shade canopy trees have been planted for the widened footpath areas to provide amenity to pedestrians. As with all new streetscape projects it will take some time for the plants to grow and flourish in their new environment.</p> <p>New colourful umbrellas and outdoor dining furniture will appear this month at food establishments that operate outdoor dining. Arrangement are also being made to install planter boxes with flowers.</p> <p>The recently completed Boulevard works provide an exciting canvas for further place making opportunities and a number of ideas are already being considered and implemented. We also expect the community engagement process that will occur as part of the soon to commence Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan to identify further ideas that could be explored. The proposed illuminated arts works are currently unfunded and will be the subject of a City Improvement Program application for the 2022/23 budget process.</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT11	Cr Lana Formoso	<p>Dumped rubbish issues along the alleyways at the back of the Menzies Avenue shops and the Dunearn Road shops</p> <p>I have had a business from the Menzies Avenue shops contact me regarding the alleyway at the back of their businesses, that is constantly having rubbish dumped. They have said that Council has been pretty proactive in sweeping the area on a regular basis but it has been happening a little bit too often these days. They would like that to be looked into, as well as the alleyway in Dunearn Road shops. Those two locations are pretty much a thoroughfare for all sorts of behaviour but in particular, dumped rubbish. If we could please look at maybe patrolling these areas a little bit more or having some other ways that we can resolve this matter.</p>	Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects/ Director City Planning, Design and Amenity	06/10/2022	<p>COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: I can advise once we get details of the addresses that we can send a crew up there. Again, Mr Jamie Thorley's (Acting Director City Planning, Design and Amenity) team can do some work with regards to compliance and local laws, whether or not there are any investigation or fines. It is a scourge, unfortunately. People find it easier to do that than put it in the bin or take it to a transfer station. But we can certainly follow up and see what we can do.</p> <p>Further response provided 06/10/22: Cleansing staff have inspected the rear laneways of the Menzies Avenue and Dunearn Road shops for dumped rubbish on four separate occasions over the past two weeks. On each occasion we found no dumped rubbish in the laneway, and there was minimal litter. Current service standards for these shops includes footpath sweeping either 3 (Dunearn Road) or 5 (Menzies Avenue) days per week along the front of the shops and monthly along the rear laneways (both locations). Dumped rubbish is dealt with on a reactive basis only (we have not received enough reports to warrant inclusion</p>

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Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT12	Cr Lana Formoso	<p>Resident complaints received regarding the speeds driven along Bundamba Drive in Noble Park North</p> <p>A few months ago, I raised the issue Bundamba Drive, Noble Park North.</p> <p>As a result of one of the residents that is here this evening, is amongst others that have complained about the speed that cars travel along that road in Noble Park North. I did see that we have some measuring devices put into place, and I just wanted to know what the result of that was? What did Council find, the speed and the amount of vehicles that were going through there, and what we were going to do about these issues?</p>	Director Business, Engineering and Major Projects	04/10/2022	<p>on the proactive 'Hot Spots' program). Cleansing staff will continue to monitor both sites for dumped rubbish over the coming weeks with a view to adjusting service levels if required.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COMPLETED</p> <p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: If you have seen equipment out there, we probably were doing the tracking of speed but also the number of vehicles.</p> <p>I can check with the traffic transport team tomorrow and see whether they have produced some data and material out of that which we can then bring back to your attention.</p> <p>Further response provided 04/10/22: The results of the traffic speed data identified the 85th percentile speed (the speed at which 85% of drivers are travelling at or below) was under the 50km/h. This indicates the majority of drivers are travelling at appropriately safe speeds along the road, and whilst a very small number of drivers may exceed the speed limit, the data clearly demonstrates there is not a significant speeding issue.</p> <p>With regards to the traffic volumes, the average weekday volume was 296 vehicles per day. Given the</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

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6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
26/09/22 CQT13	Cr Rhonda Garad	<p>Would Council consider a true partnership model in leading this community led initiative? My first question is in relation to the Keysie Market, and whether the Council would consider partnering not in the usual way, but with a co-designed community-led concept, going forward with the Keysie group for a future market.</p>	Director Community Services	07/10/2022	<p>number of properties which access this street either directly or from one of the connecting courts, this traffic volume indicates it is predominantly local traffic accessing adjacent properties, with virtually no through traffic usage.</p> <p>With the above points in mind, the recently collected traffic data on Bundamba Drive identifies both speeds and volumes are suitable for the local access function of the road.</p> <p>Further, these results indicate no traffic calming or traffic management interventions are required along this road at this time.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p>
					<p>Initial response provided 26/09/22: Officers will meet with the Keysie Market representatives to better understand their aims moving forward, and how this can be supported. Certainly, this will include options that we have available for grant funding, and we can certainly provide a further update once that meeting has occurred.</p> <p>Further response provided 07/10/22: Officers have met with the Keysie Market this week to better</p>

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

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6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS (Cont.)

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>understand their aims moving forward, and how this can best be supported by Council. Advice has been provided regarding available Council grants in the medium to long term. Connections with South East Leisure have been referred for booking the market's preferred site, and officers will investigate additional support that Council can provide via its volunteering program.</p> <p>Officers will continue to engage with the market representatives and offer support as requested.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p>

At the Ordinary meeting of Council on Monday, 24 March 2014, Council resolved to change the way Councillors and Public questions taken on notice are answered and recorded from 14 April 2014 meeting of Council onwards.

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.7.2 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.

7.1 Request to Consider an "In Camera" Matter (Cont.)

MINUTE 589

Moved by: Cr Tim Dark

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

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.

CARRIED

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.

While this report and its attachments remain confidential, a public statement was released by Mayor Jim Memeti on 14 October 2022.

8 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was considered.

The meeting closed at 8.22 PM.

Confirmed: / /
