

COUNCIL MEETING

**Tuesday 16 November, 2021
6.30pm**

**Council Chamber
Level 1
Maribyrnong Council Offices
Corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray**

AGENDA

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Agenda Item 6

CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS COUNCIL MEETING - 19 OCTOBER 2021 AND 9 NOVEMBER 2021

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Danny Bilaver
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To present for confirmation, the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19 October 2021 and 9 November 2021.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The Maribyrnong City Council Governance rules requires Council to keep minutes of each meeting of the Council and Delegated Committees, and for minutes to be submitted to the next appropriate meeting for confirmation.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday 19 October 2021 [↓](#)
2. Unconfirmed Minutes of the Special Council Meeting held on 9 November 2021.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19 October 2021 and 9 November 2021.

Agenda Item 6**BACKGROUND**

The minutes of meetings remain unconfirmed until the next appropriate meeting of Council.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

Council's Governance Rules requires Council to confirm its minutes at the next appropriate meeting.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Not applicable.

4. Resources

Not applicable.

5. Environment

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The unconfirmed minutes of the Council Meetings held on 19 October 2021 and 9 November 2021 are presented for confirmation.



Maribyrnong City Council

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday 19 October, 2021
6.30pm**

**Council Chamber
Level 1
Maribyrnong Council Offices
Corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray
and via Zoom**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Michael Clarke (Chair)
Councillor Sarah Carter
Councillor Simon Crawford
Councillor Jorge Jorquera
Councillor Cuc Lam
Councillor Bernadette Thomas
Councillor Anthony Tran

To be confirmed at the Council Meeting
to be held on 16 November, 2021

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 6.32pm.

The Chair, Cr Michael Clarke made the following acknowledgement statement:

“We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung and Boon wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging”.

PRESENT

Councillor Michael Clarke (Chair)
Councillor Sarah Carter (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Simon Crawford (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Jorge Jorquera (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Cuc Lam (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Bernadette Thomas (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Anthony Tran (via audio and visual connection)

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock
Director Community Services, Clem Gillings (via audio and visual connection)
Acting Director Corporate Services, Lisa King
Acting Director Infrastructure Services, Patrick Jess (via audio and visual connection)
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services, Danny Bilaver
Manager Finance, Mark Connor (via audio and visual connection)
Governance Officer, Adele Woolcock

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Nil.

4. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

A motion was moved by Cr Cuc Lam, seconded by Cr Simon Crawford, that Council suspend standing orders.

CARRIED

The Chair, Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke spoke on his term as Mayor and the appointment of the new Chief Executive Officer, Ms Celia Haddock.

RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

A motion was moved by Cr Anthony Tran, seconded by Cr Cuc Lam, that Council resume standing orders.

CARRIED

5. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question

Andrew Macri, asked the following questions:

1. Has Council reviewed the 40km/h speed limit?

Based on my observations, it is not being followed by the majority of motorists. I live on Richelieu Street in West Footscray and frequently observe cars doing 50-70 km/h (sometimes faster). Driving in and around West Footscray, I've been tailgated and overtaken on the wrong side of the road by other motorists seemingly frustrated at my adherence to the speed limit. I would say unlike most limits where only a minority do not follow it – this speed limit is not followed by the majority. I'd rather go back to 50km/h if there is no intention to enforce it.

Response

The Chair, Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke stated Councils introduction of an Area 40km/hr program in local streets is aimed at improving safety for all types of road users including motorists, pedestrians and cyclists of which we are seeing a very significant increase.

Cr Clarke noted that research has shown that speed of a vehicle and the probability of fatal injury for a vulnerable road user (pedestrian or cyclist), have a direct relationship. Cr Clarke further noted that at a local level traffic studies in Yarraville and Seddon undertaken in 2019 indicate a positive impact of speed limit reductions in keeping road users safe, with a 60% decrease in reported casualty crashes in these areas since the lower speed limits were introduced.

It was advised by Cr Clark that enforcement of speed limits is critical in ensuring majority of road users adhere to the rules and Council staff will contact Victoria Police to request monitoring and a greater focus on enforcing speed limits within the West Footscray area.

Question

Eddie Merrifield, asked the following questions:

I refer to Council's Annual Report 2020/21 Financial Statements. Figure 3 Expenditure under the heading of "Employee Costs".

1. Why is this percentage the lowest for years?
2. Is it because of changing the category from 'wages' to employee costs?
3. Does this mean outsourcing of staff overheads are hidden elsewhere because they would inflate the once listed high wages?

Response

The Chair, Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke advised in relation to the first question, it is not the lowest for years and that the expenditure over the last couple of Financial Years has been adjusted and realigned with the impacts of COVID-19 (for example due to facilities being closed and reduction of income). Cr Clarke advised that the lowest was in 2019/20 with 36.9% and in that year employee cost savings were due to the Community Care service continuing under a subcontracting arrangement and vacant positions not filled during the financial year as part of the COVID-19 budget alignment.

It was further noted that the percentage of employee costs over the last three years is as follows:

FY 2020/21 Employee Costs	= 39.1%
FY 2019/20 Employee Costs	= 36.9%
FY 2018/19 Employee Costs	= 39.8%
The Average for three years being	= 38.6%

Cr Clarke added that Mr Merrifield's assumption "changing categories from wages to employee costs" was incorrect and referred to the Annual Report – financial Statements Note 4.1 for a break-down of the employee costs.

In relation to the third question Cr Clarke explained that Mr Merrifield's assumption was once again incorrect and that adjustments to various types of expenditure have been required to navigate through COVID-19.

Question

Frances Evans, asked the following questions:

1. I asked this question on the 14th September and hope very much for a response. Regarding the public health emergency in Victoria, and rising numbers of Covid infections at Park Hotel how does Maribyrnong's affirmation as a Refugee Welcome Zone ensure that the refugees in Melbourne Immigration Transit Authority (MITA) and Park Hotel are getting access to vaccines and Covid tests? I understand that Detention Centres and their operation are at the discretion of the immigration minister and thus I ask that the Council advocate to the federal government on this issue.
2. I would like to know what the advocacy strategies are that confirm Maribyrnong's status as a Refugee Welcome Zone, and how Maribyrnong

Council enact motions such as other councils and organisations did (Ryde, Darebin, Moreland and lastly AEU in the last 9 weeks) – by asking the Federal Government to commit to making pathways for family reunions, and calling for permanent protection to refugees in immigration detention without visas alongside the 4300 Afghans in Australia, on temporary protection visas? This questions was raised on 14th September in last Council meeting, I've had no answer yet.

3. It is wonderful to see that Maribyrnong is part of the Refugee Welcome Zone affiliation – which seeks commitment to social justice, particularly for refugees. Given this, would the Council be willing to do advocacy correspondence for the asylum seekers, to the Prime Minister, Home Affairs Minister and Immigration Minister for the refugees held at the MITA and Park Detention Centres, to be released into community detention while their various legal proceedings take place. For example, one of these men has leukaemia – is not 12 years detained – others have caught Covid whilst in detention – very tragic circumstances.

Response

The Chair, Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke stated that it was in the best interest of all levels of government to make Covid tests and vaccines available. Cr Clarke further advised that in relation to the other questions the response was provided at the last Council meeting to these pressing and concerning human rights issues. Council will take the time to consider the request and understand what effective advocacy it can take and is concerned about human rights of all and particularly those in detention centres.

EXTENSION OF PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

A motion was moved by Cr Anthony Tran, seconded by Cr Sarah Carter, that Council extend Public Question Time by 15 minutes.

CARRIED

Question

Jessica Stevenson-Wright, asked the following questions:

In light of current and future Covid pandemic environments – we are all feeling restricted. Our communities have been effected, lived changed and the times ahead are uncertain for so many. But, as this council knows, community continues – and can indeed grow stronger. It is time that more privileged members of our community need to promote strength through solidarity, and look to enhancing the rights of those less privileged.

In light of these times, and as a Refugee Welcome Zone – could Maribyrnong Council request that the Federal Government consider the health and the continued community support for the refugees currently detained in MITA and Park Hotel, be released into community detention.

Response

The Chair, Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke stated as per the response provided at the last Council meeting in regard to these pressing and concerning human rights issues, Council will take the time to consider and understand your requests, and what effective advocacy it can take.

Councillor Sarah Carter added that as part of the Mayors for National Refugee Week, herself, as Mayor last year, and Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke as current Mayor, have been involved in advocating to the Commonwealth Government to have a more compassionate community refugee program.

Councillor Jorge Jorquera echoed Cr Carter's comments and noted Council's participation in the Racism Not Welcome street signs campaign.

Question

Christopher Xuereb, asked the following questions:

1. Does Council has any plans to create extra green open space in Footscray to support its population growth which is forecasted to more than double from 20,703 people in 2021 to over 44,000 by 2051?
2. If Council does have plans on creating more open space which sites around Footscray are being considered to achieve this goal?

Response

The Chair, Mayor Councillor Michael Clarke stated Council has an Open Space Strategy which identifies gaps in provisions of the open space network and that Footscray is recognised as an open space gap area and one of population growth.

Cr Clarke advised that Council is building a new Civic and Community Hub in Hyde Street on the site of the current Council offices and there will be a civic park for community use as part of the development. It was further advised that Council is also looking at further opportunities such as the West Gate Tunnel Authorities land in and around Footscray once the Tunnel is completed and that Council is also partnering with other levels of government to locate open space development opportunities.

Cr Clarke noted that Council requires the payment of Public Open Space Contributions for all new development across the municipality, including Footscray, and provided current examples in the Footscray area:

- A new local park on the corner of Warde and Whitehall Streets as part of the Joseph Rd Public Realm Plan (due for completion in the second half of 2022)
- Development of Footscray Wharf (due for completion by June 30, 2022)
- Open Space developments at 2 Hopkins St to increase open space and provide access to Maribyrnong River
- Implementation of Quarry Park Master Plan to provide new open space.

The Mayor continued by noting that Council will continue to seize opportunities where it can to further develop open space within the municipality.

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The purpose of this report was to present for confirmation, the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 September 2021 and the confidential minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 October 2021.

Council Resolution

That Council confirms the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 September 2021 and the confidential minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 October 2021.

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

7.1. Noting of Confirmed Minutes of Delegated Committees

The purpose of this report was to present for noting the confirmed minutes of the Council's Delegated Committees established under section 63 and 64 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the confirmed minutes of the City Development Delegated Committee held on 27 July 2021.

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

7.2. Noting the confirmed Minutes of the Audit & Risk Committee Meeting - 15 June and 24 August 2021

The purpose of this report was to present for noting the confirmed minutes of the Council's Audit and Risk Committee established under section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Council Resolution

That Council note the confirmed Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes 15 June and 24 August 2021.

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED**8. PETITIONS**

Nil.

9. OFFICER REPORTS

Cr Crawford left the meeting at 7.07pm and returned at 7.08pm.

9.1. Consideration of the Maribyrnong City Council Annual Report 2020/2021

The purpose of this report was to Council to receive and note the Maribyrnong City Council Annual Report 2020/2021, including a report of operations, and audited Performance and Financial Statements.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Receive and notes the Maribyrnong City Council Annual Report 2020/2021.*
- 2. Note a public notice, pursuant to S133 (2) of the Local Government Act 1989, advising that the Maribyrnong City Council Annual Report 2020/2021 has been prepared and can be viewed on Council's website has been published.*
- 3. Note that inspection of the Annual Report at Council Offices can only occur once COVID-19 restrictions allow.*

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter

Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED**9.2. Financial Plan 2021-2022 to 2030-2031**

The purpose of this report was to seek Council endorsement of the Financial Plan 2021-2022 to 2030-2031, developed in accordance with Section 91 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).

Council Resolution

That Council adopts the Financial Plan 2021-2022 to 2030-2031.

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford

Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED**9.3. Investment Policy 2021**

The purpose of this report was to present a revised Investment Policy, which was last adopted by Council in August 2018.

Council Resolution

That Council adopts the City of Maribyrnong Investment Policy 2021 with the inclusion of the following dot point in 6.11 of the Policy:

“Council strives to be a socially responsible and ethical investor in making any investment in individual securities or enterprises. As such, Council will actively seek alternatives to sectors or companies whose core business and/or business practices contradicts its values.”

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

9.4. Putting Customers First Strategy - Engagement

The purpose of this report was to note the key findings of community engagement undertaken on the ‘Putting Customers First Strategy’ and to present the Strategy for adoption.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Note the key findings of consultation on the draft Putting Customers First Strategy at Attachment 1 of this report.*
- 2. Adopts the Putting Customer First Strategy at Attachment 2 of this report.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED

9.5. Community Engagement Policy 2021

The purpose of this report was to note the findings of community feedback received during re-engagement on the Community Engagement Policy and to present the revised Policy for adoption.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Note the additional engagement undertaken on the Community Engagement Policy during the month of August 2021 has supported the new engagement approach.*
- 2. Adopt the updated Community Engagement Policy inclusive of the Appendix*

detailing the process for property matters.

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

9.6. Complaints Policy

The purpose of this report was to present Council's Complaints Policy, developed in accordance with requirements under the Local Government Act 2020, for adoption.

Council Resolution

That Council adopts the Complaints Policy.

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.7. Advocacy Framework and Priorities

The purpose of this report was to present the draft Advocacy Framework and identified priorities arising from Council workshops on advocacy projects.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the draft Advocacy Framework and the prioritisation of the core advocacy projects*
- 2. Note that the Advocacy Matrix will be developed as a working document to identify stakeholders, activities, interim milestones, responsible officers, consultation and reporting cycles.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.8. M9 – Update on strategic priorities, advocacy priorities and Memorandum of Understanding implementation

The purpose of this report was to update Councillors on M9 including the strategic priorities, the process for determining respective advocacy issues, and the Memorandum of Understanding implementation.

Council Resolution

That Council note the progress of M9 to date and that further reports to Council will be provided as advocacy priorities are finalised.

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

9.9. Community and Business Pandemic Recovery Support

The purpose of this report was to seek Council endorsement of a range of community and business pandemic recovery support measures.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Endorse the community and business pandemic recovery support measures outlined in this report.*
- 2. Note that the 2021 New Year's Eve event will not proceed and that this funding will be re-directed towards recovery support for key trader districts.*

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.10. Review of Procurement Policy

The purpose of this report was to adopt the reviewed Procurement Policy (the Policy).

Council Resolution

That Council adopt the reviewed Procurement Policy.

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.11. NeXT Project - Advocacy Update and Next Steps

The purpose of this report was to provide an update on the latest advocacy developments on NeXT: Footscray Library, Community and Cultural Hub Project.

To seek endorsement and funding to proceed with the next phases of design of the development site(s) based on the previous Council resolution committing \$5M to the schematic and detailed design of the project.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Note the continuing targeted advocacy toward government stimulus and funding programs.*
2. *Note the intention to undertake a car parking study to ascertain the car parking needs generated by the NeXT facility and the most appropriate way to cater for these needs.*
3. *Note that preliminary concept development for open space will be progressed.*
4. *Note the intention to undertake an integrated study as part of schematic design to explore options for affordable social housing for consideration.*
5. *Endorse the commencement of schematic design utilising the previously resolved \$5M commitment.*
6. *Receive updates on any external funding commitments achieved, allowing the next steps in regard to undertaking detailed design, and on requests for any additional budget required to achieve this, to occur in line with future budget review processes.*

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.12. Proposed Exemptions from mandatory Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) bin rollout

The purpose of this report was to introduce a process for residents to request an exemption from the mandatory November 2021 rollout of the Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) waste service.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Approve the provision of an exemption by application, from the current rollout of the Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) waste service, based on the applicant's current waste management practice or the volume of the waste generated.*
2. *Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to develop and implement an exemption approval process based on an individual household's waste management practice and having minimal impact on Council's Towards Zero Waste Strategy goals.*

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

9.13. Lease of the Footscray Integrated Early Learning Centre at 10A Hyde Street Footscray

The purpose of this report was to inform Council of the outcomes of the public notice pursuant to section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act) and seek Council's approval to lease part of the premises at 10A Hyde St, Footscray to Sparkways Early Learning.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Notes that no submissions were received in response to the public notice published pursuant to section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Act).*
2. *Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to enter into a Lease Agreement with Try Australia Children's Services (trading as Sparkways Early Learning) for part of the premises at 10A Hyde Street, Footscray with the following key terms:*
 - (i) *Term: 5 years.*
 - (ii) *Rental: \$150,000 plus GST per annum.*
 - (iii) *Rental Increases: 3% increase per annum.*
 - (iv) *Permitted Use: Three (3) and Four (4) year old Kindergarten, long day care and any other early years' service or community activities approved in writing by Council.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

Cr Crawford left the meeting at 8.15pm and returned at 8.16pm.

9.14. Discontinuance and Sale of Road Abutting 18 and 20 Stewart and 69 Hamilton Streets, Yarraville

The purpose of this report was to inform Council of the outcome of the public notice completed pursuant to section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic) (Act) and seek Council approval to finalise the discontinuance and sale of the road abutting 18 and 20 Stewart and 69 Hamilton Streets, Yarraville (Road).

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Note that no submissions were received in response to the public notice given under sections 207A and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (Vic) (Act).*
2. *Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake all statutory procedures pursuant to its powers under clause 3 of Schedule 10 of the Act to discontinue the road abutting 18 and 20 Stewart and 69 Hamilton Streets, Yarraville being part of the road contained in certificate of title volume 11693 folio 847, shown outlined in blue in Attachment 1 (Road).*
3. *Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to:*
 - a. *Sell the Road to the owners of 18 Stewart Street, Yarraville for the price of no less than \$30,000 plus GST.*

b. *Execute all necessary documentation relating to this matter.*

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford
Seconded: Cr Bernadette Thomas

CARRIED

9.15. Annual assessment of the performance of the Audit and Risk Committee for year ending 30 June 2021.

The purpose of this report was to provide Council with the annual assessment of the Audit and Risk Committee's performance against the Audit and Risk Committee Charter for year ending 30 June 2021.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the annual assessment of the Audit and Risk Committee's performance against the Audit and Risk Committee Charter for year ending 30 June 2021.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

9.16. Amendment to Council's Governance Rules

The purpose of this report was to endorse for public consultation amendments to the Governance Rules developed in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Endorse for community engagement the Draft Governance Rules at Attachment 1 to this report.*
- 2. Receive a report at the December 2021 Council meeting to consider the proposed final draft of the Governance Rules.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Sarah Carter

CARRIED

9.17. Review of Council Delegations

The purpose of this report was to present Council's Instruments of Delegation for endorsement following a review of Council's delegations.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *In the exercise of the powers conferred by section 11(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act), and other legislation referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, resolves that:*
 - a. *There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.*
 - b. *The instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.*
 - c. *On the coming into force of the instrument, all previous delegations to the Chief Executive Officer are revoked.*
 - d. *The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*
2. *In the exercise of the powers conferred by the legislation referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff, resolves that:*
 - a. *There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to Members of Council Staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that Instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.*
 - b. *The Instruments comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the Instrument.*
 - c. *On the coming into force of the Instrument all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked.*
 - d. *The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instrument must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.*
3. *In the exercise of the powers conferred by s 437(2) of the Environment Protection Act 2017 and the Instrument of Delegation of the Environment Protection Authority under the Act dated 4 June 2021, Maribyrnong City Council resolves that:*
 - a. *There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the attached Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.*
 - b. *The instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.*
 - c. *The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from*

time to time adopt.

Moved: Cr Simon Crawford
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.18. Review of Civic Awards Judging Panel Terms of Reference

The purpose of this report was to present the outcomes of the review of the Civic Awards Judging Panel Terms of Reference and seek endorsement of the updated terms.

Council Resolution

That Council adopt the revised Terms of Reference for the Maribyrnong City Council Civic Awards Judging Panel 2021 – 2025.

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

9.19. Councillor Support and Expenses July 2021 to September 2021

The purpose of this report was to present the Councillor Support and expenses for the period July 2021 to September 2021.

Council Resolution

That Council notes the Councillor Support and Expenses Report for the period July 2021 to September 2021 which will be made available via Council's website for the term of the current Council.

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED

9.20. Governance Report - September

The purpose of this report was to receive and note the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor delegates' for the period September 2021 as well as other statutory compliance and governance matters as they arise.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Notes the Governance Report containing the record of informal meetings of*

Councillors and Councillor Delegates' Reports for September 2021 which will be made available on Council's website for the term of the current Council.

2. *In the exercise of powers conferred by s147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Maribyrnong City Council resolves that –*
 - a. *The members of Council staff referred to in the instrument at Attachment 2 be appointed and authorised as set out in those instruments.*
 - b. *The instrument come into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instruments, and remain in force until Council determines to vary or revoke them.*
 - c. *The instrument be sealed.*

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter

Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

10. NOTICES OF MOTION

In accordance with clause 24.10 of Council's Governance Rules, in order to move the motion in item 10.1 of the Agenda, Mayor Cr Michael Clarke vacated the Chair to the Deputy Mayor.

10.1. Notice Of Motion: Solar Initiative

Council is committed to seeking sustainable energy solutions together with investigating alternative revenue streams and external funding opportunities to reduce over reliance on rate revenue.

A number of innovative solar and sustainable energy project options will be investigated that are suitable to the local context of the City of Maribyrnong.

In investigating the options available to Council consideration will be given to exploring solar and sustainable energy business opportunities, net community and environmental benefits and grant opportunities.

Such an enterprise has the potential to deliver a source of revenue to Council which is independent of rates as well as providing a boost for local employment. There may also be flow on benefits with regard to research and development initiatives.

Following the scoping of the project options, consideration will be given to the most suitable project option to progress to a detailed feasibility (including commercial and legal due diligence, site assessments and preliminary costings) and the assessment of Council's risk exposure as required under the Local Government Act 2020, all of which will require resource allocation to complete.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Requests the Chief Executive Officer to investigate several suitable solar and sustainable energy project options for Council and the community with environmental benefits, and revenue raising capacity.*
2. *Receives a report in April 2022 outlining the solar and sustainable energy project options available and considers whether to progress to investigate a suitable project option. Progressing the project option will include a study to determine the feasibility of the potential project inclusive of commercial and legal due diligence and an assessment of Council's risk exposure as required under the Local Government Act 2020.*

Moved: Cr Michael Clarke
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

The Mayor, Cr Michael Clarke resumed the Chair.

Cr Jorquera left the meeting at 8.48 pm.

10.2. Notice Of Motion: Fossil Fuel Treaty

The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is an international campaign aiming to fast-track the phase out of fossil fuels in order to limit the accelerating climate crisis, and to support a just transition for people around the world who are currently working in the fossil fuel industry.

The Treaty has three objectives:

1. Non-Proliferation: preventing the proliferation of coal, oil, and gas by ending all new exploration and production.
2. Global Disarmament: phasing out existing stockpiles and production of fossil fuels in line with the 1.5C global climate goal.
3. Just Transition: fast-tracking real solutions and a just transition for every worker, community, and country.

The world is beginning to recognise that unprecedented levels of international cooperation will be required to prevent the build-up of fossil fuels, to phase out stockpiles, and transition peacefully to safer and cleaner alternatives. The Treaty takes the same approach used to defuse the threats posed by weapons of mass destruction.

To date, this campaign has been endorsed by the cities of Los Angeles, Barcelona, Vancouver, Amber Valley Borough Council and Lewes Town Council in the UK, and the City of Moreland.

In late April 2021, 100 Nobel Prize laureates, including the Dalai Lama, former East Timor President José Ramos-Horta and Australia's own Professor Peter Doherty, endorsed the campaign.

Endorsement is consistent with Maribyrnong's existing policies on the climate emergency – the acknowledgement of the climate emergency in February 2019,

and the approval of the Climate Emergency Strategy in September 2020. It is a similar policy stance as the motion to support the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons that was passed by Maribyrnong at the April 2019 Council Meeting.

The campaign website outlines clearly the need for the Treaty on the website (fossilfuel treaty.org):

“Climate change, like nuclear weapons, is a major global threat. Bold and immediate action is needed to address the climate emergency. The main cause of the climate emergency is fossil fuels. Coal, oil and gas are responsible for almost 80 per cent of all carbon dioxide emissions since the industrial revolution. Phasing out fossil fuel production, and fast-tracking progress towards safer and more cost-effective solutions, will require unprecedented international cooperation in three main areas – non-proliferation, global disarmament and a peaceful, just transition.”

Signing the treaty would give Maribyrnong an opportunity to continue to demonstrate leadership in responding to the climate crisis.

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Endorses the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty that is calling on national governments to negotiate and ratify a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty to stop the expansion and begin phase out of fossil fuels and ensure a global just transition for all.*
2. *Adds Maribyrnong City Council to the list of organisations who have endorsed the Treaty on the Treaty website, www.fossilfuel treaty.org.*
3. *Includes the three objectives of the treaty (below) in the Maribyrnong Climate Emergency Action Plan:*
 - *Non-Proliferation: preventing the proliferation of coal, oil, and gas by ending all new exploration and production.*
 - *Global Disarmament: phasing out existing stockpiles and production of fossil fuels in line with the 1.5C global climate goal.*
 - *Just Transition: fast-tracking real solutions and a just transition for every worker, community, and country.*
4. *Writes to the Australian Foreign Minister, Minister for the Environment, Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction, and the Federal Members for Fraser, Gellibrand, and Maribyrnong, advising of this action and calling on the Commonwealth Government to support and ratify this treaty.*

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

Cr Jorquera returned to the meeting at 8.53 pm.

10.3. Notice Of Motion: Women’s Access to the Shed

Currently Maribyrnong City Council has the Men's Shed organisation operating out of a specific wood working facility at the Braybrook hub. The organisation completes woodwork projects for themselves and for other community groups with the added bonus of providing a connection point for men to come and chat in a non-threatening environment.

The role of the group is to help facilitate:

- Improve men's health and wellbeing
- Enhance skill development and learning
- Offer social support and a better connection to participate in community life
- Offer positive contributions to the greater community.

The Men's Shed viability is supported by collecting membership fees, completing projects for other organisations for fees and through funding from grants.

The current lease agreement with the Men's Shed lapsed in July 2021 with discussions started to renew a new lease for 3 years. Within the new lease, Men's Shed have been asked to support:

- a. A range of programming/come and learn sessions for diverse groups such as women and CALD groups.
- b. Usage by Maribyrnong City Council outside their normal hours of operation, which is 8/9am to 1 p.m. Monday to Friday to provide extra programming and use to ensure greater usage of the space by more of the local community.

The community space utilised by the Men's Shed is unique in that it is specifically set up to facilitate skills in woodwork.

To accommodate broader use, the parameters of the lease will need to change to increase usage levels for the whole community including women's groups..

Council Resolution

That Council:

1. *Note that a number of women's groups have requested access to spaces and programs to develop skills in woodwork, home repair, home improvement projects, and the restoration of items.*
2. *Initiate an investigation into the availability of suitable sites, program and funding opportunities to give Maribyrnong women's groups access to these skill development and learning opportunities.*
3. *Receive a report back that outlines how such outcomes can best be achieved within the resources currently available across Maribyrnong's Community Centres network.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Anthony Tran

CARRIED

11. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Cuc Lam noted that it was the last meeting of Councillor Michael Clarke as Mayor and asked if there was an official acknowledgement of his term.

The Chief Executive Officer, Ms Celia Haddock noted that at the meeting of the Mayoral election on 9 November 2021, there is an opportunity to acknowledge and farewell the outgoing Mayor and to welcome the incoming Mayor.

12. URGENT BUSINESS**Council Resolution**

That Council considers that Net Zero Emissions Target meets the criteria as urgent business and cannot be reasonably deferred for inclusion in the agenda of the next Council Meeting.

Moved: Cr Sarah Carter
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED**NET ZERO EMISSIONS TARGET**

A motion was moved by Cr Bernadette Thomas, seconded by Cr Jorge Jorquera, that Council urges the Commonwealth Government to set a 2030 emissions reduction target in line with those of our global neighbours of between 40% and 60% below national peaks and attends the COP26 summit to Glasgow committing Australia to the emissions reduction target.

CARRIED**13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

Nil.

14. MEETING CLOSURE

The Chair, Cr Michael Clarke, declared the meeting closed at 9.21pm.

To be confirmed at the Council Meeting
to be held on 16 November, 2021.

Chair, Cr Michael Clarke



Maribyrnong City Council

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Tuesday 9 November, 2021
6.30pm**

**Council Chamber
Level 1
Maribyrnong Council Offices
Corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Sarah Carter
Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Simon Crawford
Councillor Jorge Jorquera
Councillor Cuc Lam
Councillor Bernadette Thomas
Councillor Anthony Tran

To be confirmed at the Council Meeting
to be held on 16 November, 2021

1. COMMENCEMENT OF MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 6.34pm.

The temporary Chair, Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock, made the following acknowledgement statement:

“We acknowledge that we are on the traditional lands of the Kulin Nation. We offer our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands, and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, past and present”.

PRESENT

Councillor Sarah Carter
Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Simon Crawford
Councillor Jorge Jorquera
Councillor Cuc Lam
Councillor Bernadette Thomas
Councillor Anthony Tran

IN ATTENDANCE

Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock
Director Community Services, Clem Gillings
Acting Director Corporate Services, Lisa King
Acting Director Infrastructure Services, Patrick Jess
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services, Danny Bilaver
Governance Officer, Adele Woolcock

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. OFFICER REPORTS

4.1. Confirmation of the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral Term

The purpose of this report was to confirm that the next Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral term will be for a period of one year.

Council Resolution

That Council note that the Mayoral and Deputy Mayoral term will be for a period of one year commencing from the declaration of the election result of the Mayoral

and Deputy Mayoral election respectively.

Moved: Cr Michael Clarke
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

4.2. Election of the Mayor

The purpose of this report was to elect a Mayor of Maribyrnong City Council.

The temporary Chair, Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock, advised that the election of the Mayor was to be held in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, and the Maribyrnong City Council Governance Rules, and called for nominations for the position of Mayor.

Cr Anthony Tran was nominated by Cr Michael Clarke.

There being no other nominations, the Chair, Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock, declared Cr Anthony Tran the Mayor of Maribyrnong City Council for a period of one year.

The Mayor, Cr Anthony Tran, assumed the Chair and addressed the meeting with his acceptance speech.

4.3. Election of the Deputy Mayor

The purpose of this report was to elect a Deputy Mayor for a period to coincide with the Mayoral term.

The Chair, Mayor Cr Anthony Tran, advised that the election of the Deputy Mayor was to be held in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020, and the Maribyrnong City Council Governance Rules, and called for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor.

Cr Sarah Carter was nominated by Cr Cuc Lam.

Cr Bernadette Thomas was nominated by Cr Jorge Jorquera.

The Chair, Mayor Cr Anthony Tran called for a vote. Cr Sarah Carter was declared the Deputy Mayor of Maribyrnong City Council for a period of one year.

4.4. Appointments to Council's Audit and Risk Committee and Delegated Committees

The purpose of this report was to appoint Chairs and representatives of Delegated Committees established under section 63 and 64 of the Local

Government Act 2020, members of the Audit and Risk Committee.

Council Resolution

That Council:

- 1. Appoints Councillor Cuc Lam as Chair of the City Development Delegated Committee for a one year term, to coincide with the Mayoral term.*
- 2. Appoints the Mayor (ex-officio) and Councillors Cuc Lam and Sarah Carter as members of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee for a one year term, to coincide with the Mayoral term.*
- 3. Appoints Councillors Michael Clarke and Cuc Lam as representatives to the Audit and Risk Committee and notes the appointment of the Mayor as a substitute representative.*
- 4. Appoints Councillor Bernadette Thomas as the Councillor delegate and Councillor Simon Crawford as the proxy Councillor delegate to the LeadWest Committee.*

Moved: Cr Michael Clarke
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED

5. MEETING CLOSURE

The Chair, Cr Anthony Tran, declared the meeting closed at 7.09pm.

To be confirmed at the Council Meeting
to be held on 16 November, 2021.

Chair, Cr Anthony Tran

Agenda Item 7.1**NOTING OF THE CONFIRMED MINUTES OF DELEGATED COMMITTEES**

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Danny Bilaver
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To present for noting the confirmed minutes of the Council's Delegated Committees established under section 63 and 64 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Council has established Delegated Committees in accordance with section 63 and 64 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- Council's Governance Rules state that each of the Delegated Committees require the minutes to be presented to Council for noting.
- Minutes of Delegated Committees are confirmed at the next scheduled meeting of that Delegated Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Confirmed Minutes of the City Development Delegated Committee held on 21 September 2021 [↓](#)
2. Confirmed Minutes of Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee held on 6 July 2021 [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the confirmed minutes of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee held on 6 July 2021 and the City Development Delegated Committee held on 21 September 2021.

Agenda Item 7.1**BACKGROUND**

In accordance with section 63 and 64 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council has established Delegated Committees. Council's Governance Rules require the confirmed minutes are presented to Council for noting.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

Minutes of confirmed minutes of Delegated Committees are presented in accordance with Council's Governance Rules and the Act.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation

Local Government Act 2020

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Not applicable.

4. Resources

Not applicable.

5. Environment

Not applicable.

Agenda Item 7.1

CONCLUSION

The confirmed minutes of the City Development Delegated Committee held on 21 September 2021 and the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee held on 6 July 2021, established in accordance with section 63 and 64 of the Act are presented to Council for noting.



Maribyrnong City Council

CITY DEVELOPMENT DELEGATED COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Tuesday 21 September, 2021
6.30pm**

**Council Chamber
Level 1
Maribyrnong Council Offices
Corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Sarah Carter (Chair)
Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Simon Crawford
Councillor Cuc Lam
Councillor Jorge Jorquera
Councillor Bernadette Thomas
Councillor Anthony Tran

To be confirmed at the City Development Delegated Committee Meeting
to be held on 26 October, 2021

1. COMMENCEMENT OF DELEGATED MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 6.32pm.

The Chair, Cr Sarah Carter made the following acknowledgement statement:

"We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung and Boon wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation and pay our respect to their Elders past, present and emerging".

PRESENT

Councillor Sarah Carter (Chair)
Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Simon Crawford (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Cuc Lam (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Jorge Jorquera (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Bernadette Thomas (via audio and visual connection)
Councillor Anthony Tran (via audio and visual connection)

IN ATTENDANCE

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock
Acting Director Corporate Services, Lisa King
Acting Director Infrastructure Services, Craig Medcalf (via audio and visual connection)
Manager City Places, Ashley Minniti (via audio and visual connection)
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services, Danny Bilaver
Governance Officer, Adele Woolcock

2. APOLOGIES

Nil.

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Cr Simon Crawford declared a conflict of interest in relation to agenda item 6.2, West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study – Planning Scheme Amendments (C172 and C173), describing the general interest due to his residential amenity potentially being affected by the decision before Council.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Nil.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The purpose of this report was to present for confirmation, the minutes of the City Development Delegated Committee Meeting held on 27 July 2021.

Committee Resolution

That the Delegated Committee confirms the minutes of the City Development Delegated Committee Meeting held on 27 July 2021.

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED

6. OFFICER REPORTS

6.1. Planning Application - 24 Woodruff Avenue Maribyrnong

The purpose of this report was to present for consideration a planning permit application at 24 Woodruff Avenue Maribyrnong which has received 36 objections.

Committee Resolution

That the City Development Delegated Committee issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit to construct a dwelling to the rear of an existing dwelling at 24 Woodruff Avenue, Maribyrnong, subject to conditions contained in Attachment 1.

Moved: Cr Bernadette Thomas
Seconded: Cr Simon Crawford

CARRIED

6.2. West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study - Planning Scheme Amendments (C172 and C173)

The purpose of this report was to endorse the West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study 2021 for public consultation, and seek authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C172 to implement permanent controls to protect heritage precincts in the study and request interim protection through Amendment C173.

Committee Resolution

That the City Development Delegated Committee:

- 1. Endorse the West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study 2021 (Attachment 2) for the purpose of community consultation and to form the basis of Amendment C172 (Attachments 2, 3, 5 and 6) to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.*
- 2. Request authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C172 to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme to implement the West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study 2021 and associated changes in accordance with Attachments 2, 3, 5 and 6.*
- 3. Subject to authorisation being granted from the Minister for Planning,*

resolve to place Amendment C172 to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme on exhibition, as prescribed under section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

4. *Request the Minister for Planning to prepare and approve Amendment C173 to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme, under Section 20(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, to provide immediate protection via a Heritage Overlay to the eight precincts within the West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study 2021 on an interim basis, in accordance with Attachments 3, 5 and 7.*
5. *Delegate to the Chief Executive Officer the power to make any necessary minor changes to the West Footscray Inter-war and Post-war Heritage Precinct Study 2021 and amendment documents in relation to Council seeking authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare Amendment C172 and approval for Amendment C173 to the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.*
6. *Note the delegation of the Manager City Places to consider any submissions received in relation to Amendment C172 in accordance with Section 22 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, and in accordance with Section 23 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 refer any submissions that cannot be resolved, along with any other submissions, to an independent panel appointed by the Minister for Planning.*

Moved: Cr Cuc Lam
Seconded: Cr Michael Clarke

CARRIED

7. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Councillor Bernadette Thomas noted her thanks to Council's staff who are manoeuvring through providing food parcels, putting up QR codes and taking them down again, looking after Open Space areas, providing immunisations and setting up vaccination clinics. Councillor Thomas asked if the Acting Chief Executive Officer could pass on thanks to Council's staff.

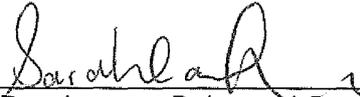
Acting Chief Executive Officer, Ms Celia Haddock confirmed she would pass on thanks to the staff.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Nil.

9. DELEGATED MEETING CLOSURE

The Chair, Cr Sarah Carter, declared the meeting closed at 6.54pm.



To be confirmed at the City Development Delegated Committee Meeting
to be held on 26 October, 2021.

Chair, Cr Sarah Carter

Agenda Item 7.1 - Attachment 2



Maribyrnong City Council

ENTERPRISE MARIBYRNONG DELEGATED COMMITTEE MINUTES

**Tuesday 6 July, 2021
4.30pm**

**Functions Room
Level 1
Maribyrnong Council Offices
Corner Hyde and Napier Streets, Footscray**

MEMBERSHIP

Councillor Michael Clarke
Councillor Cuc Lam
Councillor Anthony Tran
Pradeep Tiwara
Ben Needham
Ying Zhang
Celestine Hade (Chair)
Stuart Lucca-Pope
Megan Walker
Kerry O'Neill

To be confirmed at the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee Meeting
to be held on 5 October, 2021

Agenda Item 7.1 - Attachment 2

1. COMMENCEMENT OF DELEGATED MEETING AND WELCOME

The meeting commenced at 4.40pm.

The Chair, Chairperson Celestine Hade made the following acknowledgement statement:

"We acknowledge that we are on traditional lands of the Kulin Nation. We offer our respect to the Elders of these traditional lands, and through them to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples past and present".

PRESENT

Councillor Cuc Lam
Councillor Anthony Tran
Pradeep Tiwara
Ben Needham
Celestine Hade (Chair)
Stuart Lucca-Pope
Megan Walker
Kerry O'Neill

IN ATTENDANCE

Acting Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock
Director Community Services, Clem Gillings
Acting Director Corporate Services, Frank Rog
Manager City Futures, Francesca O'Brien
Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities, Bruce Marshall
Business District Officer, Aneta Pazeski

2. APOLOGIES

An apology was received from Cr Michael Clarke

3. DISCLOSURES OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Nil.

4. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Eddie Merrifield of West Footscray asked:

1. Parklets that occupy parking spaces should be removed and placed in storage during winter time to free up parking within the City of Maribyrnong – particularly in West Footscray because there is a short supply of parking in West Footscray.

Agenda Item 7.1 - Attachment 2

Response

The Acting Chief Executive Officer, Celia Haddock noted that in October 2020 Council announced a temporary outdoor dining program to support the recovery of the hospitality sector with the easing of COVID19 restrictions in November 2020. Since inception, the program has supported (directly or indirectly) the establishment of 103 outdoor dining spaces. A total of 71 car parking spaces across the municipality have been repurposed to install outdoor dining spaces and parklets.

A \$500,000 grant was received from the State government in October 2020 to fund the program which was rolled out in November and December 2020, with a scheduled completion date of 30 June 2021.

In June 2021, 1221 host businesses with access to outdoor spaces, their customers, adjoining businesses and the community generally, provided feedback during engagement on the opportunity to extend the trial. Of the 36 host businesses who responded, 80% reported an increase in trade since the installation of the parklet / outdoor dining space. 94% of residents and customers surveyed (1041 of 1155) were very satisfied with the Parklet and outdoor dining experience.

Almost all of the 36 host traders (of 47) who responded to the survey were happy to see the parklet / outdoor dining space remain until April 2022 and around three quarters were also prepared to invest in heating and / or installing a shelter or canopy to support their use over winter. The reaction from adjoining business was more muted with concerns from half of the 31 respondents around loss of business and loss of parking.

Given the overwhelming community support, a further extension of the program to 30 April 2022 will be considered by Council in August 2021.

5. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The purpose of this report was to present for confirmation, the minutes of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee Meeting held on 4 May 2021.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Special Committee confirms the minutes of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee Meeting held on 4 May 2021.

Moved: Celestine Hade
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

Agenda Item 7.1 - Attachment 2

6. OFFICER REPORTS

6.1. BID Grant Program Update

The purpose of this report was to provide a verbal update on the BID grant review, preview of the BID grant video and the BID Grant Showcase Event.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee note the update presented on the BID Grant Program.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

6.2. Business Needs Survey

The purpose of this report was that Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities will update the Committee on the Business Needs Survey.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee thank Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities on his update on the Business Needs Survey.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

6.3. Love Your Local Phase 3 Update

The purpose of this report was that Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Support and Smart Cities, will provide an update to the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee on the Love Your Local Campaign Phase 3.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee thank Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities for his update on the Local Your Local Campaign Phase 3.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

Agenda Item 7.1 - Attachment 2

6.4. Localised Platform

The purpose of this report was that Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities will provide the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee with an update on the newly-launched Localised Platform for business to business engagement.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee thank Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities for his update on the newly launched Localised Platform for business to business engagement.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

6.5. Spend Mapp

The purpose of this report was that Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities will provide the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee with key insights from Spend Mapp which tracks spending across our Local Government Area.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee thank Bruce Marshall, Coordinator Economic Development and Smart Cities for his presentation on Spend Mapp.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

6.6. Outdoor Dining and Parklets Update

The purpose of this report was that Aneta Pazeski, Business District Officer will update the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee on outdoor dining and parklets.

Agenda Item 7.1 - Attachment 2

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee thank Aneta Pazeski, Business District Officer, for her update on outdoor dining and parklets.

Moved: Cr Anthony Tran
Seconded: Cr Cuc Lam

CARRIED

7. COUNCILLOR QUESTION TIME

Nil.

8. URGENT BUSINESS

Council was advised of the resignation of Ying Zhang from the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee effective from 6 July 2021. The Chair, Celestine Hade, provided a note of thanks to Ms Zhang for her contributions to the Committee.

9. DELEGATED MEETING CLOSURE

The Chair, Chairperson Celestine Hade, declared the meeting closed at 5.38pm.



To be confirmed at the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee Meeting
to be held on 5 October, 2021.

Chair, Chairperson Celestine Hade

Agenda Item 9.1**REDUCING HARM FROM GAMBLING POLICY 2021-2025**

Director: Clem Gillings
Director Community Services

Author: Tara Frichitthavong
Manager Community Services and Social Infrastructure
Planning

PURPOSE

To brief Council on the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The purpose of the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 is to prevent and minimise harm from gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community.
- Gambling can cause significant harm to individuals, families and their communities including family violence, physical and mental health impacts, financial hardship, social isolation, and drug and alcohol addiction.
- There was \$4.6 billion in losses from all legal forms gambling in Victoria in 2019-20 including electronic gaming machines (EGMs), Melbourne Casino, sports betting, lotteries and Keno.
- The highest level of losses was from EGMs with \$1.99 billion. However, there are also significant losses from sports betting, including for online gambling, with \$747 million.
- In the City of Maribyrnong, losses from EGMs was \$58 million in 2019. However, this fell to \$19.8 million in 2020 due to gaming venue closure during the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There is no data available for losses from other types of gambling in the City of Maribyrnong. Further information on gambling can be found in the Gambling Fact Sheets at Attachment 4.
- The draft policy contains a number of actions that reflect Council's role in assessing the impacts of EGM applications and advocating for changes in the regulation and management of EGMs.
- The draft policy also focuses on partnerships and advocating for changes to the regulation of sports betting and promoting community services and programs through the Gambling Alternatives Program and the Gambling Action Plan 2021-2025 at Attachments 2 and 3.
- Council is a member of the Alliance for Gambling Reform which is a national advocacy organisation that works to prevent and minimise the harm caused from gambling. 19 other Victorian Councils are members of the Alliance.
- The draft policy includes a recommendation that Council request the Alliance for Gambling Reform to undertake a survey of its Leadership Councils, to determine the relationship between gaming venues, sports clubs and community organisations. This includes sponsorships, grants and subsidised venue hire.

Agenda Item 9.1

ATTACHMENTS

1. Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 [↓](#)
2. Gambling Alternatives Program [↓](#)
3. Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan 2021-2025 [↓](#)
4. Gambling Fact Sheets [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorse the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 and releases it for public consultation.**
 2. **Note the recommendation in the draft policy, that Council request the Alliance for Gambling Reform to undertake a survey of its Leadership Councils, to determine the relationship between gaming venues, sports clubs and community organisations. This includes sponsorships, grants and subsidised venue hire.**
 3. **Note that Council will continue to develop the Gambling Alternatives Program as part of the implementation of the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy.**
-

Agenda Item 9.1**BACKGROUND****Gambling Harm**

The Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation considers gambling harm to be any negative consequence or side effect that comes from gambling, Categories of gambling harm include:

- Relationship difficulties
- Family violence
- Physical and mental health issues
- Financial problems such as bankruptcy
- Work or study performance issues
- Criminal activity.

Gambling in Victoria

In Victoria, there was \$4.6 billion in gambling losses in 2019-20. This represents a \$1.27 billion fall from 2018-19. However, gambling losses in Victoria were impacted by the lockdowns associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The losses in 2019-20 included:

- \$1.99 billion on electronic gaming machines (EGMs) in hotels and clubs
- \$1.24 billion on Melbourne Casino EGMs and table games
- \$747 million on wagering including racing, trackside and sports betting (excluding where bookmakers / organisations are licensed outside Victoria)
- \$652 million on Victorian lotteries
- \$16 million on Keno.

EGM Gambling in Victoria

EGM gambling represents the biggest proportion of gambling losses in Victoria. The Victorian Population Gambling Health Survey found the following:

14.1% of total population use EGMs

15.5% of men
12.7% of women

18.6% of young adults (18-24 years)

- Approximately 16% of low to middle income earners use EGMs. (\$20,800-\$41,600 and \$41,600-\$78,000 per year)
- 70% of problem gamblers had used EGMs in the preceding 12-month period. (Victorian Population Gambling and Health Study 2018-19).

Sports Betting

Sports betting has been growing rapidly in recent years, particularly online with 71.7% of people who bet on sports, nominating websites and apps as the location they most often use.

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The Victorian Population Gambling and Health Study found the following proportion of the population are undertaking sport betting activities:

5.8% of total population

9.7% of men
2.0% of women

11.5% of young adults (18-24 years)

Gambling in the City of Maribyrnong

The only data available on gambling at a local government level is for EGM numbers and losses, which is collected by the Victorian Commission for Gambling Regulation. The following data outlines information on EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong.

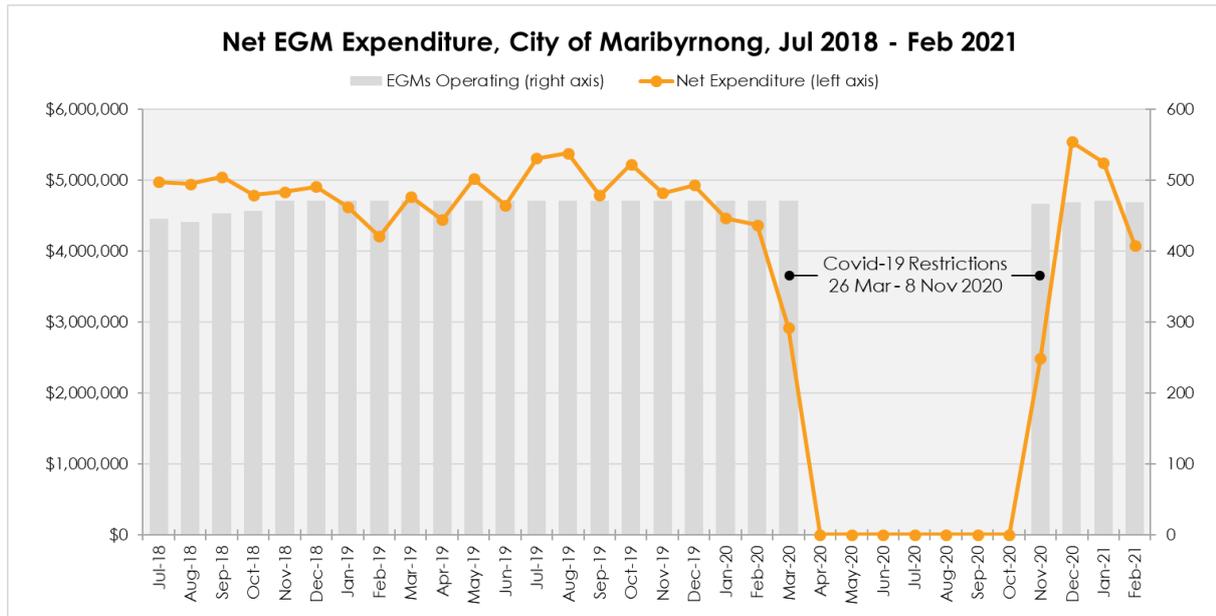
471 EGMs
9 venues

2019
\$58,205,122
losses

2020
\$19,803,535
losses in COVID
Pandemic

- Under the Gambling Regulation Act 2003, the maximum number of EGM entitlements for the City of Maribyrnong is 471 machines. This cap was last updated in 2017 and may be increased as the population increases.
- The Palms Hotel in Maidstone had the highest losses of any venue in 2019, at \$14 million (or \$185,000 per EGM). This was almost double the net expenditure of any other club.
- This is followed by the Ashley Hotel with \$8.8 million (\$177,000 per EGM) and the Braybrook Hotel with \$7.8 million (\$175,000 per EGM).
- EGM losses were well below average in 2020. This was due to venue closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. EGM losses were nearly \$20 million in 2020, significantly lower than nearly \$60m the previous year as the following graph demonstrates.

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Further information on gambling in Victoria and the City of Maribyrnong can be found in the fact sheets at Attachment 4.

Council’s role in managing the impacts of gambling

Maribyrnong City Council plays a direct role in assessing the social and economic impacts of electronic gaming machines (EGMs) applications through the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* and the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.06 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.

Council also plays an important role in advocating for changes to the regulation and management of all forms of gambling including EGMs) online gambling/sports betting, racing, keno, lotteries and the Melbourne Casino.

Council’s approach to managing the impacts of gambling

Council’s approach to managing the impacts of gambling harm is based on a social justice and harm prevention and minimisation approach. Social justice is the pursuit of equal rights and equal opportunity for all people in our community. Social justice seeks to redress the impact that social and economic inequalities have on both the people experiencing it and the wider community.

The harm prevention and minimisation approach to managing gambling harm is based on the key determinants of health. The determinants of health include gender, income and social status, education, physical environment, social support networks and access to health services. (World Health Organisation 2021).

Agenda Item 9.1**DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES****1. Key Issues****Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025**

The Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 reflects Council's role and approach to managing the impacts of gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community.

Scope

The scope of the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 includes the following types of gambling which are legal in Victoria:

- Electronic Gaming Machines
- Online Gambling/Sports Betting
- Keno
- Lotteries
- Racing
- Gambling at Crown Casino

Purpose and Objectives

The purpose of the draft policy is to prevent and minimise harm from gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community.

The objectives of the draft policy are to:

- Assess the social and economic impacts of EGM applications in the City of Maribyrnong, to reduce harm from EGMs, through the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* and the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.06 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.
- Advocate for a reduction in harm caused by gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community through key partnerships with the Alliance for Gambling Reform, the MAV and the VLGA.
- Encourage alternative activities to gambling through Council owned facilities including libraries, community centres, open space and indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities.

The draft policy contains a series of principles and actions based on the objectives of the policy. Some of the key actions include advocating to State and Federal Governments for the following:

- Request the Alliance for Gambling Reform to undertake a survey of its Leadership Councils, to determine the relationship between gaming venues, sports clubs and community organisations. This includes sponsorships, grants and subsidised venue hire.
- Council will not hold official meetings, events or community activities at gaming venues in the City of Maribyrnong.

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- Introduce a State Government fund to support gaming venues that wish to transition away from EGMs.
- Reduce the operating hours in gaming venues to include a mandatory 2am - 9am shutdown. (In Victoria, gaming venues are allowed to remain open up to 5am in the morning).
- Introduce a mandatory 2am to 6am shutdown for all gaming venues in Victoria, in line with the Alliance for Gambling Reform position. (The Alliance is working towards the longer term goal of a mandatory 12am to 10am shutdown period).
- Introduce \$1 maximum bet per spin on all EGMs in Victoria to reduce the amount of money gamblers can lose each time they press a button and slow the rate of losses.
- Introduce mandatory pre-commitment for players of EGMs, as part of the Your Play Victorian Government's Gambling Pre-commitment Scheme. (Your Play currently allows for EGM players to voluntarily set limits on time and money spent and track their play across Victoria. An evaluation of Your Play found the program had a low take up with players of EGMs in Victoria (Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety 2019).
- Ban sports betting advertising on television and live stream services in Victoria in alignment with the Alliance for Gambling Reform's position.

Gambling Alternatives Program

A key commitment outlined in the draft policy is to promote local programs and services through Council's Gambling Alternatives Program. A copy of the Gambling Alternatives Program, which outlines Council and community activities available to residents, is at Attachment 2. Council will continue to develop the Gambling Alternatives Program as part of the implementation of the draft policy.

Gambling Action Plan 2021-2025

The Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan 2021-2025 outlines Council's response to key actions contained in this policy. This action plan will be reviewed annually over the duration of the policy. A copy of the Action Plan is at Attachment 3.

Partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform

Council is a member of the Alliance for Gambling Reform which is a national advocacy organisation that works to prevent and minimise the caused from gambling. The Alliance undertakes a number of campaigns. 19 other Victorian Councils are members of the Alliance.

Council is also a member of the Victorian Local Government Association's Local Government Working Group on Gambling and the Municipal Association of Victoria's Gambling and Alcohol Network.

Agenda Item 9.1**2. Council Policy/Legislation****Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation**Gambling Regulation Act 2003**

The *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* regulates the conduct of gambling in Victoria, with the exception of the Melbourne Casino. This includes regulating the management of and distribution of EGMs including the following:

- Caps on the maximum number of EGMs allowed in individual municipalities
- The operation of gaming venues including the provision of responsible gambling services.
- The lodgement of annual Community Benefit Statements by each venue

Clause 22.06 Gaming Policy, Maribyrnong Planning Scheme

Under clause 52.28 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme a planning permit is required to install or use EGMs.

To assist decision makers in the exercise of discretion to grant a permit under clause 52.28, Council has developed and implemented clause 22.06, Council's local policy on gaming.

This policy applies to all planning applications to install or use a gaming machine or use of land for gaming. It sets out appropriate areas and sites where EGMs should be located and where they are discouraged from location together with planning permit application requirements (Maribyrnong Planning Scheme 2021).

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Council will seek community feedback on the draft policy, through a Your City Your Voice survey. The Alliance for Gambling Reform will also send the draft policy to its

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email list for feedback. This feedback will be incorporated into the final version of the policy to be presented to Council for consideration.

4. Resources

Resources sit within existing budgets.

5. Environment

There are no environmental implications as a result of this report.

CONCLUSION

The Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025 aims to prevent and minimise harm from gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community. It reflects Council's role in assessing the impacts of EGM applications and advocating for reform of gambling regulation in Victoria, particularly in the areas of EGMs and sports betting. The draft policy further highlights Council's role in promoting gambling alternatives and our partnership with the Alliance for Gambling Reform.



Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025

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Mayor's Message

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Maribyrnong City Council's role in managing the impacts of gambling

Gambling can cause significant harm to individuals, families and their communities. The impacts of gambling harm include family violence, physical and mental health impacts, financial hardship, social isolation, and drug and alcohol addiction (Browne Et Al, 2017).

Maribyrnong City Council plays a direct role in assessing the social and economic impacts of electronic gaming machine (EGM) applications through the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* and the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.06 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.

Council also plays an important role in advocating for changes to the regulation and management of all forms of gambling, including EGMs, online gambling/sports betting, racing, keno, lotteries and the Melbourne Casino.

Council's approach to managing the impacts of gambling harm is based on a social justice and harm prevention and minimisation approach. Social justice is the pursuit of equal rights and equal opportunity for all people in our community. Social justice seeks to redress the impact that social and economic inequalities have on both the people experiencing them and the wider community.

The harm prevention and minimisation approach to managing gambling harm is based on the key determinants of health. The determinants of health include gender, income and social status, education, physical environment, social support networks and access to health services (World Health Organisation 2021).

This model states that the context of people's lives determine their health, and so blaming individuals for having poor health or crediting them for good health is inappropriate. Individuals are unlikely to be able to directly control many of the determinants of health (World Health Organisation 2021).

Council's approach aligns with the Council Plan 2021-2025, which incorporates the Health and Wellbeing Plan, and the Human Rights and Social Justice Framework 2017-2021. This framework provides a foundation for Council's commitment and actions to protect human rights and promote social justice in the City of Maribyrnong.

Council's approach further aligns with the Gender Equity Strategy 2030. The vision of Towards Gender Equity 2030 is that all people in Maribyrnong flourish and live free from violence and discrimination and have equal status, rights, opportunities, representation and respect regardless of their gender.

Information about the impact of gambling in the City of Maribyrnong is contained in the Gambling Fact Sheets attached to this policy. These fact sheets will be updated annually to reflect changes in electronic gaming machine losses in the City of Maribyrnong.

Scope

The scope of this draft policy includes the following types of gambling which are legal in Victoria:

- Electronic Gaming Machines
- Online Gambling/Sports Betting
- Keno
- Lotteries
- Racing
- Gambling at Crown Casino.

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Purpose

The purpose of this draft policy is to prevent and minimise harm from gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community.

Objectives

- Assess the social and economic impacts of EGM applications to reduce harm from EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong through the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* and the Gaming Policy at Clause 22.06 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.
- Advocate for a reduction in harm caused by gambling in the City of Maribyrnong community through key partnerships with the Alliance for Gambling Reform, the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) and the Victorian Local Government Association (VLGA).
- Encourage alternative activities to gambling through Council-owned facilities including libraries, community centres, open space and indoor and outdoor sport and recreation facilities.

Legislation

Council's approach to gambling is informed by the following legislation and planning regulations:

- Gambling Regulation Act 2003
- Clause 22.06 Gaming Policy, Maribyrnong Planning Scheme
- Gambling Regulations 2015
- Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014
- Interactive Gambling Act 2001
- Casino Act 1991
- Local Government Act 2020
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- Victorian Charter for Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006
- Family Violence Protection Act 2008.

Further details of the legislation and regulations are outlined in Appendix 2.

Principles and Actions

Principle 1: Assess the Social and Economic Impacts of Gaming Applications to Reduce Harm from EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong

Actions:

- 1.1 Under the requirements for local government outlined in the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, undertake a social impact assessment of applications to the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) for an increase in electronic gaming machines at new and existing venues in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 1.2 Assess planning applications for gaming venues under the Gaming Policy outlined in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme.
- 1.3 Support enforcement of gaming venue conditions that reduce gambling harm by referring any breaches to relevant regulators, including signage, accessibility, opening hours or community benefit conditions.

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- 1.4 Oppose gaming license applications in neighbouring municipalities if they have a negative impact on City of Maribyrnong residents.

Principle 2: Partner and Advocate

Partnerships:

Council supports the Alliance for Gambling Reform which is a national advocacy organisation that works to prevent and minimise the harm caused from gambling. A total of 21 other Victorian councils are Leadership Councils supporting the Alliance.

Council is also a member of the VLGA Local Government Working Group on Gambling and the MAV Local Government Gambling, Alcohol and Other Drugs Issues Forum.

Actions

- 2.1 Support Alliance for Gambling Reform campaigns for minimising harm from gambling in Victorian and Australian communities.
- 2.2 Work with MAV and VLGA to develop submissions and advocate to the State Government for gambling industry reform.

Advocacy:

Actions:

Council will undertake advocacy actions directly and through advocacy networks in three key areas:

- Electronic Gaming Machines;
- Sports Betting; and
- Gambling Harm Research.

Electronic Gaming Machines:

- 2.3 Advocate for the following in relation to the regulation of EGMs:
 - Reduce the current cap of 471 EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong.
 - Increase the ratio of the number of adults per 10 EGMs, under municipal caps. This will reduce the likelihood of an increase in EGM numbers in capped regions, as the population increases. (The current EGM cap ratio is 10 machines per 1,000 adults in capped municipalities, such as the City of Maribyrnong. Current municipal limits were calculated using the 2017 Victorian adult population).
 - Reduce the number of EGMs in locations with high levels of social and economic disadvantage including Braybrook and Maidstone.
 - Reduce the number of EGMs in venues in convenient locations including shopping centres and shopping strips, and close to public transport.
 - Introduce a mandatory 2am to 6am shutdown for all gaming venues in Victoria, in line with the Alliance for Gambling Reform position. (The Alliance is working towards the longer term goal of a mandatory 12am to 10am shutdown period).
 - Introduce a ban on incentives to encourage residents to enter gaming venues, such as free or discounted meal for adults and children, give-aways and prizes.
 - Introduce \$1 maximum bet per spin on all EGMs in Victoria to reduce the amount of money gamblers can lose each time they press a button and slow the rate of losses.

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- Introduce mandatory pre-commitment for players of EGMs, as part of the Your Play Victorian Government's Gambling Pre-commitment Scheme. (Your Play currently allows for EGM players to voluntarily set limits on time and money spent and track their play across Victoria. An evaluation of Your Play found the program had a low take up with players of EGMs in Victoria (Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety 2019).
- Change the definition of what is classified as community benefit, under the Gambling Regulation Act, to genuine philanthropic organisations or charities as defined by tax deductible status or grass roots activities.
- Introduce a state government fund to support gaming venues that wish to transition away from EGMs.
- Increase the timeframe for councils to respond to gaming applications from 60 days to 90 days to allow appropriate time to assess the social and economic impacts.

Sports Betting:

- 2.4 Advocate for a ban on sports betting advertising on television and live stream services in Victoria in alignment with the Alliance for Gambling Reform position.

Gambling Harm Research:

- 2.5 Update Gambling Fact Sheets on an annual basis to include new information on local EGM losses, other gambling data and gambling harm research.
- 2.6 Advocate for increased investment in research on the social and economic impacts of gambling on individuals, their families and local communities.
- 2.7 Advocate for increased investment in research on the health and wellbeing impacts of gambling including research into family violence, mental and physical health impacts.

Principle 3: Council will not encourage or promote gambling through its facilities, program or services

Actions:

- 3.1 Promote local programs and services through Council's Gambling Alternatives Program.
- 3.2 Request the Alliance for Gambling Reform to undertake a survey of its Leadership Councils, to determine the relationship between gaming venues, sports clubs and community organisations. This includes sponsorships, grants and subsidised venue hire.
- 3.3 Work with venue operators to restrict the inclusion of additional EGMs on Council-owned land. (Note: A current lease is in place for the only EGM operator on Council-owned land, the Yarraville-Footscray Bowling Club – a not-for-profit organisation. This allows for a maximum of 40 EGMs. The venue currently has 29 EGMs and its lease expires in January 2024).
- 3.4 Work with the Yarraville-Footscray Bowling Club during the current lease to ensure the continued implementation of gambling harm minimisation measures included in lease.
- 3.5 No future leases will be provided to any new gaming operator seeking a facility on Council-owned land.
- 3.6 Do not approve gambling promotional material in Council-owned facilities or on Council's websites (with the exception of Yarraville-Footscray Bowling Club).
- 3.7 Council will not hold official meetings, events or community activities at gaming venues in the City of Maribyrnong.
- 3.8 Continue with Council's endorsed plans for investing and renewing Council-owned community infrastructure.

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Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan

The Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan outlines Council's response to key actions contained in this policy. This action plan will be reviewed annually over the duration of the policy. A copy of the action plan is attached.

Appendix 1: Glossary

Crown Casino: Crown Casino is regulated under separate legislation to clubs and hotels in Victoria under the Casino Act 1991.

EGMs: Electronic Gaming Machines

Keno: A rapid-draw game in which a set of numbers is drawn through a random number generator from a pool of numbers. The numbers are then posted electronically in venues.

LGWGOG: Local Government Working Group on Gambling

Lotteries: A lottery is a rapid draw game where a set of numbers is drawn through a random number generator.

MAV: Municipal Association of Victoria

Online Gambling: Online gambling comprises of a wide range of different forms of gambling that can be provided in an online format i.e. accessed and played via the internet. This can include forms of poker, casinos (blackjack, roulette etc.), sports betting, bingo, lotteries, betting on horse racing.

Sports Betting: Sports betting is a form of gambling that involves placing a bet or wagering on a sporting activity. Bets can be placed in person with a bookmaker or online using an account that accepts debit and credit cards. Popular sports on which Australians can bet include AFL, rugby league, soccer, cricket, tennis, motorbike racing and basketball.

Racing: In Victoria, wagering on horse and greyhound races is offered on-course, by bookmakers at a racetrack, and off-course by Tabcorp Wagering and TAB agencies.

VCGLR: Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation

VLGA: Victorian Local Government Association

Your Play: Your Play is a gambling pre-commitment scheme which allows EGM players to voluntarily set limits of time or money spent and track their gaming machine play across Victoria.

Appendix 2: Legislative and Policy Context

Gambling Regulation Act 2003

The *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* regulates the conduct of gambling in Victoria, with the exception of the Melbourne Casino. This includes regulating the management of and distribution of EGMs including the following:

- Caps on the maximum number of EGMs allowed in individual municipalities.
- The operation of gaming venues including the provision of responsible gambling services.
- The lodgement of annual Community Benefit Statements by each venue.

Community Benefit Statements

Under Section 3.6.9 of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, all hotel and club operators are required to lodge an audited community benefit statement with the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation on an annual basis.

A Community Benefit Statement requires hotels and clubs which operate EGMs to provide an indication of what support they are providing to their local community to offset the losses from EGMs.

Community Support Fund

Under section 3.6.6(2) of the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, net gaming revenues from hotel venues are subject to an additional tax of 8.33 per cent which is paid into the Community Support Fund. The Community Support Fund was established in 1991 and is a trust fund governed by the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* to direct a portion of gaming revenues back into the community.

The Community Support Fund provides funding for the following:

- Addressing problem gambling
- Drug education, treatment and rehabilitation
- Financial counselling support for families in crisis
- Youth programs
- Sport and recreation
- Arts and Tourism
- Advancement of the community as determined by the Minister
- Costs Associated with administering the Community Support Fund.

Assessment of Gaming Applications under the *Gambling Regulation Act*

Under the *Gambling Regulation Act*, councils can assess the social and economic impacts of a gaming application in their municipality and respond to applications in adjoining municipalities.

Under the Act, councils are empowered to make submissions in response to applications for gaming approval. These submissions must address, as relevant:

- The social and economic impact of the proposal for approval on the well-being of the community of the municipal district; and
- Take into account the impact of the proposal on the surrounding municipal districts.

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Any submission by Council must be lodged with the VCGLR within 60 days after Council receives notice of the application (or a copy of the amended application).

Clause 22.06 Gaming Policy, Maribyrnong Planning Scheme

Under clause 52.28 of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme a planning permit is required to install or use EGMs.

To assist decision makers in the exercise of discretion to grant a permit under clause 52.28, Council has developed and implemented clause 22.06, Council's local policy on gaming.

This policy applies to all planning applications to install or use a gaming machine or use of land for gaming. It sets out appropriate areas and sites where EGMs should be located and where they are discouraged from location together with planning permit application requirements (Maribyrnong Planning Scheme 2021).

However, under the Clause 52.28-4, a permit is only required to install or use an EGM if:

- The EGM is in an approved venue under the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* on 18 October 2006 and
- The maximum number of EGMs for the approved venue on 18 October 2006 is not exceeded.

This means that Clause 22.06 will only apply to new venues in the City of Maribyrnong as the existing venues were approved prior to 2006 (Victorian Planning Provisions, Planning Scheme 2021, p 654).

Gambling Regulations 2015

The *Gambling Regulation Act 2015* prescribes detailed regulations on the operation of different forms of gambling, including gaming machines, wagering and betting, trade promotion lotteries, raffles and bingo.

Some of the key areas that the regulations address include the following:

Signage and advertising

This includes the following:

- Prohibiting the use of directional signs to gaming rooms inside venues and outside in carparks
- Specifications for gambling signs outside of venues, which must be plain and not include any corporate logos associated with the gaming venues.

Cashless Gaming

Amendments were made to the Gambling Regulations in 2019 introduced cashless gaming for all venues with EGMs in Victoria. EGM players must now use a cashless gaming card to play. These cards contain information about balances on the card and the time and date of transactions.

Display information on EGMs

This includes the following:

- The time of day must be accurately displayed on the EGM or on a device attached to a gaming machine.
- EGMs must display correct information about games being played by users.

Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014

The Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014 prescribe matters in relation to pre-commitment and the conduct of loyalty schemes at gaming machine venues, including the casino.

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Under these regulations, the Victorian Government has established Your Play - Victoria's Pre-commitment scheme which allows EGM Players to voluntarily set limits of time or money spent and track their gaming machine play across Victoria.

In 2019, the Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety commissioned an evaluation of Your Play, which was undertaken by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies.

The evaluation report found that the usage of Your Play in venues with EGMs, was very low. The report found that in 2017/18 YourPlay cards were used in sessions amounting to 0.01% of gaming machine turnover in Victorian hotels and clubs (Department of Justice and Community Safety 2019).

Interactive Gambling Act 2001

The *Interactive Gambling Act 2001* regulates online sports betting and online wagering in Australia from licensed providers. However, it prohibits the provision of other forms of online gambling such as gaming machines and casino games.

The Act defines online gambling as any gambling that is conducted using digital technology to engage in gambling with a remote provider.

Casino Control Act 1991

Crown Casino is regulated under the *Casino Control Act 1991*. Crown Casino is also regulated under the following Acts and Regulations:

- Gambling Regulation Act 2003
- Casino (Management Agreement) Act 1993
- Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014
- Gambling Regulations 2015
- Gambling Regulation (Premium Customer) Regulations 2011
- Casino Control (Fees) Regulations 2015
- Liquor Control Reform Act 1998

Local Government Act 2020

The *Local Government Act 2020* outlines overarching governance principles and supporting principles, which are follows:

- A Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.
- The following are the overarching governance principles:
 - Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
 - priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
 - the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
 - the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
 - innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
 - collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
 - the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;

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Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008

Under this Act, the function of a Council is to seek to protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing within the municipal district and to apply the 'precautionary principle' to preventing and controlling public health risk.

Council Plan 2021-2025 (Incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan)

The Council Plan 2021-2025 guides the planning, development, resourcing and provision of services to the community over a four year period. Reviewed annually, to consider emerging community needs, this Council Plan aims to ensure the organisation is progressive, dynamic and committed to the City of Maribyrnong.

Strategic Objectives

Safe Climate and Healthy Environment - Council will proactively identify opportunities to support a return to a safe climate and healthy environment and work with our community to respond to climate emergency challenges.

Liveable Neighbourhoods - Council will partner with its community to provide and advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open spaces that are well maintained, accessible and respectful of the community and neighbourhoods.

A Place for All - Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods and a strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive and accessible to the whole community, and that support wellbeing, healthy and safe living, connection to the community, and cultural interaction.

Future Focussed - Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Ethical Leadership - Council will proactively lead our changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned and effective collaboration and community engagement to support community and economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Human Rights and Social Justice Framework 2017-2021

The purpose of the Human Rights and Social Justice Framework is to provide a foundation for Council's commitment and actions to protect human rights and promote social justice in the City of Maribyrnong community. It aligns with the vision, principles and values of the Council Plan 2017-2021 and will apply to all of Council's laws, policies, programs and services.

The framework has four key pillars:

1. Compliance: Upholding the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and other legislation relating to human rights.
2. Culture: Developing a culture of understanding of human rights and social justice across Council to support local communities.
3. Advocacy: Advocating to reduce discrimination and disadvantage, and improve health and wellbeing in the municipality.
4. Practice: Promoting equity of access to the municipality's services and public places.

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Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

The *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* (the Charter) is a law that sets out the basic rights, freedoms and responsibilities of all people in Victoria. It is about the relationship between government and the people it serves.

The Charter lets the Victorian community know about which rights the Victorian Government will protect, how it intends to do this, and what the consequences are for failing to do so. It gives public authorities rules and a framework within which to operate, and the community a language and principles with which to engage public authorities.

Public authorities such as councils, police, hospitals and public schools must consider these rights when making decisions, creating laws, setting policies and providing services. The Charter provides a framework to assess actions by a public authority that may limit human rights.

Gender Equity Strategy - Towards Gender Equity 2030

The vision of Towards Gender Equity 2030 is that all people in Maribyrnong flourish and live free from violence and discrimination and have equal status, rights, opportunities, representation and respect regardless of their gender.

The strategy has six objectives:

1. Ensure that our services are equipped to respond effectively to violence against women and family violence.
2. Work alongside the community to prevent gender based violence and normalise gender equality in public and private life.
3. Increase women's independence and role in decision making.
4. Ensure that the development of policy and programs and services considers the specific impacts of gender inequity on health, wellbeing and safety.
5. Increase the number of safe-equitable facilities and public environments to facilitate equal participation in community and civic life.
6. Take steps to be a safer and more gender equitable organisation.

Family Violence Protection Act 2008

The *Family Violence Protection Act 2008* includes a range of initiatives to better protect those who are subject to family violence, usually women and children, and to make perpetrators accountable for their actions.

Appendix 3: References

Browne, M., Greer, N., Armstrong, T., Doran, C., Kinchin, I., Langham, E., et al. (2017), The Social Cost of Gambling to Victoria. Melbourne: Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation.

Gambling Regulation Act 2003, Victorian Parliament (2021), <https://www.legislation.vic.gov.au/in-force/acts/gambling-regulation-act-2003/084>

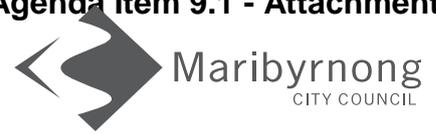
Maribyrnong Planning Scheme (2021), <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/schemes-and-amendments/browse-planning-scheme/planning-scheme?f.Scheme%7CplanningSchemeName=maribyrnong>

Victorian Department of Justice and Community Safety (2019), Evaluation of Your Play Final Report, Commissioned by the South Australian Centre for Economic Studies, University of Adelaide.

Victorian Planning Provisions, Planning Scheme 2021, <https://www.planning.vic.gov.au/schemes-and-amendments/browse-planning-scheme/planning-scheme?f.Scheme%7CplanningSchemeName=VPPS>

World Health Organisation Key Concepts (2021), <https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/social-determinants-of-health-key-concepts>

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Things to do in the City of Maribyrnong
Gambling Alternatives

November 2021



Libraries and Learning

Libraries



The City of Maribyrnong has libraries in Braybrook, Footscray, Maribyrnong, West Footscray and Yarraville. They offer a range of accessible, free and low cost services and activities. Activities include: Book Groups (with Spanish and Chinese groups), Story Time, Baby Rhyme Time and LEGO™ Club.

Opening hours vary, but are normally 10am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 10am to 2pm on Saturday.

Join the library online at maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/library or call for more information: **(03) 9688 0290**

Home library service

A free home library service is available for eligible residents who are unable to visit the library for reasons such as disability, frailty, chronic illness, being a full-time carer, or living in a care facility.

A librarian can visit you to find out what you like to read, watch or listen to, and will then select and organise delivery of your items.

Contact the library to ask about the Home Library Service: **(03) 9688 0290**



Online Library Resources

Your library membership gives you access to a range of online resources including:



LinkedIn Learning:
Learn software, creative and business skills to achieve your personal and professional goals with comprehensive video tutorials.



Beanstack:
Log your reading and participate in reading challenges and activities.



PressReader:
Read thousands of local and international newspapers and magazines.

Online Library Resources (Continued)



Kanopy:
Watch films online.



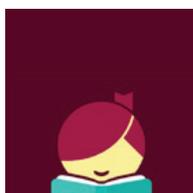
BorrowBox:
Access to electronic books and audiobooks.



Project Gutenberg:
Access to over 57,000 free electronic books.



Clue Detective Puzzle Agency:
Join this puzzling community and join like-minded people solving puzzles that keep their mind fit.



Libby by OverDrive:
Access to electronic books, audiobooks and magazines.

Street Libraries

nt 2



Combine your interest in reading with being active and exploring your neighbourhood, by visiting one of 20 street libraries in the City of Maribyrnong.

Street libraries are small book exchanges located in neighbourhoods on local streets, hosted by individual households to encourage a love of books and reading. The libraries are a great way to connect and share in the neighbourhood.

Find a street library near (or far) from you at:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-programs-and-grants/Street-Libraries

Community and Seniors Centres

Community Centres and Neighbourhood Houses



A broad range of courses, activities and services can be accessed at our community centres and neighbourhood houses:

- Angliss Neighbourhood House
- Braybrook Community Hub
- Braybrook Maidstone Neighbourhood House
- Maidstone Community Centre
- Maribyrnong Community Centre
- West Footscray Neighbourhood House
- Yarraville Community Centre

Low-cost and no-cost programs and activities include:

- Writing, music, sewing, cooking and gardening classes and activities
- Parenting classes and playgroups
- Meditation, stretching, yoga and Tai Chi classes
- Language classes
- Computer and iPad classes for beginners.

Discover a new hobby, learn a new skill and meet interesting new people. More information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-centres/Community-centres-and-neighbourhood-houses

Seniors' Centres

Many groups meet in our four seniors' centres in the City of Maribyrnong. These groups hold regular activities to encourage social inclusion within our community.



Angliss Senior Centre:

Croatian Seniors Group, Footscray Senior Citizens, Filipino Elderly Get Together, Indochinese Elderly Refugee Association.

Raleigh Road Activity Centre:

Greek Elderly Citizens Club, Maribyrnong T.O.W.N Club, Philippines Cultural Society for Family and Friends, Tai Chi, River Day Club, Zlanto Sonce.

Yarraville Senior Centre:

Macedonian Pensioners Association of Footscray, Polish Seniors, Russian Seniors Group, Trugo Club, United Slavic Pensioner Group, Western Suburbs Greek Elderly Citizens Club, Yarraville Senior Citizens, Yarraville Indoor Bowls Club.

West Footscray Seniors Centre:

Italian Pensioner Club, Pontiaci Gonia, West Footscray and District Gardening Club, West Footscray Senior Citizens, West Footscray Seniors Craft Group.

More information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Residents/Support-in-your-community/Older-people-in-Maribyrnong/Senior-Citizen-Centres

Braybrook Men's Shed



The Men's Shed, at Braybrook Community Hub, provides a space to work on your own project or contribute to community activities. You can develop new skills and enjoy meeting other people.

More information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-centres/Community-centres-and-neighbourhood-houses/Braybrook-Men's-Shed

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Healthy and Active

Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre



Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre is one of Melbourne's leading leisure centres, catering for all ages and fitness levels. It offers three pools (all with ramp access or walk-in entry), plus spa, sauna and steamroom, gym and group fitness areas.

Prices range from \$6 for casual access to pools (for concession), up to \$27 for access to all facilities. A range of ongoing memberships are also available.

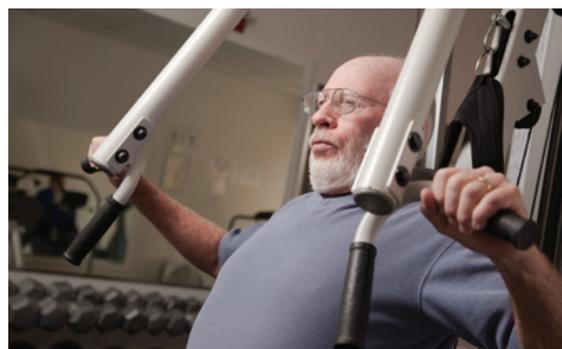
For more information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/mac/Home

RecWest Braybrook and RecWest Footscray

RecWest Footscray and Braybrook are Council facilities, managed by the YMCA.

RecWest Footscray offers a fully-equipped health club and provides a range of programs for people of all ages and fitness levels within the City of Maribyrnong and surrounding communities. Casual access to the gym or a group fitness class starts at \$12.10 (for concession).

RecWest Braybrook offers a indoor courts (4) suitable for basketball, futsal, netball, volleyball, and badminton as well as a mirrored dance/fitness studio, and multi-purpose room. A range of competitions, clubs and programs use the facilities, and they are also available for casual hire.



For more information:
recwestbraybrook.ymca.org.au or
recwestfootscray.ymca.org.au

Walking and Cycling



There are many kilometres of scenic walking trails in the City of Maribyrnong, and more than 40 km of bike paths (both on-road and off-road).

The Maribyrnong River Trail is one of the longest linear stretches of paths in the local area. It stretches for 15 km and can be traversed without needing to cross a major road.

Council provides a network of bicycle pump and repair stations to support riding, located at West Footscray Station, Pipemakers Park, Footscray Park, the Boulderling Wall and Napier Street.

Walking Circuits: Maribyrnong River:

- Edgewater Lake circuit, Maribyrnong: 2.5km circuit on shared bike and walking tracks.
- Footscray Park, wetlands and racecourse circuit, Footscray/Maidstone/Maribyrnong: 3.2km circuit mostly on shared bike and walking tracks.
- Chifley Drive and The Blvd, Maribyrnong: 4.2km loop mostly on shared bike and walking tracks.
- Cranwell Park, Braybrook: 1.9km (one way) from Solomon's Ford to Maribyrnong River crossing near golf course.

Walking Circuits: Stony Creek:

- Cruickshank Park small loop, Yarraville: 1.1 km circuit between footbridges over Stony Creek on shared bike and walking tracks.

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To get more information on walking and cycling tracks, or to join a cycling group, visit Council's website: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Parks-sport-and-leisure/Getting-active

Parks and Gardens



The City of Maribyrnong is home to over 100 beautiful parks, gardens, recreation areas and reserves. Discover our wonderful parks and gardens including:

- Footscray Park (the largest Edwardian period garden in Victoria) and Newells Paddock wetland
- Pipemakers Park and Frogs Hollow wetland
- Cranwell Reserve and Maribyrnong River reserve
- Braybrook Park, Robert Barrett Reserve, Hansen Reserve, Cruickshank Park, Yarraville Gardens and Angliss and McIvor Reserves.

See the full list of 100 parks and gardens online: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Experience-Maribyrnong/Parks-and-gardens

Public Art and Cultural Heritage

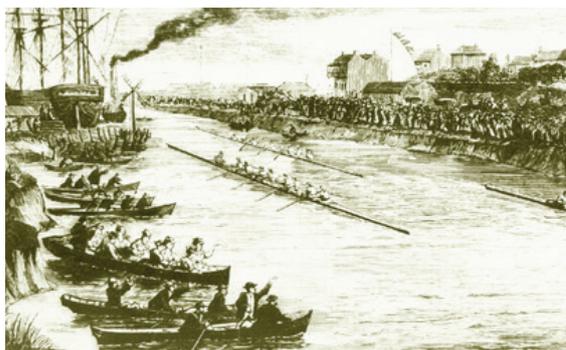


Why not combine your interests in exercise, and arts or local history, by exploring the City of Maribyrnong with a focus on public art or heritage.

Public art pieces are located throughout the City.

More information on public art: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/arts-and-culture/Home/Programs/Visual-and-Public-Art/Public-Art

The area has a rich and interesting Indigenous and non-Indigenous history, often centred around the river. Explore this history with walks and podcasts.



More information on heritage walking trails: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Discover-Maribyrnong/Our-history-and-heritage/Heritage-Trails-and-Walks

Playgrounds

nt 2



From dinosaurs to aeroplanes to natural play spaces, Maribyrnong's playgrounds will amaze and delight both young and old.

Larger playgrounds include:

- Footscray Park all-abilities play space
- Hansen Reserve playground, Kingsville (new)
- Aeroplane Park, Braybrook
- Cranwell Park playground, Braybrook
- Jensen Reserve playground, near Edgewater, Maribyrnong
- Pipe Makers Park playground, Maribyrnong
- Yarraville Gardens playground, Yarraville
- McIvor Reserve playground, Yarraville
- Johnson Reserve, West Footscray.

More information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/News/Top-playgrounds-in-Maribyrnong-to-explore-this-summer

Fitness Equipment / Bouldering Wall



Outdoor fitness equipment is available in multiple locations across the City of Maribyrnong, including along the Maribyrnong River (at Footscray Park, Burton Crescent Reserve and Chifley Drive), and Cruickshank Park in Yarraville.

A free public bouldering wall is located under the Hopkin Street bridge in Footscray near the Maribyrnong River.

Visit them anytime! These facilities are accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Daughters and Sons of the West

nt 2

The Daughters and Sons of the West programs are free 10-week health programs that aim to empower women and men to eat healthier, be more active and improve their overall wellbeing. The programs are also a great way to meet new people and discover opportunities to become more involved and connected to your local community.

Each session includes information on different health and wellbeing topics, followed by physical activities that is tailored to meet everyone's fitness levels.

The program is facilitated by the Western Bulldogs Community Foundation in partnership with local councils and community health services across Victoria.

The next men's program commences in March 2022 and the women's program in July 2022.

Visit Council's website in 2022 to register:
maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-programs-and-grants/Daughters-and-Sons-of-the-West



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Volunteering

Volunteers are a vital part of our community and volunteering is a great way to give your time and expertise to support community programs and organisations.

Community gardens



Help nurture and share ideas with local residents about growing plants, flowers and herbs at one of our community gardens in Braybrook, Maidstone, Maribyrnong and Yarraville.

For more information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-programs-and-grants/Volunteering

Become a friend!

Join a local "friends of" group to support and help maintain and support a particular park, conservation reserve or species of native flora or fauna. There are currently "friends of" groups for Cruickshank Park, Maribyrnong Valley, Newell's Paddock and Stony Creek.

There are also three rubbish collecting groups that meet monthly to help keep our City beautiful.

For more information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-programs-and-grants/Volunteering

FILLS program

Based out of Braybrook Community Hub, the Family Inclusive Language and Learning Support (FILLS) Program is a whole-of-family tutoring program for newly-arrived migrant and refugee families.

Volunteers are needed to provide weekly support to the program once it resumes again in 2022.

Contact the FILLS Projects Officer on
(03) 9188 5853.

L2P driving program

The L2P program is a state government funded program to assist learner drivers to gain their minimum of 120 hours of driving experience to become a safe and confident driver.

Opportunities are available for volunteer mentor drivers.

For more information: maribyrnong.vic.gov.au/Community/Community-programs-and-grants/Volunteering

More opportunities

Volunteer West is based in the western region of Melbourne and provides information about volunteer opportunities, training and support to volunteers, coordinators and organisations.

For more volunteering opportunities visit
volunteerwest.org.au

Getting Help

Gambler's Help - IPC Health

Gambler's Help is a free and confidential gambling counselling service for people experiencing harm from gambling as well as their partners and close family members.

If you need support please contact Gambler's Help IPC Health on **(03) 7037 2104** or Gambler's Helpline: **1800 858 858**, Gambler's Help Youth Line: **1800 262 376** or visit: **gamblershelp.com.au**

Australian Vietnamese Women's Association Inc.

Offers free and confidential gambling counselling services specifically for Vietnamese Victorians. Professionally trained staff deliver high quality counselling face to face, on the phone, or via email. They also provide support and referrals to gamblers, their family members and all those affected by gambling harm.

Visit **avwa.org.au/en/services/health-community-well-being/gambling-counselling** or call **(03) 9396 1922**

Gambler's Help Online

Gambler's Help also offers an online counselling service. Online counselling is convenient and flexible. You can get help anywhere, at any time, as long as you have a device that can connect to the internet.

Visit **gamblinghelponline.org.au/take-a-step-forward/chat-counselling**

Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation

The Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation works with partners and communities across Victoria to inform people about the risks of gambling, and to provide support to those who need it, including people affected by someone else's gambling. Their website includes valuable research and information, and provides links to Gambler's Help services.

Visit **responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au** or call **(03) 9452 2600**

Lifeline

Lifeline is a national charity providing 24 hour crisis and suicide prevention support to all Australians.

Visit **lifeline.org.au/get-help/information-and-support/problem-gambling** or call **13 11 14**

Agenda Item 9.1 - Attachment 3

Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan 2021-2025

The Reducing Harm from Gambling Action Plan outlines Council's response to key actions contained in the Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy 2021-2025. An annual progress report on each action will be developed.

Gambling Policy Action	Council Response	Timeframe
Under the requirements for local government outlined in the <i>Gambling Regulation Act 2003</i> , undertake a social impact assessment of applications to the VCGLR for an increase in EGMs at new and existing venues in the City of Maribyrnong.	Provide a social impact assessment to the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) within 60 days, as outlined in the <i>Gambling Regulation Act</i> .	Annual
Assess planning applications for gaming venues under the Gaming Policy outlined in the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme. (Note: This planning policy only applies to new venues under Clause 52.28-4, of the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme).	Work in partnership with City Places team to assess applications for new gaming venues in the City of Maribyrnong.	Annual
Oppose gaming license applications in neighbouring municipalities if they have a negative impact on City of Maribyrnong residents.	Determine if gaming application in neighbouring municipalities are going to have a negative impact on local residents and provide written responses to the VCGLR within required timeframes.	Annual
Advocate for changes to regulation and design of EGMs operating in Victoria.	Participate in Alliance for Gambling Reform (AGR) campaigns for changes to the regulation and design of machines.	Annual
Advocate for changes to the number and location of EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong.	Participate in Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV), Local Government Working Group on Gambling (LGWGOG) and Alliance for Gambling Reform (AGR) campaigns and activities to advocate for a reduction in Maribyrnong EGM cap and highlight the harm caused by EGM venues in convenient locations or in areas of high social and economic disadvantage.	Annual
Advocate for a ban on sports betting advertising on television and live stream services in Victoria in alignment with the Alliance for Gambling Reform position.	Participate in Alliance for Gambling Reform campaigns on sports betting and highlight the impacts of sports betting in the Gambling Fact Sheets.	Annual

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Gambling Policy Action	Council Response	Timeframe
Update Gambling Fact Sheets on an annual basis to include new information on local EGM losses, other gambling data and gambling harm research.	Updated Gambling Fact Sheets published on Council website and circulated to stakeholders.	Annual
Advocate for increased investment in research on the social and economic impacts of gambling on individuals, their families and local communities.	Highlight social and economic and health and wellbeing impacts of gambling in alignment with Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.	Annual
Advocate for increased investment in research on the health and wellbeing impacts of gambling including research into family violence, mental and physical health impacts.	Highlight family violence, mental and physical health impacts of gambling in alignment with Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.	Annual
Do not approve gambling promotional material in Council-owned facilities or on Council's websites (with the exception of Yarraville-Footscray Bowling Club).	Monitor and take corrective action across Council's facilities and websites to ensure gambling promotional material is not used.	Ongoing
Discourage Council from holding meetings, events and community activities at gaming venues.	Monitor and take corrective action across Council's programs and services to ensure that activities do not take place in gaming venues.	Ongoing
Promote local programs and services through Council's Gambling Alternatives Program.	Publish gambling alternatives content to website at least annually, including community centre and library programs, and programs supported by Council through community, sports and festival grants.	Annual

Fact Sheet 1: Gambling Harm

Agenda Item 9.1 - Attachment 4

What is gambling harm?

The Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation considers gambling harm to be any negative consequence or side effect that comes from gambling.

Categories of gambling harm include:

- Relationship difficulties
- Family violence
- Physical and mental health issues
- Financial problems such as bankruptcy
- Work or study performance issues
- Criminal activity.

Gambling harm is a community issue

Gambling harm can be experienced by the person who gambles, but also their family, friends, colleagues, and others in the community. Gambling behaviour can be influenced by: the characteristics of the individual; family and friends; social and cultural norms; the gambling environment; and the policy and legislative environment governing gambling activities.

To some extent, the opportunity cost of a proportion of gambling losses is also a community impact, given this money could have been spent on other activities. Within the City of Maribyrnong, this equates to tens of millions of dollars each year, which could fund a range of services. Across Victoria, net gambling losses were at least \$5.5 billion in 2018/19 (Australian Gambling Statistics, 36th ed.).

For these reasons, gambling and gambling harm are community issues and communities can contribute to preventing and minimising gambling harm. This approach goes beyond only targeting high-risk gambling. It is a whole-of-community approach to preventing and minimising the negative impacts of gambling – it affects all of us.

Gambling harm in Victoria

The likelihood of experiencing severe gambling harm increases for those whose gambling behaviour is considered to be high-risk gambling¹.

However, in terms of absolute numbers, a recent study found that around 50% of people in Victoria who experience severe gambling harm² are not considered high-risk gamblers (Victorian Population Gambling and Health Study 2018-19). And, around 70% of Victorians who experience any form of gambling harm³, were not

considered high-risk gamblers. These findings support the focus on broad harm minimisation, beyond a focus only on minimising high-risk gambling.

Men were more likely to experience gambling harm than women according to the study, even though there was equal participation in gambling activities by gender (around 70% gambling participation for men, and 68% for women). Men were also more likely to be involved in high-risk gambling (1.0% compared to 0.5% of women).

Strategies for preventing and minimising gambling harm

The Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation identifies a range of strategies for preventing and minimising gambling harm. These strategies are included below with some adjustment:

Individual and the community:

- Disseminating factual gambling information and research
- Community awareness campaigns, for example, identifying the signs of high-risk gambling, how to seek help, promoting services, etc
- Campaigns and activities that influence community attitudes towards gambling and social norms
- Supporting development of community networks and activities offering gambling alternatives

Gambling environment:

- Collaborating with industry, for example, training of staff, etc
- Displaying information within venues
- Design of venues and gambling areas

Physical or built environment:

- Policies/legislation governing location and density of venues
- Hours of operation, the number of available gambling formats, etc
- Types and format of advertising

Health and welfare/support system:

- Supporting access to treatment/support services
- Supporting skilled and well-resourced workforce, including allied services
- Providing information to assist peers, friends and family members of gamblers.

¹ High-risk gambling is defined according to the experience of gambling harm.

² Severe gambling harm included: spending less on essentials; significant relationship conflict; family violence; and not attending to children's needs specifically due to gambling.

³ Experiencing at least one of: a loss of spending money, savings, or increased debt; regrets, feeling ashamed or feeling like a failure; spending less on recreation or less time with loved ones; or selling personal items.

Fact Sheet 2: Gambling in Victoria

Agenda Item 9.1 - Attachment 4

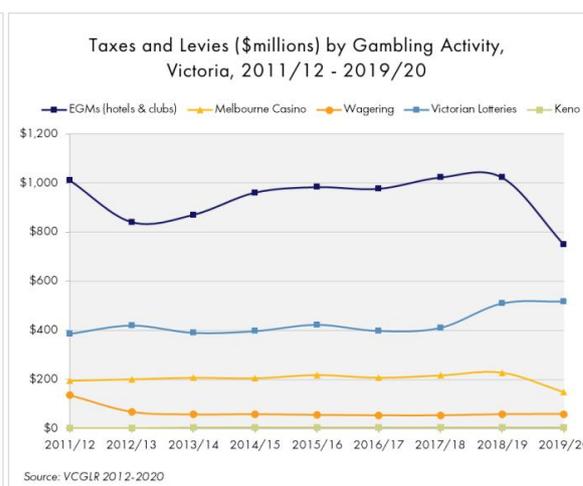
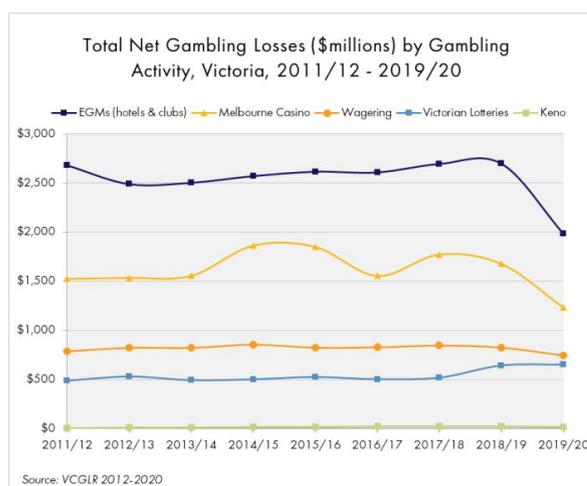
Gambling losses in Victoria

\$1.99 billion
EGMs at hotels
and clubs

\$1.24 billion
Melbourne Casino

\$4.6 billion
Net Gambling Losses
in Victoria

- Total net gambling losses^{1,2} in Victoria were \$4.6 billion in the 2019-20 financial year. This included:
 - \$1.99 billion on electronic gaming machines (EGMs) in hotels and clubs
 - \$1.24 billion on Melbourne Casino EGMs and table games
 - \$747 million on wagering including racing, trackside and sports betting (excluding where bookmakers / organisations are licensed outside Victoria)
 - \$652 million on Victorian lotteries
 - \$16 million on Keno.
- Gambling activity in 2019-20 was impacted by restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic, and therefore total net gambling losses were lower than the previous year (total of \$5.87 billion in 2018-19)³. The reduction was mostly for gambling through EGMs and at Melbourne Casino (see chart below), with losses on wagering, lotteries and Keno relatively steady compared to the previous year. Online wagering may have increased during the pandemic, however this may not be captured in these Victorian figures as many of the betting companies are not based in Victoria.
- Taxes and levies collected from gambling also decreased in 2019/20 to \$1.48 billion. The largest contributors to taxes and levies were EGMs at \$749 million and Victorian lotteries at \$518 million. In 2018-19, taxes and levies collected from gambling were \$1.83 billion.



Notes: Not adjusted for population change or inflation.

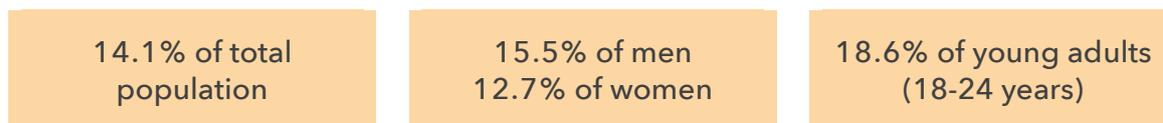
¹ As betting has shifted online, gambling statistics for Victoria have been distorted. This is because gambling expenditure is captured by governments as they levy taxes, and these taxes have been based on where gambling businesses are located. Most state governments have now introduced point-of-consumption taxes and this will allow state-based analysis in future years.

² Net gambling losses (net gambling expenditure) is the total amount lost by players minus total winnings.

³ Not adjusted for inflation.

Fact Sheet 3: Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) Agenda Item 9.1 - Attachment 4

Who uses EGMs in Victoria?



A recent Victorian study found that an estimated 14.1% of Victorians had used EGMs¹ in the preceding 12-month period (Victorian Population Gambling and Health Study 2018-19). EGM participation was:

- More likely amongst men compared to women. This is true based on the total population of each gender (15.5% of men had used EGMs in the preceding 12-month period, and 12.7% of women), and for those who had gambled in any form in the preceding 12-month period (22.2% of male gamblers and 18.7% of female gamblers).
- Highest amongst young people aged 18-24 years (18.6% of all young adults, and 35.5% of all young adult gamblers). This may reflect the relative ease of participation for young people, in terms of venues they frequently attend and compared to other forms of gambling.
- Higher amongst gamblers experiencing higher levels of gambling harm. In fact, nearly 70% of high-risk gamblers had used EGMs in the preceding 12-month period (this group participated in multiple types of gambling activities, but EGM participation was second only to lotteries).
- Highest amongst those earning low to middle incomes (\$20,800-\$41,600 and \$41,600-\$78,000 per year - around 16%), and lower for lower and higher income groups.
- Decreasing overall, with EGM participation at 21.5% ten years ago (compared to the current 14.1%).

Arguably, EGMs are the form of gambling that local governments have the most influence over (for venues located within their boundaries). The assessment and licensing of EGM venues is also regulated by other agencies.

EGMs, venues and net losses in the City of Maribyrnong

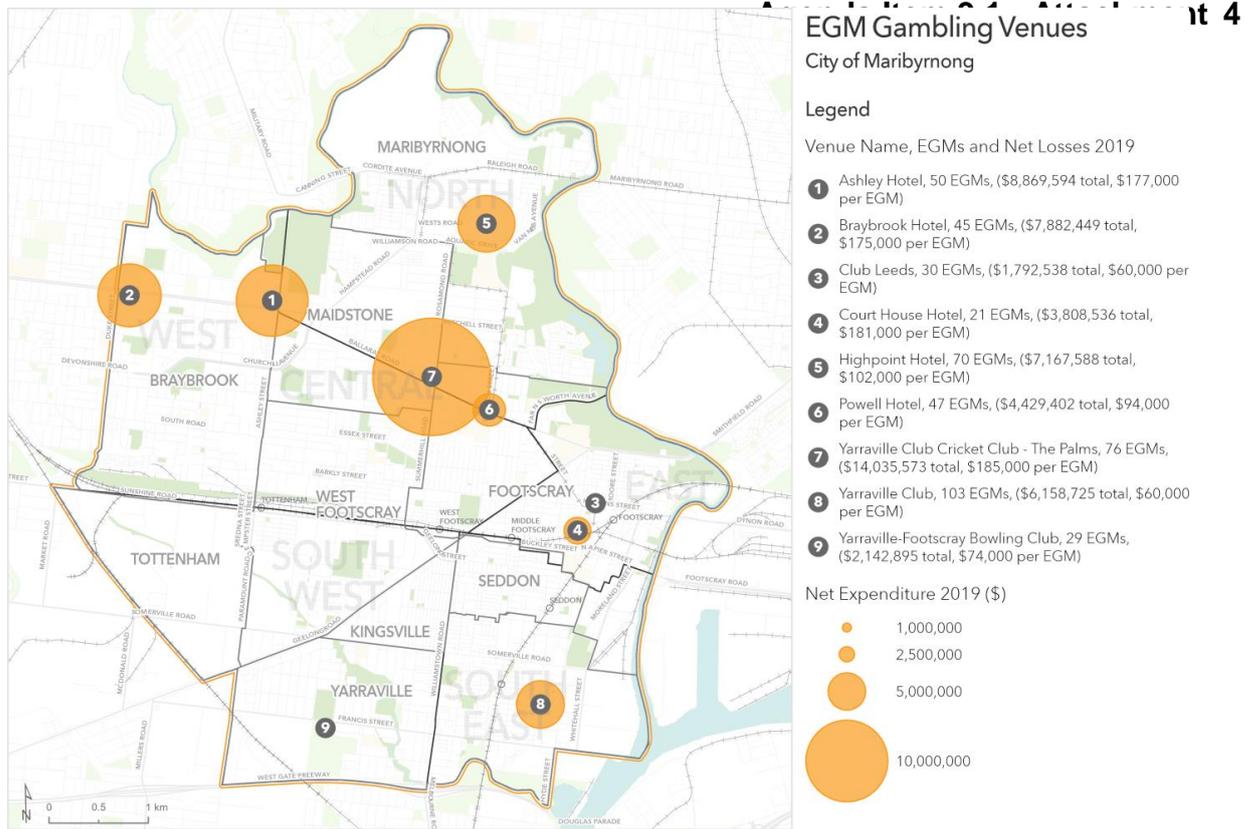


- There are 471 EGMs located across 9 venues in the City of Maribyrnong. The 9 EGM venues are shown in the figure below. Although the maximum opening hours for gambling venues is 20 hours per day, because opening times are staggered, there are gambling venues open 24 hours a day, seven days a week in the City of Maribyrnong.
- Under the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003*, the maximum permissible number of EGM entitlements for the City of Maribyrnong is 471 machines. This cap was last updated in 2017 and may be increased as the population increases.
- The largest EGM venues are the Yarraville Club (103 EGMs), Yarraville Club Cricket Club - The Palms (76 EGMs) and Highpoint Hotel (70 EGMs).
- EGM net losses were well below average in 2020 due to venue closures during the COVID-19 pandemic. EGM net losses were nearly \$20m in 2020, significantly lower than nearly \$60m the previous year. Even when looking at daily losses, excluding periods when EGM venues were closed, losses were lower in 2020 compared to 2019 (~\$145,000 per day in 2020, compared to ~\$160,000 per day in 2019). This is most likely because certain restrictions were in place even on days when venues were open in 2020. Data for the 2019 calendar year is used in the rest of this section to remove the unprecedented impacts of the pandemic restrictions on EGM activity.
- The Yarraville Club Cricket Club - The Palms had the highest EGM net losses of any venue in 2019, at \$14m (or \$185,000 per EGM). This was almost double the net losses of any other club.
- Some of these venues may close in the future, and this may trigger the reallocation of their EGM entitlements. This may mean the transfer of entitlements from current low-yielding to higher-yielding venues and would result in higher overall losses, even within the same capped number of machines.

¹ Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs), known colloquially as "pokies".

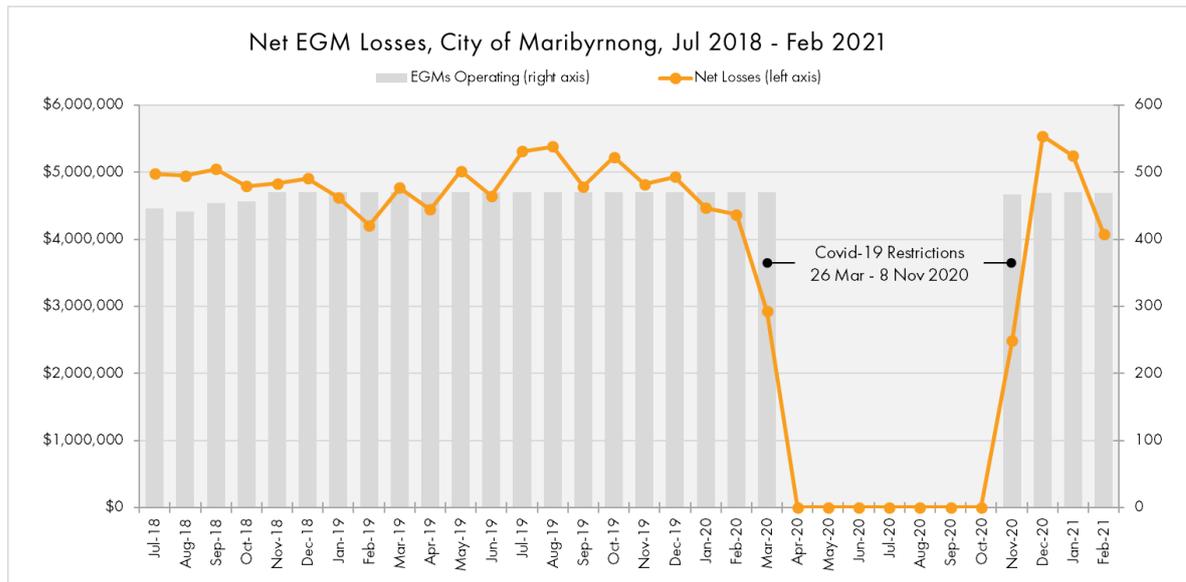
² The net EGM losses is the total amount lost by players minus total winnings.

³ Impacted by COVID-19 restrictions.



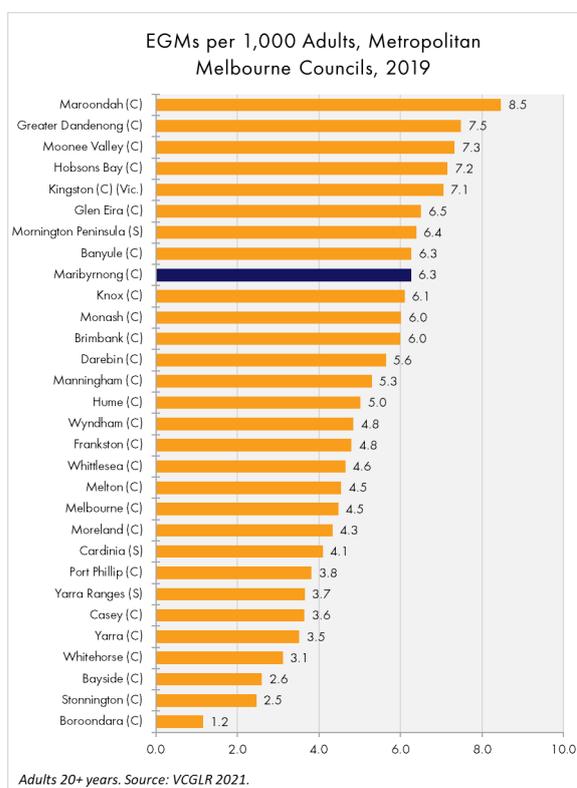
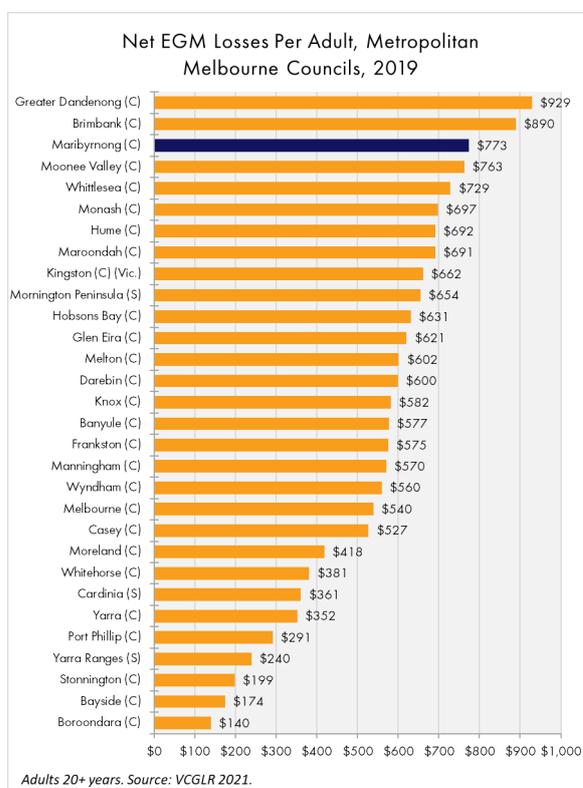
The chart below, shows the number of EGMs operating and net losses in the City of Maribyrnong each month over the past two years. It clearly demonstrates the impact of the closure of EGM venues during the COVID-19 pandemic. After reopening in mid-November, net losses increased (in December and January) to be higher than average, but in February, returned to average (or slightly below).

It would be useful to investigate whether other forms of gambling increased during the COVID-19 restrictions, for example, online gambling. However, such detailed monthly data on other forms of gambling is generally not available.



How does Maribyrnong compare to other council areas? Agenda Item 9.1 - Attachment 4

- In 2019, net EGM losses were \$773 per adult in the City of Maribyrnong¹. This was one of the highest figures for local government areas within Metropolitan Melbourne, with only the City of Greater Dandenong (\$929 per adult) and City of Brimbank (\$890 per adult) having higher losses (see chart below).
- Within the City of Maribyrnong, net EGM losses per adult were highest in Braybrook SA2 (the suburbs of Braybrook and Maidstone) at \$1,913 per adult. Two of the three EGM venues in the Braybrook SA2 are located close to the boundaries of the area and would therefore attract gamblers from outside the area as well and this may distort these figures. However, this rate of losses was significantly higher than the City of Maribyrnong average (as above, \$773 per adult) and other areas within the city (the next highest was Yarraville SA2 at \$645 per adult).
- There were 6.3 EGMs in the City of Maribyrnong per 1,000 adults⁷. The state government uses a maximum municipal limit of 10 EGMs per 1,000 adults when assessing EGM caps. This was the ninth highest rate in Metropolitan Melbourne, with higher rates in neighbouring City of Moonee Valley (7.3 per 1,000 adults) and City of Hobsons Bay (7.2 per 1,000 adults) (see chart below). There were 13.9 EGMs in the Yarraville SA2 for every 1,000 adults. This was a much higher rate than for the city (as above, 6.3 machines per 1,000 adults), and even the Braybrook SA2 (with 7.7 machines per 1,000 adults).
- This data suggests that although Yarraville SA2 has more EGMs and more EGMs per adult than any of the other SA2s, net losses per machine and per adult is much lower, with potentially lower gambling harm as a result. In contrast, although Braybrook SA2 (Braybrook and Maidstone suburbs) has fewer EGMs and fewer EGMs per adult than Yarraville SA2, net losses per machine and per adult is significantly higher, resulting in potentially higher gambling harm.



¹ This data is based on the number of adults (20 years and older) at 30 June 2019. Data for 18 years and older was not as reliable.

Fact Sheet 4: Sports Betting (and Online Gambling) Agenda Item 9.1 - Attachment 4

Local governments can contribute to preventing and minimising gambling harm related to sports betting through advocacy, providing information and supporting activities, but have a limited regulatory role given the proportion of sports betting occurring online.

Growth in sports betting

Sports betting has been growing rapidly in recent years. And a growing proportion of this type of gambling is occurring online through websites and apps - more than half of net gambling losses on sports betting is estimated to now be occurring online. However, total sports gambling is still significantly less than for electronic gambling machines (EGMs) and other "gaming" activities, such as casino and lottery gambling, etc See chart below (Australian Gambling Statistics, 36th ed.).

As betting has shifted online, statistics for local areas, or even for states and territories, has been distorted. This is because gambling statistics are captured by governments as they levy taxes, and these taxes have been based on where gambling businesses are located. The chart below therefore shows data for the whole of Australia to capture the online operators based in the Northern Territory. Most state governments have now introduced point-of-consumption taxes and this will allow state-based analysis in future years.



Notes: This data has a range of limitations and gaps, and these should be considered when interpreting this data. It is shown as a general indication of loss by gambling type only.

Who bets on sport in Victoria?

5.8% of total population

9.7% of men
2.0% of women

11.5% of young adults (18-24 years)

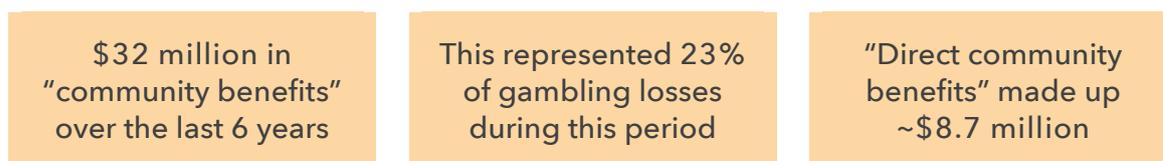
The Victorian Population Gambling and Health Study found that an estimated 5.8% of Victorians had gambled on sports events in the preceding 12-month period (Victorian Population Gambling and Health Study 2018-19). This was less than half the proportion who had gambled using EGMs (14.1%). Sports betting participation was:

- More likely amongst men compared to women - 9.7% of men had bet on sport in the preceding 12-month period, compared to just 2.0% of women.
- Highest amongst young people aged 18-24 years (11.5% of all young adults). This may reflect the high proportion of sports betting undertaken online, as participation decreases substantially with age.
- Mostly online, with 71.7% of people who bet on sports, nominating websites and apps as the location they most often use (this is a different measure to national online gambling losses referred to above).
- Highest amongst those on high personal incomes, with participation increasing progressively with personal income (up to 10.3% for people earning over \$156,000 per year).

Fact Sheet 5: Community Benefits

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Community benefits from clubs with EGMs



Club operators of EGMs are required to lodge an audited community benefit statement (CBS) with the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) each year. This statement ensures that investments in community benefits by each club are at least 8.33% of net EGM revenue (net gambling losses). There are four clubs in the City of Maribyrnong: Club Leeds, Yarraville - Footscray Bowling Club, Yarraville Club and Yarraville Club Cricket Club - The Palms. This fact sheet focuses on summarising the community benefits associated with these clubs, as the data for hotel venues is not publically available.

"Community benefits" under the *Gambling Regulation Act 2003* include:

- Class A: Direct community benefits such as:
 - Donations, gifts and sponsorships for any philanthropic or benevolent purpose (such as education, health care, high-risk gambling, drug and alcohol addiction, veterans support, sporting or recreational activities, etc)
 - Provision and maintenance of sporting facilities for club members.
 - Goods and services subsidies (excluding alcohol), including food vouchers and discounts for patrons.
 - Volunteer services provided by members and staff of the club to other organisations.
 - Veterans support where club is a sub-branch of the RSL.
- Class B: Indirect community benefits (according to additional criteria) such as:
 - Capital expenditure.
 - Cost of finance (including principal and interest).
 - Retained earnings.
 - Investments in buildings, plant or equipment, excluding gambling equipment.
 - Operating costs of the venue.Only a proportion of Class B costs are counted.
- Class C: Miscellaneous items such as:
 - Responsible gambling measures not required by law.
 - Reimbursement of volunteer expenses.
 - The cost of the preparation of the annual community benefit statement.

Community benefits from hotels with EGMs

Hotel venues are not required to lodge community benefit statements. Instead, they pay a similar rate of tax on EGM revenue (ultimately) into the Community Support Fund which is administered by State Government departments. Grants are offered to organisations through departments, including for state-wide programs and services. Data is therefore not available on grants by local government area.

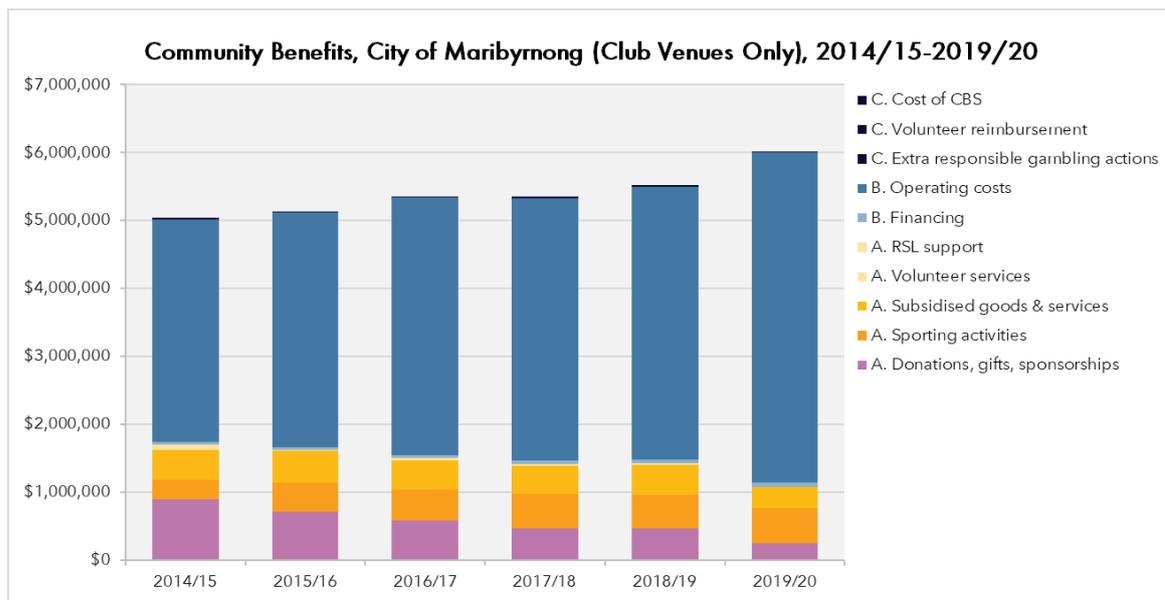
In 2018/19 (the most recent year data available), 59% of funding was allocated to programs for drug and alcohol treatment and rehabilitation (~\$85 million) and 27% for high-risk gambling programs (~\$38 million). These are the top two priorities for the fund. No individual programs were identified within the City of Maribyrnong in the last few years (2015/16-2018/19).

Community benefits from City of Maribyrnong club venues

The chart below shows that the total value of community benefits (provided by club venues) has been increasing over the past six years. From around \$5 million per year to \$6 million per year. The majority of community benefits are the operating costs of the venue, accounting for around 70% of the total community benefits claimed in the annual community benefit statements. These include staffing costs, management fees, electricity, rent, etc. The closure of venues due to COVID-19 restrictions may have partially impacted the data for the 2019/20 financial year.

On average, club venues have provided 22.7% of net EGM revenue (net gambling losses) over the past six years as community benefits (2014/15-2019/20). This is well above the required 8.33%. However, this varies markedly by venue: Club Leeds (45%), Yarraville - Footscray Bowling Club (40%), Yarraville Club (20%) and Yarraville Club Cricket Club - The Palms (15%).

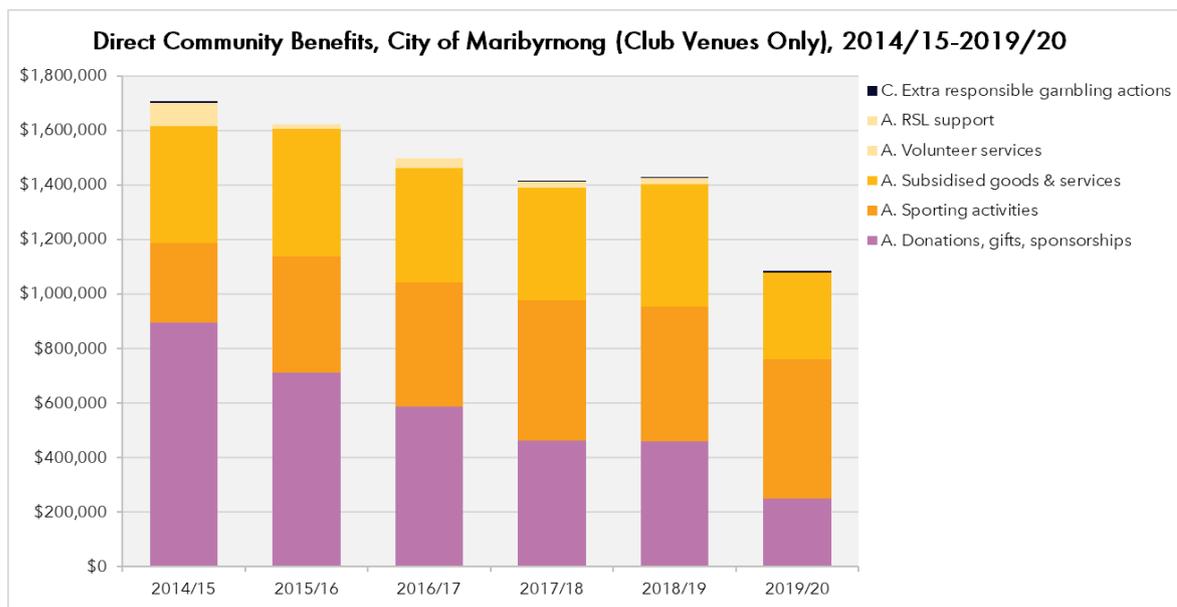
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Direct community benefits (including responsible gaming actions) from City of Maribyrnong club venues

The following chart focuses only on the bottom section of the previous chart - the direct community benefits (Class A benefits), as well as responsible gambling actions (from Class C). These amounts are much lower (less than \$2 million per year) and have been declining in recent years.

There is no obligation for clubs to provide a certain amount or proportion of direct community benefits.

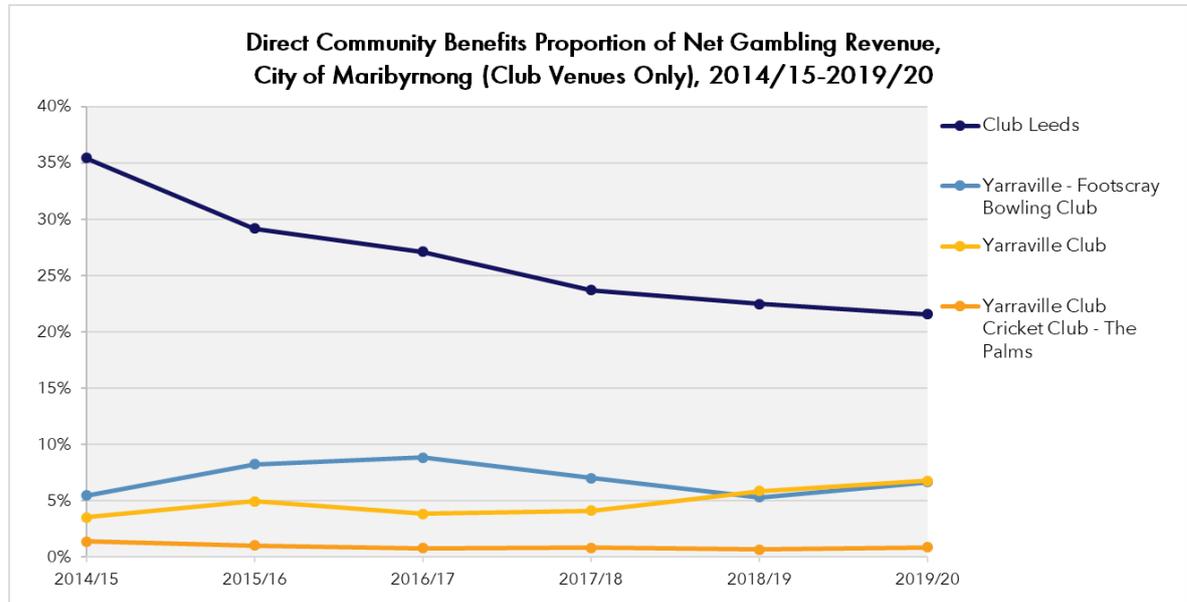


On average, club venues have provided 6.1% of net EGM revenue (net gambling losses) over the past six years as direct community benefits (including responsible gambling actions) (2014/15-2019/20). However, this varies significantly by venue. On average, over the past six years (2014/15-2019/20), the clubs have invested the following in direct community benefits (including responsible gambling actions): Club Leeds (26.7%), Yarraville - Footscray Bowling Club (6.9%), Yarraville Club (4.8%) and Yarraville Club Cricket Club - The Palms (0.9%).

These proportions have varied over the years (shown in the chart below). But, Club Leeds has always provided over 20% of net revenue as direct community benefits, while other venues have always contributed less than 10%.

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Club Leeds was previously owned by the Western Bulldogs, but was divested in 2020, and this higher rate of direct community support may therefore change in the future. This would significantly reduce the overall direct community benefit amount overall in the City of Maribyrnong by around 40% (despite their relatively small number of EGMs - only 13% of EGMs in club venues).



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COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM RECOMMENDATIONS REPORT 2021-2022

Director: Clem Gillings
Director Community Services

Author: Bridget Monro-Hobbs
Manager Community Development, Positive Ageing and
Inclusion

PURPOSE

To present to Council the 2021-22 Community Grants Funding recommendations.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The 2021-22 budget for Community Grants is \$170,000;
- Applications for Community Grants were open from 19 July – 23 August 2021;
- Grants were assessed against key selection criteria;
- The 2020-21 Community Grants program included a priority to support and encourage First Nations led applications.
- Council received 50 applications in this funding round and 24 are recommended for funding.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Grants Program Guidelines 2021 [↓](#)
2. Report - Community Grant Recommendations [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the 2021-22 Community Grants report and the funding recommendations it outlines.

Agenda Item 9.2**BACKGROUND**

The Maribyrnong City Council Community Grants Program was established in 1996 to support community organisations and community led projects. The delivery of the annual program is an identified action of the Council Plan 2021-2025.

The current Community Grants Program seeks to support projects that create social inclusion, help build an intercultural and intergenerational city and engage people from diverse communities and backgrounds to participate in and contribute to community life. The 2021 round included an additional focus on encouraging and supporting First Nations led applications.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

A community grant is a financial contribution from Council to support projects and initiatives that enhance the lives of communities in the City of Maribyrnong.

Applications are accepted from:

- Community groups, agencies or organisations providing services, programs and support to the community of the City of Maribyrnong.
- Individuals (with appropriate auspice support) to undertake a project that has a clear community benefit as per the guidelines.
- Non-government agencies receiving funding through State and/or Federal Government.

To be eligible for funding, community groups/organisations must:

- Be based in the City of Maribyrnong or offer a project in the City of Maribyrnong and the majority of project participants must be residents of the City of Maribyrnong.
- Have an ABN.
- Be a not-for-profit agency or constituted body (for example, an incorporated association) or be suitably auspiced.
- Have Public Liability Insurance of up to \$20 million.

Funding is available in the following categories:

- Small Grants – up to \$500. These grants support established and emerging groups to respond to community needs or develop a one-off activity. This grant is also available to seniors groups who meet on a regular basis and engage the community in social, recreational and other community focused activity.
- Medium Grants – between \$501 - \$10,000. These grants support projects that encourage participation and connect people of all ages and diverse cultures across neighbourhoods in new and innovative ways.

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- Large Grants – between \$10,001 - \$20,000. These grants support large scale collaborative projects that respond to a community issue or opportunity. Applicants are encouraged to work in partnership and strengthen capacity, build skills and develop networks.

The applications received represented a broad range of projects including applications from First Nations led projects and from organisations who had never received funding or engaged with Council's Community Grants Program before. Themes include celebrating Indigenous culture, intercultural exchange and reconnecting after pandemic lockdowns.

Grant applications by category 2021 – 2022 Community Grant Program

Funding Level & Category	Applications Received	% of total Applications received	Funding requested	Number of Applications recommended	Funding recommended
Large Grants - \$10,001 up to \$20,000	16	32%	\$289,683.00	5	\$95,000
Medium Grants - \$501 up to \$10,000	21	42%	\$179,698.82	9	\$74,260
Small Grants - up to \$500	13	26%	\$6,500	10	\$5000
TOTAL	50	100%	\$475,881.82	24	\$174,260

- 7% increase in total funds requested (\$497,343 in 2019-2020; \$443,404 in 2020-2021).
- 40% decrease, from the previous year, in the total number of applications received.

The Community Grant Program 2020-21 opened in July and this coincided with the commencement of another lockdown. Based on anecdotal reports, the decrease in the number of applications can be attributed to a combination of COVID related factors including organisational fatigue, additional COVID recovery grant opportunities available elsewhere together with a number of organisations still delivering projects carried over from previous grant rounds. The increase in the total funds requested is due to the increase in the largest dollar amount available being increased from \$15,000 to \$20,000 this year.

Recommended applications total \$174,260 which means the Community Grants Program will be \$4,260 over budget. Overspend to be absorbed within existing budget.

Assessment

Applications are assessed against key selection criteria. The assessment process includes:

- Eligibility Checks - Grant applications are checked to determine eligibility and whether required documentation has been provided.

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- Assessment – Medium and Large Grant Round were assessed by a panel of three Officers from across Council. Small Grant applications were assessed to ensure they meet eligibility criteria. A facilitated panel discussion of assessing Officers, chaired by Manager Community Development, Positive Ageing and Inclusion, met to discuss assessments and prioritise recommendations.
- Review – The Director, Community Services reviewed the grant recommendations for presentation to Council.

Next steps

Council will notify all applicants of the outcomes of the 2021-2022 grant round following Council's endorsement of the Community Grant Report. Applications not recommended for funding will be directed to other opportunities and pathways where available and appropriate. Funded projects will be delivered in 2022.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - A place for all - Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods & strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive & accessible to the whole community, support wellbeing, healthy & safe living, community connection, and cultural interaction.

Legislation

- Council Plan 2021-2025
- Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- Local Government Act 2020

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

The Community Grants Program is a highly visible and practical way for community to be engaged in improving social justice outcomes and to participate in advocacy activity that encourages and builds the capacity and wellbeing of the community of Maribyrnong.

Agenda Item 9.2**3. Engagement**

Engagement with community in relation to the 2021-2022 community grants happens in a number of ways:

- The Community Grants program was promoted via all Council's social media channels, via the website and through the Community Development e-newsletter;
- Two Community Grants 2021-22 Information sessions were presented online for potential applicants;
- Advice and guidance provided to potential applicants by Community Grants Officer;

The additional focus on encouraging and supporting First Nations led applications provided the opportunity to begin developing networks and building relationships with Maribyrnong based First Nations led organisations and projects.

4. Resources

- The Director, Community Services has the delegated authority for grants budget approval.
- The 2021-2022 Community Grants budget is \$170,000. Recommended applications total \$174,260 and the additional \$4,260 over budget will be absorbed within existing Departmental budget.

5. Environment

The Community Grant program does not create any negative environmental impacts and encourages applications that promote community wellbeing and inclusion.

CONCLUSION

The Community Grants program enables Council to engage with community and to continue building positive relationships. The Community Grants program has undergone continuous improvement since its implementation in 1996 and the diversity of projects that are funded has assisted in building a vibrant and resilient community.

The 2021 Grant program has included a priority to focus on encouraging and supporting First Nations led applications. This has provided the opportunity to begin developing networks and building relationships with Maribyrnong based First Nations led organisations. The applications recommended include First Nations led projects and projects from organisations that have not been funded by Council before. Together, the recommended applications represent a strong and interesting group of projects likely to deliver positive community strengthening outcomes for Maribyrnong.



**Maribyrnong City Council
Community Grants Program Guidelines 2021**



Agenda Item 9.2 - Attachment 1

Community Grants Program Guidelines 2021

The Maribyrnong City Council Community Grants Program supports organisations or projects that create social inclusion, help build an intercultural and intergenerational city, and engage people from diverse communities of all ages, social, and cultural backgrounds to participate in and contribute to community life.

We acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land, the Wurundjeri Woi wurrung and Boon wurrung peoples of the Kulin Nation and pay our respect to their Elders, past, present and emerging.

COMMUNITY GRANTS AND THE COUNCIL PLAN

[The Council Plan](#) sets Council's direction and is developed based on the community's objectives and priorities.

Your Community Grant application should align with and identify the Council Objective that relates to your project.

COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 OBJECTIVES

Safe climate and healthy environment

Council will proactively identify opportunities to create a safe climate and healthy environment and work with our community to respond to climate emergency challenges.

Liveable neighbourhoods

Council will partner with its community to provide and advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open public spaces that are well maintained, engaging, accessible and respectful of the community and neighbourhoods.

A place for all

Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods and a strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive and accessible to the whole community, and that support

wellbeing, healthy and safe living, connection to the community, and cultural interaction.

Future focussed

Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable, and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Ethical leadership

Council will proactively lead our changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision-making, and well-planned and effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

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PRIORITIES FOR 2021 COMMUNITY GRANTS

- Encourage and support First Nations initiated and led projects to deepen community connection, education and understanding of Aboriginal heritage and culture, encourage leadership opportunities and support and champion Reconciliation.
- To support the community to continue to build resilience throughout the changing phases of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Create and innovate to strengthen community connectedness and improve inclusion and wellbeing.
- Organisation/group capacity building to enable diverse communities to adapt and respond to current and emerging challenges and needs.
- Support volunteering (formal and informal), community leadership development and civic participation.
- Increase intercultural connections that promote understanding and celebrate diversity.
- Enable community capacity to respond to local needs and maintain participation in community life.

KEY DATES

10am, Monday 19 July 2021	Applications open
5:30pm, Wednesday 4 August 2021	Community Grants Information Session (Zoom).
12:30pm, Thursday 5 August 2021	Community Grants Information Session (Zoom).
Date TBC	Project Design Workshop Email grants@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au to register your interest.
5pm, Monday 23 August 2021	Applications close.
December 2021	Grant outcomes announced. <i>Project delivery can commence from time of grant payment.</i>
December 2022	Project completion deadline.

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GRANT CATEGORIES

Category	Funding	Description
Small Grants	Up to \$500	<p>Small grants support established and emerging groups to respond to community needs or develop a one-off activity.</p> <p>This grant is also available to seniors groups who meet on a regular basis and engage the community in social, recreational, and other community focused activity. Any relevant permits needed to deliver the project must be identified.</p>
Medium Grants	Between \$501 - \$10,000	<p>Supports projects that encourage participation to connect people of all ages and diverse cultures across neighbourhoods in new and innovative ways.</p> <p>Activate an idea or issue to promote and celebrate diversity, inclusion, wellbeing, and sustainability.</p> <p>All applicants must submit a budget as part of the online application form. Project budgets should be detailed and realistic. Any relevant permits needed to deliver the project must also be identified.</p>
Large Grants	Between \$10,001 \$20,000	<p>Supports large scale collaborative projects that respond to a community issue or opportunity.</p> <p>Also supports large scale projects that are First Nations initiated and led that seek to advance reconciliation, encourage leadership opportunities, and celebrate Aboriginal heritage and culture in the City of Maribyrnong.</p> <p>All applicants are encouraged to work in partnership and strengthen capacity, build skills, and develop networks.</p> <p>All applicants must submit a project plan (template is part of application) and budget as part of the online application form. Project budgets should be detailed and realistic. Any relevant permits needed to deliver the project must also be identified.</p>

Funding is not limited to implementing a 'project' but could be focused on planning, professional development, governance and/or succession planning and training to respond to ongoing needs from the COVID-19 pandemic.

In consideration of the changing restrictions during the different phases of the COVID-19 pandemic, applications could include, but are not limited to, online training, access to digital tools, development of programs that are delivered online or planning that develops different ways of operating to meet changing needs.

Applications for projects that are initiated and led by First Nations peoples are welcomed across all Grants categories, but specifically in the Large Grants category.

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KEY SELECTION CRITERIA

All applications (*with the exception of those in the **Small Grants category***), are assessed based on the following questions:

- What is the proposed activity, and how does it respond to the Council Plan objectives?
- How will you engage and collaborate?
- What are the skills and ability of the applicant organisation to deliver the project?
- How does the project meet local needs?
- What is the expected community benefit?
- In addition, applications for First Nations projects will be reviewed to ensure they are initiated and led by First Nations peoples.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Applications are accepted from:

- Community groups, agencies or organisations providing services, programs, and support to the community of the City of Maribyrnong.
- Individuals (with appropriate auspice support) to undertake a project that has a clear community benefit as per the guidelines.
- Non-government agencies receiving funding through State and/or Federal Government.
- Applications that have a focus on indigenous issues, reconciliation and development are invited from First Nations community members, community groups, organisations, or agencies.

To be eligible for funding:

- Be based in the City of Maribyrnong or deliver a project in the City of Maribyrnong with the majority of project participants being residents of the City of Maribyrnong.
- Be a not-for-profit agency or constituted body (for example, an incorporated association).*
- Be a First Nations community member, community group, organisation, or agency, delivering a First Nations initiated and led project in the City of Maribyrnong.
- Have an Australian Business Number, ABN* (You can register for an ABN for free at: www.abr.gov.au)
- Have Public Liability Insurance cover of \$20 million.*

*If your organisation does not have an ABN, insurance, and incorporation, you can apply through an Auspice Organisation. See page 6 for details.

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WHAT WON'T BE FUNDED

- Grant proposals that have part or full funding through other Maribyrnong City Council grant programs (e.g., Festival City Grants).
- Organisations (applicants) who have outstanding acquittals for any previous Council grant.
- Organisations who have debt owing to Council.
- For-profit projects and businesses.
- Ongoing operational budgets, core business.
- Equipment costs not associated with the specific project.
- Individuals without an auspice.
- Public liability insurance (where this is the sole cost).
- Trophies, prizes, gifts, parties, or festivals.
- Refreshments and/or catering (where this is the majority of the project budget).
- Capital works and facility maintenance.
- Projects that have already commenced on application or have occurred or been completed prior to the application.
- Projects with a religious or political focus.
- Projects that support or involve gambling, tobacco, or alcohol.
- Sponsorship of individuals.
- Artists seeking funding for their own creative endeavours or professional practice.
- Curriculum for educational institutions, school camps, purchase of resources required to implement curriculum, payment for school excursions or for specialised student education programs.
- First Nations projects not initiated and led by First Nations people.

Important to note

Not all grants are funded to the total amount requested. Each year Council receives many more applications than we are able to fund.

Funding is not recurrent.

Applicants who have received a Community Grant in a previous year must complete a final project evaluation (acquittal) report. Unless submission at a later date has been approved by Council, applications from any groups with outstanding acquittals will not be considered.

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PREPARING YOUR APPLICATION

Applicants are encouraged to contact Council's Community Grants Officer prior to submitting an application.

The **Community Grants Officer** can be contacted on 03 9688 0223 or grants@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday.

Do not leave this until the closing date, as the Officer may not be available to assist you.

AUSPICING

You cannot apply for a grant without an ABN, incorporation, or public liability insurance.

However, an auspice organisation may be able to assist you.

An auspice is an organisation who manages grant funding on your behalf. Auspicing organisations provide coverage for applicants that lack public liability insurance and incorporation.

The auspice organisation is obligated to ensure that the funding is expended within the requirements of the application and funding agreement.

Evidence of the agreement between the two parties to undertake this auspice arrangement must be included with the application, as must all the necessary paperwork to prove insurance, incorporation, and ABN status. The auspice organisation receives all grant payments.

Finding an auspice organisation

In order to secure an auspice, you need to approach a non-profit or community organisation that may be interested in supporting your project.

It is likely that this would be an organisation working to achieve similar outcomes locally or might be an organisation that you are already a member of. Common auspicing organisations include Neighbourhood Houses, Multicultural Councils/Associations and Residents Groups.

Keep in mind that auspicing organisations will have requirements of auspiced projects and sometimes charge a fee.

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SUBMITTING THE APPLICATION

- You can access the application online at <https://maribyrnong.smartygrants.com.au>
- Review your application/s before submitting online (once submitted you cannot go back to make changes).
- Submit your application and take note of your Application Number.
- Keep a copy of your application for your records.
- You will receive a confirmation email that your application has been received.

Applications close 5pm, Monday 23 August. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

How many applications can you submit?

You can submit one (1) application in each category, e.g., you can apply for one (1) Small, one (1) Medium, and one (1) Large Grant. Each application must be for a different project.

Auspiced Applications

If your application is being auspiced, the auspice organisation must complete the relevant section of the application (Auspice Details).

Prior to submission, the application must be viewed by the appropriate representative of the auspice organisation to ensure that it is deemed acceptable.

NEED HELP APPLYING?

If you can't complete the application online, contact Council as early as possible prior to the closing date, so we can assist you.

For technical support see the [SmartyGrants Help Guide](#) or SmartyGrants [FAQs](#).

If you have further questions, contact SmartyGrants at: service@smartygrants.com.au. Provide your application number and that you are applying for the Maribyrnong City Council Community Grants Program.

Interpreting Service

If you would like to receive this information in a language other than English, call the free Telephone Interpreting Service on 131 450 and ask them to contact Maribyrnong City Council on 9688 0200 and access information through interpreting services.

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HOW ARE APPLICATIONS ASSESSED?

- Applications are checked to ensure that they meet the eligibility criteria, including that the appropriate documents (including project plans, budgets, and relevant permits) have been uploaded.
- All eligible applications are assessed against the assessment criteria by Council Officers who represent a cross-section of relevant departments.
- Council prioritises applications depending on the level of need, previous access to grants, experience of the group and capacity to source other funding.
- Applications for First Nations projects will be assessed to ensure they are initiated and led by First Nations peoples/agencies/community organisations.

Meeting the selection criteria does not automatically guarantee a grant.

The level of funding assistance available through the Community Grants Program is limited and applications considered against the criteria are in competition with all other applications considered for funding.

Applicants will be notified via email of the outcome.

SUCCESSFUL APPLICANTS

You will receive notification of successful funding via email in December. As part of your notification, you will receive a Terms and Conditions agreement that you must sign and return.

If you have been auspiced, this agreement must be signed by the appropriate representative authorised to make decisions on behalf of the auspicing group/organisation and witnessed by another organisation member.

Titles and contact numbers must be included, and organisation letterhead may be required to verify authorisation.

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RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE APPLICANT

If you receive funding, you must meet a number of obligations:

Funding Agreements and Budget

- Sign and return all documentation within two (2) weeks of funding notification.
- Funds must only be spent for the approved purpose unless Council gives prior approval, in writing, to any proposed changes.
- Maribyrnong City Council will not be responsible for shortfalls in the project budget if the organisation is unable to meet the project costs.

Acknowledge Council Support

- Acknowledge Council's support in all publications and promotion.
- Where appropriate invite Councillors and relevant Council staff to openings, launches and other activities associated with the grant.
- Successful projects and applicants may be required to promote their outcomes in publications and at Council offices/events.

Reporting

- Applicants are required to provide a final project report (acquittal) at the conclusion of the project. The acquittal must outline the activities and outcomes delivered as part of their project, including project spending, quotations for any items purchased over \$5,000, and a statement of any wages/ salaries paid.
- Any applicant (organisation/group) who hasn't provided an acquittal report for a previous community grant is ineligible from making further applications.

- Council may request interviews with applicants to verify activity and progress.
- Large Grant projects may be asked to participate in an ongoing reporting process during the delivery of the project.
- Document your project (if relevant), take photos and relevant notes to assist in reporting.

Paying the Grant

- Council pays grants by EFT (Electronic Funds Transfer).
- Applicants who do not wish to receive the grant via EFT must notify Council.
- No grant will be paid without a signed agreement and bank account details.
- If you have applied through an auspice, grant funds are paid to the organisation acting as the auspice.

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GST

GST will only apply to your grant if your organisation is registered for GST with the Australian Tax Office. In these cases, Council will add 10% for GST to the grant.

For information and advice on GST and the implications for your project, call the Australian Taxation Office (ATO) on 13 28 66 or visit www.ato.gov.au.

Grants are considered taxable income by the ATO. It is illegal to claim for GST if you are not registered.

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ID	Applicant	Project Title	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Notes
Large Grants						
LG202104	Booksnboots Inc	Booksnboots	Summary: The BNB National Coordinator will continue the work of Booksnboots. We now plan in 2022 to initiate primary school book drives in partnership with school principals in the Western region of Melbourne. The acquired books will be sent to Indigenous communities in NT, SA and WA	\$20000.00	\$20000.00	Recommended.
LG202115	cohealth	Aboriginal & Torres Strait islander Health	Summary: To bring community together to celebrate specific events for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander	\$20000.00	\$20000.00	Recommended.

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LG202116	The Silent Witness Network	Multicultural Women Connect + Create + Care	Summary: TWSN will conduct a suite of activities that will engage women from Filipino, Vietnamese, Indian and Chinese communities in the City of Maribyrnong. The project aims to encourage these communities to connect amongst themselves to establish intercultural friendships, build mutual respect, and promote community well-being and safety.	\$20000.00	\$20000.00	Recommended.
LG202121	Boonwurrung Land & Sea Council	Yulendji Dirrandil (Seed of Knowledge) Maribyrnong Youth Culture Project	Summary: Strong partnerships led by local First Nations Elders from CALD communities, who will rekindle cultural awareness, pride and identity in their disengaged young people. Participatory planning for projects that teach practical skills and cultural knowledge through cultivating significant native plants will build engagement and improve wellbeing of local communities.	\$20000.00	\$20000.00	Recommended.

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LG202122	300 Blankets Inc.	Soul Kitchen Braybrook	Summary: Soul Kitchen will provide a weekly food service at the Braybrook Community Hub for members of the local community at risk of, or experiencing homelessness. This will engage the local community and improve food security, welfare, and mental health issues for the most disadvantaged in our community.	\$15000.00	\$15000.00	Recommended.
				Large Grants	\$95,000.00	

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ID	Applicant	Project Title	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Notes
Medium Grants						
MG202101	The Gender Whisperers	Spilling the T Collective's Trans and Gender Diverse Writers' Anthology	Summary: Spilling the T Collective is a trans and gender diverse (TGD) peer support writers collective based in Footscray. Our facilitators connect TGD people in our local area with their community across Victoria. Our group meets fortnightly to provide peer support and mentoring as we workshop new pieces and share ideas.	\$3265.00	\$3265.00	Recommended.

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MG202103	Being Biracial Podcast	Being Biracial Podcast	<p>Summary: A new podcast about navigating the world as a mixed-race person. Being Biracial is filled with stories from people of different mixes about complicated family histories, the significance of names, and childhoods in different languages. It's a celebration of our shared stories. Creating the community, we never had growing up.</p>	\$10000.00	\$10000.00	Recommended.
MG202113	Pony Cam (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts)	Anything You Can Do: Community Workshops	<p>Summary: Anything You Can Do: Community Workshops is a series of six intergenerational performance making workshops facilitated by Pony Cam. We will create a space for locals aged 60+ to meaningfully connect, exchange, and collaborate with a group of local emerging artists, while teaching skills in creative writing, and contemporary performance.</p>	\$5372.00	\$5372.00	Recommended.

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MG202115	YMCA Victoria (RecWest)	Senior Social Sports	<p>Summary: A 12 week pilot program engaging our Senior Citizens and Multicultural Community socially & physically, by participating in Table Tennis and Badminton. Weekly information sessions (or exercise component) and tea & coffee are also included and additionally an opportunity to attend an Active Adult camp at week 6 and 12.</p>	\$8187.82	\$8187.82	Recommended.
MG202116	Growing for Community, Westgate Baptist Church	Growing for Community	<p>Summary: Launch a Social Enterprise Plant Nursery, which uses compost generated by our Food waste collection and provides meaningful activity for local people, particularly those who come to our Community Meals, who struggle with social isolation, mental health issues and poor language skills</p>	\$10000.00	\$10000.00	Recommended.

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MG202117	West Footscray Neighbourhood House	Reconnect West Footscray (WEFO) Project	Summary: The need for connecting communities has never been greater due to Covid. This project aims to offer the local community the opportunity to connect with each other, WFNH and local organisations/services via 4 Open House sessions that will offer a range of activities to support inclusion and wellbeing.	\$8750.00	\$8750.00	Recommended.
MG202119	L2R Dance	Deepening the inclusive culture of L2R Dance	Summary: Throughout 2022, L2R will embed Auslan throughout its practices, as the next, joyful step in deepening the organisation's inclusive culture. L2R will welcome Deaf Artist /Auslan Teacher Luke Duncan King into the organisation to collaborate with Staff and community w/shop participants. L2R is committed to enriched inclusivity and ethical leadership.	\$10000.00	\$10000.00	Recommended.

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MG202124	Australia Light Foundation Incorporated	Fresh Start - 2022	Summary: Everyone needs a "Fresh Start" after Covid-19. Australia Light Foundation in partnership with Yarraville Community Centre will provide training, wrap-around support, and experience to create a fresh, new cohort of local volunteers to deliver culturally sensitive services for the local Islamic Community including regular Community Meals and pathways to employment.	\$9200.00	\$9200.00	Recommended.
MG202125	McAuley Community Services for Women	McAuley Coffee Connections	Summary: McAuley Coffee Connections brings women who have experienced family violence and homelessness together, providing an opportunity for social connection and to develop barista skills.	\$9845.00	\$9845.00	Recommended.
				Medium Grants	\$74,259.82	

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ID	Applicant	Project Title	Project Summary	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended	Assessment Comments
Small Grants						
SG202109	Bruh Tesfa Ethiopian Youth and Parents Association Inc.	Promoting social well-being for isolated elderly	Summary: The project aims to promote social and emotional well-being of about 10 elderly members of the community who are experiencing isolation by organize social, cultural and sporting activities.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
SG202115	Circolo Pensionati Italiani Di Footscray	Welcome Back Lunch	Summary: We are looking at bringing the group together post covid19 to enjoy a lunch and Italian music probably around Easter	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.

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SG202116	Filipino Elderly Get Together Association	Picnic in the Park	Summary: A picnic in a park or reserve. We will be gathering in a safe environment ensuring the safety of our members. Food packs and drinks will be provided. There will be organised games and exercises.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
SG202103	Friendship of Elderly Filipino-Australians of Victoria, Incorporated	To Instill Filipino-Australian Culture through Social Activities	Summary: To provide social interactions among members during monthly meetings and to promote lifestyle activities through recreational activities like outings, picnics and bus trips.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
SG202102	Indochinese Elderly Refugees Association VIC	Footscray Vietnamese Senior Hub	Summary: The senior hub is established to respond to our Vietnamese senior community needs. This hub is also available to seniors groups who meet on a regular basis and engage the community in social, recreational, and other community focused activity.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.

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SG202112	Maribyrnong Truck Action Group (MTAG)	MTAG website and festival participation	Summary: Funds will help to cover the costs associated with keeping the community informed of our activities, including the cost of maintaining our website and participation in local festivals.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
SG202120	Philippine Australian Foundation (Victoria) Inc.	Maharlika Special Event	Summary: This is an event where the Elderly group called Maharlika . The event could be in celebration of Mother's day, or a cultural annual religious historical pageant , or Christmas in July celebration, or for their Christmas Party depending on what can be held in a period without restriction.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
SG202105	Philippine Cultural Society For Families And Friends Inc. (PCSFFI)	Zumba Gold for Seniors	Summary: This project involves helping our senior members enhance their physical and mental health. Getting involved Zumba Gold sessions will help alleviate boredom and isolation experienced due to Covid - 19 pandemic.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.

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SG202117	St Mary's Antiochian Orthodox Church	Seniors group	Summary: Helping seniors to come together and socialize after many months of lockdown	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
SG202114	West Footscray Senior Citizens Club Inc	Come and try days	Summary: We will offer 4 x come and try days for people to have a go at carpet bowls. We will advertise locally and use the days to encourage memberships to grow.	\$500.00	\$500.00	Recommended.
				Small Grants	\$5000	
				TOTAL	\$174,260	

Agenda Item 9.3**A SMART CITY FOR SMART COMMUNITIES - SMART CITY STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK**

Director: Clem Gillings
Director Community Services

Author: Francesca O'Brien
Manager City Futures

PURPOSE

To present the draft Smart City for Smart Communities – Smart City Strategic Framework to Council for endorsement for public consultation.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The City of Maribyrnong is experiencing rapid change. Our population is growing, the needs of our community and environment are intensifying and technological advancements are disrupting our urban realm.
- Against this backdrop, a draft Smart City Strategic Framework has been developed to harness the opportunities brought about by availability of data, the need for continuous improvement to service delivery and to guide the ongoing implementation of smart city initiatives.
- The City of Maribyrnong began its smart city journey in 2019, leveraging the Australian Government's Smart Cities and Suburbs Program to develop the Footscray Smart Cities for Social Cohesion Project (SC²).
- The SC² project delivered a variety of smart city hardware devices and technology, installed at key locations around Footscray, accompanied with a dedicated Smart City Data Online Platform.
- This project was completed in 2020, and has provided a strong foundation to test the possibilities of Smart City technology and data. Several small pilot projects have since expanded the reach of the smart city project beyond the Footscray CBD area.
- The COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the City of Maribyrnong has been significant, however it has also seen an increased demand for digital uptake and technology-driven, data-supported activities.
- The 2021-25 Council Plan identifies the establishment of a Smart City Strategy as a priority action. Work on the draft strategy commenced in early 2021.
- Extensive consultation was conducted both externally with the community and key stakeholders and also internally with Council staff. This consultation has helped inform the development of the draft Framework.
- The Framework puts people at the centre. Rather than prescribing technological solutions, it promotes an outcomes-focussed approach in which technology is woven into the fabric of everyday life to respond to real needs and flexibly adapt as technology and community expectations change.
- To ensure the Framework does not become out of date too quickly, it has not been developed as an action plan in and of itself. Rather, it points to opportunities to

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illustrate the kind of projects that could be considered for each of the strategic outcomes. An implementation plan will be prepared to guide the rollout of smart city initiatives.

- Following Council endorsement of the draft Framework, a further public consultation process will take place with the community and key stakeholders.
- This feedback will be incorporated into the final version of the Framework to be presented to Council for consideration in early 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 1 - draft Smart Cities Strategic Framework - 1 November 2021 [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

1. **Endorse the draft Smart City for Smart Communities – Strategic Framework for public consultation for a period of four (4) weeks.**
 2. **Note that a report on the outcome of the public consultation and a final version of the Smart City for Smart Communities – Strategic Framework will be provided to Council for consideration by March 2022.**
-

Agenda Item 9.3**BACKGROUND**

The City of Maribyrnong is experiencing rapid change. Our population is growing, the needs of our community and environment are intensifying and technological advancements are disrupting and changing the way we do business and interact with the public realm.

Against this backdrop, a draft Smart City Strategic Framework, provided at Attachment 1, has been developed to harness the opportunities brought about by availability of data, the need for continuous improvement to service delivery and to guide the ongoing implementation of smart city initiatives.

The draft Framework puts people at the centre. Rather than prescribing technological solutions, it promotes an outcomes-focussed approach in which technology is woven into the fabric of everyday life to respond to real needs and flexibly adapt as technology and community expectations change.

The development of a Smart City Strategic Framework builds on Council's 2019 agreement with the Australian Government to deliver the Footscray SC² project. Delivered in partnership with Victoria University, the SC² project has produced integrated smart hardware and data visualisation tools for use by both Council and the community.

The SC² Project has created a strong foundation for future smart city initiatives in Maribyrnong. The Smart City Strategic Framework is an opportunity to expand on this established foundation, but also learn from the challenges and opportunities that were uncovered throughout this process.

The Framework was developed during the 2021 COVID-19 lockdowns. The appetite and need for change has accelerated around the world as offices were traded in for remote work, doctors' visits for telehealth appointments, and community halls for online calls. The pursuit of this Smart City Vision will help Council and our community become more robust and agile, better connected to essential services and generally better suited to the uncertainty presented by global pandemic scenarios. It will set up our City to flourish beyond the COVID-19 pandemic and well placed when the next challenge or opportunity arises.

What is a Smart City?

There are many definitions of a smart city. For the purposes of this Framework, 'smart cities' focus on understanding how technology, data and innovative practices can help a city deal with challenges and provide opportunities to residents, visitors and businesses. The definition targets specific issues in the community such as sustainability, connection, and opportunity – rather than simply using and implementing technology for technology's sake.

Put simply, a 'Smart City' is one which uses data, technology and innovation to help make the city a better place.

Agenda Item 9.3**Maribyrnong's Smart City Progress**

The City of Maribyrnong has already undertaken significant smart city work in the SC² project and its follow-on projects. Key smart city achievements are summarised below:

Smart Hardware

- Air quality monitoring sensors
- Energy efficient smart lighting
- Expanded free public WiFi
- Pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle counting technology
- Digital interactive signage/kiosks
- Footscray Park App
- ThinXtra LoRaWAN network

Data Components

- Integrated Smart City Platform
 - o City Discovery Module – open data
 - o City Planning Module – data driven city planning and design
 - o Innovation Module – University research

Smart Maturity Assessment

Based on consultation and research, the consultants made the following assessment of our Smart City Maturity:

- Council has a strong local policy context and smart city project experience to support the design/implementation of the Framework
- Maribyrnong's key neighbours (the Cities of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Melbourne) are also focusing on smart policies/programs, presenting an opportunity for benchmarking and potential collaboration.
- Research and strategic insights from engagement show that Maribyrnong has advanced beyond the *beginning* stage of its smart maturity development and is in the early stages of level 2 - *developing*.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues****A Smart City for Smart Communities – SC²**

While conducting community consultation on this project, it was apparent that there are many different interpretations and expectations of what a Smart City is, could or should be.

Based on the feedback it was clear that the community is less interested in the technology and data that underpin Smart Cities, but much more in the outcomes of improved liveability, convenience and efficiency gains. This feedback was instrumental in shaping the Framework and also in the title with 'Community' emphasised as the reason that a Smart Cities program exists.

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A convenient aspect of the title is that it has allowed us to continue with the SC² acronym, which has enabled a smooth transition from the original 'Smart City for Social Cohesion' project. The Framework also features a new 'motif' designed into it which plays on the SC² acronym and will enable future Smart City aligned projects to be clearly identified through the motif and branded accordingly.

Strategic alignment

After commencing the development of this Framework, the early feedback from consultation and research made it clear that it should not attempt to establish a stand-alone line of work, but rather wrap itself around and integrate with existing service areas of Council. This approach will allow Smart Cities to assist in the delivery of existing strategies through the use of data, technology and innovation. This will help enable the enhancement of service delivery, improve customer experience, and enable efficiency improvements.

This Framework has a strong theme of inclusion. The future success of the city depends on our residential and business communities being digitally active. We need to develop programs that encourage skilled, digitally literate, resilient communities capable of accessing and enjoying the benefits of digital technology.

Smart City Principles

The Framework has established a set of seven Smart City Principles which align ongoing smart city activity with community priorities and values. They ensure future improvements and smart city initiatives always focus on the overall objectives of the community.

The principles are:

1. Community-First
2. Innovative
3. Transparent & Accountable
4. Sustainable
5. Collaborative
6. Outcome Driven Planning
7. Inclusive

Strategic Themes

The Framework has identified 6 Strategic Themes, which can all be aligned back to existing council plans and strategies.

The strategic themes are:

1. A place of Vibrancy and Activity
2. A Resilient and Sustainable Future
3. An Economy for the Digital Age
4. An Empowered and Connected Community
5. A Celebration of Culture and Creativity
6. A Future Ready Council

Agenda Item 9.3**Managing technology risks**

Projects involving new technologies or new ways of working using technology can be expensive to implement and not always work as expected. In addition, skill shortages and/or not engaging the right skills in the delivery of projects presents a risk to the successful delivery of the outcomes of this Framework. These risks can be mitigated by adopting a “test, learn, fail fast and iterate” approach to developing new concepts and methods. This allows Council to experiment and innovate with minimal financial and organisational risk.

The Framework acknowledges that while the uptake of digital technology can provide new and innovative ways of keeping our community safe and improving security, it can also be viewed as intrusive or unsafe. The framework ensures smart initiatives follow global best practices for privacy and security and enables Council to proactively safeguard the privacy and safety of our citizens.

Implementation

An implementation plan is being developed which will set out the logical sequence of actions for the first 12 months and a governance structure for reviewing and revising the plan. The nature of Smart Cities and technology means that it is futile to plan too far in advance, as the advancement of new technologies mean an ever changing landscape.

The critical aspect of the implementation plan is the governance structure that helps ensure actions are updated in a timely manner, and new opportunities are identified as they arise. The governance structure will provide oversight of ‘Smart City Projects’ which in turn will have their own project groups relevant to the specific piece of work. As our Smart City maturity develops, the experience gained by the Project Working Group will help ensure a model of continuous improvement is applied to the Smart City program.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council’s strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - Future focussed - Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Objective 4: Future Focused

Council will plan and advocate for new infrastructure and safe, sustainable and effective transport networks and a smart innovative city that encourages and supports new generations to thrive.

Agenda Item 9.3**Strategy 4.2:**

Advocate and deliver projects that support a growing community now and into the future.

Action:

Develop and implement a Smart Cities Framework to make the best of technologies for our community.

Legislation

The *Local Government Act 2020* and *Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014* are relevant to this draft smart city strategic framework in relation to governance, procurement and data management.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement**Engagement process**

- Key stakeholder engagement was conducted between 19 April and 1 June 2021, with the community, Councillors, Council staff and other key stakeholders.
- The engagement process leveraged both dedicated face-to-face and digital smart city sessions, workshop roundtables and online surveys to gather insights.
- A total of 252 community members, staff and key stakeholders were engaged through this process, with a further 4,984 people reached via social media.
- 75 people attended face-to-face and digital workshops.
- 177 Survey responses were received from staff and community members.

Community insights

- The community were consulted via workshops and a digital survey.
- During the sessions, the community shared interest in using the strengths of the city (strategic location, diversity etc.) as launching pads to pursue smart initiatives for better outcomes including improved transport/mobility and improved resources management.
- In the survey, the community appeared to have a positive familiarity with the concept of smart cities. The community showed interest in data-driven planning

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but noted public buy-in and perceptions of value to be a key barrier to smart city development.

Key stakeholder insights

- Key external stakeholders in the project combined for a roundtable session to discuss and identify smart city strengths, challenges, targets, and partnership opportunities.
- Attendees were interested in capitalising on the city's location, and noted the city's openness to change, our strong health sector and skilled workforce as strengths to leverage.
- Stakeholders were concerned with issues of climate change, privacy and accountability, but identified opportunities to address these challenges in the framework.

Council staff insights

- Staff acknowledge that Council has an opportunity to deliver effective smart cities communications and branding and trialling smart city initiatives.
- Workshops with staff revealed an interest in data-driven decision-making, internal smart city training and increased Council efficacy to support better resource/environmental outcomes.
- The internal staff survey highlighted the importance of the framework being community centric.

Following endorsement of the draft Framework, Council will seek community feedback via a public consultation process that will include engagement via Your City Your Voice, Council's Facebook page, writing to our stakeholders who participated in the early engagement and utilising their networks.

Given the level of deep engagement undertaken in 2021, additional workshops and roundtables are not proposed for this second round of engagement.

Any additional feedback received will be incorporated into the final version of the framework which will be presented to Council for consideration in early 2022.

4. Resources

The approved 2021/22 Capital Works budget has allocated \$200,000 to the 'Smart Cities & Suburbs Program', with future budget commitments to the same value.

This budget has enabled Council to complete the first action in the implementation plan which has been the appointment of an ongoing Smart City Project Officer to drive delivery of the projects and programs.

With previous Smart City investments, the digital infrastructure is in place to allow additional technologies to be deployed at relatively low cost. It is the expectation that most of these additional technology costs will be covered by the specific projects that will benefit from the data generated.

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The ongoing review of the implementation plan will also incorporate cost estimates for project delivery and make appropriate budget requests for future financial years.

5. Environment

The Framework has a strong connection to the Climate Emergency Action Plan, and the use data and technology will play a big role in measuring the impact of the Action Plan, and consequently improving our environment.

New technologies have the capability to provide real-time data on a diversity of urban health indicators, including carbon emissions, water and air quality, infrastructure functionality, crime incident locations and social cohesion. While risk maps are not new, the vast increase in the availability and quality of data presents the opportunity for us to understand environmental conditions with a far greater degree of granularity.

Technological advancements can support us to accelerate the transition to affordable, renewable energy and a carbon-neutral future. Data and digital technology can help to manage flows of materials and assets across the city, fostering an urban system that is regenerative and restorative.

Smart approaches to precinct and building construction, mobility/transport options (hydrogen and electric vehicles) and community involvement in clean energy initiatives are just some of the potential directions that need to be considered for a carbon-neutral future.

CONCLUSION

While Council's Smart City journey has been going for a number of years, the development of this draft framework sets us up at the starting line for what will be an exciting future.

As an emerging field of work, Smart Cities has the potential to improve the liveability and resilience of our communities. The Smart City Strategic Framework will provide the overarching direction to how the City of Maribyrnong will approach its Smart City program delivery, while the implementation plan will be updated on a yearly basis to ensure there is agility built into the ongoing program.



Maribyrnong
CITY COUNCIL

A SMART CITY FOR SMART COMMUNITIES

A Strategic Framework
for improving our city
with digital technology,
data and innovation.



SMART CITIES
Maribyrnong

SEPTEMBER 2021



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Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples of this nation.

We acknowledge the people of the Kulin nation as traditional custodians of the lands on which Maribyrnong City Council is located and where we conduct our business. We pay our respects to ancestors and Elders, past and present.

We are committed to honouring Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' unique cultural and spiritual relationships to the land, waters, and seas and their rich contribution to society.



Agenda Item 9.3 - Attachment 1

Foreword

A city of activity, innovation and inspiration, Maribyrnong’s future is looking bright.

The City of Maribyrnong, our community, business, industries, and partners are committed to ‘growing the future together’ and making the most of the opportunities and benefits of digital technologies, data and innovation.

The development and implementation of this *Smart City for Smart Communities Strategic Framework* is just one of the ways Council is supporting our vision and aspirations for 2040- to be a vibrant, diverse, sustainable, and thriving community.

With our community first and foremost, we recognise the benefit and importance smart technology, data and innovation have on our future, and this Framework will ensure we are making the most of the opportunities and are protected against the risks.

Our *Smart City for Smart Communities Strategic Framework* is guided by community engagement, and the direction set by our 2040 Community Plan including to:

- Enhance communications and engagement with our community
- Improve asset utilisation and maintenance
- Address issues of public safety
- Facilitate community connection
- Explore innovation in democratic participation
- Leverage data to support inclusion, and better decision-making
- Encourage sustainability

We are excited to better support and proactively respond to the needs of the community by embracing leading technology, skills, infrastructure, and systems.

Signature

Councillor Placeholder
 Mayor
 City of Maribyrnong



Introduction

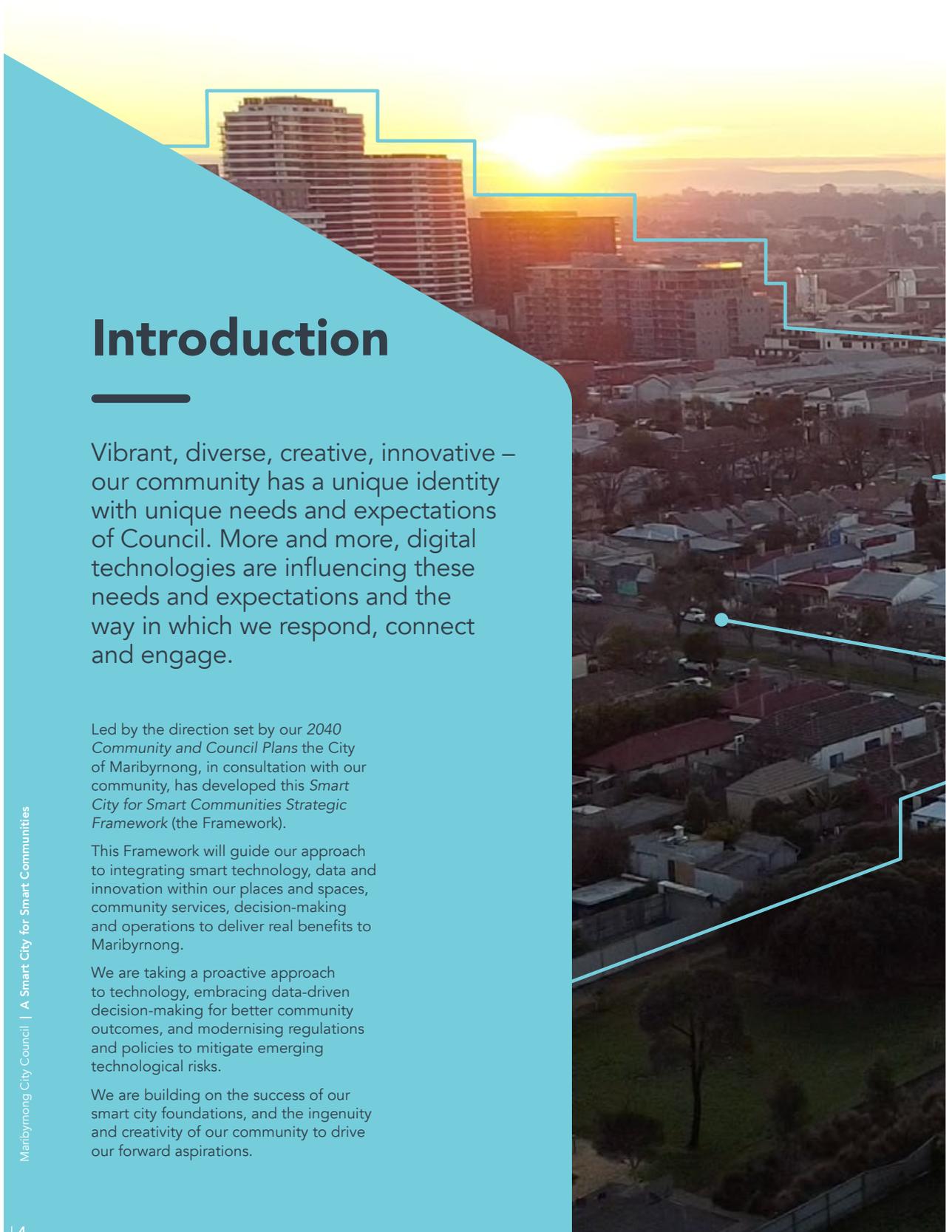
Vibrant, diverse, creative, innovative – our community has a unique identity with unique needs and expectations of Council. More and more, digital technologies are influencing these needs and expectations and the way in which we respond, connect and engage.

Led by the direction set by our *2040 Community and Council Plans* the City of Maribyrnong, in consultation with our community, has developed this *Smart City for Smart Communities Strategic Framework* (the Framework).

This Framework will guide our approach to integrating smart technology, data and innovation within our places and spaces, community services, decision-making and operations to deliver real benefits to Maribyrnong.

We are taking a proactive approach to technology, embracing data-driven decision-making for better community outcomes, and modernising regulations and policies to mitigate emerging technological risks.

We are building on the success of our smart city foundations, and the ingenuity and creativity of our community to drive our forward aspirations.



Smart City

A city that applies digital technology, data, and innovative practices to improve liveability, sustainability, collaboration, and economic opportunities.



Smart Community

The diverse and intersecting groups who are involved and/or benefit from smart city activity regardless of their skills, interests, level of involvement or degree of smart city understanding.



Smart City & Smart Communities

A smart city is designed with people at the centre. They use digital technology, data, and innovation to enhance outcomes such as liveability, prosperity, and sustainability for their communities.

They are proactive and agile, using data to help inform planning and decision-making.

Smart cities encourage collaboration, participation, and co-design in decision-making, promoting the creativity, expertise, and ingenuity of their community.

Above all, smart cities are inclusive. They use the benefits of technology to help inform service delivery that best meets the needs of all members of the community and promotes digital empowerment and accessibility.

A simple way to look at it is that a 'smart city' is one which uses data and technology to help make the city a better place.

A smart city is made up of a diverse range of intersecting smart communities, each with their own skills, interests, levels of involvement and degrees of understanding in smart city activity. Our smart communities are you – our community members, residents, business owners, investors and everyone else who sees the benefit of smart city activity in Maribyrnong.

Vision

This Framework is founded on the Vision from the 2021-2025 Council Plan:

An inclusive, flourishing, progressive city that cares for both its residents and its environment.

Building on this long-term Vision, and based on consultation with the community, the Smart City Vision for this Framework is:

A community that is empowered to embrace the benefits of smart technology to support...



Inclusion

Innovation

Creativity

Transparency

Leadership

Connection



Sustainability



Collaboration



COVID-19 and the acceleration of Smart Cities

This Framework was developed during the 2021 COVID-19 lockdowns.

The appetite, and the need for change has accelerated around the world as offices were traded in for remote work, doctors' visits for telehealth appointments, and community halls for online calls.

The pursuit of this Smart City Vision will help Council and our community become more robust and agile, better connected to essential services and generally better suited to the uncertainty presented by global pandemic scenarios.

It will set up our City to flourish beyond the COVID-19 pandemic and well placed when the next challenge or opportunity arises.

Smart City Environment

Smart cities build on the established environment of a city and leverage its key strengths, opportunities, and priorities. This environment includes demographic factors, all existing smart city projects, partnerships, policies and plans, and the broader state and federal government priorities.

The City of Maribyrnong

Our demographic, social, economic, and environmental context lends itself to a strong foundation for smart city activity. Additionally, our growing and diverse population and high commuter base will benefit from smart city opportunities.



Population

ESTIMATED RESIDENTIAL POPULATION[^]

93,448 **164,637**

2021

2051



Education*

POPULATION COMPLETED YEAR 12

66% **59%**

City of Maribyrnong

Greater Melbourne

MEDIAN AGE (2016)[#]

33 **36**

City of Maribyrnong

Greater Melbourne

POPULATION COMPLETED BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER

34% **28%**

City of Maribyrnong

Greater Melbourne

DIVERSITY: POPULATION BORN OVERSEAS (2016)[#]

40% **34%**

City of Maribyrnong

Greater Melbourne

POPULATION TRADE QUALIFICATION

11% **15%**

City of Maribyrnong

Greater Melbourne

[^] Australian Bureau of Statistics Estimated Residential Population 2051 ^{*} Australian Bureau of Statistics 2016 Census Data
[~] National Institute of Economic and Industry Research 2020 ⁺ Unemployment Rate March 2021 by .id (informed decision)
[#] Australian Business Register July 2021 [†] City of Maribyrnong Council Plan 2021-25



Economy

LOCAL BUSINESSES (2021)*

9,796

LOCAL JOBS (2020)*

45,911

LOCAL INDUSTRIES (2020)*

17%

Healthcare & Social Assistance

15%

Retail Trade

10%

Education & Training

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (2021)*

7.6%

City of Maribyrnong

7.1%

Greater Melbourne



Attraction to Maribyrnong†

- > Location
- > Arts & Culture
- > Retail
- > Education
- > Innovation
- > Open Spaces & Environment
- > Public Transport



Residents' Commute (2016)*

19%

Live & work in the area

78%

Live in the area but work outside



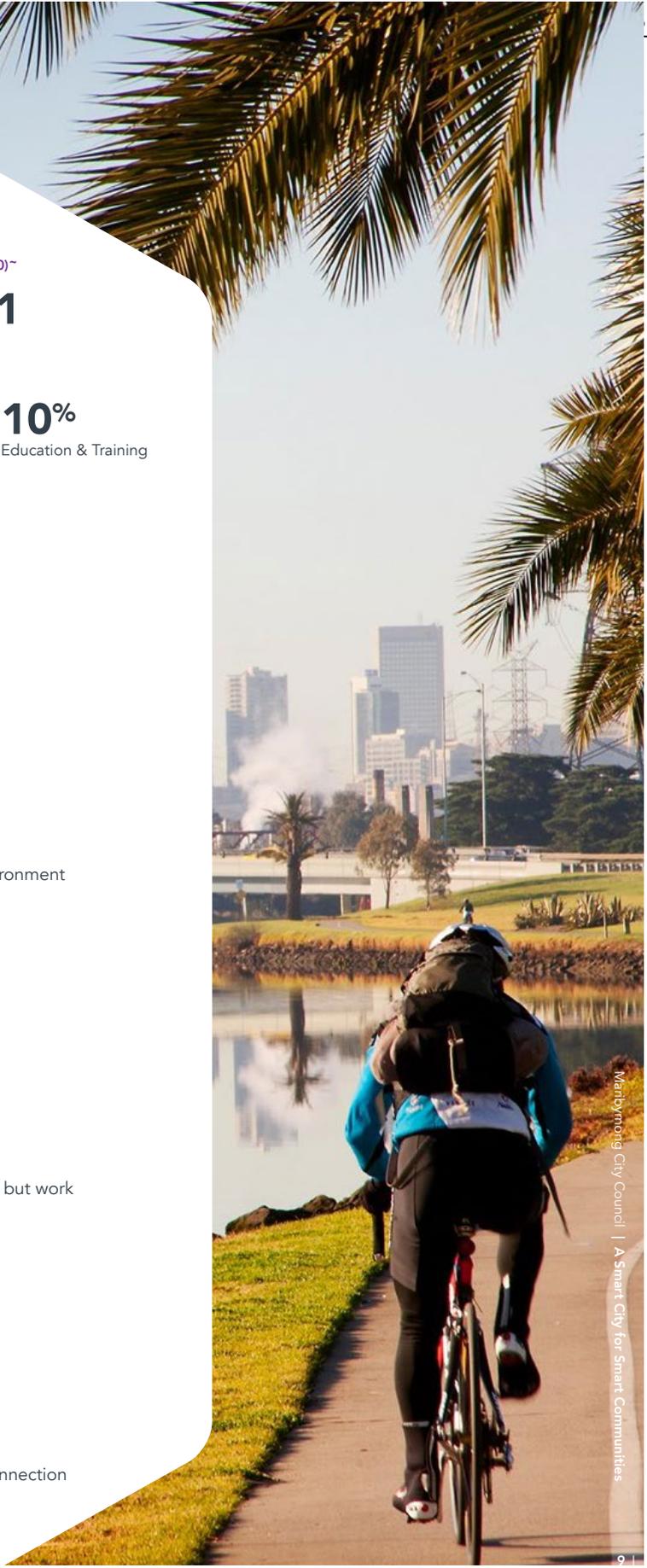
Internet Connectivity (2016)*

79%

Internet Connection

11%

No Internet Connection



Strategic Context

With strong local strategic documents, successful neighbouring council smart city strategies, and supportive legislation leadership, Maribyrnong is well positioned to leverage its policy context for smart city success.

This diagram provides a snapshot of Council's key strategic plans and policies mapped across the smart city directions outlined in this Framework. Smart city aspirations do not work in isolation. In reality, smart city activity can reach and be incorporated right across Council's functions, services and plans.

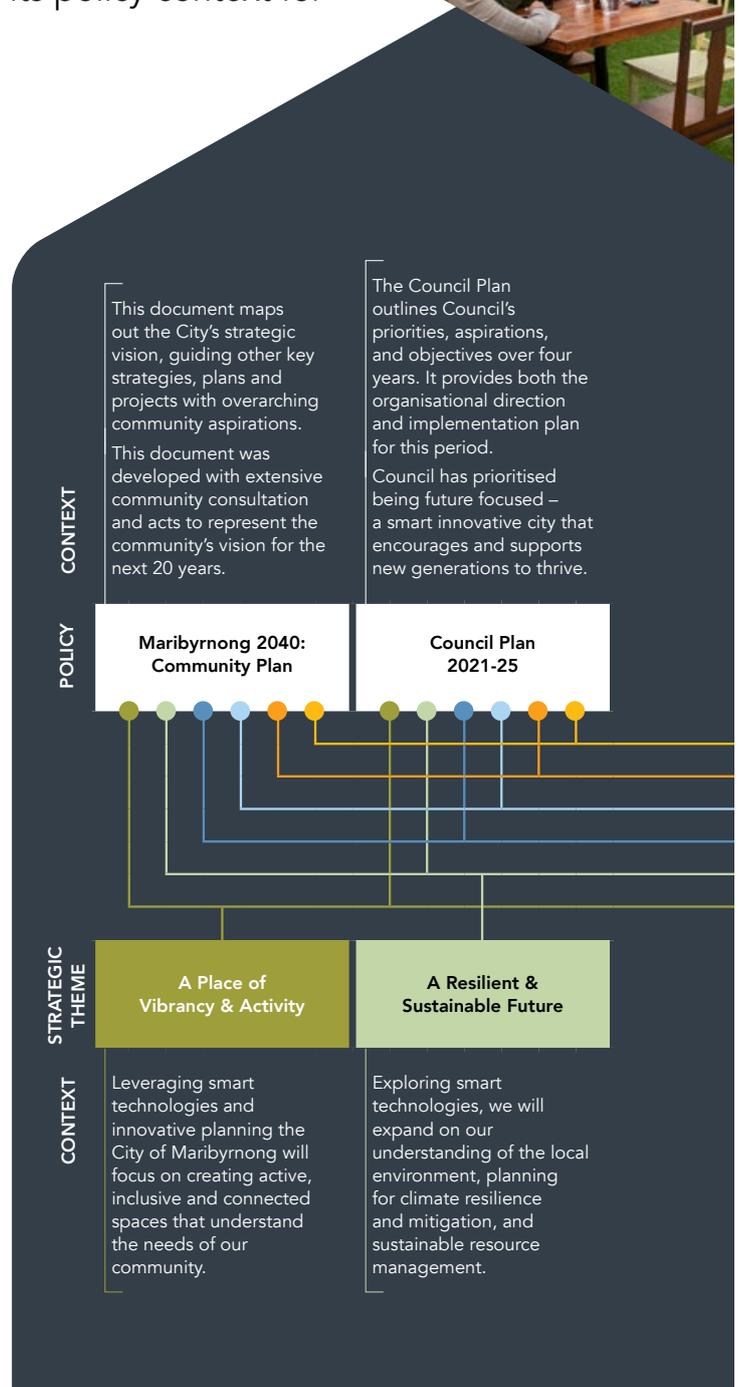
In addition to the above, this Framework also takes into account:

- Tourism Strategy**
 This Strategy sets a framework for decision-making and investment in tourism and visitor experience from 2017-2021.
- Community Infrastructure Plan**
 Under development but will align to smart city infrastructure needs.

Smart Cities in context

Smart cities are a strategic priority for Council, and included in the Council Plan 2021-25.

STRATEGY	ACTION	
4.2	Advocate and deliver projects that support a growing community now and into the future.	Develop and implement a Smart Cities Framework to make the best use of technologies for our community.





Incorporated into the Council Plan, this Plan outlines Council's role and commitment to fostering community wellbeing. Council's health and wellbeing actions focus on improving the physical, social, natural, cultural, and economic environments that promote health and wellbeing in Maribyrnong.

Municipal Public Health & Wellbeing Plan 2021-25

This plan outlines detailed programs, projects and actions that have been set out to meet the goal and visions set out in the Climate Emergency Strategy. The Action Plan is guided by three key objectives: ceasing emissions of greenhouse gasses, drawing down existing emissions, empowering, and mobilising community action and building community resilience. The Climate Emergency Strategy will be reviewed in 2025.

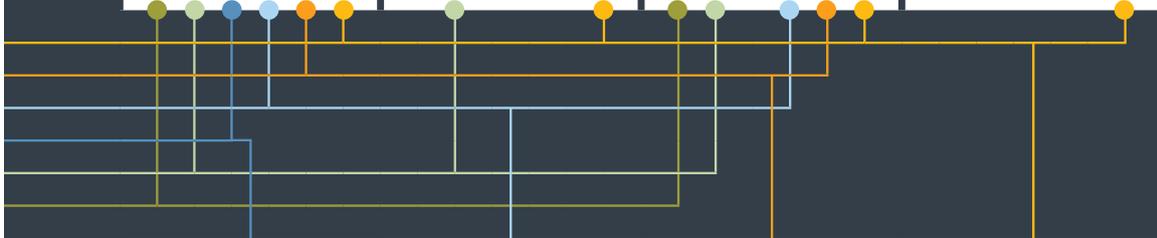
Climate Emergency Action Plan

This Strategy provides direction for future planning, provision, design, and management of open space in the City of Maribyrnong from 2013 to 2031. The strategy is amended every five years to assess what has been completed, what is currently in progress and what remains to be completed.

Open Space Strategy

Council's Privacy Policy outlines responsible management, collection, storage, access, disclosure, and destruction of private information collected by Council. This policy has been informed by the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 and the Health Records Act 2001.

Maribyrnong City Council Privacy Policy 2018



An Economy for the Digital Age

Growing our digital capability and economy we will help create jobs, attract businesses and drive investment.

An Empowered & Connected Community

Focussing on smart mobility, digital infrastructure, and digital skill building we will connect our community in the physical and online world.

A Celebration of Culture & Creativity

Enhancing our vibrant, creative and diverse identity, we will leverage digital technology to showcase our cultural heritage, celebrate our creativity and encourage innovation.

A Future-Ready Council

Council will support our smart city aspirations from the inside out, developing the skills, processes, systems and information to drive transparency, accountability, informed decision-making and benefit to our community.

Smart City Showcase

This Framework provides a coordinated approach, and clear vision for smart city activity. It will enable Council to build on the strong foundations set by current and existing smart city projects.

Highlights of successful and new projects are detailed in this diagram.

Building our foundation: Smart Cities for Social Cohesion

The Smart City for Social Cohesion (SC²) Project has created a strong foundation for future smart city initiatives in Maribyrnong. Partly funded through the Australian Government's Smart Cities and Suburbs Program, the SC² project has provided Council with the foundational smart city infrastructure to build upon, and the experience and reputation to support investment and talent attraction.

In partnership with Victoria University, the SC² was designed to test the potential of smart technology in helping Council respond to the influx of new residents, visitors, students, and businesses in Footscray.

Within the confined geographic area, the project aimed to build social cohesion by improving city activation, amenity, and safety through the implementation of interactive kiosks, free public Wi-Fi, smart lighting, and environmental sensors.

Additionally, the technology allows Council to monitor how people move through the area with pedestrian, people, and cyclist counters. This information has been particularly useful in understanding the impact of COVID-19 on businesses in the area and will continue to inform Council planning and decision-making in the area.

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Key initiatives for this project include:



SMART ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING SENSORS

Sensors measure the air quality in and around Footscray to help Council advocate for improved health outcomes for the City.



EXPANDED FREE PUBLIC WIFI

Free public WiFi in Footscray's business district and Footscray Park, enabling better access to educational, tourism and business information at no cost.



PEDESTRIAN, CYCLIST, AND VEHICLE COUNTERS

Counting technology, and the data it produces, improves mobility and transport connections across Footscray's business district and other areas.



INTERACTIVE KIOSKS

Interactive kiosks at key locations promote the City's history, tourist destinations, public transport options and other information.



SMART LIGHTING

Energy efficient smart lighting provides reduced public lighting maintenance needs and costs, contributing to Council's commitment to an improved Climate Emergency response.



INTEGRATED SMART CITY DATA PLATFORM

In collaboration with Victoria University an integrated Smart City Data Platform was developed. This Platform makes information gathered from the sensor network readily available for the community, including real-time parking availability, pedestrian, cyclist and vehicle movement counters, air quality readings, and free public Wi-Fi network information.



FOOTSCRAY PARK APP

An app featuring environmental education functions listing flora and fauna found in the Park and the Edwardian gardens, giving users the opportunity to learn more about the Park's history and habitats.



LoRAWAN NETWORK

A gateway to connecting Internet of Things (IoT) devices and the sharing of data.

Key Transformative Projects & Opportunities

The City of Maribyrnong, and in particular the Footscray CBD area is set to have a number of significant infrastructure projects delivered over the next decade.

These projects are an opportunity to integrate smart city technologies, introduce new innovations that align with the Smart City Vision, and leverage existing partnerships as part of our Smart City Program.

These projects highlight how technology is improving the liveability, functionality, and resilience of our city. This Framework will guide us as we continue to build, innovate, and improve our City into the future.



Footscray Town Hall and Civic Centre Redevelopment Project

The proposed redevelopment of the Footscray Town Hall – Civic Centre will see the addition of a number of new community spaces, including a 200 seat multi-use space and an environmentally friendly public park/plaza.

It will have minimum five-star green star standards, LED lighting, solar and rainwater harvesting. Work on this project is due to commence in 2022 with construction expected to take 18 months.



NeXT Project

NeXT is an ambitious \$129 million project being led by Council to create a Library, Community and Cultural Arts Space that will provide our growing and diverse community with:

- a library of the future
- flexible community meeting rooms and spaces
- a large, purpose-built, flexible performing arts space
- exhibition and gallery spaces
- office and commercial/not-for-profit opportunities
- open green space.



Footscray University Town

Footscray University Town (FUT) is a joint initiative between Maribyrnong City Council and Victoria University. This partnership aims to open new opportunities for employment, enterprise and investment throughout the West by harnessing of the knowledge, networks and resources of the University, Council and the community.

PROJECTS

SMART CITY OPPORTUNITIES

- Integrating smart technologies into the building from the ground up to support, connectivity, sustainability and amenity for staff and visitors.
- Embedding technologies into the broader precinct and establishing a site for testing and trialing innovative technologies in the public realm.
- Experimenting with innovative working practices, to support increased collaboration and productivity.

- Incorporating a Smart City Innovation Lab in the NeXT facility.
- Creating opportunities for all community members to upskill their digital literacy.
- Providing spaces that support the start-up and entrepreneur ecosystem.
- Establishing synergies for the NeXT project & Footscray Learning Precinct & Footscray University Town.
- Using NeXT as a physical manifestation of the Smart City Vision.

- Exploring the development of a 'Smart City Testbed' for VU students to gain practical skills and knowledge about the application of Smart City principles.
- Sharing smart city data to support the development of new courses and study projects at VU.
- Investigating the expansion of existing 'Smart City' MOU.

Electric Vehicles Charging Infrastructure Policy 2020

Council has also endorsed an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Policy. The Policy addresses the opportunities for EV charging infrastructure, encouraging, enabling, and guiding the installation of EV infrastructure across our City.

Council has begun exploring the benefits of EVs as fleet vehicles and has installed two new EV chargers at the Town Hall with additional chargers approved for the Operations Centre.

Council recognises the benefit of encouraging the uptake of EVs within the community to enhance health and environmental outcomes across Maribyrnong. We have begun exploring opportunities to expand our EV charging capability to the community to support this.

Parking sensors

Since 2017, Council have been using IoT devices to successfully gather data on parking trends across the municipality. This data has helped to manage parking conditions, develop plans to create efficient turnover of spaces and help increase parking availability for residents, businesses, shoppers and visitors.



Footscray Learning Precinct

Development of the Footscray Learning precinct began in 2015, with a focus on championing excellence in learning and teaching and opportunities for every student at every stage of education. This precinct will provide seamless transition from early learning to adult education, and incorporates the Footscray High School, Footscray City Primary School, Footscray Primary School and the Footscray Integrated Early Learning Centre.

- Encouraging smart city related data and technology projects that can be taught in the schools as part of the STEAM education streams.
- Sharing smart city data for the delivery of projects such as 'Hackathons'.



Footscray Hospital

The \$1.5 billion Footscray Hospital development project is the largest health infrastructure investment ever in Victoria. Construction is expected to be completed by 2025, and the new facility will help meet the changing and growing health needs of Melbourne's West.

- There may be the opportunity to integrate technologies into the Hospital precinct to help understand pedestrian/ cyclist / vehicle flows and improve amenity and vibrancy.



West Gate Tunnel Project

The West Gate Tunnel Project will deliver a vital alternative to the West Gate Bridge, providing a much needed second river crossing, quicker and safer journeys and remove thousands of trucks from residential streets, particularly around the Footscray and Yarraville areas.

- The removal of heavy vehicles from local roads will provide an opportunity to reimagine how our suburbs are used, and the use of data and technology will help maximise the benefits.



Collaboration Smart Communities Ecosystem

Our City boasts an array of talented and influential businesses, educators, and community members across a diverse range of fields.

Smart cities are about tapping into our unique expertise to lead and affect better community outcomes.

While Council plays a strong role in smart cities, we encourage our community, partners (existing and future) and other members of our ecosystem to be involved and drive change in their sphere of influence – creating an environment for shared leadership and action.

Learning from the best

The City of Maribyrnong will continue to leverage and expand on our connections and partnerships with smart cities and communities from across Australia and around the world to learn from the best and inspire our smart city thinking.

Within Maribyrnong we have already been working closely with several key partners including:



Victoria University

Council has been working in partnership with Victoria University on the SC² project. A key component of this project is the data dashboard which encourages students and educators to leverage the data available to develop innovative solutions.



Nippon Telegraph & Telephone

Council has signed an Innovation Charter with NTT. As a leading telecommunications company, with its own research and development team and initiatives across smart cities, 5G, and technological development, NTT is a key knowledge partner for Council.



Bike West

Council worked with Bike West to better understand the mountain bike park in Quarry Park. Bike West is a cycling advocacy in Melbourne's west. Moving forward, Council will continue to work with Bike West and other community groups to drive benefits in our community.

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The roles we play

The potential for smart city benefit reaches further than Council. Our aim is to support the Maribyrnong ecosystem to make the most of these benefits and drive the outcomes they believe in.

How can you help? Just a few of the ways you can be involved in smart cities are outlined in the diagram below.



Other players in our smart city ecosystem include:

- Government
- Health
- Professional Services
- Hospitality & Retail
- Tech Companies
- Manufacturing
- Creatives

Engagement Insights

This *Smart City for Smart Communities Strategic Framework* is founded in community insights. It aims to directly address community challenges and leverage only those opportunities that are most beneficial to our communities.

As such, ongoing collaboration with our community is essential for the successful implementation and enactment of the Framework.

Engagement process

To support the development of this Framework, Council conducted a comprehensive suite of engagement activities with a range of stakeholders.

The engagement process enabled Council to identify key stakeholder insights and priorities and gauge community understanding of the benefits of smart cities.

Community insights

Although many in our community were unfamiliar with smart cities, after defining and discussion, overwhelmingly our community believe Council should be:

a leader and explore cutting edge technology in our approach to smart cities

(46%)

In describing our vision for Maribyrnong as a smart city, our community focused on:





Your big ideas

Our community identified some fantastic ideas for smart city initiatives that focus on the unique traits of Maribyrnong. These included:

Culture & History

"Using the system of QR codes we could dive into the history of Footscray and surrounding suburbs while walking around. Getting some historical information on landmarks, and photography of what was once there."

Arts, Place Activation & Night-time Economy

"Themed lighting up of various architectural buildings in and around Footscray, ideally walking distance from one another."

Waste Management & Information

"Based on Maribyrnong City Council recycling types, scanning a barcode on a product could tell you if it is able to be fully or partially recycled."

As a community, we prioritised:

Transport, mobility & parking
(15%)

Asset management
(14%)

Public health & wellbeing
(8%)

Environmental management & protection
(8%)

as services that could be most improved using smart technology in Maribyrnong

And we saw:

Public buy-in and perceptions of value
(16%)

Immature smart city culture
(14%)

Ineffective collection, management & sharing of data
(13%)

Red tape
(13%)

as potential barriers to our smart city success



Building our Smart City maturity

The City of Maribyrnong is at the beginning of its smart city journey.

In these early stages Council is focused on laying the foundations for progress:

- Building a team with the skills to deliver smart projects;
- Developing and continually improving the processes required to make smart city thinking business as usual;
- Leveraging partnerships with business, community groups and other government agencies.

Where are we going?

Council is working hard to build up the complexity and coverage of smart city capability across the City and our organisation.

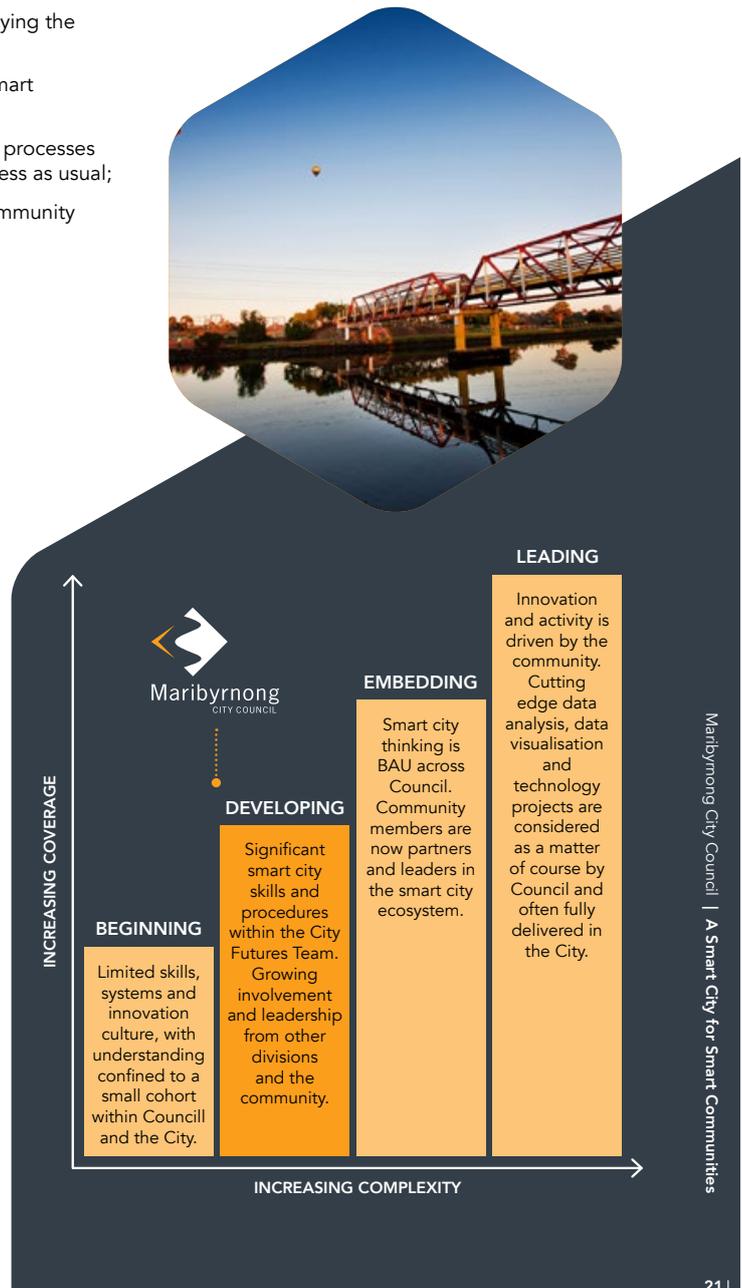
How will we get there?

Within the organisation, we plan to:

- Increase training to boost the skills of our organisation
- Improve smart city processes and pathways
- Boost cross-council collaboration and understanding of smart city integrations
- Continue engagement and collaboration with our community

In the community we are aiming to:

- Build community trust – exploring opportunities, developing relationships, ongoing dialogue with community
- Expand our digital and smart city skills and understanding – improving digital literacy in our community
- Build an innovation culture – integrating smart technology and data as fundamental tools in modern life
- Drive collaboration among neighbours – building a dynamic innovation ecosystem.





Smart City Principles

Smart principles align ongoing smart city activity with community priorities and values.

They ensure future improvements and smart city initiatives always focus on the overall objectives of our community.



Community-First

We will focus first and foremost on achieving community benefit, then on realising technology-based solutions. Smart initiatives will be convenient, simple, and inclusive. We will empower our community by encouraging participation and growing digital capacity.



Collaborative

Smart city design and delivery will be grounded in community consultation and collaborative development. Shared action will drive buy-in and community ownership of smart initiatives. Partnerships with other smart organisations will increase reach and lead to further success.



Innovative

Curiosity, optimism, and innovation will drive transformation. Dynamic and creative thinking will support new ideas that are more efficient and effective. The City of Maribyrnong will develop skills and processes to apply innovation and smart thinking to all facets of our City.



Outcome Driven Planning

Our smart city approach will consider community-led outcomes, rather than technology for its own sake. We will deliver project, programs and policies that meet the needs and objectives of our community.



Transparent & Accountable

Council will remain transparent, open, and accountable. Key decisions will be developed in collaboration and based on data-driven outcomes. Open data and clear performance metrics and targets will ensure Council's progress is assessable by the community.



Inclusive

The City of Maribyrnong is a place for people of all cultures, backgrounds, and abilities. No one will be left behind by smart cities as inclusivity, accessibility and equity is built into smart initiatives and projects.



Sustainable

We will use smart technology to improve environmental protection and resource management. The City of Maribyrnong will be future ready, implementing sustainable planning that accounts for city growth and invests in long-term solutions.

Strategic Themes

Strategic themes will guide our implementation of key projects and initiatives.

They are informed by in-depth research, comprehensive community engagement, and international best practice.

These Strategic Themes take a holistic approach to developing as a smart city by focusing on balancing place, environmental, economic, social, cultural and organisational outcomes.



A Place of Vibrancy & Activity

The City of Maribyrnong will create spaces which are vibrant hubs for our community. Spaces will be green, safe, and clean, with smart technology driving pedestrianisation and encouraging cycling. Smart planning will drive ongoing city growth that develops these community centric spaces and uses them to encourage an active, inclusive, connected community.

Priority action areas could include:

- Facilitating investment in Electric Vehicle infrastructure to support environmental objectives
- Leveraging real-time data and partnerships to better manage and maintain key transport routes including congestion, noise, and freight and active travel routes
- Expanding movement monitoring to key community hubs to understand how people move around our City and promote active and micro-mobility
- Integrating data analytics into planning processes for proactive and informed city planning
- Partnering with Digital Twin Victoria to deliver 3D planning models to support stakeholder engagement and innovative planning
- Working with local development and construction industries to integrate smart city, innovation and smart building management considerations into building guidelines
- Developing a smart asset management system to monitor and manage Council assets including maintenance, usage trends and remote access
- Exploring street-pole access and expanding smart lighting rollout to high-priority areas



A Resilient & Sustainable Future

The City of Maribyrnong will reduce our carbon footprint, waste, and environmental impact. We will explore smart and innovative ways to support climate resilience and mitigation and our Zero Carbon Maribyrnong commitment. Smart sensors will drive sustainable management of our limited resources and enable efficient and timely environmental monitoring. Strategic resource allocation and infrastructure management will be improved by efficient smart waste, lighting, and water technologies.

Priority action areas could include:

- ① Investigating the expansion of our smart bin network to high-priority public spaces
- ① Using a smart irrigation system to optimise the watering and maintenance of green spaces
- ① Exploring the benefit of smart energy meters on Council assets
- ① Integrating smart city benefits and technologies in to Council's sustainable building guidelines
- ① Investigating digital tools to help residents live a circular lifestyle, including promoting the appropriate disposal of waste and the sharing economy
- ① Conducting a review of the green space and urban heat footprint across the City to promote green space protection and mitigate the heat effects of climate change
- ① Leveraging and expanding environmental data collection to analyse and adapt to the changing environment and support our climate commitments

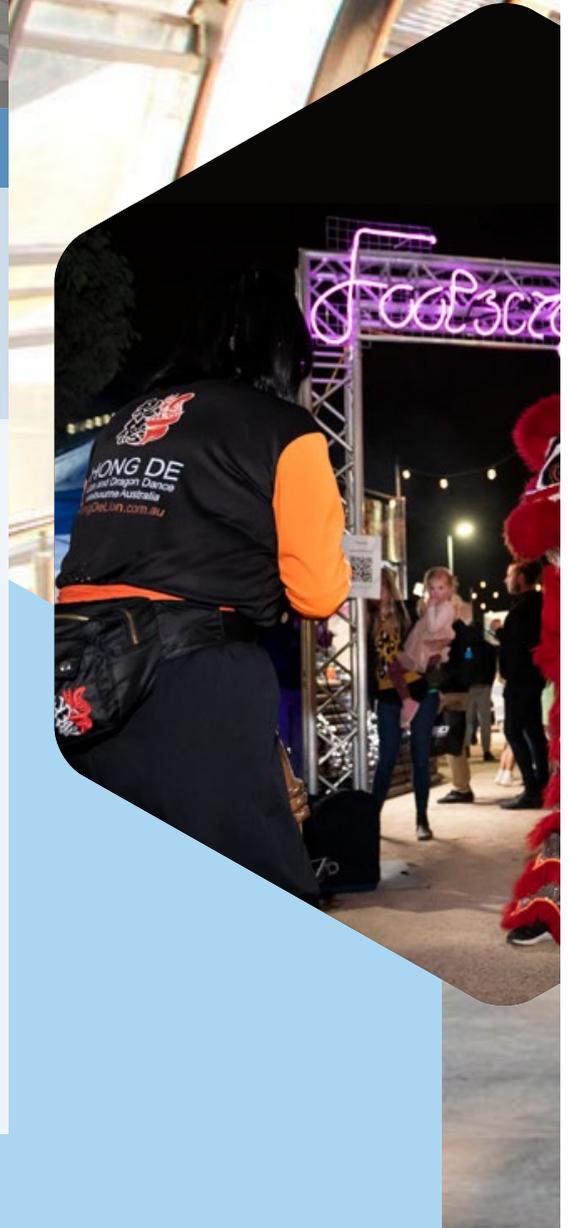


An Economy for the Digital Age

The City of Maribyrnong will leverage the growing digital economy to create jobs, attract businesses and drive investment. By improving education outcomes and digital learning, the community will be equipped with competitive skills that improve worker productivity. Investment in smart infrastructure will build on our strategic location to become a hub for innovation and smart businesses.

Priority action areas could include:

- Expanding our smart city data dashboard to provide access to additional real-time Council data sets
- Working with our partners to develop a smart city collaboration framework to support proactive smart city partnerships
- Developing a smart city prospectus to attract investment and stimulate economic development
- Expanding our digital literacy programs to enhance the skills and opportunities of businesses and targeted community cohorts
- Establishing a local smart city procurement network to encourage local collaboration and solution generation
- Investigating opportunities to establish a testbed in partnership with VU to hack and research smart city opportunities
- Expanding our Internet of Things network to encourage local innovation and enhancing Council's ability to collect relevant data
- Enhancing our connectivity network including exploring fibre enhancements and advocating for 5G connectivity





An Empowered & Connected Community

The City of Maribyrnong will connect our community in the physical and online world. Smart transport options will improve mobility, freight logistics, and accessibility. Digital infrastructure will enable digital accessibility for all, while smart online programs encourage community collaboration and learning in the online space. Digitally enabled events and activations will be used to celebrate multiculturalism and help foster community inclusivity.

Priority action areas could include:

- ④ Utilising smart technology and crowd-sourced data to help improve perceptions of public safety and encourage use and activation of public spaces by all members of our community.
- ④ Partnering with the education sector to promote data literacy, smart city thinking and innovation to target community cohorts and the education sector.
- ④ Delivering a digital inclusion framework that promotes the inclusive application of digital technologies and capability building across the City
- ④ Leveraging smart tech to enhance availability of information/services in a diverse range of languages
- ④ Expanding free public Wi-Fi in high-priority areas
- ④ Investigating innovative approaches to democratic participation and community engagement
- ④ Utilising technology and data to help facilitate and measure community health recovery initiatives
- ④ Updating our smart city webpage and establishing a smart city communications channel to help inform residents, visitors and investors of the smart city activity and performance within Council and the community

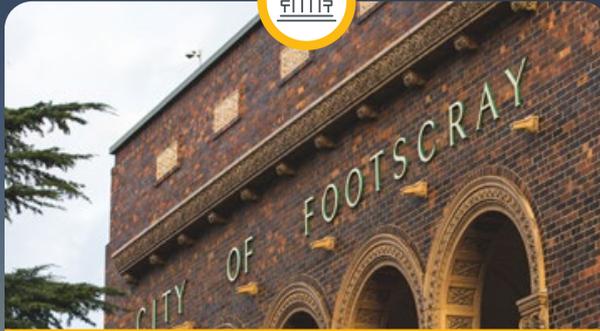


A Celebration of Culture & Creativity

Council will enhance Maribyrnong's unique identity as a creative and innovative City. Art and cultural offerings will be showcased across our City, highlighting our diverse and vibrant community. Council will leverage digital technology to celebrate and capture the rich history and future of Maribyrnong. Council will seek to embed innovation as a key element of Maribyrnong's identity.

Priority action areas could include:

- Promoting digital, innovative or data-driven art both physically and digitally across our City
- Exploring opportunities to digitise cultural assets
- Showcasing our diverse cultural heritage and the art, culture and stories of the Traditional Owners through interactive mediums such as Virtual Reality or Augmented Reality
- Exploring smart technologies to support the management of Council events and festivals
- Leveraging smart city networks to host a series of smart city events/ conferences that encourage collaboration and knowledge sharing, and build the City's smart city reputation
- Partnering with Victoria University and VU Innovations to facilitate a city-wide innovation network
- Exploring opportunities to host a smart city challenge or hackathon to collaboratively develop smart city solutions



A Future-Ready Council

Council will drive internal change by implementing smart technology, processes and decision making, including smart data management. Council will remain transparent and accountable to our community through open data and explicit smart city goal setting and performance measurement. Once Council establishes itself as a smart organisation, it will reach out to the community and partners to deliver community benefit and grow our digital economy.

Priority action areas could include:

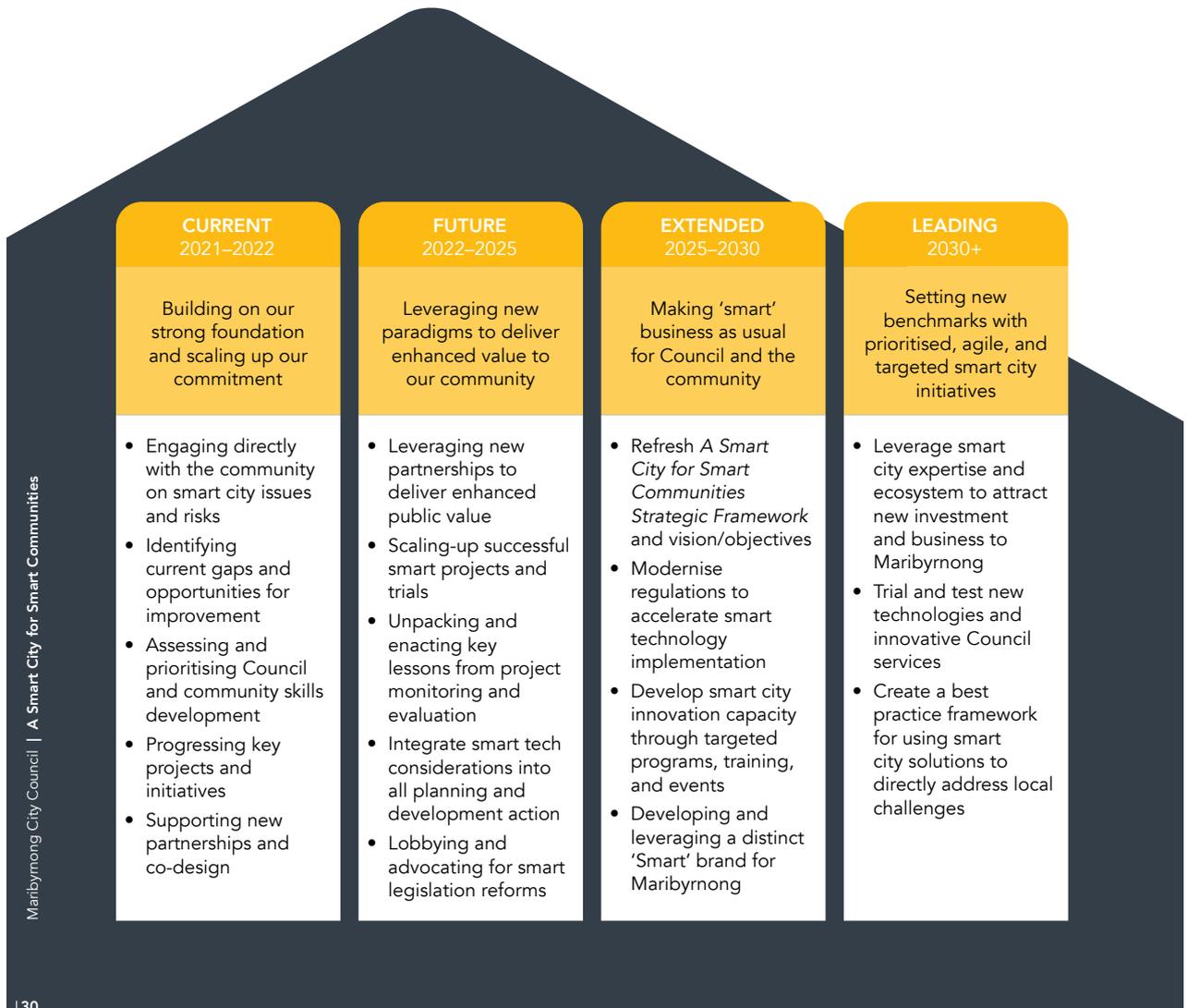
- Identifying a pathway to proactively modernise key services and regulation
- Delivering a data management framework to support the coordinated uptake and collection of data across Council
- Developing an open data platform to support improved information and service delivery
- Investing in digital literacy and data training for Council staff to ensure they have the skills and confidence to support smart city outcomes
- Establishing communities of practice within Council and promoting cross-Council collaboration on projects, policies, and programs
- Establishing a clear smart city governance, resourcing and project delivery pathway within Council
- Embedding smart thinking into Council operations to identify and realise efficiencies in processes and resourcing among other areas
- Developing a digital innovation advocacy framework to leverage the lessons discovered and partnerships established during the delivery of the Smart Cities for Social Cohesion Project
- Delivering a privacy and security roadmap to ensure policies and systems are regularly updated and refined in line with new technologies and community expectations
- Improving Council's capacity to plan for and respond to emergency situations including the ongoing response to the COVID-19 pandemic

Implementation

Council has developed an accompanying *Smart City for Smart Communities Implementation Plan* to support the strategic and coordinated implementation of this Framework.

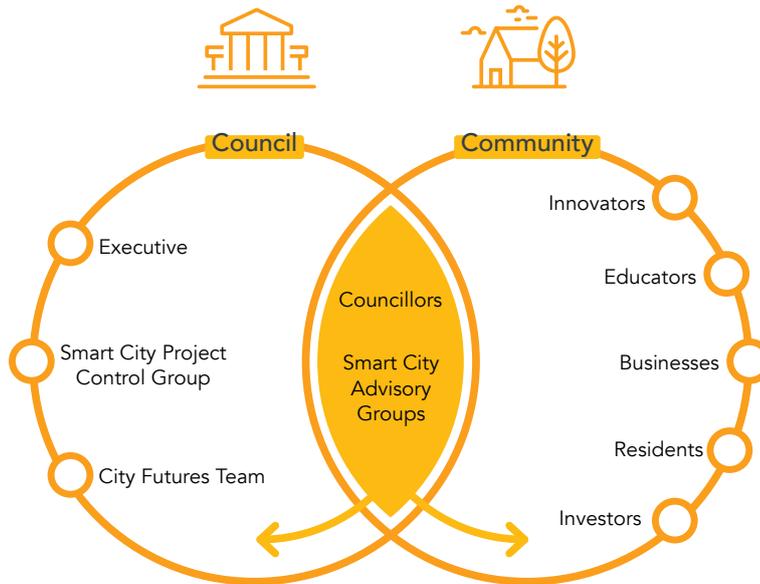
Our Implementation Plan will take a holistic approach to delivering on the key strategic themes and priority action areas outlined in this Framework. This holistic approach will balance the following priorities:

- Leveraging existing projects and infrastructure
- Delivering new high-priority projects
- Continuing to engage with the community
- Developing smart policies and guidelines
- Building the smart capacity of Council



Smart City Collaboration

Within Council there is a clear pathway for considering, designing, and implementing smart city initiatives. Working with our community the following collaboration pathways exist. The diagram below outlines the touchpoints our community have to express their smart city and innovation ideas, requests and projects. The diagram also depicts the process within Council for considering smart city initiatives.



Managing Technology Risks

The City of Maribyrnong is committed to managing and mitigating the current and emerging risks of technology integration and innovation.

We acknowledge the importance of security and privacy as we increase the connectivity and digital presence of our community.

The uptake of digital technology can provide new and innovative ways of keeping our community safe and improving security, however, it can also be viewed as intrusive or unsafe.

This Framework ensures smart initiatives follow global best practices for privacy and security and enables Council to proactively safeguard the privacy and safety of our citizens.

Key principles to ensure privacy and security in Maribyrnong



Smart Governance

Council will proactively incorporate privacy and security best practices within our organisation and across our City. These include a set of agreed protocols to ensure effective and robust management.



Innovation

New technology can assist Council to provide improved services and security to our community. Making the most of technology to improve the liveability of our City is fundamental in providing a modern and resilient solution to privacy and security.



Community Involvement

Council is committed to working with our community to drive the best and safest outcomes from smart initiatives. This means the community can have insight and guide smart initiatives in a way that ensures their privacy and security.



Smart Trials

Before deploying large-scale systems and initiatives, we will run trials and engagement to ensure they are feasible and safe for our community.



Data Management

A Data Management Framework will provide strict guidelines for how data is collected, stored, managed, and shared that ensures the privacy of our citizens.

Best practice is constantly evolving and adapting with advances in technology and changes in policies. Council will regularly review and update our privacy and security management to ensure we are aligned with current best practices.

Measuring Our Progress

To ensure Maribyrnong remains on track to achieve our smart city goals and objectives, Council will regularly and methodically measure our smart city progress.

Key objectives and potential outcome indicators

The table below outlines the key objectives and potential outcome measures, categorised by strategic theme.

	OBJECTIVES	OUTCOME MEASURES
 A Place of Vibrancy & Activity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the implementation, usage, and data collection from smart technologies Expand the coverage of free public Wi-Fi in high-priority areas Enhance the liveability, amenity, and activation of public spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of smart sensors installed across region Geographical coverage of free public Wi-Fi Community feedback on open space amenity
 A Resilient & Sustainable Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the monitoring and management of our environment Increase the amount of environmental data collected across the region Improve the sustainability and resource-use efficiency of local parks and green spaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breadth of environmental data collected across region Resources used to maintain public and green spaces
 An Economy for the Digital Age	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the digital capacity and maturity of our local businesses Increasing partnerships with local providers to deliver smart projects Expand the region's digital economy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital capacity of local businesses (self-reported) Number of smart partnerships with local providers Amount of online/digital economic activity
 An Empowered & Connected Community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhance the physical and online accessibility of Maribyrnong (and Council services) Increase collaboration and engagement with community through smart/agile means Increasing community safety and digital security/privacy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> User-experience with online Council services (self-reported) Number of community members engaged through smart programs and events
 A Celebration of Culture & Creativity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve the performance of arts and cultural sector by leveraging digital technology Expand the arts and cultural sector by integrating digitally enabled projects Enhance smart city projects by including arts and cultural expression in development and implementation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Growth of the arts and cultural sector in Maribyrnong Number of City projects develop with arts and cultural elements
 A Future Ready Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the innovation capacity of Council staff and processes Expand the delivery of smart Council services Increase data-driven decision making through enhanced data management skills of Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Smart city skills and capacity of Council staff (self-reported) Number of Council services offered online or through agile means Amount of data to inform Council decision-making

More specific outcome measures and indicators are identified in the Implementation Plan. Any smart city related project will have its own set of objectives and measures which will be reported back as part of the Implementation Plan reporting process.



The Next Steps

The City of Maribyrnong will lead by example as we gear-up for our smart city journey. We will catalyse innovation, facilitate smart technology deployment, and actively support research, collaboration and investment in smart initiatives and projects.

To lead the way, Council must ensure it is continually learning, improving, and increasing capacity as an organisation. We will continue to develop our smart city skills, capacity, and maturity to ensure all projects are delivered successfully.

This table outlines the next steps for Council as we strengthen our commitment and action towards smart city development.

NEXT STEP	OUTLINE
Project Implementation	This <i>Smart City for Smart Communities Strategic Framework</i> will be supported by a dedicated Implementation Plan. The Plan will guide the specific action and investment in smart city projects, programs, and initiatives over the next few years. It will also ensure smart city action remains closely aligned with community needs and objectives.
Smart City Maturity	As Council gears-up for future smart city action, we will continue to investigate ways to improve our smart city knowledge and capacity. We will measure our progress as an organisation and conduct regular reviews to ensure we maintain momentum.
Partnerships & Collaboration	Council is not the only stakeholder in the smart city ecosystem. We will have to work closely with multiple partners to deliver projects for our community. As such, we will continue to facilitate agile and innovative partnerships in the future.
Community Engagement	The community will remain at the centre of everything we do at Council. We will prioritise engagement and transparency with our citizens, and in turn, ensure all policies and projects are agile and aligned with community expectations.
Funding & Sustainability	Council will ensure all smart city projects have a clear and robust business case. This will enable the rapid deployment of high-priority and high-impact projects that will contribute to sustainable smart city development in Maribyrnong.

Glossary

Smart City: A city that applies digital technology, data, and innovative practices to improve liveability, sustainability, collaboration, and economic opportunities

Big Data	The use of technology (especially sensors and networks) to collect, manage, analyse, and utilise large volumes of data.	Internet of Things	The millions of physical devices around us connected online, sharing data - from tiny weather gauges up to super computers – this is the fabric of the digital world around us.
Artificial Intelligence	AI or machine learning is the programming of technology to analyse information and take 'human-like' action such as problem-solving or pattern identification.	Liveability	The general perceptions of the quality of life living in a particular area. Consider accessibility, safety, inclusion, local services, and the environment.
Circular Economy/Lifestyle	A system of production and consumption designed to eliminate waste through recycling, re-use, and reduction.	Local Services	Public services provided by the local government (e.g., Parks, parking, planning, rubbish collection).
Citizen-centric	Approaching Council service delivery from the perspective of the community to ensure their needs and expectations are met.	Open Data	Making data more accessible and useable to enhance transparency, innovation, and community outcomes. <i>Note: sensitive, confidential, and private data will remain secure.</i>
Co-Creation/Co-Design	Working with clients, communities, and customers to design and create services/solutions that meet user expectations and needs.	Place Activation	Integrating new and innovative enterprises and projects to attract and retain people to underutilised public spaces.
Connectivity	The breadth depth and quality of telecommunications and internet infrastructure, networks, and services.	Red Tape	Inefficient legislation, regulation or business processes that inhibit innovation and place undue cost on the economy.
Co-working	The mode of working where a mix of individuals, innovators and organisations work in the same physical location, sharing space, ideas, technology, and motivation.	Smart Infrastructure	The cross-over between physical and digital assets. For example, a building that has integrated sensors, connectivity networks and other smart technologies for enhanced outcomes.
Digital Democracy	The use of digital technology to modernise democratic processes and institutions and facilitating participation in debate and decision-making.	Smart Technology	Digital networks, sensors, devices and systems that support the delivery of smart services and assets.
Digital Literacy	The skills and capabilities to use digital technology effectively and confidently.	Sustainability	Balancing social, environmental and economic outcomes and benefits.
Entrepreneur	A person who creates, innovates, invests, and takes on risk aiming to make commercial profit.	Testbed	A space either within the community or a controlled environment to test and trial new technologies and solutions to defined community problems.
Innovation	Doing something different with the aim of improving processes and outcomes.		
Innovation Ecosystem	The network of people, institutions, programs, regulations, culture, and resources that work to promote innovation.		

Source: Delos Delta



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Agenda Item 9.4**SUBMISSION ON SUSTAINABILITY VICTORIA'S DRAFT STRATEGY**

Director: Patrick Jess
Acting Director Infrastructure Services

Author: Indivar Dhakal
Manager Assets and Capital

PURPOSE

To submit feedback to Sustainability Victoria on its draft organisational strategy SV2030: A Decade of Action.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Sustainability Victoria (SV) is requesting feedback on its draft organisational strategy SV 2030: A Decade of Action. The strategy outlines SV's vision to act on sustainability by working better with all Victorians, so that SV can achieve greater impact through its mandated work. It also outlines SV's focus areas – these show how SV plans to maximise its technical expertise, insights, and relationships to accelerate Victoria's transition to a circular and climate resilient economy.
- The strategy will have direct relevance for Council's programs and projects and our work as part of the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA), along with other neighbouring Councils on waste, resource recovery and circular economy.
- Consultation closes on 17 November 2021, attached is a proposed submission to SV.

ATTACHMENTS

1. SV2030 draft submission [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council approve the submission to Sustainability Victoria on its draft organisational strategy SV2030: A Decade of Action

Agenda Item 9.4**BACKGROUND**

SV has invited Council to provide feedback on its draft organisational strategy SV2030: A Decade of Action. It sets out clear focus areas of Investment and Innovation, Behaviour Change and Education, Community Action and how these areas align with key Victorian Strategies: Recycling Victoria (and the pending Bill), the Climate Change Framework and the Climate Change Strategy.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

Key issues refer to Attachment 1 SV2030 draft submission.

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - Safe climate and healthy environment - Council will proactively identify opportunities to support a return to a safe climate and healthy environment and work with our community to respond to climate emergency challenges.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Not applicable.

4. Resources

Not applicable.

5. Environment

The strategy will have direct relevance for Council's programs and projects and our work as part of the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA), along with other neighbouring Councils on waste, resource recovery and circular economy.

4 November 2021

SV2030@sustainability.vic.gov.au

Maribyrnong City Council is pleased to respond to SV2030: A Decade of Action. The strategy will have direct relevance for Council's programs and projects and our work as part of the Western Alliance for Greenhouse Action (WAGA), along with other neighbouring Councils on waste, resource recovery and circular economy.

General comment

Council appreciates that SV2030 sets out clear focus areas of Investment and Innovation, Behaviour Change and Education, Community Action and how these areas align with key Victorian Strategies: Recycling Victoria (and the pending Bill), the Climate Change Framework and the Climate Change Strategy.

While the vision indicated in SV2030 is pleasing, there is opportunity for Council to translate this into local actions. Council would be pleased to work more closely with Sustainability Victoria (SV) with a focus on program delivery, education, research and planning. Council is particularly interested in supporting its community to take urgent action on climate change, improve recycling outcomes and support a circular economy.

Therefore Council requests greater clarity on how state and local government partnerships can be maximised and seeks improved coordination of services to ensure gaps are filled and duplication is avoided.

Water

Council is pleased to see new focus on water included in SV2030. Improved coordination between Melbourne Water, DELWP and EPA with a focus on greater community education is welcomed. However, there is no detail on how SV will consider water other than its role in a circular economy, and Council sees benefit in exploring this further.

Council recommends SV2030 focus on having a stronger role in water education. Council's view is there is a gap in this space and SV is perfectly placed to fill this void by having ongoing and meaningful conversations with our community about water, conservation, impacts of climate change and the real threats we face living in the world's driest inhabited continent. There should be a focus on educating and engaging our community to take positive actions and activities, embed pride in their waterways, reduce litter and increase their understanding of the real need for decentralised water supplies. Increased education on the role that communities can play in nitrogen removal from waterways, run off pollution and similar is also needed.



Agenda Item 9.4 - Attachment 1

People

Council acknowledges SV's active involvement in this space particularly in the spheres of climate, waste and energy. It is pleasing to see the focus shifted to circular economy also and Council applauds SV for its work to date. Council is pleased to see that SV2030 will include better practices and delivery with a focus on diverse communities and inclusivity and would add First Nations specifically to those improved practices. Climate justice is an issue of importance to Council, so it is very pleasing to see a just and equitable climate change transition is specifically mentioned. Council is particularly supportive of SV's intent to engage with Victorians who are considering change, but not yet ready to take the next steps.

The proposal for a cooperative research centre of excellence for environmental behaviour change is also warmly welcomed. It would be useful if this could be extended to incorporate professional development for people working in sustainability, Councillors, other staff and more widely to educate as well as be a centre of excellence.

SV2030 also has the opportunity to increase SV's role across the spectrum of sustainability.

SV has the potential to support other government departments who deal with environmental sustainability issues - such as Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on the improvement of biodiversity, EPA Victoria (EPA) in its role to protect the environment from land/water/air pollution, and other state departments who intersect with environmental sustainability issues. SV, through its education and program delivery, could support community understanding, protection and knowledge of these issues, develop programs to increase outcomes and also support local government in work in this space.

In line with this, it is noted that the new Circular Economy Bill, currently before Parliament, does not include any role for Recycling Victoria in education and behaviour change, and it is understood that this will fall largely on SV. Engagement and understanding on implementation of the Act and the major new responsibilities and risks will require a significant campaign in order to ensure the considerable shift in consumer and recycling behaviour, local government understanding and business awareness to implement the upcoming Act.

SV2030 has the opportunity to include the delivery of education, community engagement and programs on these issues that support other government departments and local government to improve biodiversity, reduce pollution, educate on the new Act and similar. However, education, engagement and program delivery for the Victorian community is a major undertaking that traditionally SV has been under-resourced for. It is recommended that SV2030 addresses resource needs to deliver on this.

Areas of improvement that Council suggests for SV2030 are to widen the sphere of activity to include water (as discussed elsewhere in this paper) and to provide more support to local government to address climate change meaningfully and urgently. It is critical however, to engage with local government early to enable a considered response and appropriate engagement. As an example the consultation on SV2030 closes on 17 November, yet the information session is not being held till 11 November meaning SV may not receive the level of input from Local Government it may otherwise receive with greater notice. **Council recommends a commitment to genuine collaboration with local government with a changed approach to engagement as a critical inclusion in SV2030.**

Materials

Council strongly supports the work SV has been doing to improve recycling, support a circular economy, and assist in establishing food and garden waste processing options. However, it is now that significant work must start, for the circular economy and these issues to really have impact in the next 10 years.

Agenda Item 9.4 - Attachment 1

It is pleasing to see that SV will be focussing on establishing a basis for a more resilient circular economy through focussing on 'make' and 'use' areas through research and development grants.

The Circular Economy Business Innovation Centre is a welcome addition to this work. Greater clarity is required however to understand how SV will continue to work with local government in this space. This is critical because local government is at the front line of addressing problems and developing solutions for waste and resource recovery issues, managing daily waste transactions and ensuring our cities have well-managed waste outcomes.

With the establishment of the new Waste Authority and the end of the Waste and Resource Recovery Groups, significant gaps are left which SV could have a key role in addressing. **Particular gaps of concern for Maribyrnong City Council are how the gap for regional procurement for waste services can be filled by SV and the role of SV into the investigation of an alternative to landfill for Councils in the west of Melbourne and the creation of certainty around future processing and markets for all types of recyclables from FOGO to plastic and beyond.** The opportunity for SV to coordinate and play a key role in these should be considered in SV2030 – as part of its role in supporting the Recycling Victoria State Policy (pending establishment as a Bill).

Thank you for the opportunity to submit to SV2030: A Decade of Action. We look forward to viewing the final document and would welcome further discussion.

Agenda Item 9.5**DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021-2025**

Director: Patrick Jess
Acting Director Infrastructure Services

Author: Paul McKeon
Manager Regulatory Services

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement of the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025 and its submission to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR).

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* requires that Council prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAM Plan) every four years (current 2017 – 2021 plan expires 16 December 2021).
- The new DAM Plan has been developed in accordance with the required DJPR standards and has included extensive consultation with DJPR, Lost Dogs Home, RSPCA and community.
- The DAM Plan sets out Council's services for animal management including provision of customer service, education, enforcement and support for all Maribyrnong pet owners.
- The DAM Plan includes many operating matters including:
 - Officer training and development
 - Planned programs and development
 - Registration and identification of animals
 - Nuisance – encouraging responsible pet ownership
 - Dog attacks
 - Declared dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs
 - Over population and high euthanasia
 - Domestic animal businesses
 - Other matters
 - Annual review of plan and annual reporting
- The updated DAM Plan includes the required annual review to DJPR and continue to position Maribyrnong as a high performing local government for animal management.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-25 [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council endorse the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021 – 2025 and submit the plan to the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Region.

Agenda Item 9.5

BACKGROUND

The *Domestic Animal Act 1994* requires all Victorian Councils to prepare a four yearly DAM Plan. Legislation requires that the DAM Plan outline the programs, services and strategies that Council intends to pursue in relation to domestic animal issues.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES

1. Key Issues

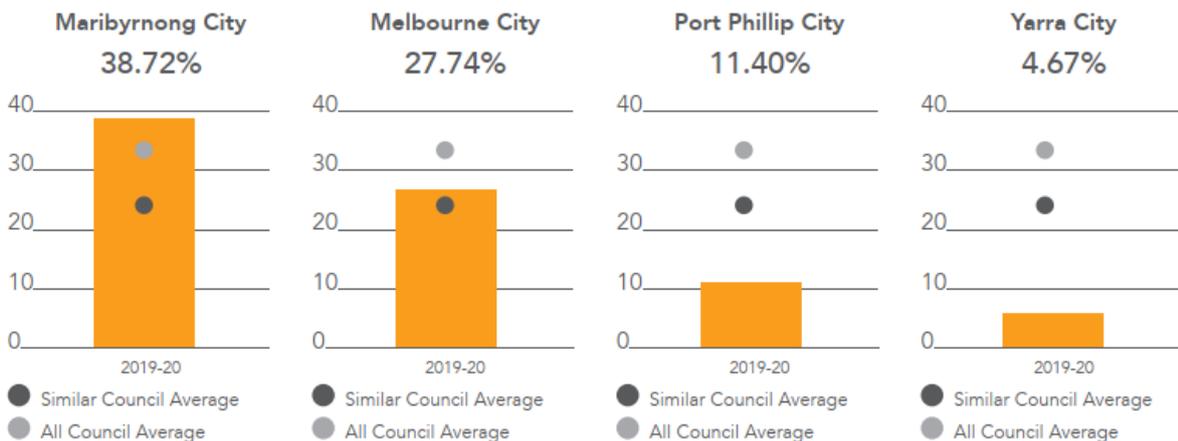
The DAM Plan promotes the services for animal management including customer service, education, advice and assistance to the community. The plan is designed to create an environment, which is harmonious and safe for both animal and community members, with appropriately skilled Animal Management Officers in place to undertake education, investigations and enforcement if necessary.

The DAM Plan includes data provided in the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LFPRF) with the objective to ensure the health and safety of animals, humans and the environment. Reports show Maribyrnong to be performing well in all areas with improvements in all areas of reporting particularly with rehomed and reclaimed pets.

The LGPRF results shown below from “Know your Council” website show previously compared Councils from the IMAP group. Maribyrnong’s rehoming rate is a leading performance figure in comparison

Animals rehomed

Percentage of all collected cats and dogs which have been rehomed. New indicator from July 2019.



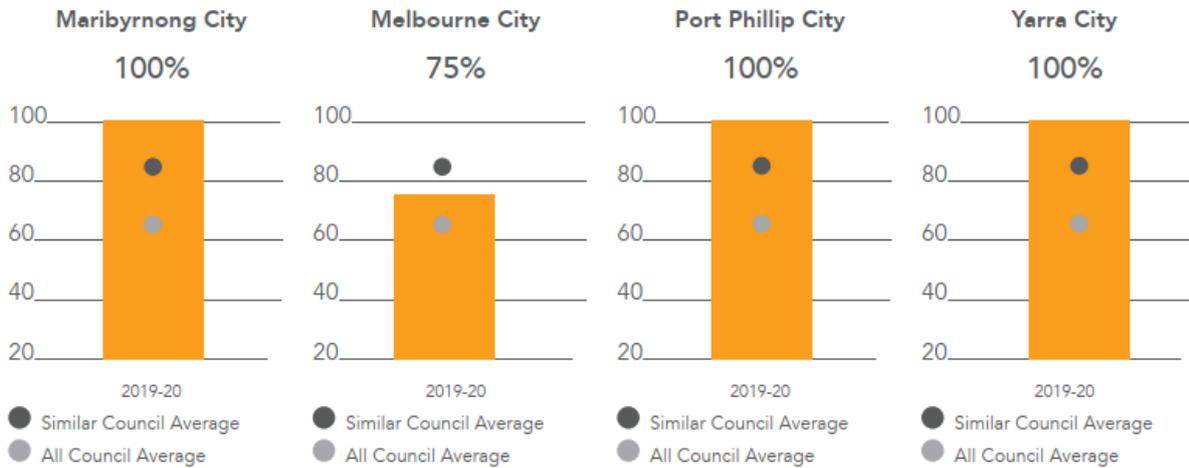
Prosecution of animal management matters shows a 100% success rate with outcomes and relate to serious incidents pertaining to dog attacks on both resident and their pets.

Whilst most matters can be resolved through the issue of warnings or fines, serious matters must be presented in Court for resolution. The issue of warnings and penalty notices for less serious matters has proven to prevent the conflict and trauma of victims or complainants appearing before a Magistrates Court. This has resulted in a higher resolution to enforcement and a better educational outcome for the offending pet owner.

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Successful animal management prosecutions

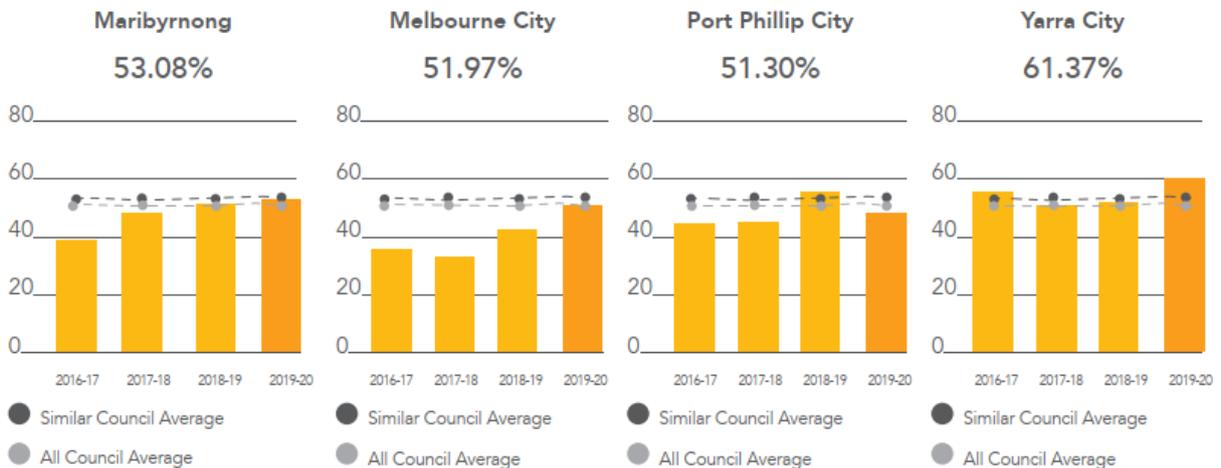
Percentage of successful animal management prosecutions. New indicator July 2019.



Maribyrnong has reported a 15 per cent increase in reclaimed pets since the last plan and second highest in comparison compared to being the lowest Council in previous reports.

Animals reclaimed from Council

Percentage of all collected cats and dogs which have been reclaimed.



2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council’s strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - Liveable neighbourhoods - Council will partner with community to provide & advocate for integrated built and natural environments with access to open spaces that are well maintained, engaging, accessible and respectful.

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- A place for all - Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods & strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive & accessible to the whole community, support wellbeing, healthy & safe living, community connection, and cultural interaction.

Legislation

The Domestic Animal Management Plan is guided by:

- *Domestic Animals Act 1994*
- General purposes Local Laws 2015
- Domestic Animal Management Plan 2017-2021.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Consultation was undertaken with the Lost Dogs Home, RSPCA and DJPR State Government department.

In addition, community feedback was undertaken through Council's "Your City Your Voice" which resulted in 254 people completing the survey. The project was open from 6 to 24 September 2021 with the survey focussing on two areas:

- Seeking and understanding of pet ownership, domestic challenges and management in the city.
- Seeking feedback on the updated DAM Plan.

Overall respondents did not consider there had been any drastic change in domestic animal management in the past 12 months, but expressed calls for more or better:

- Patrolling of parks and public outdoor areas.
- Enforcement of dog on and off leash areas with additional signage
- Promotion of responsible pet ownership and adhering to public space rules such as on/off leash, barking dogs and roaming cats.
- Management of cats outside properties including curfews.
- Dog off leash areas including lights for night time use.
- Education around pet ownership and dog off leash areas.
- Dedicated spaces for greyhounds.

122 comments were received specifically on the draft DAM Plan which were mostly positive and supportive. Some suggestions were raised in relation to enforcement, management and other issues.

- Most comments focussed on wanting more enforcement in both public and private spaces and the issue of warning and fines for breaches.

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- Suggestions were put forward banning dogs that attack and their owners from parks within the municipality.
- Requests for additional signage promoting rules.
- Requests for additional off leash areas
- Requests for more “poo” bags to be in place and more regular replenishment.

Comments put forward as “other” related to promoting responsible pet ownership and recognising Maribyrnong as a culturally diverse community with suggestions of:

- Signage in multiple languages and promotions to CALD groups
- Reduced pet registrations
- Acknowledgement of benefits of domestic animals specific to mental health particularly through the current COVID-19 period.

Overall the feedback was very favourable and positive. Detailed responses to the DAM Plan have raised points which have been resolved in the DAM Plan or will be implemented over the next 12 months and reported in the annual review of the DAM Plan in November 2022.

One acknowledgement of the DAM Plan stated *“In general, I am very encouraged by the tone of the New Domestic Animal Management Plan”*.

In response to feedback, opportunities will be assessed and where appropriate, implemented prior to the first review of the DAM Plan in November 2022.

Suggested opportunities include:

- Free registration for first time registered pets.
- Financial support and promotion of discounted desexing of pets, particularly cats.

Officers are investigating the opportunity to introduce support and activity days throughout the year with the provision of an “Animal Behaviourist” in parks for pet owners to receive free advice, support and discussion about their pets.

This has proven valuable in other council in NSW by promoting the importance of pet management, teaching owners about improving pet behaviour which has had a positive impact in the reduction of dog attacks and complaints.

4. Resources

Resource requirements are in accordance with the approved 2021/22 Council Budget. Survey results indicate that management of barking dogs, dog attacks and wandering dogs remained relatively stable

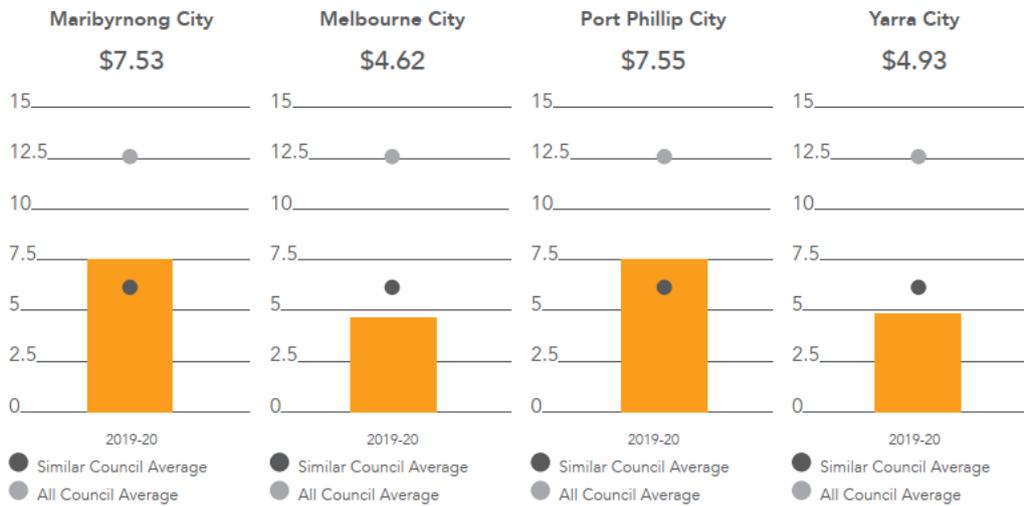
The prompt response to complaints, incidents and proactively returning pets to their owners rather than simply impounding animals has resulted in a reduction of overall costs associated with Animal Management and a positive response from pet owners.

The DAM Plan provides forward planning to ensure the service provided and cost reduction continues from the previously reported \$18.74 per registered pet to \$7.53.

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Cost of animal management service per population

Direct cost to Council of the animal management service per population. New indicator from July 2019.



5. Environment

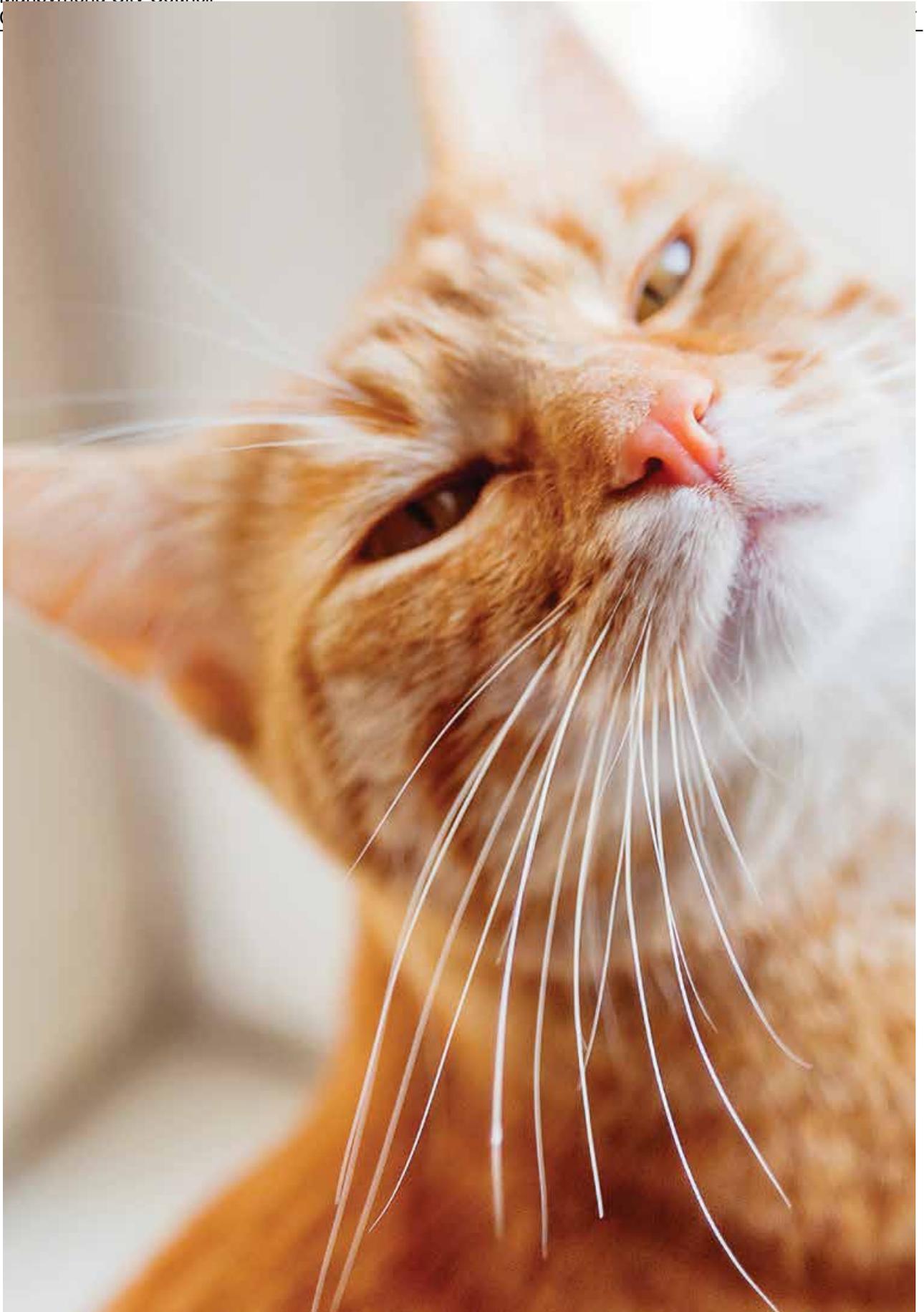
Compliance with the DAM Plan will assist in providing a healthy and safe environment for both pets and community.

CONCLUSION

The new Domestic Animal Management Plan outlines Council’s proactive approach to community expectations and legislative requirements in dealing with animals within the City. Support, education, advice and enforcement are the primary points to ensure that a harmonious relationship can occur between animals, community and the environment whilst maintaining the highest level of welfare and safety for all.

**Domestic
Animal
Management
Plan**
2021-2025





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Introduction

The *Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act)* requires all Victorian Councils to prepare a four yearly Domestic Animal Management (DAM) Plan. The legislation requires that a DAM Plan outline the programs, services and policies to address the administration of the Act and the management of domestic animal issues.

Section 68A of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* states the following with regards to domestic animal management plans.

Section 68A of the Act Council to prepare a domestic animal management plan

1. Every Council must, in consultation with the Secretary of Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR), prepare at four year intervals a domestic animal management plan.
2. A domestic animal management plan prepared by the Council must:
 - a. set out a method for evaluating whether the animal control services provided by Council in its municipal district are adequate to give effect to the requirements of this Act and the regulations; and
 - b. outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer and enforce the requirements of this Act in Council's municipal district; and
 - c. outline programs, services and strategies which Council intends to pursue in its municipal district to:
 1. promote and encourage the responsible ownership of dogs and cats; and
 2. ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation; and
 3. minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and other animals; and
 4. address an over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats; and
 5. encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats; and
 6. minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance; and
 7. effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations; and
 - d. provide for the review of existing orders made under this Act and local laws that relates to Council's municipal district with a view to determining whether further orders or local laws dealing with the management of dogs and cats in the municipal district are desirable; and
 - e. provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of dogs and cats in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary; and
 - f. provide for the periodic evaluation of any program, service, strategy or review outlines under the plan.
3. Every Council must-
 - a. review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan; and
 - b. provide the Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan; and
 - c. publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

An extensive assessment of Council's DAM Plan 2017 /2021 found that it had performed well with the Animal Management Team achieving high levels of success in a number of areas. Due to the successful operation of the plan, it has been brought forward and used as the platform of the new DAM Plan 2021/2025.

The DAM plan has been enhanced to promote the services relevant to animal management by focusing on public safety, animal welfare, resident service, community harmony, education, prevention and enforcement.

This plan is designed to continue supporting an environment which is safe for both animals and public by ensuring appropriately skilled Officers are available to perform the increasingly complex and demanding role of animal management.

The development of guidelines, work processes, educational services and assistance with respect of all domestic animals will continue to expand over the term of this plan.

Identified improvements and benefits attributable to the DAM Plan 2017 /2021 include:

- Creation of an Animal Management Operational Instructions Manual
- Enhanced Work Instructions providing expedited response and resolution times and prevention instead of response
- Review and implementation of Councils General Purposes Local Laws 2015
- Animal Management Officers (AMO) respond to all requests for service within one hour of them receiving the request and attend on site immediately in the case of an emergency and within one working day in non-urgent matters

- Entering into a new contract with the Lost Dogs Home with an emphasis on reduction of euthanasia of animals
- Promoting benefits of pet registration which provides quicker reunion of pets to their owners
- Changing cat management service delivery from part time contractor to a full time employee delivering consistency and more timely response and resolution times
- Ongoing training of AMOs in the principles of ongoing process improvement, pursuit of quality and excellence in resident service
- Reduction in actual costs to Council in the provision of animal management services.

Municipality demographic and profile

31.2

square kilometres

The City of Maribyrnong is an inner-west municipality.

It is the smallest and most densely populated municipality in the Western Region.



Suburbs

9

- Braybrook
- Footscray
- Kingsville
- Maidstone
- Maribyrnong
- Seddon
- Tottenham (industrial precinct)
- West Footscray
- Yarraville

40%

Born overseas

From

135

Countries

42%

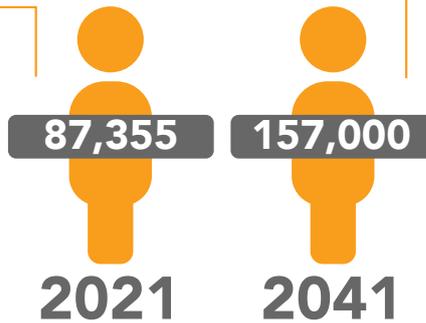
Speak a language other than English at home

80+

Different languages spoken

Placing a greater emphasis on the need to educate AMOs on cultural sensitivities in respect of education of residents concerning responsible pet ownership and keeping of animals.

Population



67%
Forecast increase

The City's population has grown approximately 3% each year as a result of the trend towards inner suburban living.



%



A high percentage of new residents are now accommodated in multi-level apartments and multi residential dwellings.

This has created new demands on animal management Officers in terms of access, investigation and resolving of complaints in these buildings and environments.



The State Government has regularly amended the Act to reflect increased community awareness in respect of animal welfare issues and to enable proper responses by Council.

Increased popularity of pet ownership as a result of COVID19 has added to exponential growth in demand on Councils to provide timely responses to nuisance barking complaints, domestic animal welfare and behaviour issues, dogs off lead and residents keeping of menacing or dangerous dogs.

Domestic animal statistics

The figures provided in the tables below show an average total over the previous five years but also individual years for more accurate assessment.

Current statistics

Animal management plan	2017/21 Average	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Population for Maribyrnong City Council	92,294	89,361	91,387	93,448	94,982	97,453
Area in square kilometres	32	32	32	32	32	32
Approximate number of residential properties	36,666	35,699	36,343	36,789	37,836	38,988

Dogs	2017/21 Average	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of registered dogs	6,756	6,649	6,522	6,579	7,760	6,270
Registered dangerous dogs	6	8	7	4	5	2
Registered restricted breed dogs	0	0	0	0	0	0
Registered guard dogs	7	7	7	7	7	7
Enforcement - dogs at large not confined	196	230	235	210	112	170
Enforcement - not registering dog	248	177	436	240	140	102
Enforcement - dangerous dog not confined	1	1	1	1	1	0
Enforcement - non serious injury	7	15	9	2	2	4
Enforcement – serious injury	1	2	0	0	2	2
Enforcement - dog rush	1	0	4	1	0	0
Impounded dogs	224	280	231	229	157	192
Dogs euthanised	25	30	17	29	23	19

Cats	2017/21 Average	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of registered cats	3,192	2,989	2,997	3,044	3,721	3,207
Number of stray cats impounded	364	505	414	214	324	225
Number of cats euthanised	168	223	214	136	101	101

Domestic Animal Businesses	2017/21 Average	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Number of registered businesses	8	7	7	8	9	9
Permits withdrawn by Council due to Breaches of Domestic Animals Act	0	0	0	0	0	0

Departmental structure

The Animal Management Team forms part of the Regulatory Services Unit under the Director Infrastructure Services. The direct line control falls with the Coordinator Parking and Local Laws which enables transparent and immediate support, advice and transfer of information and resources between all areas of operation including Animal Management, Local Laws, Parking and Compliance.

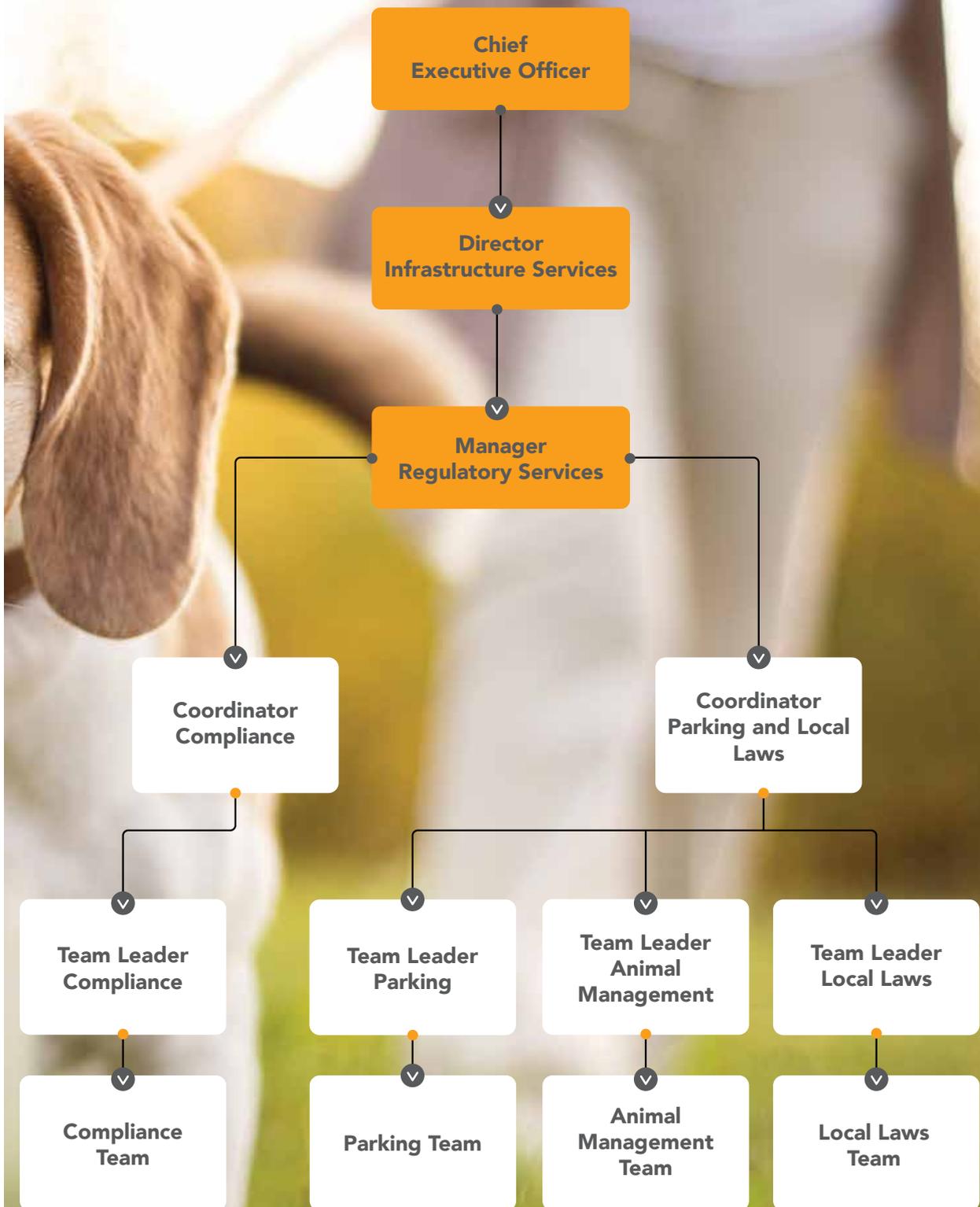
The Animal Management team consists of one (1) x Team Leader, three (3) x Animal Management Officers and contracted arrangements for pound operations, after hour's service and specific events and programs throughout the year.

Whilst the team size is small, qualified and experienced officers from other areas of the Parking and Local Laws teams provide additional support when required as well as back filling positions to ensure the maximum amount of service is provided at all times.

Council is committed to ongoing process improvement and animal management work instructions are constantly reviewed and amended with the aim of striving for excellence and best practice. The animal management team hold regular workshops to identify opportunities to enhance service delivery. When agreed, operational work instructions are updated accordingly.



Organisational structure



Officer training and development

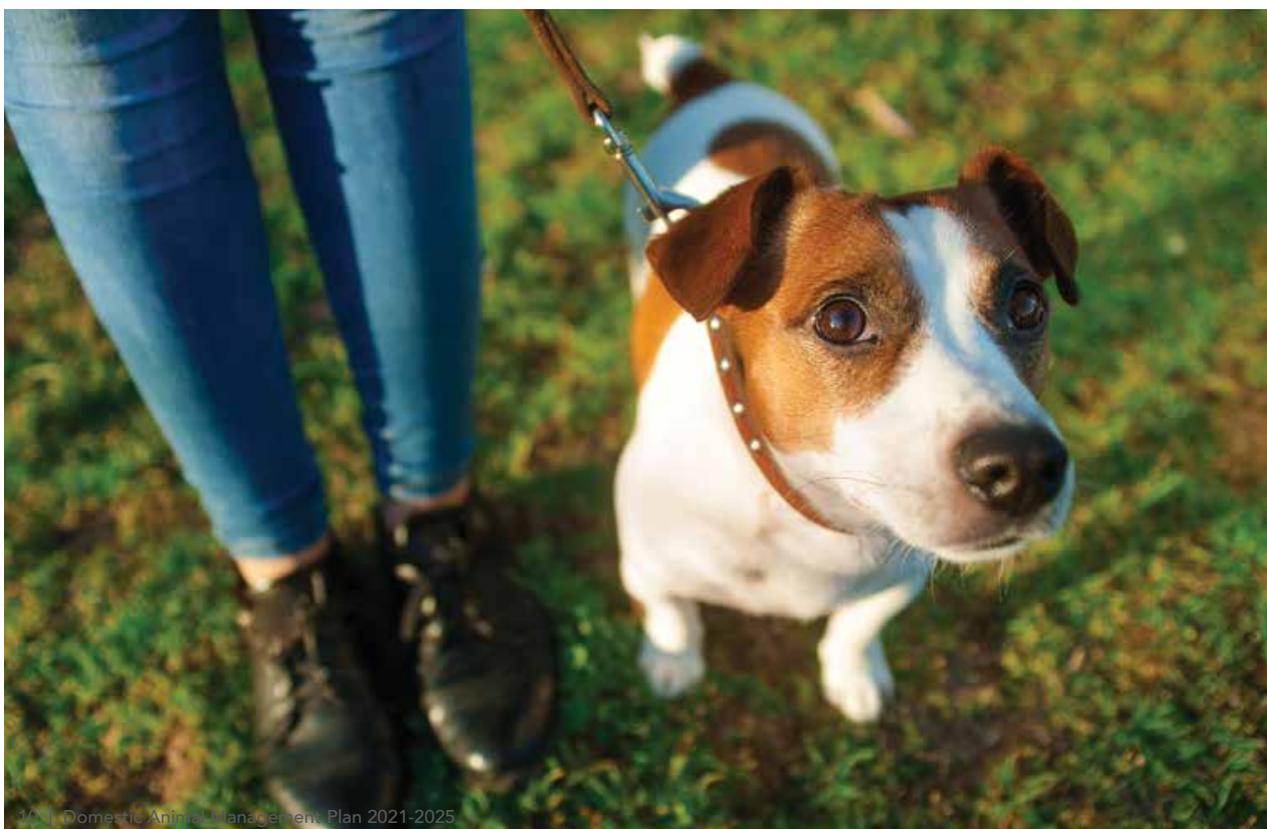
Requirement

68(A)(2)(b) of the of the Act outline programs for the training of authorised officers to ensure that they can properly administer

To ensure that all Staff involved in animal management have the training, knowledge, skills and qualifications necessary to carry out their work in a safe and legislatively compliant manner. This includes a mix of practical “hands on” in-house training, through to structured courses and industry applicable workshops. The training also includes changes which reflect community needs and any future legislative changes.

Councils’ structure of Regulatory Services as outlined in Section 4 facilitates communication and resource sharing between individual units which provides valuable back up in times of emergencies and at other times when necessary.

The annual review of this plan has identified further training requirements in respect of emergency response management, conflict management and refresher training in animal handling.



Current qualifications

Officers	Description
Team Leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate IV Investigations • Authorised in accordance with <i>Domestic Animals Act</i> • Safe animal handling training • Induction training / Equal Employment Opportunity training • Occupational Health and Safety training • Bullying in the workplace prevention training • Conflict management training • Customer service training • 20 years Vic Police including 12 years prosecutions experience • 25 years Local Government experience Local Law Enforcement and Animal Management
Animal Management Officer 1 (AMO 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate 1V in animal control and regulation • Safe animal handling training • Induction training / Equal Employment Opportunity training • Occupational Health and Safety training • Bullying in the workplace and Conflict resolution training • Customer service training
Animal Management Officer 2 (AMO 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate 1V in animal control and regulation • Safe animal handling training • Induction training /Equal Employment Opportunity training • Occupational Health and Safety training • Bullying in the workplace and Conflict resolution training • Customer service training
Animal Management Officer 3 (AMO 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate 1V in animal control and regulation • Safe animal handling training • Induction training / Equal Employment Opportunity Training • Occupational Health and Safety Training • Bullying in the workplace and Conflict resolution training • Customer service training • Animal Handling training

Planned programs and development

The following objectives have been chosen as important aspects of animal management development and continuous improvement for Council and the community needs.

Our plans

Although Council's Animal Management Team are small, they possess a strong motivation and passion to ensure they perform to the highest standard possible. Through continued training and self-development opportunities the Officers will maintain the highest standard of performance and motivation.

Objective 1

Ensure all Officers are adequately trained in accordance with legislative requirements to enable them to perform their duties.

Activity	When	Evaluation
To identify any mandatory, role specific and individual officer training needs to be included in the Animal Management Training Register	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Items identified and placed in the register All actions completed for relevant competency

Objective 2

Annual review of internal processes with staff, to ensure consistent application of legislation, compliance, and enforcement.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review investigation, compliance and enforcement processes to accommodate legal and other changes to ensure operational and service consistency	By July annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Annually – updated procedures, and officer guidelines finalised and approved training undertaken and officers competent Officers using appropriate enforcement in circumstances where acceptable behaviours and compliance are not being achieved through an educative approach

Objective 3

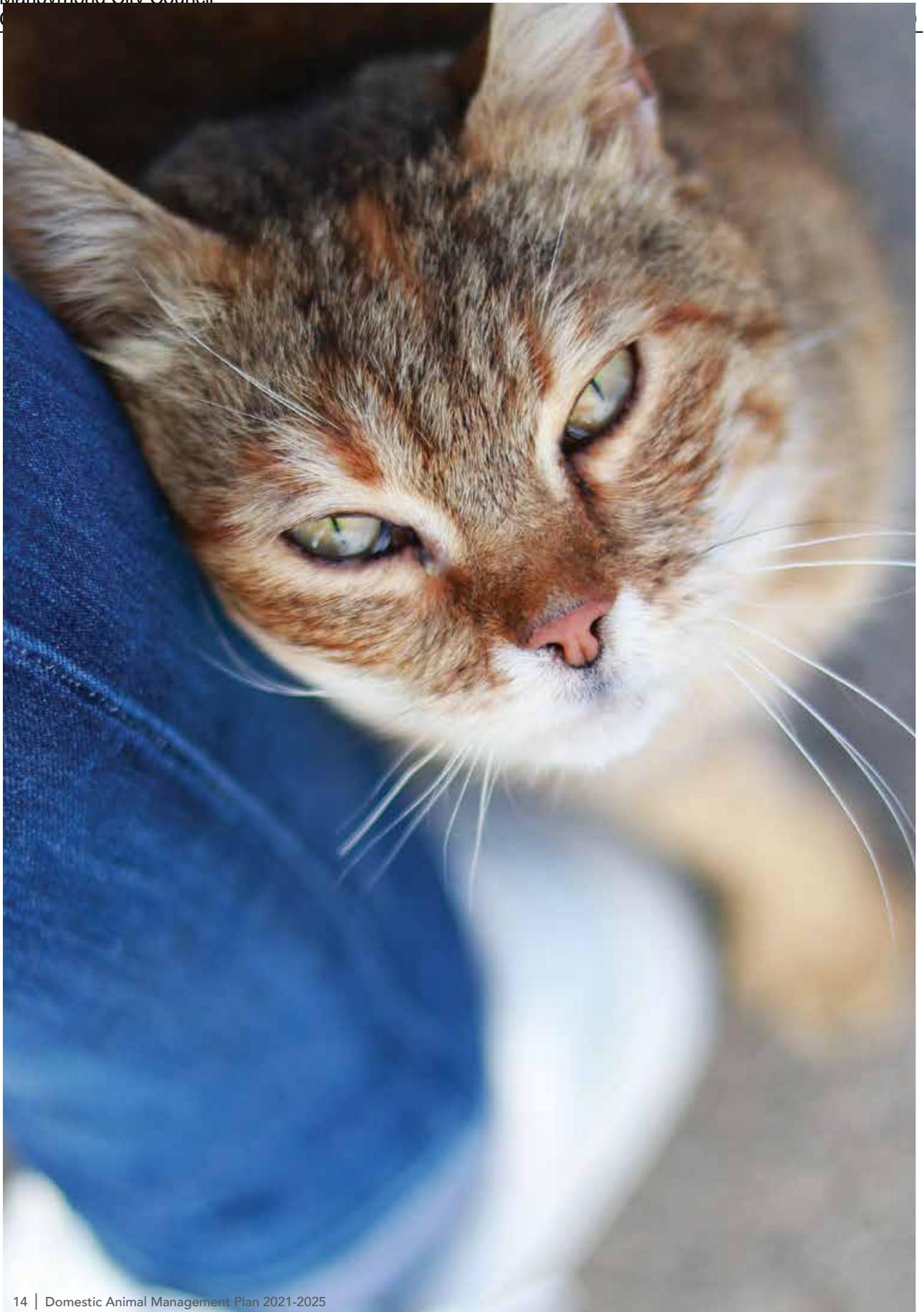
Maintain a training register for individual Officers detailing completed and proposed training.

Activity	When	Evaluation
<p>Enhance current Animal Management Training Register</p> <p>Listing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • current qualifications • refresher training undertaken • proposed future training • higher duties undertaken • performance reviews conducted 	December 2021	<p>Register is in place and updated as required. Discussed at monthly meetings to ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • input of training completed • recognition of qualifications achieved • workshops attended • higher duties performed • quarterly review of training register to ensure annual target is achieved

Objective 4

Ensure all Authorised Officers have completed their minimum training requirements.

Activity	When	Evaluation
<p>Identify and prioritise immediate training requirements such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • induction training • OH&S training • workplace bullying • customer Service • conflict Management 	Within three months of appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure completion of induction training and minimum subjects within three months of appointment. • Register to be assessed monthly to ensure training is completed including refresher training
<p>Identify minimum training requirements role specific tasks such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • safe animal handling • Cert IV in Animal Control and Regulation 	Within 12 months of appointment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure all job specific training requirements are successfully completed. • Monthly review of register to ensure training is completed including refresher training



Objective 5

Undertake a review of all policies, procedures and work instructions including working within the confines of General Purpose Local Laws.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Identify opportunities for introduction of policies and procedures which will enhance laws relating to animals within the General Purpose Local Laws	December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing review of General Purpose Local Law and recommend amendments as appropriate in relation to specific issues relating to animal management • Engage with members of the public and other key stakeholders, to gauge community concerns and attend workshops, meetings, discussions and reviews conducted during review period to ensure opportunities are realised
Conduct internal review of work instructions and policies relevant to Animal Management and daily activities	March 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of operational work procedures and updating to ensure ongoing process improvement to service delivery

Registration and identification

Requirement

68A(2)(c)(v) of the Act outline programs, services and strategies to encourage the registration and identification of dogs and cats - also addressing 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f).

The most effective way to improve responsible pet ownership is to ensure compliance with the requirements of legislation Act in terms of registration and care of animals.

Current situation

Council AMOs conduct daily patrols in parks and gardens to ensure stray animals are captured, returned to their owner if appropriate or impounded when necessary.

Data/statistics

Refer to Domestic Animals statistics on page 7.

General purpose Local Laws

Council's General Purposes Local Law 2015 deals specifically with the keeping of animals. This local law provides for control of nuisance animal behaviour, animal welfare in regards to numbers and housing of animals and dog on lead requirements to ensure interaction between residents and dogs is as safe as practicable in public areas.

Council policies and procedures

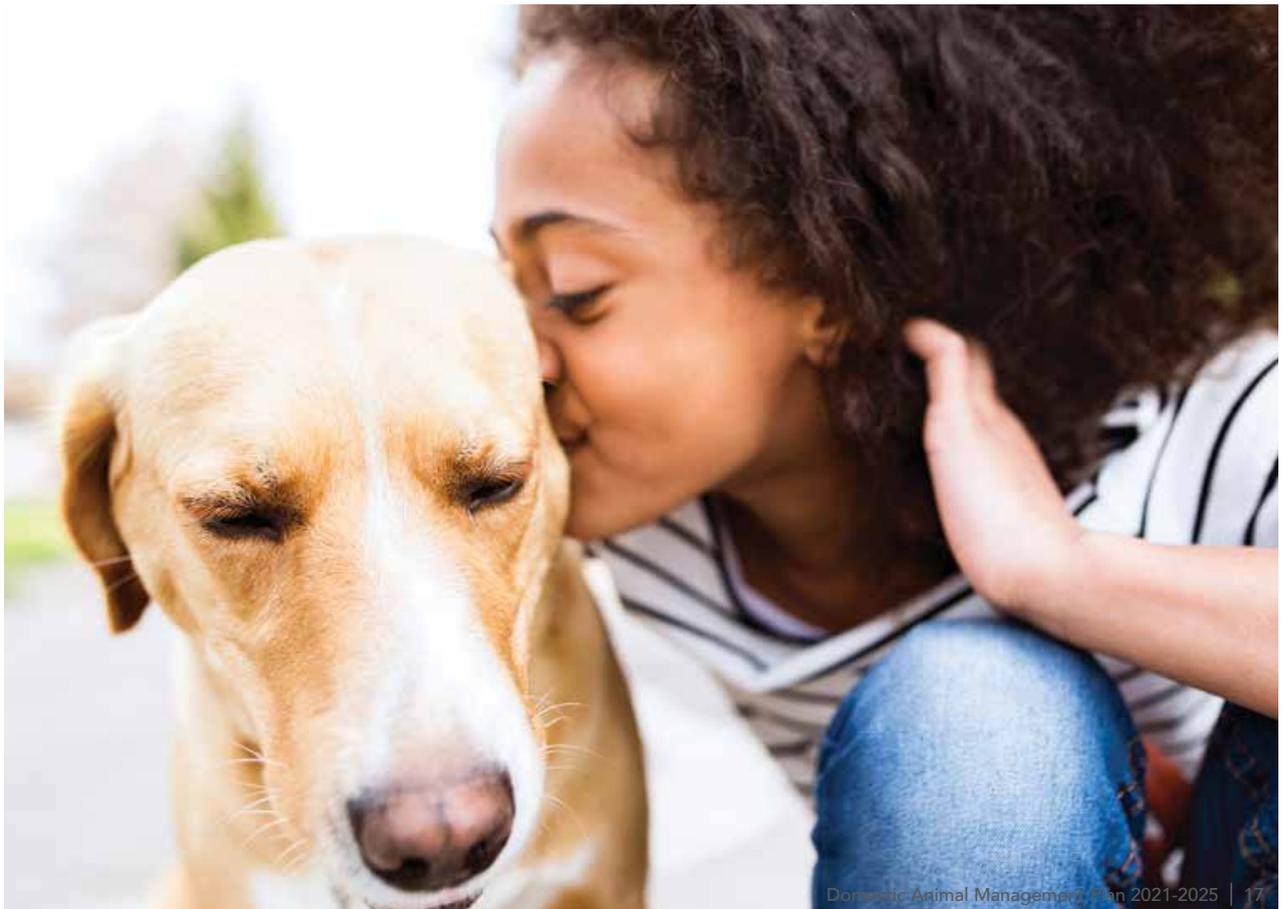
- Registration fees determined by Council annually
- Delivery of pet registration renewal notifications prior to 10 April each year
- Compulsory registration of impounded animals prior to retrieval by owner
- Door knock and enforcement protocols with respect to enforcement of owners of animals found unregistered.

Our current education/ promotion activities

- Promotion of responsible pet ownership through bi-annual Pet Expo
- Periodical campaigns to inform residents of legislative changes and to enhance responsible pet ownership through various media outlets
- Daily patrols including foot patrols in parks and gardens to protect members of the public from any nuisance behaviour involving dogs off lead and to provide residents with the opportunity to interact with AMOs in a friendly and advisory manner
- Due to COVID-19 for the 2020/21 registration period, registration of all pets was waived for this financial year and those who paid the registration were able to apply for and get a full refund of those fees to assist with financial stresses. This resulted in more pet registrations for the year which has flowed on into the 2021/22 period for cats in particular.

Our current compliance activities

- Delivery of pet registration renewal notices, text messages and door knocks prior to enforcement action against owners of unregistered animals
- Proactive return of owner identified stray dogs to their owners' premises. This is done only where the owner identified and at home. Subsequent incidents of the dog straying again result in prosecution and possible impounding of the dog. This has achieved cost savings for Council, cost savings for residents in terms of time travelling to the pound and the payment of pound fees to reclaim their animals and reduced numbers of impounded animals
- Follow up all pet adoption notifications and with owners who fail to renew pet registrations
- Maintaining a dedicated cat nuisance and stray cat enforcement Officer to reduce nuisance cat incidents throughout the municipality.



Our plans

Summary

Registration of pets is a priority of Council which enables lost pets to be reunited with their owners in a timely manner and enables Council to identify nuisance or dangerous animals.

Objective 1

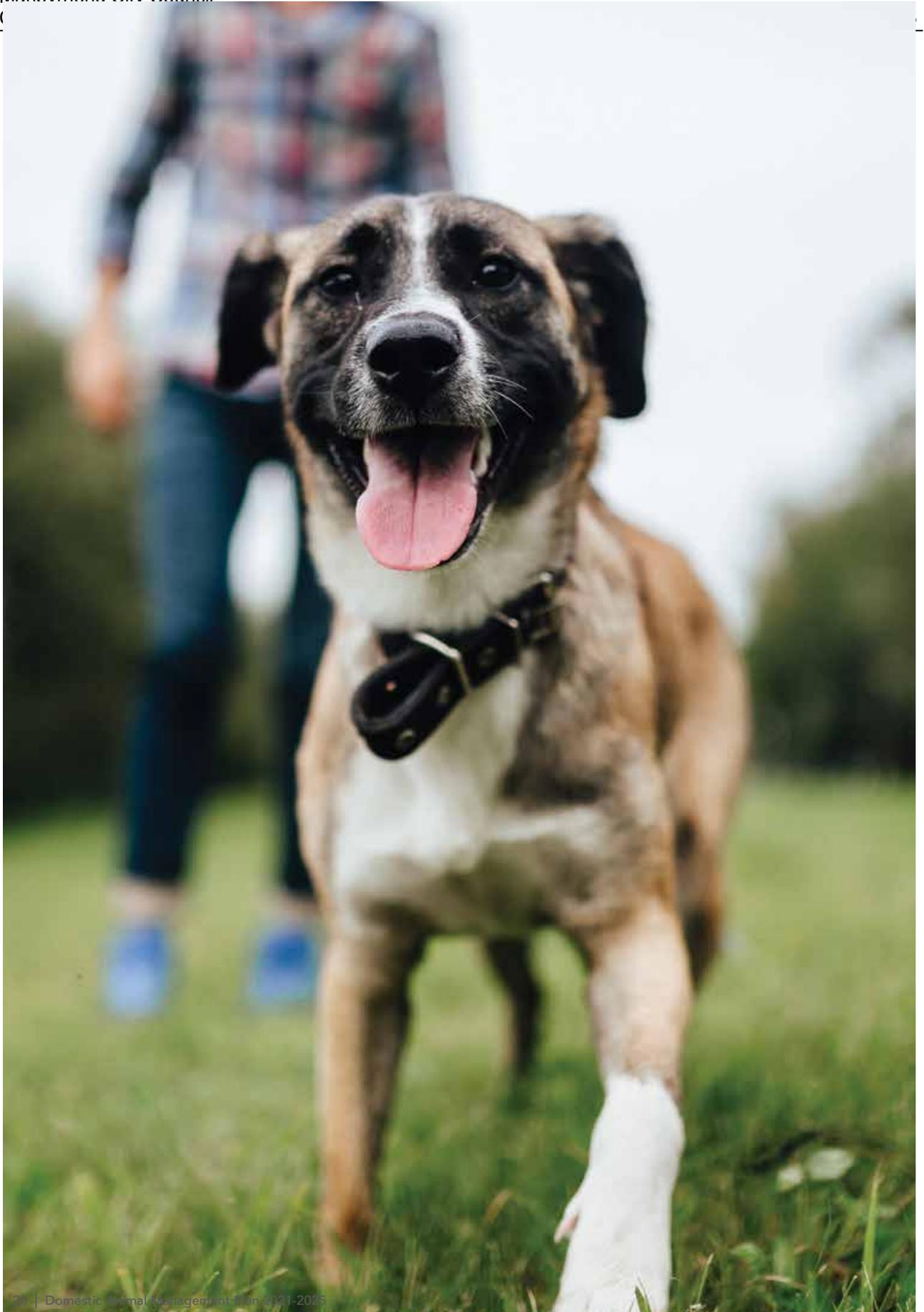
Improve the accuracy of Council registration database by cross-referencing with microchip registry data.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure pets are registered by prioritising education over enforcement where practical	April each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess data of the number of renewed and newly registered pets including detection rates of unregistered pets throughout the year
A strong emphasis will be placed on educating pet owners through media campaigns and personal interaction between AMOs and residents going forward	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluation of customer requests to ensure Officers follow up including the number of campaigns completed through communications team
Improve accuracy of Council pet registration database by contacting microchip registries to obtain details of dogs and cats in the municipality that are micro chipped	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Demonstrate increase in numbers of pets registered with Council following microchip registry cross referencing exercise
Check all animals are also listed on Council's pet registration database, and follow up those that are not registered	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Higher response to registration renewals prior to expiry date

Objective 2

Increase dog and cat registration numbers by 10% each year.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure all seized and impounded animals are registered to their owner prior to release	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review annual increase in registration numbers. Review number of dogs and cats being seized and impounded who are not registered to their owner
Conduct annual door knocking of 100% of the previously registered animals not renewed each year	May each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforcement of owners found with unregistered animals
Identifying those animal registrations not renewed due to no longer being in municipality therefore removing from registry	May each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review number of dogs and cats not renewed and identify need for removal from database during doorknock



Nuisance

Requirement

Section 68A(2)(vi) of the Act outline programs, services and strategies to minimise the potential for dogs and cats to create a nuisance {also addresses 68K(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f)}

Objective

To encourage responsible pet ownership by providing a timely and professional response to residents with a minimum of fuss.

Current situation

Council is guided by the Act, State and Local Laws to ensure that all members of the community are complying with the current legislation.

Council Officers aim to inform, educate and communicate to the community their responsibilities in relation to pet ownership. If the educative approaches are not successful, Officers use letters, notices, infringements, referral to the Dispute Settlement Centre of Victoria and where appropriate Court summonses to ensure compliance with the law.

Officers may liaise with intra departmental departments such as building, town planning and environmental health to assist in effectively ensuring compliance.

Our current compliance activities

- Visible presence of staff conducting mobile patrols within suburban streets and foot patrols throughout all parklands
- Where appropriate, educational discussions pertaining to collection of litter and off leash issues
- Enforcement of litter and other offences pertaining to legislative breaches
- Investigation of complaints through Service Requests pertaining to nuisance issues such as barking dogs and welfare issues
- Cat management specialised enforcement program
- Inspections of domestic animal businesses and enforcement of any breaches detected.

Our plans

Summary

Nuisance animals can have a serious negative effect on the amenity and peaceful enjoyment of property for residents. Noise issues in particular can cause sleep deprivation, stress, domestic issues and disputes between neighbours.

Objective 1

Provide best practice enforcement to ensure residents maintain community harmony and peaceful enjoyment of their properties.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Investigate community support for the introduction of a cat curfew	June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Outcome of evaluation
Undertake consultative process and provide residents and key stakeholders with an opportunity to have input via written or verbal submissions	August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess level of support and develop a draft Cat Curfew policy (if supported)
Prepare and implement a Cat Curfew Plan (if supported)	September 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit plan for Council consideration and endorsement
Media support and promotion of Cat Curfew (if implemented)	December 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Media outcomes including electronic media
Develop a cat desexing promotional package with potential financial support, vouchers and vet support	June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of additional desexing notifications Update of registrations showing desexed cats Increase in registration of cats

Agenda Item 9.5 - Attachment 1

Objective 2

Promote responsible cat ownership and curfews.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Provide education material about cat enclosures and nuisance issues to cat owners	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responding to reports and or complaints re nuisance cat behaviour • Number of booklets distributed • Reduction in impounded cats • Reduction in complaints in relation to stray cats
Undertake a media campaign based on responsible pet ownership and security of cats within their yards	December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in impounded cats • Increase in cat registrations



Dog attacks

Requirement

68A(2)(c)(iii) of the Act outline programs, services and strategies to minimise the risk of attacks by dogs on people and animals - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f).

Objective

To ensure Council Officers are taking appropriate and immediate action to reduce the risk of injury to members of the public and other animals, including investigation, identification of owners, seizing of dogs and prosecution of offenders.

Current situation

Dog attacks remain the most critical process for Officers. All attacks are treated as urgent to ensure the response to complainants are acted upon immediately.

Experience has shown that outcomes have a greater success of resolution if acted upon immediately with a higher standard of evidence and more accurate statements obtained which assist in the investigation and prosecution.

Ongoing training of Officers in the area of investigations is to occur over the next 12 months including an enhanced interaction and partnership with R.S.P.C.A. to allow for investigatory techniques of staff to be exchanged and developed.

Foot patrols have provided a very effective way of visible presence in parklands and enforcement activities where appropriate.

But a very successful initiative implemented in 2019 has been the introduction of pushbike patrols by officers which have enabled a greater patrolled area, a notable surprise for people walking through the parks and very positive feedback from residents and park users.

On the enforcement side, the pushbikes have enabled officer's greater ability to catch up to and prosecute appropriate matters within the parks whilst creating a discussion point and greater topical interaction with residents.

Data/statistics

Refer to Domestic Animals statistics on page 7.

General purpose Local Laws

Council's General Purpose Local Law supports the Act in the controlling of animals which can impact on dog attacks. Specifically:

- *Clause 44 Keeping of Animals*
- *Clause 46 Animal Shelters*
- *Clause 48 Animal Noise.*

Council policies and procedures

- Animal Management Operational Instructions Manual
- Initiation of investigation into dog attacks
- Appropriate seizure of dogs involved in attack
- Agreement with Victoria Police to take over and deal with all serious dog attacks to ensure the highest standard of investigation and appropriate prosecution occurs
- Assist Victoria Police in investigations when required

Council policies and procedures (cont.)

- Communication with Complainants
- Restricted Breed Dogs Investigations
- Dog Attack
- Dangerous or menacing dogs
- Barking dogs
- Wandering/stray dogs
- Contained stray dogs
- Stray cats
- Nuisance Cats
- Domestic animal patrols
- Surrendered dogs
- Pound Operations
- Issue of infringements
- Domestic animal businesses
- Pet registration checks.

Our current education/promotion activities

- Promoting responsible removal of excrement produced by pets
- Encouragement of removal by placement of litterbags and dispensers throughout all parkland
- Maintaining a visible presence of Officers in and around parklands
- Conducting annual micro chipping days involving educational discussion by Vets, Lost Dogs Home staff and animal management staff
- Conduct Biannual pet expo.

Our current compliance activities

- Visible presence of staff by mobile patrols within suburban streets and foot and pushbike patrols throughout all parklands
- Enforcement of all dog attacks when responsible person can be identified
- Enforcement of dogs at large and off leash
- Investigation of complaints pertaining to nuisance, including barking dogs, dogs at large or off lead.



Our plans

Summary

Dog attacks nationally over recent years have been highlighted creating a genuine fear by residents of the potential outcome of serious or fatal injuries. Further education and promotion of responsible pet ownership is a critical tool in reducing the risk of dog attacks.

Animal Management staff understand the seriousness of dog attacks and the devastating impact placed on victims. Proactive patrols and regular discussions with community members goes toward the minimisation of dog attacks. In addition, the response to these complaints and early investigations concerning any reports of aggressive dogs can have a positive outcome.

Objective 1

Promote and support the reporting of dog attacks in the community.

Activity	When	Evaluation
<p>Promote responsible pet ownership and consequences of dog attacks.</p> <p>Promotion through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Newspaper promotions • Council website information • Community letter drops • Electronic media such as Facebook • Educational visits to schools 	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and evaluate all reported dog attacks • Promote reported dog attacks through media outlets to increase community awareness • Provide ongoing support to victims of dog attacks to ensure full support of prosecution where appropriate • Evaluate number of reported attacks pre and post promotional program
<p>Inform the community of prosecution outcomes of dog attacks</p>	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback through media outlets and statistical information available through website

Objective 2

Prevent the opportunity of dog attacks resulting in a reduction of reportable incidents.

Activity	When	Evaluation
<p>Develop and promote key dog attack prevention messages such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of off leash areas • Responsible animal handling and control techniques • Promotion of dog obedience training • Community awareness of dealing with aggressive dogs 	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate number of reported attacks pre and post promotional program • Community feedback surveys conducted through mail outs and Pet expo's dog attack prevention program • Record type and number of education materials distributed

Objective 3

Enhance investigation process to ensure prosecutions are conducted in a timely manner to minimise impact on victim and witnesses.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure all reports are acted on immediately or within 24 hours	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of Council's customer complaints data
Set key performance indicators for Officers to complete dog attack investigations within a six week timeframe	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review investigations monthly to evaluate percentage completed within timeframe
Further training of Animal Management Officers in area of investigation techniques and victim support skills	Current and ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evaluate the quality of reports and briefs of evidence post training • Discuss incident and obtain feedback from victims and witnesses regarding the interaction and support provided by investigating officer

Objective 4

Enhanced patrols of parklands and designated reserves as listed in Council Orders specific to off leash areas.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Provide increased foot and pushbike patrols of parklands to ensure compliance with off leash time restrictions	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of staff activities and log books confirming attendance and patrol of parklands Review enforcement activity specific to dog at large offences
Review current Orders specific to listed parklands pertaining to off leash areas as to suitability and applicable time restrictions currently in place	December 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult with residents and dog owners including relevant Council Departments impacted on by current Orders

Agenda Item 9.5 - Attachment 1

Declared, dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs

Requirement

68A(2)(c)(vii) of the Act outline programs, services and strategies to effectively identify all dangerous dogs, menacing dogs and restricted breed dogs in that district and to ensure that those dogs are kept in compliance with this Act and the regulations - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f).

Objective

Ensuring that all dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs are identified and lawfully kept by owners to minimise the risks of dog attacks in the community.

Current situation

All officers regularly discuss issues around the identification and processing of restricted breed dogs. City of Maribyrnong has no restricted dogs registered.

A collaborative approach to neighbouring Councils has been utilised to support investigators in identifying restricted breed dogs in the past and will be a focus over the next 12 months with changes to legislation expected.

Data/statistics

Refer to Domestic Animals statistics on page 7.

Council policies and procedures

- Revised General Purposes Local Law 2015
- Process for ensuring database correctly identifies all known dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs

- Policy for identifying and declaring:
 - Dangerous dogs
 - Restricted breed dogs
- Process associated with the identifying and recording of dangerous dogs on the Victorian Declared Dog Registry
- Assist Victoria Police in investigations where appropriate dangerous or restricted breed dog is involved.

Our current/ongoing activities

- Continuous support by providing advice and information about dangerous and declared dogs with respect control in public places as well as home security
- Dealing with complaints with respect to reports of dangerous or purported declared dogs in the community.

Our current compliance activities

- Systematically visit non-residential properties within the municipality including outside "normal business hours" to identify possible "dangerous dogs"
- Ensure all declared dogs premises are audited on an annual basis for compliance regarding security and housing
- Ensure all reports of a dangerous, menacing or restricted breed dog are treated as a high priority with prosecution undertaken where appropriate
- Seizure of identified restricted breed dogs as appropriate
- Declaration of restricted breed dogs when detected.

Our plans

Summary

As a consequence of the recent trend by some to own dogs which have the potential to be a danger to the community Councils' animal management Officers make regulation of these dogs the highest priority.

Animal Management Officers conduct daily patrols in public places to detect and investigate any stray, dangerous or restricted breed dogs. In addition any report concerning suspected dangerous or restricted breed dog is responded to as a matter of urgency.

Officers maintain a highly visible presence in streets and parks throughout the municipality and any report of a stray or dangerous dog is responded to urgently. This not only protects the animal from traffic but the community from any aggressive or frightened dog.

Animal Management Officers have a close working relationship with outdoor staff including park Rangers and maintenance crews.

These staff members regularly notify location and description of any animal management issues. By developing and encouraging inter departmental communication and cooperation the reporting of and responding to potentially dangerous dogs is greatly enhanced.

During the course of the previous domestic animal management plans significant reductions in stray dog numbers has been achieved. It is now unusual to sight a stray dog or a dog off lead in any public place throughout this municipality.

Objective 1

Identify and register all declared dogs found within the municipality.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Ensure all Animal Management Officers have completed training in correct identification of restricted breed dogs	Within three months of commencing with Council	Ongoing testing of Officers at Lost Dogs Home by testing on a range of similar and confirmed restricted breed dogs
Identify registered animals with Council which are potentially restricted breed dogs	May each year	Attend addresses and reassess grown dogs for potential restricted breed dogs

Objective 2

Ensure correct housing and exercising of restricted/dangerous breed dogs by owners.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Any restricted breed dogs registered with Council must be housed correctly to ensure security and confinement	Ongoing	Attend registered address and assess the premises to ensure compliance of security and confinement of restricted breed dogs
Ensure that all restricted breed dogs comply with legislative requirements outside the home	Ongoing	Discuss with dog owners and advise and enforce requirements when these dogs are outside their premises
Attending registered properties to ensure compliance with housing requirements	Ongoing	Attend properties and inspect security levels and discuss concerns with owners if deficiencies are found



Over population and high euthanasia

Requirement

68A(2)(c)(iv) of the Act outline programs, services and strategies to address any over-population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(c)(ii),(d),(f).

Objective

To develop strategies and educational opportunities to address the overpopulation of dogs and cats in order to minimise the euthanasia rates.

Current situation

Euthanasia is a community concern with a great deal of work being done to reduce the current rate. Feral cats remain a very difficult issue to resolve and result in a higher than acceptable euthanasia rate.

In comparing euthanised animals with statistics at the commencement of the 2017/21 Domestic Animal Management Plan the euthanasia rate was 14.76% for dogs and 74% for cats most of which were feral, sick or diseased.

Results provided in the 2021 figures show rates have reduced significantly to 7.4% for dogs and 49.75% for cats.

These significant improvements in the reduction of euthanasia rates is attributable in part to Council's new process of returning owned pets directly to their owners where possible and rehoming of unclaimed pets for any animal assessed by a vet to be suitable for rehoming.

Maribyrnong Council does **not** rehome unsuitable animals which would likely go on to cause nuisance or danger to other residents either within or outside our municipality. This policy reduces the likelihood of dog attacks and nuisance issues and increases the safety of our municipality for community members.

The Lost Dogs Home website provides photos of all resident dogs and cats waiting for their owners to reclaim them so if residents have lost their family pet, they simply jump on their web site or access the site through Council's website and search through the photos to find their pet. This process has further reduced the return time and euthanasia rates of impounded animals.

For access to this site reference is: dogshome.com/lost-found/lost-a-pet and check for your lost cat or dog.

Data/statistics

Refer to Domestic Animals statistics on page 7.

General purpose Local Laws

Council's General Purposes Local Law 2015 supports the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* in the controlling of animals which can impact on stray animals and reducing the possibility of impounding and euthanasia. Specifically:

- *Clause 44 Keeping of Animals*
- *Clause 46 Animal Shelters.*



Council policies and procedures

Procedures for:

- Communication with complainants
- Restricted breed dogs
- Dog attacks
- Dangerous or menacing dogs
- Barking dogs
- Wandering stray dogs
- Confined stray dogs
- Stray cats
- Nuisance cats
- Domestic animal patrols
- Surrendered dogs
- Issue of infringements
- Domestic animal businesses and
- Cat trapping.

Our current/ongoing activities

- Dedicated full time Officer performing duties specific to cats
- Promote and encourage cat control within residences
- Promote and encourage de-sexing of all pets
- Promotion and education of responsible pet ownership through media and annual microchipping days and bi annual Pet Expo.

Our current compliance activities

- Systematically visit non-residential properties within the municipality outside “normal business hours” to identify possible “dangerous dogs”
- Ensure all declared dogs premises are audited on an annual basis for compliance regarding security and housing
- Ensure all reports of a dangerous, menacing or restricted breed dog are treated as a high priority with prosecution undertaken where appropriate
- Seizure of identified restricted breed dogs
- Declaration of restricted breed dogs where identified
- Encouragement of re-homing of suitable animals only program by Lost Dogs Home to minimise the need for euthanasia.

Our plans

Summary

In order to reduce the over population and euthanasia of unwanted pets Council encourages desexing and rehoming of pets where appropriate.

Objective 1

Promote desexing of animals.

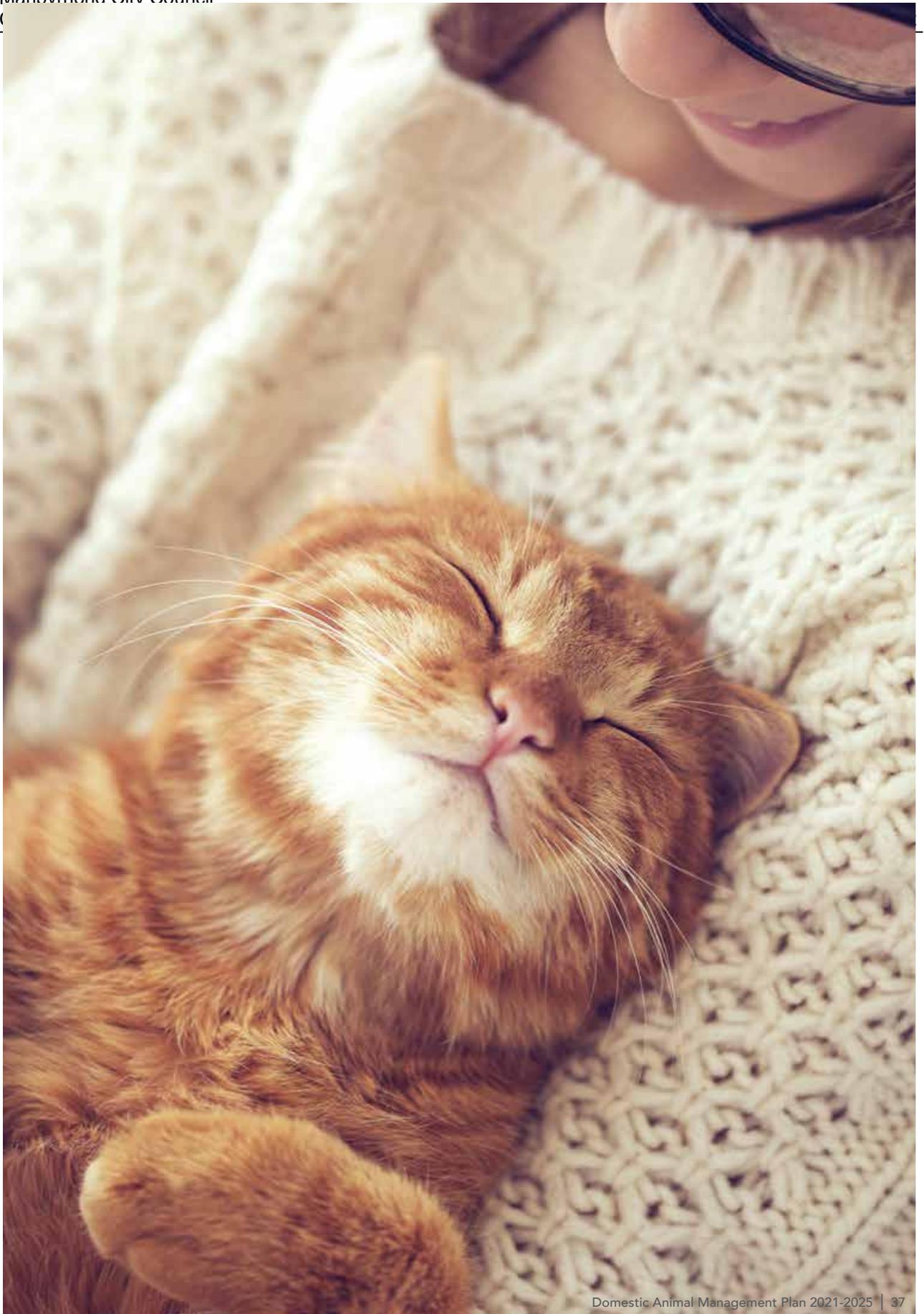
Activity	When	Evaluation
Actively encourage desexing of pets to reduce the over population of unwanted animals	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Through notification of desexing of pets by owners
Promotions through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Web sites Media outlets and mail drops with registration renewals Discount vouchers at pet expo and micro chipping events 	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction in impounded , animals which require re-homing or euthanising Higher number of animals retrieved or rehomed prior to euthanising
Develop a Cat desexing promotional package with potential financial support, vouchers and vet support	June 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of additional desexing notifications Update of registrations showing desexed cats Increase in registration of cats

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Objective 2

Promote Registration and micro chipping of animals to ensure impounded animals are retrieved.

Activity	When	Evaluation
<p>Actively encourage registration and re-registration of pets to ensure return of impounded pets to rightful owners as expeditiously as possible.</p> <p>Promotions through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Web sites • Media outlets and mail drops with registration renewals • Discount vouchers at pet expo and micro chipping events • Annual door knocks 	<p>2021 and ongoing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase of registered pets annually • Increase of re-registration of pets annually • Reduction in impounded, unregistered pets • Reduction in number of euthanised pets



Domestic animal businesses

Requirement

68A(2)(c)(ii) of the Act outline programs, services and strategies which the Council intends to pursue in its municipal district to ensure that people comply with this Act, the regulations and any related legislation - also addresses 68A(2)(a),(c)(i),(d),(f).

Objective

To ensure that all domestic animal businesses comply with planning requirements through unplanned inspections to ensure compliance and welfare of animals under their control.

Current situation

Data/statistics

Maribyrnong City Council currently has eight Domestic Animal Management Businesses operating within its municipality.

Council operating procedures

- Inspections of existing and new domestic animal businesses in line with mandatory code of practice
- Ensure all relevant Domestic Animal Businesses are advised of any review of the Code of Practice for their type of business
- Provide education that a Domestic Animal Business is not limited to commercial activities.

Current/ongoing compliance activities

- Register all identified Domestic Animal Businesses within the municipality.
- Conduct annual inspections/audits of each premises
- Follow up on any non-compliance
- Liaise with other units within Council to provide advice when planning applications for Domestic Animal Businesses are received to ensure legislative compliance in terms of construction and operations
- Investigate and act on any complaints received.

Our plans

Summary

Council will work in partnership with all domestic animal businesses to ensure the services provided to community members comply with legislative requirements and that the welfare of the animals under their control is maintained at the highest possible standard.

Objective 1

Promote compliant domestic animal businesses in the municipality.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Conduct unplanned visits and inspections to registered domestic animal businesses	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a minimum of two inspections each year of all registered businesses Present feedback to operators of Inspection outcomes
Educate and advise proprietors on any adverse findings from these inspections	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Evaluate the findings from inspections and provide feedback to proprietors to ensure improvements Undertake further inspections to confirm corrective action has been taken to eliminate previous adverse findings
Investigate continued breaches of legislation through non-compliant operation of business	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Educate proprietors in order to negate adverse findings Where appropriate, prosecute proprietor for breaches and withdrawal of permit



Other matters

Requirement

68A(2)(e) of the Act provide for the review of any other matters related to the management of animals in the Council's municipal district that it thinks necessary.

Objective

Having regard to the limited resources the animal management unit continues to provide an effective animal management service.

To improve service delivery the unit intends to explore innovations to identify and respond to emerging trends in pet ownership.

Activity	When	Evaluation
Review after hours and weekend staffing levels	October 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess viability and community support for extending service
Review Pound Operations	February 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess other options, effectiveness and value for money
Encourage new pet registrations	November 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess community support for free pet registration for the first year of registrations

Annual review of Plan and annual reporting

Requirement

68A(3) of the Act every Council must:

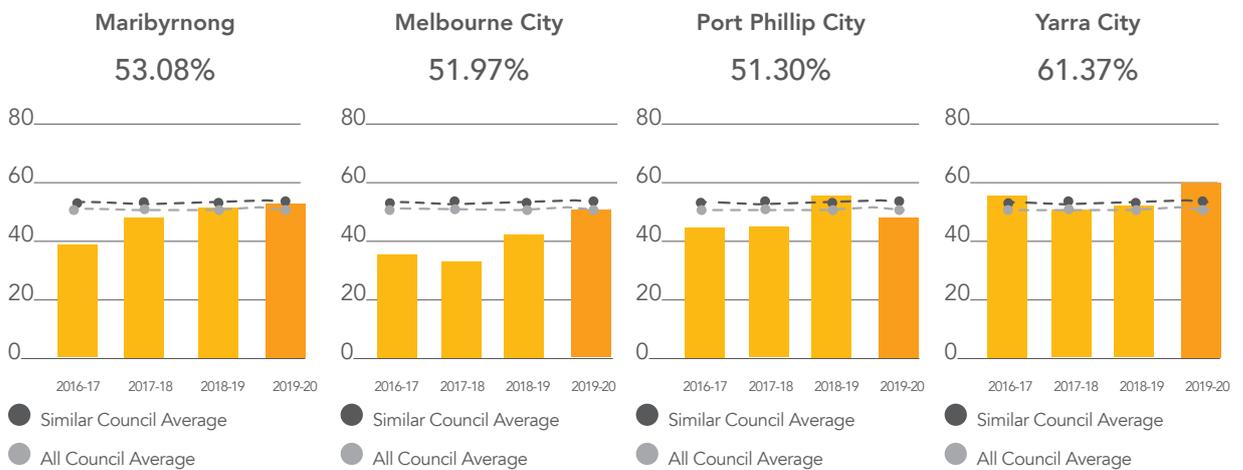
- review its domestic animal management plan annually and, if appropriate, amend the plan
- provide the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) Secretary with a copy of the plan and any amendments to the plan
- publish an evaluation of its implementation of the plan in its annual report.

Additional supporting data

The following data is taken from the Know Your Council web site which can be accessed at knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au. Improvements in all areas have been achieved by Maribyrnong in comparison to previous years particularly around reclaim and rehome rates.

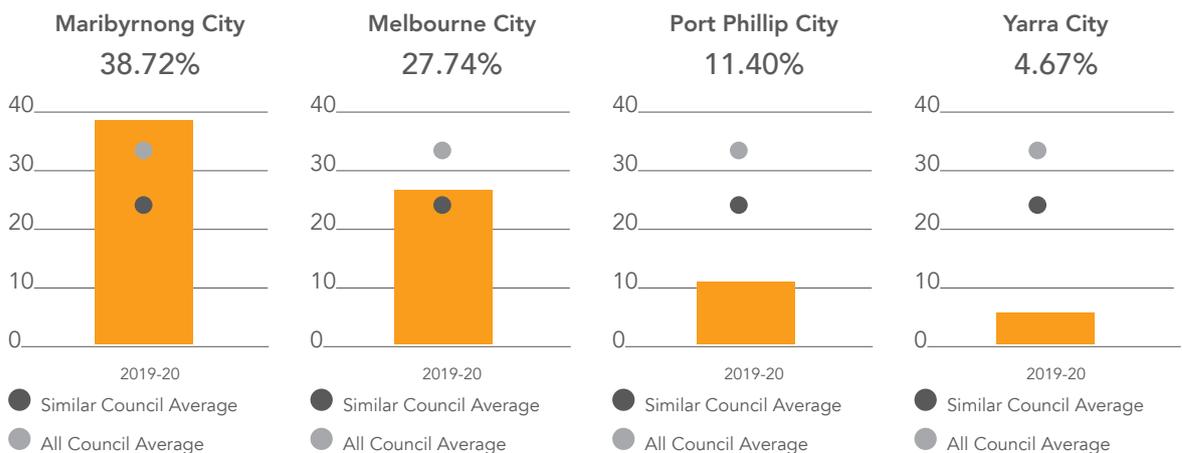
Animals reclaimed from Council

Percentage of all collected cats and dogs which have been reclaimed.



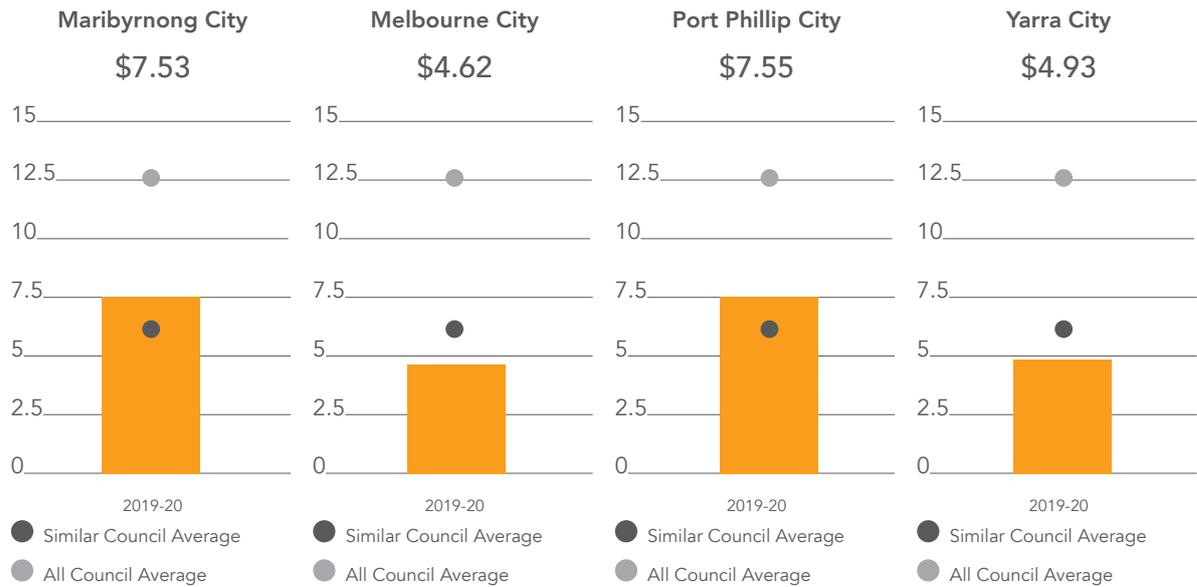
Animals rehomed

Percentage of all collected cats and dogs which have been rehomed. New indicator from July 2019.



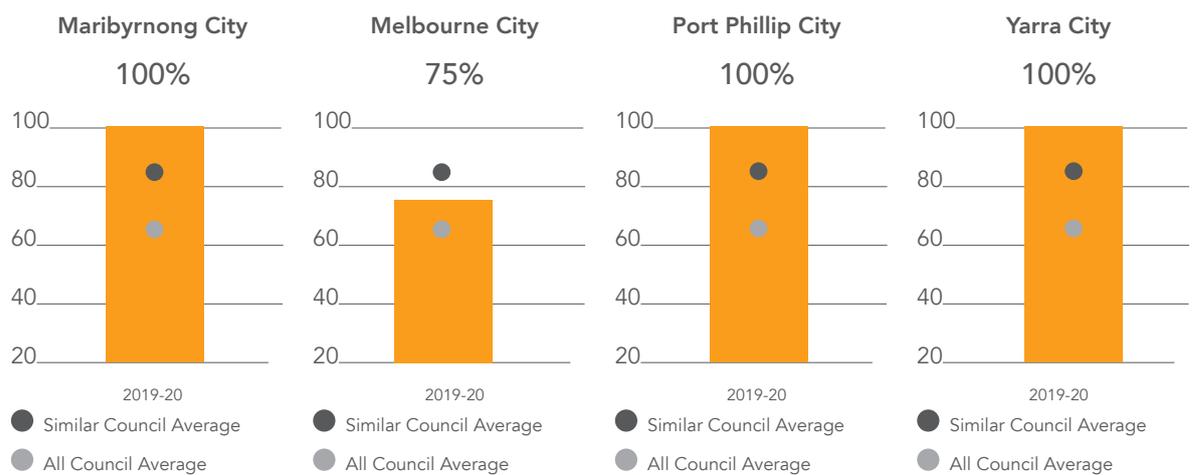
Cost of animal management service per population

Direct cost to Council of the animal management service per population. New indicator from July 2019.



Successful animal management prosecutions

Percentage of successful animal management prosecutions. New indicator July 2019.



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Maribyrnong City Council

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Agenda Item 9.6**LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY ADVISORY GROUP**

Director: Clem Gillings
Director Community Services

Author: Bridget Monro-Hobbs
Manager Community Development, Positive Ageing and
Inclusion

PURPOSE

To present the draft Terms of Reference for establishing the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group for consideration.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The *Council Plan 2021-2025* (Objective 3.2) identifies the establishment of the LGBTQIA+ advisory group by December 2021 as a Council Plan implementation priority.
- At the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) on 17 August 2021 Council received a public enquiry about the process for establishing the LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group for Maribyrnong.
- In response Council noted its intentions to establish an advisory, network or interest group before December 2021 to assist with the development of the proposed *LGBTQIA+ Strategy and Action Plan*.
- This report presents the draft Terms of Reference (**Attachment 1**) for establishing the LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group to enable a formal engagement process with the LGBTQIA+ community.
- The proposed LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group Terms of Reference will advise Council on the needs of people who identify as, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, or allied/asexual (LGBTQIA+) in Maribyrnong.
- It formally establishes Council's role in advocating for the equality and inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ people, families and communities within the wider context of the Maribyrnong municipality.
- Additionally it will provide a clear governance mechanism for advice and input into the development, implementation and review of the proposed *LGBTQIA+ Strategy Action Plan 2021-2025* over the next 4 years.
- Membership of the proposed Group is the duration of the Council term and will comprise of up to 10 community members and up to 3 representatives from community organisations, agencies or service providers who have a focus on provision of services to LGBTQIA+ people, families and communities in Maribyrnong.
- This Group is not intended to be a formal Committee of Council as specified under Section 86 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- The proposed Terms of Reference will closely adhere to provisional governance protocols associated with Council led community advisory groups.

Agenda Item 9.6

- The draft Terms of Reference provide an opportunity for Council to nominate up to 3 Councillors as members of the Advisory Group and this may include a Councillor nomination to be the Chairperson.

ATTACHMENTS

1. LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group Terms of Reference (TOR) 16112021 [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Endorse the draft Terms of Reference for the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group.**
 2. **Endorse an Expression of Interest process seeking candidates for the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group.**
-

Agenda Item 9.6**BACKGROUND**

Objective 3.2 of the *Council Plan 2021-2025* identifies the establishment of the LGBTIQ+ advisory group by December 2021 as a Council Plan implementation priority.

Recently Council received requests from the community regarding the process for establishing a community advisory group to represent the needs of LGBTIQ+ people in the municipality.

The *Maribyrnong Community Engagement Policy 2021-2024* outlines the deliberative and participatory ways in which Council engages with diverse members of the community, including LGBTIQ+ members.

Community advisory groups provide a tangible expression of how Council realises its commitment to engagement and consultation.

Currently there is no formal governance mechanism in place for Council to engage with members of the LGBTIQ+ community, representatives and interest groups.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

The draft Terms of Reference outline the purpose, objectives and governance requirements for the proposed LGBTIQ+ Community Advisory Group.

Roles and Responsibilities

The role of the Group member is to support Council by providing information and considered advice on the needs, issues and barriers impacting the lived experience of the LGBTIQ+ people in Maribyrnong.

It is intended that Group members will provide input into the development, implementation and review of the *LGBTQIA+ Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025*.

The role of Group member is to support Council in promoting and advocating for the needs of the LGBTIQ+ people, families and communities and when appropriate, to help disseminate key Council information.

Membership

The term of Member appointment is designed to be consistent with the Council cycle of 4 years. Councillor appointments are for 12 months.

The Group will be comprised of up to 3 Councillors, as nominated by Council, up to 10 community members and up to 3 representatives from community controlled organisations, agencies or service providers who are linked with LGBTIQ+ communities in Maribyrnong.

A broad representation of the community will be sought, based on ensuring a balance of gender, sexual orientation, age range, disability, cultural diversity, and faith backgrounds.

Agenda Item 9.6**Recruitment Process**

An Expression of Interest (EOI) process inviting applications from the Maribyrnong community will be advertised through Council website, social media, local media, and circulated through local networks. This process is expected to start in late November 2021.

The Expression of Interest will be advertised for a minimum of 14 days.

Key organisations may be recruited directly by Council Officers. Confirmation of membership appointments is anticipated by late December 2021.

Council Officers employed by the Maribyrnong City Council are not eligible to apply for membership.

Process for Selection of Members

Following the closure of the Expression of Interest process, an internal assessment panel made up the Chairperson and two (2) Council Officers will be convened to decide on the selection of candidates and complete the recruitment process.

Should a vacancy occur during the term of the Group, Council will be responsible for appointing a person or persons to fill any vacancy for the remainder of the term and may refer to previous nominations.

Council will undertake a new recruitment and selection process to fill vacancies at the end of the term of appointment (4 years).

Existing members wishing to continue their appointment on the Group will be invited to reapply.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - A place for all - Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods & strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive & accessible to the whole community, support wellbeing, healthy & safe living, community connection, and cultural interaction.

3.2 Strengthen inclusion and cohesion by removing barriers to participation in all aspects of community life;

3.6 Take action to reduce family violence, respond to the needs of victims and promote gender equality.

- Ethical leadership - Council will proactively lead changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making & well-planned & effective collaboration & community engagement to support community & economic growth.

Agenda Item 9.6

- 5.1 Uphold our obligations to promote and protect human rights by demonstrating strong social responsibility across Council's operations
- 5.2 Ensure breadth and depth of community engagement and active civic participation

The report also takes into account Council policies of *Maribyrnong Human Rights and Social Justice Framework 2017-2021*, *Towards Gender Equity Strategy 2030* and the *Maribyrnong Community Engagement Policy 2020*.

Legislation

This report complies with Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act (2020)* Section 9 principles for community engagement and service planning.

Other relevant legislation is Council's obligations under the *Victorian Gender Equality Act 2020*, *Victorian Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, *Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010*, and the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

The drivers for establishing the Maribyrnong Community Advisory Group is the *Council Plan 2021-2025* Objective 3.2 and the priorities for strengthening inclusion, cohesion, wellbeing and participation for the community in Maribyrnong.

An Expression of Interest process for suitable candidates will be advertised through Council website, social media, local media, and circulated through local networks. This process is expected to start in November 2021 and completed by the end of December 2021.

The Terms of Reference and the outcome of the EOI process will be communicated to the community via the Council's LGBTQIA+ Communities webpage [LGBTIQA+ People, Families and Communities - Maribyrnong](#).

Corporate Services Governance Team have reviewed the draft Terms of Reference. The Communications Team will assist with the communication and promotion of the EOI as part of the Communications Plan for this project.

4. Resources

Resources and costs will be met within existing Council budgets. A Council Officer will provide secretariat support for the operation of the Group.

Agenda Item 9.6**5. Environment**

The establishment of the LGBTIQ+ Community Advisory Group does not create any negative environmental impacts and promotes inclusion, cohesion and wellbeing.

CONCLUSION

The establishment of the LGBTIQ+ Community Advisory Group is a priority in the *Council Plan 2021-2025*.

Community members in Maribyrnong are seeking a formal governance mechanism to enable authentic engagement with LGBTIQ+ people and enable input into the development, implementation and review of the *LGBTQIA+ Strategy and Action Plan*.

Establishing the LGBTIQ+ Community Advisory Group will be welcomed by local LGBTIQ+ people, the broader Maribyrnong community and local groups, networks and LGBTIQ+ agencies.

The Group will provide Council with an opportunity to work proactively with this priority population group to recognise their lived experience, and address barriers to their participation in community life.

Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The purpose of the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group is to advise Council on the needs and lived experience of people who identify as, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, or allied/asexual (LGBTQIA+) in Maribyrnong.

2. Objectives

- 2.1 To inform Council on the emerging needs, issues and barriers facing LGBTQIA+ people in Maribyrnong.
- 2.2 To consider and provide advice to Council on key initiatives, programs and best practice options on culturally safe and inclusive actions that address the needs of LGBTQIA+ people, families and communities.
- 2.3 To work directly with Council to develop, implement and review the *LGBTQIA+ Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025*.
- 2.4 To support Council's commitment in promoting and advocating for equality, inclusion, diversity and human rights of the LGBTQIA+ people within the wider context of the Maribyrnong community.

3. Definitions

- a) **Deputy Chairperson** means an alternative delegate, in the absence of the Chairperson.
- b) **Chairperson** means the means either the Councillor as appointed by Council as its representative to the Group or the relevant Senior Officer of Council Staff.
- c) **Group** means the Maribyrnong LGBTQIA+ Community Advisory Group.
- d) **Community Member** is a member of the Group who is not a Councillor or a member of Council staff.
- e) **Council** means Maribyrnong City Council
- f) **Councillor** means a Councillor of Maribyrnong City Council.
- g) **LGBTQIA+** means an individual or members of the community who identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, allied/asexual or other members.
- h) **Council Officers** means employees of Maribyrnong City Council.

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4. Role and Responsibilities

The role of the Member is to support Council by providing information and considered advice on the needs of the LGBTIQA+ people, families and communities in Maribyrnong.

In addition Members will provide input into the development, implementation and review of the *LGBTIQA+ Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025*.

The role of Member is to also support Council in promoting and advocating for the needs of the LGBTIQA+ people, and when appropriate, to help disseminate key Council information.

The core responsibilities of the Group are:

- a) Assist Council in understanding the lived experience, local needs and issues associated with LGBTIQA+ people, families and communities.
- b) Provide advice on the development, implementation and review of the *LGBTIQA+ Strategy and Action Plan 2021-2025*, and other Council policies and plans that may intersect with LGBTIQA+ life in the city.
- c) Provide a forum to engage and strengthen stakeholder relationships, networks and alliances for the LGBTIQA+ people within Maribyrnong
- d) Identify and advocate for new initiatives and partnership opportunities with Council and LGBTIQA+ people, Victorian Government, community organisations and the private sector.
- e) Promote and advocate for inclusive and safe LGBTIQA+ cultural experiences, businesses, spaces and places, events and festivals in the city.
- f) Provide advice to Council on projects, programs and/or initiatives that would benefit from a LGBTIQA+ perspective.

5. Membership

The Group will be convened by Council and shall comprise:

- a) Up to 3 Councillor representatives appointed by Council as members of the Advisory Group.
- b) At least one senior Council Officer from the Community Service Directorate, namely the Director Community Services or the Manager Community Development, Inclusion and Positive Ageing.
- c) Up to 10 community members.
- d) Up to 3 representatives from community controlled organisations, agencies or service providers who have a strategic link with LGBTIQA+ communities in Maribyrnong.

A broad representation of the community will be sought, based on ensuring a balance of gender, sexual orientation, age range, cultural diversity, disability and faith backgrounds.

Agenda Item 9.6 - Attachment 1

6. Dates, Times and Places of Meetings

Times and dates of meetings of the Group shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson, after seeking the views of Members and the Chief Executive.

The Group will hold a minimum of three meetings throughout the year. Additional meetings throughout the period will be subject to the approval of the Chairperson.

Meetings shall be held at the Maribyrnong Town Hall or virtually.

An agenda for meetings held, will be delivered to each Member at least 48 hours prior to the date of each meeting.

7. Membership and Attendance

7.1 Appointments to the Group

Council shall undertake an expression of interest process calling for community members to establish the Group.

The following criteria shall apply for the selection of Members:

- a) Applicants must have a connection with the City of Maribyrnong e.g. live, work, study or have another demonstrated affiliation with the municipality;
- b) Qualifications, skills and other attributes of the applicant;
- c) A broad geographic distribution of applicants, in terms of the physical location and connection within municipality;
- d) Broad representation of applicants that reflect the diversity of Maribyrnong;
- e) Demonstrated knowledge of and commitment to gender and sexual orientation diversity, equality, and inclusion at a local, state, national or international level;
- f) Applicants must have an understanding of needs and risk factors impacting local LGBTIQ+ people, families and communities in Maribyrnong.

7.2 Guest Speaker

The Group may invite suitably skilled persons to attend a meeting at the request of the Chairperson as a guest speaker.

The role of the guest speaker is temporary and advisory and does not form part of the quorum.

7.3 Term of Appointment

Councillor members shall be appointed as members of the Committee for a period of one year, and will be appointed in November each year.

The period of appointment for Community members shall be for the duration of the existing Council term.

Agenda Item 9.6 - Attachment 1

The period of appointment for professional membership shall be for the life of the Group, or as deemed necessary by the Chairperson.

7.4 Attendance

A Member shall endeavour to advise the Chairperson and/or Council Officer/delegate of non-attendance at any meeting.

7.5 Failure to Attend Meetings

Any Member who is unable to attend three (3) consecutive Group meetings shall notify the Chairperson or Council Officer/delegate in writing as to their availability to continue to be a member of the Group.

7.6 Resignation of a Member

A Member may resign from the Group by advising the Chairperson or Council Officer in writing.

7.7 Termination of Appointment

Council Officers may terminate a Member's appointment, declare the position vacant and seek to appoint a new member, should a Member breach the Terms of Reference for this Group.

8. Conflict of Interest

Members must disclose a Conflict of Interest in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

In the event of a Conflict of Interest arising the Member:

- (a) Must disclose the interest and clearly state the nature of the interest at the meeting before the matter is considered.
- (b) Must leave the room and not participate in any discussion and/or decision.
- (c) The disclosure must be recorded in the meeting minutes.

9. Quorum

A quorum is the majority of appointed Members, but must include either the Chairperson or Acting Chairperson.

If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the meeting shall lapse. If a quorum fails after the commencement of the meeting, the meeting shall lapse.

Business that is unfinished at the completion of a meeting may at the discretion of the Chairperson be referred to the next meeting of the Group.

10. Chairperson

Meetings will be chaired by the Councillor appointed as Council's representative to the Group or a Senior Officer of the Community Services Directorate or delegate.

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11. Duties and Discretions:

- (a) Act as the Chairperson of the Group, as appointed by Council.
- (b) Acknowledge and value the diverse views of all Group members.
- (c) Listen to, and represent the views of the Group by acting as the link between the Council and the Group.
- (d) Act as an advocate on behalf of the Group on recommendations presented at Council.
- (a) must not accept any motion, question or statement which is derogatory, or defamatory of any Councillor, Group member, member of Council staff, or member of the community.
- (b) must call to order any person who is disruptive or unruly during any meeting.

12. Operations

The Group has no budgetary responsibilities, decision-making powers or delegated authority but serves to make recommendations for Council's consideration.

The Group shall follow the general consensus principle, when determining its preferred position on matters under discussion.

Members will not publicly comment on behalf of the group. Neither will it seek to advocate on the needs of individual organisations.

The Council will provide the necessary support to assist the Group to function effectively including:

- (a) Maintaining contacts details of members.
- (b) Preparing and distributing agendas and prior reading materials.
- (c) Preparing and distributing meeting minutes.

13. Confidentiality

Information discussed, received, used or created by the Group is confidential, unless otherwise stated by the Chairperson.

A Member must not disclose, discuss or make public confidential information, unless authorised by Council Officers.

A Member must not permit any person who is not a member of the Group to view, read, and photocopy, make notes of or in any way record confidential information, unless authorised by Council Officers.

14. Review

A review of the role, function, membership and productivity of the Terms of Reference will be conducted once every four years or as required to ensure currency, effectiveness and stakeholder engagement.

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Council retains the right to:

- (a) Review, amend or alter the operations and membership of this Group as it deems appropriate and necessary.
- (b) Revoked these Terms of Reference at any time.

Date of Lodgement: 16 November 2021

Date of Review: 16 November 2025

Agenda Item 9.7**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER EMPLOYMENT AND REMUNERATION POLICY**

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Frank Rog
Manager People and Capability

PURPOSE

To adopt the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy developed in accordance with section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) and endorse the Terms of Reference of the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Committee (*the Committee*).

ISSUES SUMMARY

- In accordance with section 45 of the Act, Council is required to develop, adopt and keep in force a Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy. (the Policy)
- The first Policy must be adopted by 31 December 2021
- Under the Act, the policy must make provision for
 - the recruitment and appointment process
 - provisions to be included in the contract of employment
 - performance monitoring and annual review;
 - the provision of independent professional advice in relation to matters dealt with within the Policy;
- It is proposed that the Terms of Reference of the existing Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee be broadened to meet the obligations of the Act for Council to obtain independent professional advice in relation to the matters dealt with under the Policy.
- The Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee will operate as an Advisory Committee to Council under endorsed Terms of Reference.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Proposed CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy [↓](#)
2. Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee [↓](#)

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OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. In accordance with Section 45(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, adopts the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy at Attachment 1 of this report.**
 - 2. Pursuant to the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy, endorses the Terms of Reference for the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee at Attachment 2 of this report.**
-

Agenda Item 9.7**BACKGROUND**

Council is required under Section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020 to develop and adopt a Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

Council is required to develop, adopt and keep in force a Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy. This first policy is required to be adopted by 31 December 2021.

It is proposed that the Terms of Reference of the existing Chief Executive Officer Performance Review Committee be broadened to meet the obligations of the Act for Council to obtain independent professional advice in relation to the matters dealt with under the Policy.

This new Committee, to be referred to as the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee will operate as an Advisory Committee to Council under endorsed Terms of Reference.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - Ethical leadership - Council will proactively lead changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making & well-planned & effective collaboration & community engagement to support community & economic growth.

Legislation

The Policy is mandated under the section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Not applicable

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4. Resources

Additional resources will be required for the remuneration of the Independent Member of the CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee.

5. Environment

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The proposed Policy meets the requirements of Section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020 and is presented to Council for adoption. The proposed Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee ensures effective oversight of the matters outlined in the Policy. The Terms of Reference of this Advisory Committee are presented for Council endorsement.

Agenda Item 9.7 - Attachment 1



Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy

Policy number:		Endorsed by:	Council
Date endorsed:	TBC	Policy Author:	Manager People and Capability
Policy owner:	Manager, People and Capability	Review date:	4 years from endorsed date
Policy Status:	Draft	Policy type:	Council

REVISION RECORD

Date	Version	Revision Description
	Draft	For Council Consideration

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Introduction

This policy is a requirement of the Local Government Act 2020 and outlines the way in which Council will manage the recruitment, appointment and performance of its Chief Executive Officer. The policy provides a consistent and transparent framework for recruitment, contract inclusions, performance monitoring and annual review.

Purpose

This is the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy of Maribyrnong City Council made, in accordance with section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Scope

This Policy provides for the following matters which Council is responsible for under the Act or as a requirement of the Policy:

- the recruitment and appointment of the Chief Executive Officer;
- approving the Contract of Employment entered into between Council and the Chief Executive Officer;
- the appointment of an Acting Chief Executive Officer;
- the provision of independent professional advice in relation to matters dealt with within the Policy;
- the monitoring of the Chief Executive Officer's performance;
- an annual review of the Chief Executive Officer's performance; and
- determining the Chief Executive Officer's remuneration.

Definitions

Term	Definition
Act	Means the Local Government Act 2020
Committee	Means the CEO Employment Matter Advisory Committee
Council	Means Maribyrnong City Council, being a body corporate constituted as a municipal Council under the Local Government Act 2020
Councillors	means the individuals holding the office of a member of Maribyrnong City Council
Council Officer	Means the Chief Executive Officer and staff of Council appointed by the Chief Executive Officer.

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Responsibilities

The Director Corporate Services is responsible for the document management and implementation.

Policy

The employment cycle of a CEO is a core responsibility of the elected Council. This policy outlines the mechanisms which will support the Council in fulfilling its obligations regarding CEO employment and remuneration.

1.1 CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee

Council will establish a committee to oversee matters relating to CEO employment and remuneration. For the purpose of this Policy that Committee will be referred to as the CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee (the Committee).

The Committee is to be chaired by the Mayor.

The Council will resolve on the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

The Committee may, at any time, obtain additional independent professional advice to help it discharge its obligations in respect of any matter dealt with in this Policy.

Support to the Committee will be provided by the Director Corporate Services. This will include:

- coordinating meetings of the Committee
- preparing relevant documentation including reports to Council and contractual documents
- seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified persons to undertake the role of independent Chair for the Committee's consideration
- procuring independent legal advice on contractual or employment matters at the request of the Committee
- maintaining appropriate records regarding performance reviews

1.2 Contractual Requirements

A CEO will be appointed on a maximum term contract of employment for a period of up to five years. The contract of employment will generally be in accordance with the Maddocks Lawyer's Senior Officer model contract as updated from time to time. The CEO contract will at minimum outline:

- the responsibilities of the position
- conflict of interest management requirements
- remuneration
- leave and other terms and conditions of employment
- legislative obligations including those continuing after appointment

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- processes for managing unsatisfactory performance or early termination

1.3 Remuneration and Expenses

The total remuneration package will be subject to the review of the Committee.

The remuneration package will be consistent with the principles of the Victorian Government Public Entity Executive Remuneration Policy, which stipulate that remuneration:

- should be fair and reasonable;
- should consider entity performance as well as Victorian fiscal and economic conditions;
- should be set at a competitive level for the relevant market and sector, to attract and retain talented people;
- should reflect the non-financial benefits of local government employment; and
- should be based on decisions that are robust, transparent, consistent and understandable to both the CEO and the public.

The total remuneration package will be inclusive of salary, superannuation and other employment benefits, including associated Fringe Benefits Tax. The CEO will have the option of salary sacrificing part of the remuneration package for the purposes of a motor vehicle in accordance with Council's Fleet Policy.

No performance bonus arrangements will apply.

Remuneration will be reviewed annually in accordance with the CEO Performance review and contract requirements. The annual review will take into consideration:

- increases in CPI in the preceding twelve month period;
- the officer's achievement of the performance objectives;
- market rates for comparable positions; and
- the acquisition and satisfactory utilisation of new or enhanced skills by the officer if beneficial to, or required by, the Council.

The Council will meet reasonable expenses incurred by the CEO including:

- Membership and subscription fees payable to professional associations which are reasonably necessary or desirable in performance of duties
- Reasonable costs incurred where attending conferences, seminars or undertaking study
- Reasonable costs incurred in performance of duties.

The Chief Executive Officer may be provided a Corporate Card to use in transactions related to the role of CEO. Corporate card expenditure will be reviewed and approved by the Mayor and the Manager Finance. The independent Audit & Risk Committee can, at any time, ask to receive a report on all CEO corporate card transactions.

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1.4 CEO Performance Objectives and Review

The Council will adopt a set of annual performance objectives for the CEO (the Performance Plan). The Performance Plan will be developed collaboratively by the CEO and the Committee.

The Performance Plan will document agreed objectives and outcomes to be delivered over a twelve-month period. A formal review of the CEO's performance, benchmarked against the Performance Plan, will be held annually by the Committee.

An informal review will occur at the 6 month mark to ensure that things are progressing and to discuss any challenged that may impact outcomes. The informal review will provide the CEO and Council with the opportunity to adjust any of the objectives set, by agreement, if required.

The CEO will provide a progress report to the Committee at each review.

The review will also include the opportunity for Council to provide the CEO with performance related feedback and input into the CEO's development plan. The CEO will also have the opportunity to provide feedback to the Council.

1.5 Contract Expiry

The Committee must make recommendation to Council six months prior to the expiry of the CEO contract and with regard to current legislation to either:

- Reappoint the CEO under a new contract of employment; or
- Cease the employment of the CEO due to the expiry of the contract.

1.6 CEO Recruitment

If the role of CEO becomes vacant, Council will engage an independent and suitably qualified recruitment agency to support it in the recruitment and appointment of a CEO. The Committee will make recommendations to the Council when appointing a recruitment agency, determining the CEO position requirements, selection criteria and developing the CEO's contract of employment.

The recruitment agency will manage the end to end process of CEO recruitment including:

- taking a detailed brief from the Council on the role and the ideal candidate;
- preparing a detailed schedule outlining the end to end process;
- developing an advertising strategy to attract suitable candidates;
- assisting the Council to conduct first and second round interviews to determine a shortlist of candidates;
- conducting relevant psychometric assessments to determine best fit;
- conducting reference and probity checks on the preferred candidate;
- liaison with the Director Corporate Services regarding the employment contract for the successful candidate;

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- liaison with the Committee regarding the public announcement of the appointment of the new CEO.

1.7 Acting CEO Appointment

Council must appoint an Acting CEO when there is a vacancy in the office of the CEO or the CEO is unable to perform their duties of the office of Chief Executive Officer.

The appointment of the CEO must be made by a resolution of Council unless the Acting CEO is appointed for a period not exceeding 28 days, in which case the CEO may appoint an Acting CEO under delegation from Council pursuant to section 11(3) of the Act

The Committee may advise Council on the selection and appointment of an Acting CEO in accordance with the Committee Terms of Reference.

1.8 Confidentiality

Council is not required to disclose any personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

1.9 Delegations

Council must not delegate the power to appoint the CEO, whether on a permanent or acting basis, however, it may delegate to the CEO the power to appoint an Acting CEO for a period not exceeding 28 days (sections 11(2)(d) and 11(3) of the Act).

Council must not delegate the power to make any decision in relation to the employment, dismissal or removal of the CEO (section 11(2)(e) of the Act).

Related Legislation

Local Government Act 2020

Related Documents

CEO Employment Matters Committee Terms of Reference

Review of Policy

The Policy will be reviewed four years from the date of adoption, or whenever Council determines that a need has arisen.

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The Policy will be reviewed in conjunction with the CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.

Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee

Terms of Reference

1. Purpose

The Committee is established pursuant to the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy to:

- Make recommendations to Council on contractual employment matters relating to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO);
- Make recommendation to Council on performance matters relating to the CEO; and
- Perform any other functions or responsibilities prescribed by the Local Government Act 2020.

2. Objectives

The Committee's role is to assist and advise the Council on matters including:

Contractual Employment Matters:

- Conduct the process to enable the Council to appoint a CEO.
- Provide a recommendation to Council on the remuneration and conditions of appointment of the CEO.
- Provide a recommendation on any extension of the appointment of the CEO.

Performance Review and Planning Process

- Engage in and undertake a developmental process to determine, in conjunction with the CEO, relevant Key Performance criteria for the CEO and make recommendations to Council;
- Undertake the formal review process of the performance of the CEO against the agreed Key Performance criteria in accordance with these terms of reference and the CEO contract, and make recommendations to Council

Other Prescribed Functions or Responsibilities

- Make other recommendations to the Council relevant to the employment and performance of the CEO in accordance with the CEOs employment contract and the Act.

The Director Corporate Services or their delegate has the responsibility to provide:

- information and any necessary training for members of the Committee in relation to their responsibilities under the Act
- officer advice in respect to matters before the Committee;
- administrative, secretarial and logistical support to the Committee.

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3. Definitions

- **Chairperson** means the Mayor of Maribyrnong City Council. .
- **Committee** means the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee.
- **Independent Member** is a member of a Committee who is not a Councillor or a member of Council staff.
- **Council** means Maribyrnong City Council
- **Councillor** means a Councillor of Maribyrnong City Council.

4. Dates, Times and Places of Meetings

- 4.1 Times and dates of meetings of Advisory Committee shall be at the discretion of the Chairperson, after seeking the views of members of the Committee and the Chief Executive Officer.
- 4.2 The Advisory Committee will hold a minimum of two meetings throughout the year. Additional meetings throughout the period will be subject to the approval of the Chairperson.
- 4.3 Meetings shall be held at the Maribyrnong Council Offices or an appropriate alternative location.
- 4.4 An agenda for meetings held, will be delivered to each Committee member at least 48 hours prior to the date of each meeting.

5. Membership and Length of Appointment

- 5.1 The Committee shall comprise of five members being:
 - The Mayor being the Chair of the Committee;
 - Three (3) other Councillors; and
 - an Independent Member
- 5.2 Appointment of the Councillor members of this Committee will occur annually at the November meeting of Council.
- 5.3 Appointment of the Independent Member of this Committee will be for a two year term with an option to extend for a further two year term at the discretion of Council. The commencement date being the engagement date of the Independent Member.

6. Independent Member of the CEO Employment Matters Advisory Committee

- 6.1 Duties of the Independent Member include:
 - to actively participate in the Committee's annual review of the CEO's performance and development;
 - actively participate in the development of a draft performance and development plan for the next 12-month period for consideration by the Council; and

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- provide advice and guidance to the Committee on any matter pertaining to the CEO's employment with Council.
- 6.2 Recruitment of the independent member will be as follows:
- Where there is a vacancy in the position of Independent Members (or an impending vacancy) the Committee will call for Expressions of Interest.
 - The Committee will prepare a shortlist, conduct interviews and make a recommendation to the Council on an appointment.
 - The independent person appointed by Council will be a neutral person with appropriate experience
- 6.3 The following selection criteria applies to the appointment of an Independent Member of the Committee
- Demonstrated human resource management skills, senior business experience and/or
 - Local government experience and/or employment law background;
 - Experience in conducting senior executive performance views within the public sector.
 - Demonstrated ability in relation to performance management and development of Executive level staff; and
 - Previous experience or facilitation experience working with Executive, Governance bodies or Board Members in membership and or / facilitation roles
 - Membership of the Australian Institute of Company Directors
- 6.4 The Independent Member will be remunerated at a rate to be determined by Council.
- 7. Conflict of Interest**
- 7.1 Committee Members must disclose a Conflict of Interest in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020.
- 7.2 In the event of a Conflict of Interest arising the Committee Member:
- (a) Must disclose the interest and clearly state the nature of the interest at the meeting before the matter is considered.
 - (b) Must leave the room and not participant in any discussion and/or decision.
 - (c) The disclosure must be recorded in the meeting minutes
- 8. Quorum**
- 8.1 A quorum is the majority of appointed members, but must include either the Chairperson or Independent Member.
- 8.2 If a quorum is not present within 30 minutes of the time appointed for the commencement of the meeting, the meeting shall lapse. If a quorum fails after the commencement of the meeting, the meeting shall lapse.

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- 8.3 Business that is unfinished at the completion of a meeting may at the discretion of the Chairperson be referred to the next meeting of the Committee.

9. Chairperson

- 9.1 Meetings will be chaired by the Mayor.
- 9.2 Duties and Discretions
- (a) must not accept any motion, question or statement which is derogatory, or defamatory of any Councillor, Committee Member, member of Council staff, or member of the community; and
 - (b) must call to order any person who is disruptive or unruly during any meeting.

10. Operations

- 10.1 The Committee has no budgetary responsibilities, decision-making powers or delegated authority but serves to make recommendations for Council's consideration.
- 10.2 The Committee shall follow the general consensus principle, when determining its preferred position on matters under discussion.
- 10.3 Committee members will not publicly comment on behalf of the group. Neither will it seek to advocate on the needs of individual organisations.
- 10.4 The Council will provide the necessary support to assist the Committee to function effectively including:
- (a) Maintaining contact details of members
 - (b) Preparing and distributing agendas and prior reading materials
 - (c) Preparing and distributing meeting minutes
 - (d) Preparation of an Informal Meeting of Councillors record as required under Council's Governance Rules.

11. Review

- 11.1 A review of the role, function and membership of the Terms of Reference will be conducted every four years.
- 11.2 Council retains the right to:
- (a) Review, amend or alter the operations and membership of this Committee as it deems appropriate and necessary.
 - (b) Revoke these Terms of Reference at any time.

Agenda Item 9.8**QUARTER 1 PERFORMANCE AND FINANCIAL REPORT - SEPTEMBER 2021**

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Mark Connor
Manager Finance

PURPOSE

To present the First Quarter Performance Report on the Annual Council Action Plan 2021/2022 along with Council's financial operations and the Capital and Asset Improvement Program.

ISSUES SUMMARY

Progress reports on the Annual Council Action Plan 2021/2022, financial operations and Capital and Asset Improvement Program, are presented to Council quarterly.

- Of the 65 Council Plan actions at Q1, 2 (3%) have been completed and 44 (68%) were progressing to target and, 4.5 (7%) have not commenced activity at the end of the reporting period.
- 14.5 (22%) of the actions are progressing but are delayed.
- The annual reporting to support the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF), was finalised in September 2021 and is documented in the Annual Report 2020/21.
- Actuals to budget variations are addressed in the Operating and Capital sections of this report.
- COVID-19 and the resulting disruption to services has impacted on the budget to actuals variances due to service closure and \$1 million in pandemic recovery support measures. As a result, Council has an unfavourable Operating variance of (\$4.8 million) and an unfavourable Initiative variance of (\$175k). Overall, unfavourable variance of (\$5 million).
- Transfer to reserves - Major Projects \$5 million; Plant reserve \$300k; Footscray Cemetery reserve \$500k; Unfunded Super reserve \$50k; Laneway reserve \$80k.
- Total year-to-date expenditure of Capital and Assets Improvement Program as at September 2021 is \$8.8 million, taking into account project cost commitments a further \$14.6 million, giving a total actual + commitments of \$23.4 million for the first quarter. This amounts to 40% of the forecasted capital works committee of 2021-2022. The forecast for Capital and Improvement expenditure is \$58.03m.
- 5 Projects worth \$1.147 million not going ahead (Note 12) and variations to existing capital program (Note 13).
- Transfer to Openspace Reserve \$0.9 million.

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ATTACHMENTS

1. 21-22 – Q1 Progress-attachment [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council notes the 2021/2022 First Quarter Performance and Financial report.

Agenda Item 9.8**BACKGROUND****Annual Council Action Plan**

The Council Plan 2021-25 and integrated Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan was adopted on 15 June 2021. These plans set out Council's long-term vision and key commitment areas over a four-year period. Five strategic objectives underpin a framework that drives operational performance, and supports the achievement of community and organisational outcomes.

To support the delivery of the Council Plan, a four year implementation plan has been developed. For the first year of the current Council Plan 65 actions have been identified, split under each of the strategic objectives for delivery in this year. Actions are funded through the operational and capital works budget.

The Annual Council Action Plan 2021-22 (year 1 and first year of the Council Plan) commits Council to delivering 65 actions, including:

- 6 Major Initiatives
- 63 Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing actions (marked by a blue HW in the Strategy section)

Each quarter, the progress of these actions is reported to Council.

Please Note: Three actions for 2021-22 have multiple measures (that all contribute towards the achievement of the same action) split across different teams. These are:

- 2.1.4 Develop medium density guidelines, which will include vegetation protection principles, to guide development for built form across the City (2)
- 4.2.5 Develop and implement Advocacy Plan 2021 and engage third party funders to encourage their support of advocacy priorities (2)
- 5.4.1 Budget, Financial Plan, Revenue and Rating Plan, and the Asset Plan adopted in line with statutory obligations (4)

Therefore, whilst there are 65 actions, they consist of 70 measures. It is likely that some reporting will include a fraction of an action *e.g. 1.5 actions progressing to target.*

Financial Operations

The first quarterly report for the current financial year is provided for the end of September 2021.

In March 2020, COVID-19 was declared as a global pandemic by world health organisation. Since then, various measures were taken by all three levels of Government in Australia to reduce the spread of COVID-19.

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Since April 2020 Council has provided significant direct and indirect financial support to community and business. This support has included rates deferrals for residential ratepayers, discounts for commercial and industrial ratepayers and additional support to the community via the Community Connectors initiative, arts grants, waiving sports facility lease and licence costs, and through a number of increased services such as city amenity and cleansing programs, online library story times, tutorials and author talks, and home delivered books and material.

In April 2020 Council released an initial community and business support package comprised of:

- A direct financial contribution of \$6.5 million over the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years to provide business and community relief packages in response to the pandemic.
- A decision taken to decline a 2% rate increase providing financial relief of \$1.95 million to ratepayers.

In August 2020 a further \$2.55 million package of support was released which saw an extension to the April 2020 support and additional community and business relief. The total value of support measures over the 2019/20 and 2020/21 financial years being \$11 million.

In October 2021, Council approved another pandemic recovery support of up to \$1 million across a range of programs and initiatives in addition to the redirection of funds from the 2021 New Year's Eve event.

This crisis and measures taken to mitigate COVID-19 has impacted council operations in the following areas for the first quarterly ended 30 September 2021:

- In response to government imposed restrictions which led significant decrease in demand, the leisure centre facilities / libraries/ community centres were closed. This resulted in a decrease in the council user fee revenue by \$5.314 million (inclusive of \$2.4 million loss of ticket machine income due to delay in activation of ticket machines).
- Approved pandemic recovery support of up to \$1 million across a range of programs and initiatives in addition to the redirection of funds from the 2021 New Year's Eve event. Council will continue to monitor any escalation of impacts over the coming months to determine any further changes that may be required within the 2021/22 financial year.
- \$905k loss in Statutory fees due to less number of parking infringement were issued during lockdown and Current food businesses will have 50% of registration fees waived to June 2022 as part of the pandemic recovery support package.
- Council adopted a COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy in response to this crisis on 21 April 2020 was extended to 30 June 2022 as part of the adoption of the 2021/22 Budget.

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The report indicates that Council has an unfavourable operating (including Initiative) variance to Budget of (\$5m).

Capital Works Program

This report provides a financial update on the delivery of Councils 2021-2022 Capital and Asset Improvement Program. For 2021/2022 a budget of \$50.64 million was allocated to deliver new works, with projects carried forward from 2020/2021 of \$5.87million giving a total of \$56.51 million (\$50.64 million + \$5.87million). The adopted Capital and Asset Improvement Program for 2021-2022 had new works of \$50.64 million and comprised of 162 projects/programs. The funding for the Capital and Asset Improvement Program comprised \$9.83 million from grants, \$11.62million from reserves, \$0.2million from cash contributions, sale of assets \$0.50million and \$28.49million from rate revenue.

As Council's infrastructure assets continue to age and deteriorate, the challenge of managing and sustaining them becomes even greater. The Capital and Asset Improvement Program for 2021/2022 consists of a total of 243 projects including carried forwards. Officers undertake a detailed monthly review of all capital projects including financials, timelines, deliverables, risks and value management opportunities. This information is utilised in the compilation of this report.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues****Council Plan Actions****a) Annual Council Action Plan**

The Annual Council Action Plan 2021/22 Progress Report (appendix 1) shows Council's progress against the 65 actions as at 30 September 2021. Of these:

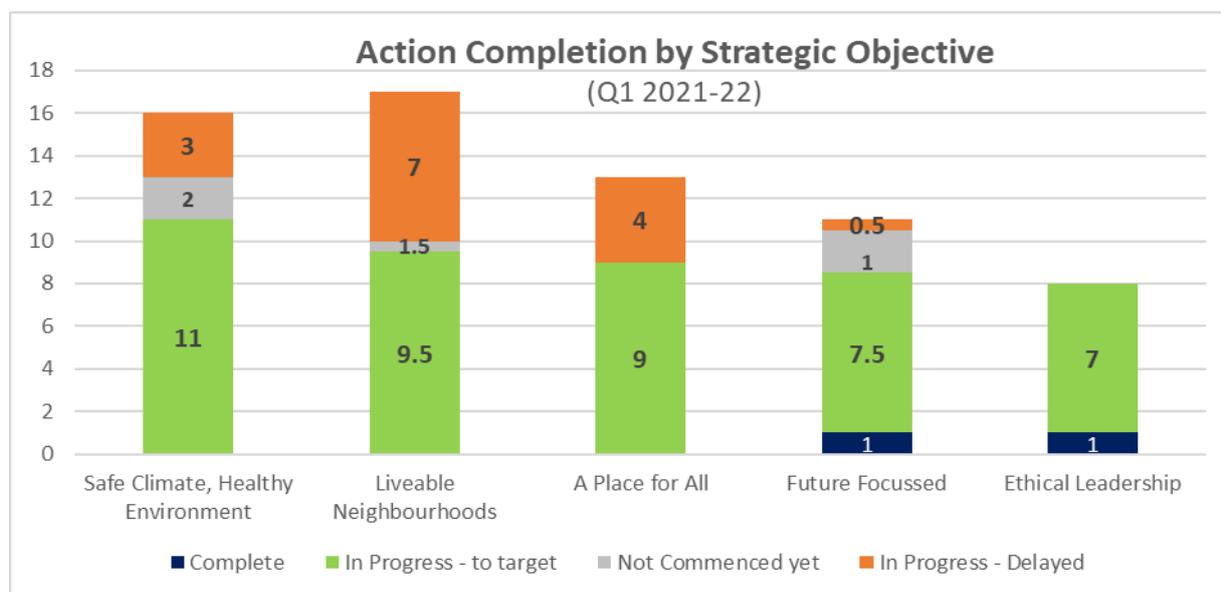
- 78% (50.5 of 65) were on track
 - 2 Completed
 - 44 Progressing to Target
 - 4.5 Not Commenced – as planned

- 22% (14.5 of 65) had commenced, but experienced some delay.

The table below shows these actions split into the five strategic objectives, using colour coding to indicate the actions' status.

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Council Plan Action Progress by Objective Area 2021/22 (Q1)



b) Delayed actions:

This section focuses on the 14.5 (of 65) actions that are in progress, but have experienced some delay. The following two tables identify the delayed annual priority actions, split by Major Initiatives and other Non-Major Initiatives.

67% (4 of 6) of Major Initiatives have been completed or are progressing to schedule. The 2 delayed Major Initiatives are shown below:

In progress Major Initiatives	Service’s Progress Comment
1.1.1 Develop and implement Climate Emergency Action Plan (CEAP) (Years 1 – 4), noting zero emissions by 2030 HW *	The challenges associated with conducting quality community consultation during this pandemic, has delayed the community engagement on the Draft CEAP. Consultation will now be completed in Q2. As such the development of the CEAP has been delayed
3.6.1 Implement strategies to respond to family violence and promote gender equality through the Towards Gender Equity Strategy 2030 HW *	Gender Impact Assessment tool to be developed based on requirements outlined in Gender Equality Act. Annual progress report on Towards Gender Equity Strategy presented to Council in 2022.

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These are the 12.5 delayed non-Major Initiatives Council Plan actions:

In progress Priority Annual Actions	Service's Progress Comment
1.2.2 Deliver Food and Garden Waste Service to single unit dwellings HW	Food Organics Green Organics (FOGO) service implementation commencing in November 2021. Annual reporting on progress will be included in the Towards Zero Waste Strategy report to Council (June)
1.4.3 Provide additional and accessible open space as part of the Footscray Civic and Community Hub project HW	Progressing towards investigating the design to provide open space integrated with the Civic & Community Precinct Renewal Project
2.1.1 Implement the Public Art Strategy 2019-2029 HW	COVID-19 lockdowns has impacted timelines but we are still progressing the Key Performance indicators of Council's Public Art Strategy. Including: Two major public art commissions (Boathouse, IELC Hyde St), artist selection phase for Henry Turner South Pavilion and three StreetWORKS will be completed in 2021/22. The Art & Heritage Collections Policy has been endorsed in Q1 and plans for decanting the Art Collection at Town Hall is in place.
2.2.2 Implement the Healthy and Active Framework 2021-2025 HW	This Action has been delayed due to the organisational restructure, and resultant merging of Open Space Department and Leisure Health and Wellbeing Department
2.2.5 Implement the Outdoor Sport and Recreation Facilities Future Directions Plan 2021-2025 HW	This action has been delayed due to the organisational restructure, and resultant merging of Open Space Department and Leisure Health and Wellbeing Department
2.2.6 Prepare a discussion paper on fresh food access and healthy eating in Maribyrnong communities HW	Discussion paper to be developed.
2.3.1 Continue to deliver objectives of the Maribyrnong Tourism and Visitation Strategy and Action Plan HW	The new Festival City Policy will identify opportunities to increase tourism and visitation. The review of the Festival City Policy is progressing but COVID-19 restrictions has delayed some of the targeted stakeholder engagement. A report to Council is likely in the first part of 2022
2.3.4 Review and update Festivals City Program and implement new, emerging and accessible festivals HW	The review of the Festival City Policy is progressing but COVID-19 restrictions has delayed some of the targeted stakeholder engagement. A report to Council is likely in the first part of 2022
2.4.1 Develop and implement the Air Quality Improvement Plan and Action Plan HW	Air Quality Improvement Plan delayed until Q3

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In progress Priority Annual Actions	Service's Progress Comment
3.1.1 Implement the community grants program and extend training and support to all applicants, including First Nations and diverse Cultural Group applicants HW	The action is supported by the Community Grants Redesign adopted by Council in July. Program design will take place in the new calendar year.
3.4.1 Implement the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018-2023 HW	Venue closures, capacity limits and lockdowns from COVID-19 continue to impact the arts sector. Cancellations of Melbourne Fringe and One Night in Footscray have occurred but where possible we have rescheduled into early 2022. We are shifting our focus in 2022 to works in the public realm, arts practice and local sector development (capacity building workshops, Forte mentorships, artist residencies, First Nations Creative Project) given the ongoing challenges of the pandemic.
3.4.3 Develop and implement the 'Leading and Participation' program and framework HW	Align with development of grants redesign and MPPS.
4.2.5 Develop and implement Advocacy Plan 2021 and engage third party funders to encourage their support of advocacy priorities HW	Update planned to be provided to Council in Q2

c) Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF)

The end of financial year reporting supporting the LGPRF has concluded, following external audit and internal approvals. The 2020/21 results to be reported in the Annual Report.

d) Financial Operations

The Financial Year 2021-22 has forecasted an Operating (including Initiative) unfavourable variance of \$5 million to the budget. This was predominantly due to reduction in user fees and charges (MAC closure & ticket machines), reduction in infringement income and community and business pandemic recovery support measures. The First Quarterly Finance Performance Report for the month ending September 2021 provides Council with the most up to date estimate of the year end result. Any significant operating variances are listed under Resources (section 4). The variances shown in the year-to-date section are the result of timing differences.

Agenda Item 9.8**e) Capital Report**

The purpose of this report is to provide financial updates on the delivery of Councils 2021/2022 Capital and Asset Improvement Program. This report highlights variances to the original adopted budget. The program consists of various projects including roads, footpaths, drainage works, transportation, parks and recreation, information technology and major redevelopment building projects.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

Performance reporting of Council Plan actions is in accordance with the Council resolution to receive quarterly monitoring reports, and is consistent with Council's principles of transparency and accountability. It also contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:
 - Ethical leadership - Council will proactively lead changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making & well-planned & effective collaboration & community engagement to support community & economic growth.

Legislation

Performance reporting of Council Plan actions is provided in accordance with the Council resolution to receive quarterly monitoring reports, and is consistent with Council's principles of transparency and accountability.

Quarterly Finance Reports are provided in accordance with section 97 of the Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

The 2021/2022 Annual Budget was developed in consultation with the community. Quarterly progress reports on Council's performance against the Budget and Priority Action Plan are provided to the community.

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4. Resources

Budget to Forecast Variance Overview

Maribyrnong City Council Budget to Forecast Overview Summary 2021-2022		Amounts \$(000)
Operating		(4,822)
Initiatives		(175)
Capital (\$316k transfer to reserve)		-
MCC Budget to Forecast net result 2021-2022 unfavourable		(4,997)

Operating/Service Summary by Functions

Service/Functions	Actual \$(000)	Annual Adopted Budget \$(000)	Carried Fwd from 2020/21 \$(000)	Annual Current Budget \$(000)	Annual Forecast \$(000)	Current Budget to Forecast Variance \$(000)
Operating Income						
Community Services	1,427	952	-121	4,657	4,683	26
Corporate Services	110,542	108,387	1,067	113,892	113,810	(81)
Infrastructure Services	4,152	6,593	0	27,143	21,637	(5,507)
Operating Income Total	116,121	115,932	946	145,692	140,130	(5,562)
Operating Expenses						
Community Services	4,575	5,002	-	21,572	21,539	32
Corporate Services	6,450	7,631	-	33,183	33,041	142
Infrastructure Services	13,494	15,972	-	62,682	62,117	566
Operating Expenses Total	24,519	28,605	0	117,437	116,697	740
Grand Total	-91,602	-87,327	946	28,255	23,433	(4,822)

Service/Functions	Net Current Budget to Forecast Variance \$(000)
Community Services	58
Corporate Services	61
Infrastructure Services	(4,941)
MCC Q1 - Budget to Forecast Variance Total	(4,822)

Agenda Item 9.8**Operating Summary by Resource Group**

Resource Group	Notes	Actuals \$(000)	Annual Adopted Budget \$(000)	Carried Forward from 2020/21 \$(000)	Annual Current Budget \$(000)	Annual Forecast \$(000)	Current Budget to Forecast Variance \$(000)
Expenditure							
Bad and doubtful debts		1,158	3,000	-	3,000	3,000	-
Employee Costs	1	12,739	58,108	-	58,108	56,585	1,524
Internal Expenses		621	8,514	-	8,514	8,514	-
Materials and services (Inc. Contract)	2	9,885	47,333	-	47,333	48,115	(782)
Other Expenses		116	482	-	482	484	(2)
Operating Expenditure Total		24,519	117,437	0	117,437	116,697	740
Revenue							
Contributions - cash	3	14	62	-	62	42	(20)
Grants – Operating (non- recurrent)	4	811	340	-	340	1,353	1,012
Grants – Operating (recurrent)	5	1,306	5,797	1,145	4,653	4,708	54
Internal Income		621	2,584	-	2,584	2,584	-
Investment Income	6	102	405	-	405	360	(45)
Other Revenues	7	555	1,751	-199	1,949	1,818	(131)
Rates	8	109,182	109,325	-	109,326	109,111	(215)
Sale Proceeds		0	80	-	80	80	-
Statutory Charges	9	2,401	14,017	-	14,017	13,112	(905)
User Charges	10	1,129	12,276	-	12,276	6,962	(5,314)
Operating Revenue Total		116,121	146,637	946	145,692	140,130	(5,562)
Net Total		-91,602	-29,200	946	-28,255	-23,433	(4,822)

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Note No.	Resource Group Variance Analysis
Note 1 Employee Costs \$1.523m favourable forecast	Favourable forecasted predominately due to lockdown and closure of Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre \$1.13m; \$146k favourable in work cover insurance premium and \$247k linked to a number of vacancies across the organisation.
Note 2 Materials and services (Incl. Contracts) (\$782k) unfavourable	<p>(\$185k) unfavourable relates to Parks bin service, (\$438k) unfavourable in Emergency Management cost associated to COVID-19; (\$74k) unfavourable in modelling and digital asset database register software.</p> <p>Material & Services additional programs are unfavourable by (\$1.013m) are offset by additional operational grants (Note 4).</p> <p>The unfavourable variances are offset by \$495k favourable in operation of ticket machines due to delay in activation of ticket machines, \$261k favourable related to agency temp and consultants advisory under Environmental health, School crossing supervisors and animal management. \$64k saving in general insurance and \$40k favourable in Community Transport contract payments due to not being able to use service in lockdown, \$40k favourable in IT services, photocopying due to staff working from home, \$28k favourable in consultants mainly related to Northern Maribyrnong planning investigations.</p> <p>Please note that 2021 New Year's Eve event will not proceed and that this funding will be re-directed towards recovery support for key trader districts.</p>
Note 3 Contribution - cash - (\$20k) unfavourable	Reduction in external contribution support for the New Year Eve event due to cancellation and reduced scale of program for the Eat Drink West Side program.
Note 4 Grants - Operating (non recurrent) \$1.013m favourable	\$448k High-Risk Waste Site Local Government Capacity Building Project funded from DELWP, \$254k Local Councils Outdoor Eating and Entertainment Package, \$170k Local Government Business Concierge & Hospitality support, \$75k Women Building Cadet Surveyors Program, \$56k Library board of Victoria -health and wellbeing grant and Royal Society of Victoria - Science Week program, plus \$10k funded from Melbourne Airport for delivery of beginner internet and computer program for the community
Note 5 Grants – Operating (recurrent) \$54k favourable	Mainly related to an increased in State Government funding for Library services and Youth Freeza program.
Note 6 Investment Income (\$45k)	Reduction of investment income due to low interest rates.

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Note No.	Resource Group Variance Analysis
Note 7 Other Revenues (\$131k) unfavourable	<p>(\$115k) unfavourable relates to reduction of 50% on commercial rental for businesses leasing property from Council and (\$140k) unfavourable due to Waiving of lease, license and ground fees until 30 June 2022 and waiving of utility and water fees until 30 June 2022 for not for profit community sporting clubs as part of the pandemic support package.</p> <p>The unfavourable variances are offset mainly by \$43k discount for on time/early payment of Worker cover insurance premium and \$75k insurance claim from repairs completed last financial year.</p>
Note 8 Rates (\$215k) unfavourable	<p>(\$224k) unfavourable in Waste Service charge Reduction, (\$88k) in reduced rates interest penalty.</p> <p>These are offset by favourable variances due to additional supplementary rates \$126k and \$31k additional garbage/recycle bin charge.</p>
Note 9 Statutory Charges (\$905k) unfavourable	<p>(\$400k) unfavourable due to reduce number of parking infringement; (\$60k) reduction in build over easement fees; (\$20k) reduction in planning infringements and (\$415k) part of the COVID-19 Business and community relief package (50% of food registration fees waived to June 2022; waive of new business planning permit and outdoor dining permit fee waived)</p>
Note 10 User Charges (\$5.3m) unfavourable	<p>Restrictions and closure of community facilities has resulted in adjustment of income. (\$3.37m) unfavourable is due to closure of MAC swim centre; (\$2.4m) loss in ticket machine income due to delay in activation of ticket machine. It is offset by \$400k favourable in road occupancy permit charge for the construction of the new Footscray hospital</p>

List of Initiatives Projects Variance Summary

Community Services	Forecast Vs. Budget Variance \$(000)
Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative to help people who might be feeling lonely or have lost their regular networks during coronavirus (COVID-19) to build social connections and networks of support in their local communities.	(175)
Total Community Services	(175)
Total Initiative unfavourable Forecast to Budget	(175)

Agenda Item 9.8**Capital Current Budget to Forecast Variance Summary**

Capital Forecast Vs Budget Variance Summary - Sep 2021	\$(000)	\$(000)
Net Capital Budget 2021/22	29,200	
Carry Forward from 2020/21 (CF)	4,842	34,042
Net Forecast 2021/22		32,666
		1,376
Transfer to DCP & Openspace reserve		-900
Rates Carried Forward to 22/23		0
Grant Carried Forward to 22/23 (Note 11)		-160
Transfer to Reserve		316

Adjusted Capital Variance

Reconciliation to Adjusted Capital Variance	\$(000)
Project Not proceeding (Note 12)	\$1,147
Projects under/over (Note 13)	(\$831)
Surplus – Transfer to Reserve	\$316

Transfer to Openspace & DCP Reserves	Amount \$ (000)
Open Space Contribution (Income)	900
Total Openspace & DCP reserve income	900

The following projects are recommended to carry forward to 2022/2023

Project Description	Council Fund Carry Forward \$(000)	Unspent Grants Carry Forward \$(000)
Capital carried forward to 2022/23 (Note 11)		
Yarraville Oval Master Plan and Cricket Net Redevelopment	0	160
Total carried forward to 2022/23	0	160

The following projects will not proceed and transfer to reserve - \$1.147 million

Project Description – (Note 12)	Amount \$000
Public Place Recycling bins and surrounds	125
Building demolitions	175
Road Resurfacing - Naismith St - West Footscray	48
Road Reconstruction - Swan St - West Footscray	724
Sealeaf Square - Furniture Monument light horticulture	75

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Total projects not proceeding	1,147
Adjust existing projects - \$0.831 million	

Capital and Asset Improvement Project Overrun is forecasted due to scope adjustments, market price fluctuation and payment schedule changes. Some projects are also proposed for an underspend adjustment due to milestone revisions, project efficiency and saving, funds for these projects will be lower than budget this year to complete the projects.

Project Description - Under or Over (Note 13)	Amount \$000
VGC -Local Roads Grant	10
Road reconstruction - Kellaway Street: Gordon - Rosamond	192
Road reconstruction - Elizabeth Street: Crothers - Melon	74
Road reconstruction - Dickson Street: Empress - Williamstown	-81
Road reconstruction - Monash Street: Prince to Gordon	-52
Road reconstruction - Gwelo Street: Aliwal to Bizana	183
Metro Train Melbourne - Joint Study - Anderson St in Yarraville Village Level Crossing	-51
Road reconstruction - Dudley St - Footscray	385
Road reconstruction - Fisher St Seg 01: Stafford - Dupley- Footscray	-166
VicRoad - Road Safety Grants Program tranche2 FY 21/22	54
MAC - customer counter & change room refurbishment	-200
Masterplan feasibility and QS (LHWB)	75
Yarraville Tennis Club LED Flood Lights	-545
Phoenix Youth Centre	-200
Hyde Street Children`s Centre - Site Preparation	-394
Drainage and Bridge valuation	-175
French Street Separated Bike Lanes	350
Joseph Road Public Real Works - Jemena Asset Relocation	-129
Parks and Open Space Renewal Program -light -Alex Beaton Reserve	-150
Openspace Renewal - Burndap Park	-80
Openspace Renewal - Yarraville Oval Lighting Replacement	-200
Henry Turner North Reserve Floodlighting Upgrade - SRV co-funded	-270
Footscray Hockey Club Lighting and Shelter Renewal	-270
Alex Beaton Reserve - Path renewal	57
Yarraville Gardens - Path Renewal (Year 1)	340
Hanmer Oval - retaining wall NE side - design and construct	90
Mclvor Reserve: Hanks Batting Cage Upgrade	-82
Alex Beaton Reserve - Play Units Table Tennis and Soccer post	417
Minor Variations of less than \$50k (25 projects)	-13
Total project under/over budget	-831

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Management Report FY 2021/2022 Q1 - 30 September 2021

Management Report FY 2021/2022 Q1- 30 September 2021 Summary (\$'000)					
Branch	YTD Actuals	YTD Current Budget	YTD Variance	Annual Adopted Budget	Budget plus CFwd to Forecast Variance
Capital Expenditure					
Community Services	4,575	5,002	427	21,572	32
Corporate Services	6,450	7,631	1,181	33,183	142
Infrastructure Services	13,494	15,972	2,478	62,682	566
Capital Exp. Total	24,519	28,605	4,086	117,437	740
Initiatives Expenditure					
Community Services	58	-	-58	-	(229)
Infrastructure Services	14	-	-14	-	(18)
Initiatives Exp. Total	72	-	-72	-	(247)
Operating Expenditure					
Community Services	250	304	54	2,285	(1,451)
Corporate Services	414	1,150	736	7,513	2,479
Infrastructure Services	8,218	6,074	-2,144	40,841	(2,551)
Operating Exp. Total	8,883	7,528	-1,354	50,639	(1,523)
Expenditure Total	33,474	36,133	2,659	168,076	(1,031)
Capital Income					
Community Services	1,427	952	475	4,536	26
Corporate Services	110,542	108,387	2,155	114,958	(81)
Infrastructure Services	4,152	6,593	-2,440	27,143	(5,507)
Capital Income Total	116,121	115,932	190	146,637	(5,562)
Initiative Income					
Community Services	404	5	-399	-	54
Infrastructure Services	18	-	-18	-	18
Initiative Income Total	422	5	417	-	72
Operating Income					
Community Services	100	-	100	1,245	1,421
Corporate Services	1,384	1,384	0	4,151	(2,000)
Infrastructure Services	9,137	4,318	4,819	16,043	3,478
Operating Income Total	10,621	5,702	4,919	21,439	2,899
Revenue Total	127,165	121,638	5,527	168,076	(2,590)
Projects Transferred to Reserve/Carry forward					
Total	(93,691)	(85,505)	8,185	-	(3,621)
Net adjusted Annual Budget to Forecast Variance Fav/(Unfav)					(3,621)
Council Operation - Budget to Forecast Net surplus/ (Deficit)					(4,822)
Strategic Initiative - Budget to Forecast Net surplus/ (Deficit)					(175)
Capital Improvement - Budget to Forecast Net surplus/ (Deficit)					1,376
					<u>(3,621)</u>

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Comprehensive Income Statement			
Q1 2021/2022 Financial Statements			
	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21
	Q1 Actuals	Annual	Annual
	\$'000	Budget	Actuals
		\$'000	\$'000
Income			
Rates and charges	109,181	109,325	104,600
Statutory fees and fines	2,401	14,017	11,065
User fees	1,128	12,276	5,849
Grants - operating	2,540	6,137	7,865
Grants - capital	9,626	9,833	4,975
Contributions - monetary	915	6,625	15,550
Contributions - non monetary	-	-	10,684
Net gain on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	95	-	-
Other income	657	2,218	2,298
Total income	126,543	160,431	162,886
Expenses			
Employee costs	12,796	58,108	52,916
Materials and services	12,355	58,760	58,942
Depreciation and amortisation	4,399	18,118	17,829
Amortisation - right of use assets	87	336	766
Bad and doubtful debts	1,158	3,000	2,671
Finance costs - leases	3	18	17
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	-	1,420	1,314
Other expenses	116	482	870
Total expenses	30,914	140,242	135,325
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	95,629	20,189	27,561
Other comprehensive income	-		
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	-		22,393
Total comprehensive result	95,629	20,189	49,954

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Balance Sheet			
Q1 2021/2022 Financial Statements			
	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21
	Q1 Actuals	Annual	Annual
	\$'000	Budget	Actuals
		\$'000	\$'000
Assets			
Current assets			
Cash and cash equivalents	25,666	56,493	53,158
Other financial assets	101,000	42,000	70,000
Trade and other receivables	96,273	16,617	14,899
Inventories	14	8	14
Non-current assets classified as "held for sale"	2,250	-	2,250
Other assets	58	2,077	2,168
Total current assets	225,261	117,195	142,489
Non-current assets			
Trade and other receivables	-	228	314
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	1,211,507	1,215,387	1,209,577
Right-of-use assets	1,020	954	1,106
Total non-current assets	1,212,527	1,216,569	1,210,997
Total assets	1,437,788	1,333,764	1,353,486
Liabilities			
Current liabilities			
Trade and other payables	3,850	12,073	6,322
Trust funds and deposits	8,791	3,462	6,544
Unearned income	250	-	11,190
Provisions	15,338	16,024	15,405
Lease liabilities	489	657	305
Total current liabilities	28,718	32,216	39,766
Non-current liabilities			
Provisions	1,010	1,069	1,010
Lease liabilities	545	793	824
Total non-current liabilities	1,555	1,862	1,834
Total liabilities	30,273	34,078	41,600
Net assets	1,407,515	1,299,686	1,311,886
Equity			
Accumulated surplus	496,173	422,962	400,544
Reserves	911,342	876,724	911,342
Total Equity	1,407,515	1,299,686	1,311,886

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Statement of Changes in Equity				
Q1 2021/2022 Financial Statements				
Annual 2020/21	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,311,886	400,544	820,132	91,210
Surplus for the year	95,629	95,629	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment	-	-	-	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	-	-	-
Transfers from other reserves	-	-	-	-
Balance at end of Q4	1,407,515	496,173	820,132	91,210
Annual 2020/21	Total \$'000	Accumulated Surplus \$'000	Revaluation Reserve \$'000	Other Reserves \$'000
Balance at beginning of the financial year	1,261,932	389,621	797,739	74,572
Surplus for the year	27,561	27,561	-	-
Net asset revaluation (decrement)	22,393	-	22,293	-
Transfers to other reserves	-	(34,603)	-	34,603
Transfers from other reserves	-	17,965	-	(17,965)
Balance at end of the financial year	1,311,886	400,544	820,132	91,210

Statement of Cash Flows			
Q1 2021/2022 Financial Statements			
	2021/22 Q1 Actuals \$'000 Inflows/ (Outflows)	2021/22 Annual Budget \$'000 Inflows/ (Outflows)	2020/21 Annual Actuals \$'000 Inflows/ (Outflows)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Rates and charges	25,203	114,001	103,536
Statutory fees and fines	4,170	13,628	9,158
User fees	374	12,123	6,394
Grants - operating	1,735	6,137	8,700

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Statement of Cash Flows Q1 2021/2022 Financial Statements			
	2021/22	2021/22	2020/21
	Q1 Actuals	Annual	Annual
	\$'000	Budget	Actuals
	Inflows/ (Outflows)	Inflows/ (Outflows)	Inflows/ (Outflows)
Grants - capital	356	9,833	11,354
Contributions - monetary	915	6,625	15,550
Interest received	102	405	648
Trust funds and deposits taken	3,038	2,505	6,237
Other receipts	556	1,813	1,559
Net GST refund	1,711	4,598	6,584
Employee costs	(12,924)	(56,886)	(52,291)
Materials and services	(14,427)	(67,627)	(90,851)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments	(40)	-	(193)
Trust funds and deposits repaid	(791)	(2,505)	(3,017)
Other payments	(137)	(482)	(278)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	9,841	44,168	43,090
Cash flows from investing activities			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(6,329)	(42,077)	(18,028)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	95	580	2,368
Payments for investments	(49,000)	(16,000)	(110,000)
Proceeds from sale of investments	18,000	14,000	90,000
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	(37,234)	(43,497)	(35,660)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid - lease liability	(3)	(18)	(17)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(96)	(142)	(762)
Net cash provided (used in) financing activities	(99)	(160)	(779)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(27,492)	511	6,651
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year	53,158	55,982	46,507
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year	25,666	56,493	53,158

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Statement of Capital & Improvement Works			
Q1 2021/2022 Financial Statements			
	2021/22 Q1 Actuals \$'000	2021/22 Annual Budget \$'000	2020/21 Annual Actuals \$'000
Property			
Land	-	1,650	-
Work in progress	-	-	-
Total land	-	1,650	-
Buildings	98	6,116	1,701
Works in progress	1,194	-	4,270
Total buildings	1,292		5,971
Total property	1,292	7,766	5,971
Plant and equipment			
Plant, machinery and equipment	-	1,800	1,153
Computers and telecommunications	-	2,256	182
Library books	-	860	460
Works in progress	786	-	822
Total plant and equipment	786	4,916	2,617
Infrastructure			
Roads	2	7,807	2,545
Bridges	-	150	-
Footpaths and cycle ways	-	5,845	1,001
Drainage	-	986	788
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	230	5,237	1,955
Waste management	-	1,255	981
Parks, open space and streetscapes	47	10,062	564
Off street car parks	456	80	100
Other infrastructure	-	600	-
Works in progress	3,816	-	5,240
Total infrastructure	4,251	32,022	12,574
Total capital works expenditure	6,329	44,704	21,162
New	52	18,217	1,417
Renewal	203	15,161	8,469
Upgrade	278	11,326	944
Expansion	-	-	-
Works in progress	5,796	-	10,332
Total capital works expenditure	6,329	44,704	21,162

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5. Environment

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The Quarterly Performance and Financial Report is a regular and ongoing mechanism for Council to be accountable to its community. In broad terms, the September 2021 Quarter One report demonstrates that there is a high level of compliance and a high level of delivery for both Council's annual budget and Annual Council Action Plan. Council will continue to monitor any escalation of impacts over the coming months to determine any further changes that may be required within the 2021/22 financial year.

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
1.1 the climate emergency strategy outcomes <i>HW</i>	Assets & Capital	1.1.1 Develop and implement Climate Emergency Action Plan (Years 1 – 4), noting zero emissions by 2030 *	Climate Emergency Action Plan adopted by Council	31 December 2021	The challenges associated with conducting quality community consultation during this pandemic, has delayed the community engagement on the Draft CEAP. Consultation will now be completed in Q2. As such the development of the CEAP delayed	In Progress - delayed
		1.1.2 Develop and implement a Climate Emergency Adaptation Framework	Adaptation Framework adopted by Council	31 December 2021	Framework is dependent on the draft CEAP	Not commenced yet
		1.1.3 Support our community to understand and take action on climate emergency with a goal of zero community emissions by 2030	Annual progress report to Council	31 March 2022	This is an ongoing, long term action. Key actions around this are dependent on the Draft CEAP. Existing programs that support this continue - (My Smart Garden, Solar Savers, and Sustainable Living Workshops etc). Annual reporting should be aligned with Climate Emergency Action Plan reporting in June, as it is part of that Plan.	In Progress - to target
		1.1.4 Investigate renewable energy options and projects for Council and the community	Annual progress report to Council	30 June 2022	This is an ongoing action. Renewable energy options for Council via the Victorian Energy Collaboration are in place for small sites electricity. Community actions dependent on Draft CEAP.	In Progress - to target
1.2 Reduce waste production, increase diversion from landfill and improve	Assets & Capital	1.2.1 Deliver actions under the Towards Zero Waste Strategy 2019-2030, including diverting 45% of waste from landfill by 2025, and 60% by 2030 *	Annual progress report to Council	30 June 2022	This is an ongoing action. FOGO implementation on track for stand-alone houses. Single Use Plastic Policy approved by Council.	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
recycling services <i>HW</i>		1.2.2 Deliver Food and Garden Waste Service to single unit dwellings	Implement service	31 December 2021	FOGO service implementation commencing in November 2021. Annual reporting on progress will be included in the Towards Zero Waste Strategy report to Council (June)	In Progress - delayed
			Report presented to Council	31 December 2021		
		1.2.4 Use recycled and low carbon materials in construction, infrastructure, renovation and maintenance projects.	Annual report to Council including quantity of recycled materials used in Council projects	30 April 2022	Recycled products are included in technical specifications where applicable. Contractors will be asked to provide quantity on material use	In Progress - to target
			Annual Project and Capital review	30 April 2022		
1.2.5 Develop and implement single use plastics Policy and Action Plan to support current programme	Policy and Action Plan adopted by Council	31 December 2021	SUP Policy adopted by Council on 17 August 2021, who at that time resolved to alter transition periods for implementation from December 2021. Timelines are now: by August 2022 for events and operations, while sporting clubs may apply for a further period until August 2023. Annual reporting to be aligned to June with the TZW Strategy as it is part of that Strategy.	In Progress - to target		
1.3 Enhance the natural and urban environment, by planting more trees and protecting water ways <i>HW</i>	Assets & Capital	1.3.1 Develop and implement the Integrated Water Management Strategy and Action Plan	Strategy and Action Plan adopted by Council	30 June 2022	Implementation will be ongoing. The CEO and Officers attended multiple meetings for the Maribyrnong River IWMP. Council has now endorsed the Plan. This Plan will now inform Council's IWMS.	In Progress - to target
		1.3.2 Develop and implement the Biodiversity Plan and Action Plan	Plan and Action plan adopted by Council	30 June 2022	Being developed in line with target.	In Progress - to target
	Recreation & Open Space	1.3.3 Update the Urban Forest Strategy and Action Plan	Updated Urban Forest Strategy Action Plan adopted by Council	30 April 2022	Prioritisation will be considered as part of Recreation and Open Space service review	Not commenced yet

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
		1.3.4 Implement Stony Creek Future Directions Plan 2020	Annual progress report to Council	31 May 2022	Initiative activities have commenced to support this action.	In Progress - to target
		1.3.5 Include the "Stony Creek stormwater treatment and harvesting – Design Flow Report – May 2019" with the implementation of the Stony Creek Future Directions Plan	Incorporation into the Stony Creek Future Directions Plan	31 May 2022	Initiative activities have commenced to support this action.	In Progress - to target
1.4 Creating additional and accessible open space <i>HW</i>	Recreation & Open Space	1.4.1 Implement the Open Space Strategy 2014-2032	Make annual improvements to Reserves as outlined in the Open Space Strategy	28 February 2022	Initiative activities have commenced to support this action.	In Progress - to target
			Purchase property in identified gaps area to create new open space	31 December 2021		
			Annual progress report to Council	30 June 2022		
		1.4.2 Implement the Hansen Reserve Masterplan	Annual progress report to Council	30 June 2022	Initiative activities have commenced to support this action.	In Progress - to target
	Major Projects & Strategic Relationships	1.4.3 Provide additional and accessible open space as part of the Footscray Civic and Community Hub project	Detailed Design of Footscray Civic and Community Hub endorsed by Council	31 March 2022	Progressing towards investigating the design to provide open space integrated with the Civic & Community Precinct Renewal Project	In Progress - delayed
2.1 Promote and design, low carbon, green, safe, aesthetic and connected neighbourhoods <i>HW</i>	Arts, Community Learning & Libraries	2.1.1 Implement the Public Art Strategy 2019-2029	Annual progress report to Council	31 May 2022	Covid-19 lockdowns has impacted timelines but we are still progressing the Key Performance indicators of Council's Public Art Strategy. Including: Two major public art commissions (Boathouse, IELC Hyde St), artist selection phase for Henry Turner South Pavilion and three StreetWORKS will be	In Progress - delayed

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
					completed in 2021/22. The Art & Heritage Collections Policy has been endorsed in Q1 and plans for decanting the Art Collection at Town Hall is in place.	
	City Futures	2.1.2 Implement Plan Melbourne principles in urban planning and projects	Report to Council on how the Plan Melbourne principles inform Council planning	31 March 2022	A report will be presented to Council later this month reporting on the Western Land Use Framework Plan, and how the actions in Plan Melbourne will be delivered at a regional and local level.	In Progress - to target
	Assets & Capital	2.1.3 Develop Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) guidelines	Report delivered to Council	31 March 2022	The ESD guidelines for Council Buildings are already developed and approved by Council on 20 March 2018. These ESD guidelines are being reviewed to incorporate new technologies	In Progress - to target
	Urban Planning /	2.1.4 Develop medium density guidelines, which will include vegetation protection principles, to guide development for built form across the City	Draft guidelines endorsed for community consultation and adopted by Council	30 June 2022	Draft guidelines have been completed. Images are being captured for use within the guidelines. On track for presentation to Council in May 2022.	In Progress - to target
	Recreation and Open Space		Annual progress report to Council	31 May 2022	Prioritisation will be considered as part of Recreation and Open Space service review	Not commenced yet
2.2 Provide accessible opportunities for all our community to achieve physical, mental and social wellbeing <i>HW</i>	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	2.2.1 Implement 0-25 Strategy for children, young people and their families 2030	Annual progress report to Council	31 December 2021	Action plan developed and being implemented for this year, last year's plan completed (COVID-19 dependant) and infographic report card being developed	In Progress - to target
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	2.2.2 Implement the Healthy and Active Framework 2021-2025	Healthy and Active Framework 2021-2025 adopted by Council	31 December 2021	This Action has been delayed due to the organisational restructure, and resultant merging of Open Space Department and	In Progress - delayed

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
					Leisure Health and Wellbeing Department	
	Recreation & Open Space	2.2.3 Develop and implement the Aquatic Strategy 2021-2025	Aquatic Strategy 2021-2025 adopted by Council	31 December 2021	Initiative activities have commenced to support this action.	In Progress - to target
	Recreation & Open Space	2.2.4 Implement the Indoor Stadium Strategy 2019	Complete potential site investigations	30 June 2022	Initiative activities have commenced to support this action.	In Progress - to target
	Recreation & Open Space	2.2.5 Implement the Outdoor Sport and Recreation Facilities Future Directions Plan 2021-2025	Outdoor Sport and Recreation Facilities Future Directions Plan 2021-2025 adopted by Council	31 December 2021	This Action has been delayed due to the organisational restructure, and resultant merging of Open Space Department and Leisure Health and Wellbeing Department	In Progress - delayed
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	2.2.6 Prepare a discussion paper on fresh food access and healthy eating in Maribyrnong communities	Discussion paper considered by Council	30 April 2022	Discussion paper to be developed	In Progress - delayed
	City Places	2.2.7 Develop and consult on a Walking Strategy (within the Active Transport Framework)	Draft Strategy shared with community for feedback	30 April 2022	Expected to commence in Q3 FY2021/22 as new staff are recruited.	Not commenced yet
2.3 Promote and partner with community to build resilient tourism, circular and local economies <i>HW</i>	City Futures	2.3.1 Continue to deliver objectives of the Maribyrnong Tourism and Visitation Strategy and Action Plan	Review Strategy and Action Plan Maribyrnong Tourism and Visitation Strategy and Action Plan	31 December 2021	The new Festival City Policy will identify opportunities to increase tourism and visitation. The review of the Festival City Policy is progressing but COVID-19 restrictions has delayed some of the targeted stakeholder engagement. A report to Council is likely in the first part of 2022	In Progress - delayed
			Updated Maribyrnong Tourism and Visitation Strategy and Action Plan adopted by Council	30 June 2022		
			Annual progress report to Council	30 June 2022		

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
	City Futures	2.3.2 Investigate options to enhance and support night time tourism opportunities in local activity centres	Annual progress report to Council	31 May 2022	A series of promotions have been prepared to promote the Footscray Night Time economy which were to be rolled out around the planned West Set music festival. Unfortunately COVID-19 restrictions prevented that from happening, though the promotional content is ready to go out via the Love Your Local Campaign once the Covid-19 restrictions are eased.	In Progress - to target
	City Futures	2.3.3 Support the business community and actively promote the City for business	Implement the economic development grants programme	30 June 2022	After a review of a BID Grant program a refreshed program has been developed with preparations made to go live in the 2nd quarter. A "BID Grant Showcase" event was successfully delivered in early September which saw the release of a series of videos that showcased the 2020-21 BID Grant Program.	In Progress - to target
	City Futures	2.3.4 Review and update Festivals City Program and implement new, emerging and accessible festivals	Review and update the Festivals City Program	30 April 2022	The review of the Festival City Policy is progressing but COVID-19 restrictions has delayed some of the targeted stakeholder engagement. A report to Council is likely in the first part of 2022	In Progress - delayed
2.4 Reduce traffic and trucks on our local roads, to improve safety, air quality and health outcomes <i>HW</i>	Assets & Capital	2.4.1 Develop and implement the Air Quality Improvement Plan and Action Plan	Air Quality Improvement Plan and Action Plan adopted by Council	31 August 2021	Air Quality Improvement Plan delayed until Q3	In Progress - delayed
2.5 Improve active and green transport across	City Places	2.5.1 Implement Maribyrnong Bicycle Strategy *	Annual progress report to Council	31 August 2021	\$1.9M budget for FY2021/22. French Street separated bicycle lane tender has been awarded with construction to commence in November 2021.	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
the municipality <i>HW</i>					Additional two positions recruited for, with successful candidates to commence in October 2021. This will allow additional projects to run concurrently. On track to deliver all projects this FY.	
	Assets & Capital	2.5.2 Advocate for improved low emission public transport solutions	Progress report in the bi-annual Advocacy Report	31 December 2021	The December Advocacy Report will reference actions to improve public transport, in relation to: Low emission solutions, Public Transport vehicles. The report will also reference the commencement of the Maidstone Tram Facility and Next Generation Trams.	In Progress - to target
3.1 Build upon our community strengths and assets, to enable community led activities <i>HW</i>	Community Development and Positive Ageing & Inclusion	3.1.1 Implement the community grants program and extend training and support to all applicants, including First Nations and diverse Cultural Group applicants	Annual progress report to Council which includes a demographic breakdown of all applicants and successful applications	30 June 2022	The action is supported by the Community Grants Redesign adopted by Council in July. Program design will take place in the new calendar year.	In Progress - delayed
3.2 Strengthen inclusion and cohesion by removing barriers to participation in all aspects of community life <i>HW</i>	Community Development and Positive Ageing & Inclusion	3.2.1 Develop and implement the LGBTIQ+ Strategy and Action Plan	Establish an LGBTIQ+ advisory committee	31 December 2021	TOR have been developed and recruitment is due to commence.	In Progress - to target
		3.2.2 Develop and implement the Disability Action Plan (DAP)	Disability Action Plan (DAP) adopted by Council	30 June 2022	The DAP is currently in development.	In Progress - to target
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	3.2.6 Review Gambling Policy 2016-2020	Reviewed Policy presented to Council for consideration and adoption	31 December 2021	Draft policy presented to Council for consideration. Changes to policy made based on feedback from Councillors.	In Progress - to target
	City Futures	3.2.7 Implement the Footscray University Town (FUT) Plan 2020-25	Annual progress report to Council	30 June 2022	Implementation of FUT activities continues	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	3.2.8 Review the Alcohol and Other Drugs Policy	Reviewed Policy presented to Council for consideration and adoption	30 June 2022	Draft discussion paper developed for new policy which outlines key issues for revised policy to address. Project Charter developed for new draft policy	In Progress - to target
3.3 Advocate for improved social and affordable housing outcomes <i>HW</i>	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	3.3.1 Promote and facilitate partnerships to improve the quality, options and volume of social and housing affordability	Progress report submitted to Council as part of the bi-annual Advocacy Plan	31 December 2021	Update included in Council advocacy report.	In Progress - to target
			Progress report submitted to Council as part of the bi-annual Advocacy Plan	30 June 2022		
	City Futures / Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	3.3.2 Explore partnership options to promote social and housing affordability	Annual report to Council on social and affordable housing sector trends	31 August 2021	Draft report being developed which provides an update on key trends and policy changes including the Victorian Government's Big Housing Build program.	In Progress - to target
3.4 Build capacity for our diverse communities to thrive economically and culturally <i>HW</i>	Arts, Community Learning & Libraries	3.4.1 Implement the Arts and Culture Strategy 2018-2023	Annual progress report to Council	31 March 2022	Venue closures, capacity limits and lockdowns from COVID-19 continue to impact the arts sector. Cancellations of Melbourne Fringe and One Night in Footscray have occurred but where possible we have rescheduled into early 2022. We are shifting our focus in 2022 to works in the public realm, arts practice and local sector development (capacity building workshops, Forte mentorships, artist residencies, First Nations Creative Project) given the ongoing challenges of the pandemic.	In Progress - delayed

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
	Community Development and Positive Ageing & Inclusion	3.4.3 Develop and implement the 'Leading and Participation' program and framework	Framework adopted by Council	31 May 2022	Align with development of grants redesign and MPPS	In Progress - delayed
3.5 Provide opportunities for lifelong learning <i>HW</i>	Arts, Community Learning & Libraries	3.5.1 Deliver quality programming at Libraries and Community Centres	Undertake a needs analysis to identify gaps and opportunities	31 December 2021	Early scoping has commenced to define the requirements of the needs analysis. Delivery is expected as planned.	In Progress - to target
			Develop and implement future ways of working framework to be embedded across all facilities	31 May 2022		
			Annual progress report to Council	31 May 2022		
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	3.5.2 Advocate for social and community infrastructure investments	Annual progress report to Council	31 May 2022	Progress report under development, based on draft Community Infrastructure Strategy recommendations.	In Progress - to target
3.6 Take action to reduce family violence, respond to the needs of victims and promote gender equality <i>HW</i>	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	3.6.1 Implement strategies to respond to family violence and promote gender equality through the Towards Gender Equity Strategy 2030 *	Annual progress report against indicators in the Towards Gender Equity 2030 Strategy delivered to Council	31 October 2021	Gender Impact Assessment tool to be developed based on requirements outlined in Gender Equality Act. Annual progress report on Towards Gender Equity Strategy presented to Council in 2022.	In Progress - delayed
			All policies, programs and strategies developed or reviewed to include a gender impact assessment with an annual progress report to Council	31 October 2021		
4.1 Foster pride and identity by acknowledging our rich cultural heritage, and	City Futures	4.1.1 Protect, retain and enhance items of heritage significance in our community through statutory planning controls	Undertake a Heritage review and report to Council	30 June 2022	An inception meeting was held in September and a project scope established. A formal project charter will be developed over Q2.	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
our First Nations People's history <i>HW</i>	Community Development and Positive Ageing & Inclusion	4.1.2 Provide direction on a response to 26 January through engagement with the First Nations people, and wider established and newly arrived people to the City of Maribyrnong	Adoption report to Council	31 December 2021	First Nations led consultancy firm is about to be appointed.	In Progress - to target
4.2 Advocate and deliver projects that support a growing community now and into the future <i>HW</i>	City Futures	4.2.1 Develop and implement a Smart Cities Framework to make the best use of technologies for our community *	Smart Cities Framework adopted by Council	30 June 2022	The Smart City Strategic Framework has progressed to final draft stage and is ready to go up to Council for endorsement. A Smart City Project Working Group has been formed with members from across Council.	In Progress - to target
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	4.2.3 Implement Early Years Infrastructure Plan 2041	Construction of the Footscray Integrated Early Learning Centre (IELC) complete	31 March 2022	Currently on target for January Practical Completion, however may be delayed due to restrictions.	In Progress - to target
		4.2.4 Deliver Maribyrnong Reserve Project	Feasibility Report delivered to Council	30 May 2022	Internal stakeholders have been briefed on project, charter completed and brief drafted for review.	In Progress - to target
	City Futures/ Customer Engagement	4.2.5 Develop and implement Advocacy Plan 2021 and engage third party funders to encourage their support of advocacy priorities	Advocacy Plan 2021 adopted by Council	30 September 2021	The draft Advocacy Framework and Priorities will be reported to Council in October 2021.	In Progress - to target
			Bi-annual Advocacy Plan delivered to Council	31 March 2022	Update planned to be provided to Council in Q2	In Progress - delayed
	Information Technology Services	4.2.6 Single Customer View experience enabling digital delivery of services to our customers *	Annual progress report to Council	31 August 2021	Project targets delivered as per schedule.	Completed
	Major Projects & Strategic Relationships	4.2.7 Undertake and complete the detailed design phase of the Footscray Civic and Community Hub project	Detailed design adopted by Council	30 June 2022	Undertaking Value Management Process in preparation for the Design Development phase of the Civic & Community Precinct Renewal Project	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
		4.2.8 Advocate for redevelopment of old Footscray Hospital and Maribyrnong Defence site	Update included in the bi-annual Advocacy Plan and delivered to Council	31 December 2021	As appropriate advocate for Planning, Design and Infrastructure outcomes to achieve Council's strategic objectives.	Not commenced yet
			Update included in the bi-annual Advocacy Plan and delivered to Council	30 June 2022		
	Assets & Capital	4.2.9 Develop and deliver 4-Year Capital Works Program	Annual progress report to Council as per projects and project milestones	30 June 2022	Quarterly report to Council on annual capital works progress. Council has developed 1 year and 4 year capital works program, which forms part of annual budget document. Complete & ongoing.	In Progress - to target
5.1 Uphold our obligations to promote and protect Human Rights by demonstrating strong social responsibility across Council's operations <i>HW</i>	Community Development and Positive Ageing & Inclusion	5.1.1 Implement the Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP)	Annual progress report to Council	31 August 2021	Reconciliation action plan is about to be formally launched.	In Progress - to target
	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	5.1.2 Report to Council on meeting statutory objectives and achievements for the community	Annually report to Council on the range of social policy and practice across Council	30 June 2022	Review of Council's Human Rights and Social Justice Framework being developed.	In Progress - to target
5.2 Enhance breadth and depth of community engagement and encourage active civic participation <i>HW</i>	Customer Engagement	5.2.1 Implement the Engagement Policy 2021, including the use of tools and methods to support enhanced engagement with hard to reach communities	Review of Engagement Policy 2021	31 August 2021	Engagement Policy review undertaken in August. Increasing participation noted on a number of projects post initial adoption February 2021.	Completed
5.3 Build and model a safer, healthier, diverse and	Community Services & Social Infrastructure Planning	5.3.1 Develop and implement Gender Equality Action Plan to support implementation of	Workplace gender equality actions and indicators identified and approved	31 October 2021	People Matter survey of staff undertaken and staff workshops held across Council.	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Strategy	Department	Action	Measure	Due Date	Comment on Progress	Status
more equitable organisation <i>HW</i>		the Gender Equity 2030 Strategy				
5.4 Ensure Council sustainability, transparency and accountability	Finance	5.4.1 Budget, Financial Plan, Revenue and Rating Plan, and the Asset Plan adopted in line with statutory obligations	Audit Report	31 October 2021	Statements Audited with a clear Audit (copy sent to Minister by 30 September) OCM October final Annual Report going to Council.	In Progress - to target
			Annual Budget adopted by Council	30 June 2022	Budget manual and Timetable is currently being reviewed.	In Progress - to target
			Financial Plan adopted by Council	31 October 2021	Financial Plan due to be adopted by Council in Oct 2021.	In Progress - to target
			Asset Plan adopted by Council	31 October 2021	Progressing towards due date of June 2022	In Progress - to target
	People & Capability	5.4.2 Implement Workforce Plan in line with statutory obligations	Workforce Plan adopted by Council	31 December 2021	Internal organisational engagement and consultation commenced in Q1. The Workforce Plan project working group meets regularly, to ensure dedicated focus. A draft Workforce Plan has been developed.	In Progress - to target
	Assets & Capital	5.4.3 Review Council's Asset Management Plan and Fleet Policy to ensure actions from Climate Emergency Plan and Strategy are addressed	Review Asset Management Plans and present to Council for consideration	30 June 2022	AMP due June 2022 (On target). Fleet Policy – progress towards low emission vehicles where available (On target to meet 2025 targets)	In Progress - to target
	Finance	5.4.4 Manage performance and finances in line with income and regulation	Quarterly reporting to Council on performance and financial report and to the Audit and Risk Committee	30 June 2022	Preparing Q1 report to Council as planned. Will be in Council briefing in Nov 2021.	In Progress - to target

* indicates Major Initiative

HW indicates Health and Wellbeing Strategy/Actions

Agenda Item 9.9**RESIDENT PERMIT ZONE ON ADMIRAL STREET AND BILSTON STREET,
FOOTSCRAY**

Director: Patrick Jess
Acting Director Infrastructure Services

Author: Peter White
Manager Engineering and Transport

PURPOSE

To report the outcome of investigation in response to the petition submitted to Council to alter the existing parking restrictions to 'Permit Zone' parking restrictions in Admiral Street, Bilston Street and Buckley Street, Footscray.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- A petition was submitted to Council with 28 signature and noted in Council's Ordinary Meeting dated 16 February 2021 requesting "*permit only parking spaces on Admiral Street to at least one side of the street (14 spaces along the east side or 10 spaces along the west side), (and) commit to meaningful consultation with the residents regarding any future works or proposals in the area that would further impact our amenity*"

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Request the Chief Executive Officer delegate the authority to responsible officer to inform the leading petitioner of the outcome of the consultation.**
 2. **Note the proposed review of Council's Parking Management Policy 2017 and Residential Parking Permit Policy 2014.**
-

Agenda Item 9.9**BACKGROUND**

Residents from Admiral Street, Bilston Street and Buckley Street, Footscray have approached Council with a petition highlighting concerns regarding insufficient car parking spaces reserved for residents in the area, and that while local businesses and apartment living are expected in this transitional area from Footscray Activity Centre, the resulting amenity impact (eg traffic and noise) have been felt by the residents.

The petitioners also noted that Admiral Street and Buckley Street currently have no 'permit only' spaces for residents and that some of them as individuals have contacted Council on the strong demand for short term parking spaces in light of further potential intensification of commercial and residential uses in the precinct and the need to protect their liveability has now become a pressing issue for the residents.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

Prior to the receipt of this petition, Council has undertaken investigations and collected parking occupancy data in Feb 2019 and March 2020 (Attachment 2). The parking occupancy rate on both occasions recorded below the threshold of 85% parking occupancy rate as stipulated in the Council's endorsed Parking Management Policy.

Upon receipt of the petition in February 2021, council officers have undertaken various analysis of the parking situation of these streets with the following outcomes:

- Existing parking restrictions on these streets and number of on-street parking spaces (supply) versus the number of properties (demand)
- Number of parking permits issued to residents living on these streets by different types of permits

Table 1 summarises the analysis of the parking situation.

Description	Admiral St	Bilston St	Buckley St (between Admiral St and Bilston St)	Total
Existing parking restrictions	2 hour parking, 8am to 10pm, Monday to Saturday	<u>Along West Side:</u> 2 hour parking, 8am to 9pm, Monday to Friday <u>Along East Side:</u> Permit Zone at all times	½ hour parking, 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday; ½ hour parking, 9am to 3pm, Saturday	Not applicable
Parking supply - Number of on-street parking spaces	23 parking spaces	13 parking spaces (2 hour) 13 parking spaces (Permit Zone)	4 parking spaces	53
No. of dwelling units in total	13	89	5	107
a. No. of single residential properties	11	12	5	28
b. Number of	1 property	3 properties;	0	79

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Description	Admiral St	Bilston St	Buckley St (between Admiral St and Bilston St)	Total
multi-unit residential properties	Total Units= 2	Total Units=77		
c. Number of Commercial properties	1	0	3	4
No. of vehicle specific parking and visitor permits issued in total	18 + 5	25 + 8	11 + 3	54 + 32 = 86
• No. of parking permits issued for single residential properties	Vehicle Specific Permit - 11 Visitor Permit - 5 Disabled Permit - 2	Vehicle Specific Permit - 13 Visitor Permit - 8 Disabled Permit - 3	Vehicle Specific Permit - 7 Visitor Permit - 3 Disabled Permit - 0	Vehicle Specific Permit - 31 Visitor Permit - 16 Disabled Permit - 5
• No. of parking permits issued for multi-unit residential properties***	Vehicle Specific Permit - 0 ** Visitor Permit - 0 Disabled Permit - 0	Vehicle Specific Permit - 0 ** Visitor Permit - 1 Disabled Permit - 0	Vehicle Specific Permit - 0 ** Visitor Permit - 0 Disabled Permit - 1	Vehicle Specific Permit - 0 ** Visitor Permit - 1 Disabled Permit - 1

Note:

** As per Council's Resident Permit Parking Policy 2014, No resident or visitor parking permits to be issued for any new residential developments with 3 or more dwellings within the Footscray Parking Zone, from 10 June 2014.

*** No resident or visitor parking permits issued to the multi-dwellings units except disabled permits.

From the above table, it is evident that:

- There is a mixture of single and multi-residential properties generating parking demand along these streets. There is also additional broader area parking demand from adjacent commercial and residential properties, which is not shown in the table.
- Majority of on-street parking restrictions are 2P, where residents with permits are not required to abide by the timed restrictions.
- The number of properties on these streets is 107.
- The total number of parking permits = 86, consisting of 54 vehicle specific permits (for residents) and 32 for visitors permit.
- The supply of on-street parking is only 53 spaces.
- Both the number of properties and the number of permits issued exceed the supply of on-street parking.

Maribyrnong is home to a diverse mix of residential, commercial, educational and public transport precincts which bring a heightened demand for public parking. In some areas, particularly near activity precincts, the demand for parking spaces often exceeds supply.

In this location there is not enough on-street parking supply to fulfil all the parking needs of every resident in this area. This would still be the case even if "residents permit only" parking spaces on Admiral Street is created as requested. The investigation showed

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that there are only 13 on-street parking spaces on the east side of Admiral Street and 10 on-street parking spaces on the west side of Admiral Street.

The existing parking restrictions and permit allocations along Admiral Street, Bilston Street and Buckley Street (between Admiral St and Bilston St), Footscray are consistent with Council’s current Parking Management Policy 2017 and Resident Permit Parking Policy 2014.

Within the Maribyrnong Planning Scheme and Council’s suite of strategic plans and policies, the collective vision is that private vehicle ownership in Maribyrnong going forward should be managed in a sustainable manner where other modes of transport are encouraged including car-sharing, ride-sharing, walking and cycling.

It is therefore recommended Admiral Street and Bilston Street will be consulted in regards to introducing Permit Zone parking restrictions between 9pm and 8am, Monday to Saturday.

Please refer to existing and proposed parking restrictions maps below:

Existing Parking Restrictions Map



Proposed Parking Restrictions Map

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Council’s Residential Parking Permit Policy 2014 and Parking Management Policy 2017 are to be reviewed during 2022 in line with the timeframes set out in each Policy. Further potential intensification of commercial and residential uses in precincts across the municipality and the need to protect resident’s liveability will be important considerations for the reviews.

All residents and businesses will be provided the opportunity to be involved in the community engagement and consultation process for the review of Council’s Parking Policies.

2. Council Policy/Legislation

Council Plan 2021-2025

This report contributes to Council’s strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:

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- A place for all - Council will provide well-planned neighbourhoods & strong local economy, delivering services that are inclusive & accessible to the whole community, support wellbeing, healthy & safe living, community connection, and cultural interaction.

Legislation

Council Policies that guide the provision of parking across the municipality are:

- Parking Management Policy 2017
- Residential Parking Permit Policy 2014.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

The community was consulted via the consultation process as described in the report.

4. Resources

Not applicable.

5. Environment

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The responsible officer will inform the leading petitioner of the outcome for this petition. Residents of Admiral Street and Bilston Street Footscray will be consulted in regards to introducing Permit Zone parking restrictions between 9pm and 8am, Monday to Saturday.

Agenda Item 9.10

COUNCILLOR APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2022

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Danny Bilaver
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To appoint Councillor Representatives to Council Advisory Committees and other external bodies for 2022.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- Council is a member of, and leads a number of committees and advisory groups, with a focus on regional and local issues.
- Annually, Council nominates representatives to attend meetings of these committees and advisory groups and report back to Council with issues and updates on a monthly basis, via the delegates' report.
- 2021 representatives are listed in the attachment for information.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Councillors on Committees 2022 schedule [↓](#)

Agenda Item 9.10**OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**

That Council approves the following Councillor appointments for 2022:

- a) Councillor _____ as representative to the Brooklyn Community Reference Group.
 - b) The Mayor, Councillor _____, Councillor _____ and Councillor _____ as representatives to the Chief Executive Officer Employment Matters Advisory Committee.
 - c) The Mayor (ex-officio) and Councillor _____ from the River Ward, Councillor _____ from the Stony Creek Ward and Councillor _____ from the Yarraville Ward as members of the Civic Awards Judging Panel.
 - d) Councillor _____ as representative to the Heritage Advisory Committee and Councillor _____ as substitute.
 - e) Councillor _____, Councillor _____ and Councillor _____ as representative to the LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee.
 - f) The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer as representatives, and Cr _____ as proxy to the M9 Committee.
 - g) Councillor _____ as representative to the Maribyrnong Active Transport Advisory Committee and Councillor _____ as substitute.
 - h) Councillor _____ as representative to the Maribyrnong Arts Ambassadors Committee.
 - i) Councillor _____ as representative to the Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum, Councillor _____ as substitute and the Senior Coordinator Environmental Services as the staff representative.
 - j) Councillor _____ as representatives to the Metropolitan Transport Forum, Councillor _____ as substitute and Director Infrastructure Services as the staff representative.
 - k) Councillor _____ as representative to the Municipal Association of Victoria and Councillor _____ as substitute.
 - l) Councillor _____ as representative to the RoadSafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council and Councillor _____ as substitute.
 - m) Councillor _____ as representative to the Western Melbourne's Tourism Board and Councillor _____ as substitute.
 - n) Councillor _____ as representative to the Victorian Local Governance Association and Councillor _____ as substitute.
 - o) Councillor _____ as representative to the Youth Advisory
-

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Committee.

- p) Councillor _____ and Councillor _____ as the Gender Equity Ambassadors.**
-

Agenda Item 9.10**BACKGROUND**

Each year, Council nominates Councillors to be representatives on various committees and advisory groups. Some committees are established by Council (advisory committees) and others are community or industry based organisations that have requested a Councillor Representative for their group. Each committee has different responsibilities as per the terms of reference or membership requirements.

These committees and advisory groups operate outside of the Delegated Committees established by Council under section 63 and 64 of the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)*.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

A Councillor's role as a member of these committees is to represent the position of Council and report on issues and/or progress as necessary.

It is the responsibility of each Councillor to attend the meetings for which they have been appointed and report back to Council on updates via the monthly delegates' report at Council Meetings.

The Disability Advisory Committee, Maribyrnong Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Committee and Older Persons Reference Group are currently under review. As such, it is not proposed that appointments be made to these committees at this time. A report advising of the outcome of this review will be presented to Council in March 2022.

In April 2021, Council resolved to dissolve its membership of the Inner Melbourne Action Plan Committee and to join an expanded group of inner-city councils for the purpose of shared advocacy, with a working title of M9.

The M9 is comprised of the Cities of: Melbourne, Yarra, Darebin, Stonnington, Moonee Valley, Port Phillip, Moreland, Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong. A Memorandum of Understanding has been entered into in order to commence implementation of advocacy processes in order to achieve the agreed priorities. In line with the Memorandum of Understanding, the Lord Mayor of the City of Melbourne is the permanent chair of M9.

The MAV convenes a number of committees that are subject to an annual appointment process initiated and coordinated by the MAV. Nominations to these committees are made on an informal basis.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Strategic Objective:

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- Ethical leadership - Council will proactively lead changing City using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making & well-planned & effective collaboration & community engagement to support community & economic growth.

Legislation

Not applicable.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

In accordance with section 129 of *the Act*, a Councillor is not taken to have a conflict of interest in relation to the nomination or appointment by the Council of the Councillor, to a position for which the Councillor will not be remunerated.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

Not applicable.

4. Resources

Not applicable.

5. Environment

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The list of Council representatives to committees is presented for 2022 appointments.

2022 COUNCILLORS ON COMMITTEES

Agenda Item 9.10 - Attachment 1

Committee	2021 Councillor Representative	2022 Councillor Representative	Meeting Frequency	Responsible Director	Comments
Brooklyn Community Reference Group	Cr Michael Clarke		Quarterly Generally held on a Wednesday in March, July and November with a possibility for a fourth meeting. Location: Brooklyn Community Centre	Director Infrastructure Services	A community reference group meeting facilitated by the EPA with industry, residents groups, Hobsons Bay and Brimbank councils as participants.
Chief Executive Employment Matters Advisory Committee (MCC)	-		Annually Two meetings held at a time suitable to Councillors involved. Location: Council	Director Corporate Services	Established pursuant to the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make recommendations to Council on contractual employment matters relating to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO); • Make recommendation to Council on performance matters relating to the CEO; and • Perform any other functions or responsibilities prescribed by the Local Government Act 2020.
Civic Awards Judging Panel	The Mayor Cr Sarah Carter Cr Cuc Lam Cr Simon Crawford		Annually Held in December each year. Location: Council	Director Corporate Services	Panel of Councillors (Mayor and a Councillor representing each of the three wards within the municipality) and the most recent Citizen of the Year to judge the Civic Awards which recognises individuals and organisations that have made significant contributions to the life of citizens in the City of Maribyrnong.
Disability Advisory Committee (MCC) Currently under review	-		Every 6 weeks Time: 10am Location: Council	Clem Gillings	To facilitate consultation with people with disabilities and establish a process that allows community discussion on disability issues. To provide strategic advice on disability access and promote the interests of people with disabilities in relation to the Disability Action Plan. Vice-Chair elected by Committee members.
Heritage Advisory Committee (MCC)	Cr Michael Clarke Cr Sarah Carter (substitute)		Quarterly Generally held in February, May, August and November Location: Council	Director Corporate Services	To oversee strategic and statutory planning processes impacting on heritage places, and to strategically influence budget allocations and external funding to support heritage conservation and interpretation.
LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee (MCC)	-		Quarterly Location: Council	Director Community Services	To advise Council on the needs and lived experience of people who identify as, lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, queer, or allied/asexual (LGBTQIA+) in Maribyrnong.

2022 COUNCILLORS ON COMMITTEES Agenda Item 9.10 - Attachment 1

Committee	2021 Councillor Representative	2022 Councillor Representative	Meeting Frequency	Responsible Director	Comments
M9	The Mayor CEO	The Mayor CEO	Quarterly 8am on a Friday Location: Various Councils	Director Community Services	Mayor and CEO Council's representatives as per M9 Terms of Reference, with a Councillor to be appointed as a substitute should the Mayor not be able to attend.
Maribyrnong Active Transport Advisory Committee	Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Simon Crawford (substitute)		Quarterly Location: Council	Director Corporate Services	The Maribyrnong Active Transport Advisory Committee's purpose is to provide strategic advice to Council on Active Transport (cycling and walking) issues affecting the community, and inform Council on decision making in relation to policy, program, and service delivery.
Maribyrnong Arts Ambassador Committee	Cr Anthony Tran Cr Bernadette Thomas		Quarterly Location: Council	Director Community Services	Provides a formal broad-based mechanism for Council to receive strategic advice across a range of arts and cultural matters, to strengthen partnerships and opportunities between Council and the community/organisations/artists.
Maribyrnong Reconciliation Action Plan Advisory Committee Currently under review	-		Quarterly Location: Council	Clem Gillings	Provide guidance and support to Council on issues and barriers that affect the Reconciliation process.
Metropolitan Local Governments' Waste Forum	Cr Michael Clarke Cr Cuc Lam (substitute)		Bi-monthly Generally a Thursday every second month. Location: CBD	Director Infrastructure Services Senior Coordinator Environmental Services	Provides a strategic approach to metropolitan waste management needs.
Metropolitan Transport Forum	Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Anthony Tran (substitute)		Monthly Generally first Wednesday of the month. Location: Melbourne Town Hall	Director Infrastructure Services	To promote effective, efficient and equitable transport in the metropolitan area of Melbourne by providing a forum for debate, research, policy development and the dissemination of information to improve public/road transport.

2022 COUNCILLORS ON COMMITTEES Agenda Item 9.10 - Attachment 1

Committee	2021 Councillor Representative	2022 Councillor Representative	Meeting Frequency	Responsible Director	Comments
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)	Cr Simon Crawford Cr Cuc Lam (substitute)		Bi-annually Two State Council Meetings per year on a Friday in May and October. Location: Sofitel CBD	Director Corporate Services	Peak representative/lobbying body for local government in Victoria. Major role in policy development for the whole industry. Board is made up of 12 Members plus a President, 13 in total. Councils form the membership. One vote per Council. There are no individual Councillor memberships. Two representatives are required – a primary and a secondary. The secondary member votes in the absence of the primary member.
Older Persons Reference Group Currently under review	-	Cr Mia McGregor Cr Cuc Lam (Substitute)	Monthly Location: Rotating throughout municipality	Clem Gillings	Provides advice in relation to the needs of older persons throughout the municipality.
Roadsafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council	Cr Jorge Jorquera Cr Anthony Tran (substitute)		Monthly Generally every third Wednesday of the month. Location: Hobsons Bay Civic Centre, Altona	Director Infrastructure Services	Aims to reduce the incidence of road crashes by facilitating the implementation of effective road safety programs and initiatives through collaborative arrangements with stakeholders (councils, VicRoads, Victoria Police).
Victorian Local Governance Association	Cr Cuc Lam Cr Bernadette Thomas (substitute)		Annually	Director Corporate Services	A peak body promoting good governance and sustainability by supporting local governments and communities through programs of advocacy, training, information provision and support. Council can have one delegate appointed only which represents the Council's vote. Individual Councillors can nominate for membership on the Board, which entitles them to one vote. Individual Councillors vote as individuals, not on behalf of the Council. Tenure on the Board is for a period of two years. One Councillor needs to be primary representative in order to provide the Council's vote.

Agenda Item 9.10 - Attachment 1

2022 COUNCILLORS ON COMMITTEES

Committee	2021 Councillor Representative	2022 Councillor Representative	Meeting Frequency	Responsible Director	Comments
Youth Advisory Committee (MCC)	Cr Anthony Tran Cr Jorge Jorquera		Fortnightly Attendance for Councillors would be once, perhaps twice, throughout the year.	Director Community Services	To provide leadership and training for young people, and maximise participation in Council.
Gender Equity Ambassador	Cr Sarah Carter		-	Director Community Services	The Gender Equity Ambassador will work with Council's Health and Wellbeing Development team and support the implementation and evaluation of the Gender Equity Strategy.
Western Melbourne Tourism Board	Cr Sarah Carter Cr Cuc Lam (substitute)			Director Community Services	<p>Western Melbourne Tourism Inc (WMT) is an urban regional tourism board incorporated for the purposes of developing a stronger more competitive tourism sector in Melbourne's west. Melbourne's west embraces the municipal boundaries of Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Maribyrnong, Melton, Moonee Valley and Wyndham councils.</p> <p>The WMT board's mission is to increase the recognition and contribution of tourism to the region's economy, ensuring potential visitors are aware of the unique factors that make Melbourne's west a compelling place to visit and this interest converts to visitation growth.</p> <p>The WMT board is currently focused on working collaboratively with other key stakeholders to support local industry operators, advocate to government, and undertake steps to grow the capability of the sector and the quality of the visitor experience in the region.</p> <p>The board currently comprises representation from five of the six western metropolitan Council funding partners, LeadWest, Victoria University, Parks Victoria, Scienceworks, Quest Apartments, Zoos Victoria and the arts sector.</p>
Audit and Risk Advisory Committee	The Mayor (substitute) Cr Anthony Tran Cr Jorge Jorquera	The Mayor (substitute) Cr Michael Clarke Cr Cuc Lam	Bi-monthly Location: Council	Director Corporate Services	Established pursuant to Sect 53 of the Local Government Act 2020

Agenda Item 9.10 - Attachment 1

2022 COUNCILLORS ON COMMITTEES

Committee	2021 Councillor Representative	2022 Councillor Representative	Meeting Frequency	Responsible Director	Comments
City Development Delegated Committee Chair	Cr Sarah Carter	Cr Cuc Lam	Monthly Generally last Tuesday of month Location: Council	Director Corporate Services	In relation to appointment of the Chair only.
Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee	Cr Anthony Tran Cr Cuc Lam	The Mayor (ex-officio) Cr Cuc Lam Cr Sarah Carter	Bi-monthly 4 meetings a year held at 4.30pm on a Tuesday prior to a Councillor Strategic Briefing Session. Location: Council	Director Community Services	
LeadWest	Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Michael Clarke	Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Simon Crawford (proxy)	Quarterly Time and date to be determined	Director Corporate Services	LeadWest is formed by the councils of Brimbank, Maribyrnong, Moonee Valley, Wyndham and Melton. LeadWest provides a focal point for the Western Suburbs, ensuring a strategic approach to advocacy and lobbying. Two representatives per Council are to be appointed – one Councillor, one being the Council's CEO.

Agenda Item 9.11**COUNCIL AND DELEGATED COMMITTEE MEETING DATES 2022**

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Danny Bilaver
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To present the proposed schedule of dates for the 2022 calendar year for Council Meetings (including a Meeting of Council to elect the Mayor to be held in November), the City Development Delegated Committee, the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee and the LeadWest Joint Delegated Committees.

ISSUES SUMMARY

- The *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)* requires Council to give public notice of its meeting times, dates and venues. This is not a requirement for Councillor Strategic Briefing Sessions which are not public meetings.
- Council has traditionally held meetings on Tuesday evenings, with no meetings being scheduled in January.
- With the exception of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee it is proposed that all Council meetings commence at 6.30pm, where possible.
- The Council Meeting to elect the Mayor for 2022/23 is proposed to be held on Tuesday 8 November 2022.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council and Delegated Committee Schedule 2022 [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION**That Council:**

1. **Approve the Meeting Schedule for the 2022 Council and Delegated Committee meetings as attached to this report.**
 2. **Authorise the Chief Executive Officer to amend the 2022 Meeting Schedule as required, to cover for workload or other special circumstances.**
 3. **Request the Chief Executive Officer to ensure that the Schedule of Council Meetings and any meeting date changes are appropriately advertised in the local newspapers and Council's website.**
-

Agenda Item 9.11**BACKGROUND**

Historically, Council has operated on a four week cycle, with meetings being scheduled on a Tuesday evening.

A schedule of meeting dates has been developed for the period February 2022 to December 2022. The schedule attempts to balance the need for an appropriate number of information sessions having regard for the volume and complexity of Council business while recognising that Councillors are performing a range of civic duties outside of the meeting structure. The meeting schedule will be adjusted to accommodate the Meeting of Council to elect the Mayor and the Christmas period.

It is noted that as per Part C, Division 1, Section 12 of Council's Governance Rules, Council must give public notice of Council and Delegated Committee meetings.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues**

It is proposed that meetings commence at 6.30pm where possible, with the exception of the Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee which will commence at 4.30pm. No dates or times have been set for the LeadWest Committee as yet, these will be set independently by the committee. All meetings will be held in the Council Offices except for LeadWest meetings which will be rotated amongst participating Councils.

The proposed 2022 meeting cycle includes two Councillor Strategic Briefing Sessions (where possible), a Council Meeting and City Development Delegated Committee meeting each month.

In order to provide sufficient time for meeting agenda papers to be distributed to Councillors and the public, a two week split is proposed. The first meeting of the month will be a Councillor Strategic Briefing Session primarily for items intended to be considered at the Council Meeting. The second meeting of the month will be a Councillor Strategic Briefing Session for items to be considered at the City Development Delegated Committee meeting. The third meeting of the month will be the Council Meeting and the fourth meeting will be the City Development Delegated Committee. Where there is a fifth Tuesday in a month, at times, these will be utilised to avoid clashed with public holidays.

The proposed meeting cycle is demonstrated in Attachment 1.

Councillor Strategic Briefing Sessions

It is proposed that all Councillor Strategic Briefing Sessions commence at 6.30pm and be held on a Tuesday at the Council Offices. These confidential information sessions are not open to the public and provide for Councillors to seek clarification where needed, on matters which may be subject to formal resolution of the Council or its Delegated Committees.

Agenda Item 9.11

These information sessions are scheduled to be held twice monthly where possible.

As defined by *the Act*, these information sessions are considered an Informal Meeting of Councillors and must be reported to Council on a monthly basis.

Council Meetings

It is proposed that all Council Meetings commence at 6.30pm and be held on a Tuesday in the Council Chambers at the Council Offices.

Council meetings are open to the public. These meetings are scheduled to be held monthly, usually on the third Tuesday of the month, or as required.

City Development & Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee

It is proposed that all City Development Meetings commence at 6.30pm and be held monthly on a Tuesday, usually the fourth Tuesday of the month, in the Council Chambers at Council Offices.

Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee Meetings are proposed to commence at 4.30pm and be held quarterly on a Tuesday in the Council's Functions Room. These meetings are open to the public for discussion and ruling on matters in line with its terms of reference.

LeadWest Joint Delegated Committee

LeadWest is a partnership between the Cities of Maribyrnong, Brimbank, Hobsons Bay, Melton, and Wyndham formally known as a Joint Delegated Committee, (bound by identical Council Delegations and Terms of Reference), meetings are rotated between each Council throughout the year. Meeting dates and times are to be confirmed by the Committee and will be held at least quarterly.

Calling of Unscheduled Meetings

From time to time, Council may hold additional Council Meetings outside the meeting schedule. Where this is required, public notice will be provided in accordance with Part C, Division 1, Section 12 of Council's Governance Rules.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

- Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

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Legislation

Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

3. Engagement

The meeting cycle provides a number of formal opportunities for community members to participate in Council's decision making processes and are in addition to a wide range of community consultation and engagement methods used by Council.

4. Resources

Not applicable.

5. Environment

Not applicable.

CONCLUSION

The dates for Councillor Strategic Briefing Sessions, Council Meetings, the City Development and Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee Meetings for 2022 are presented for consideration.



Agenda Item 9.11 - Attachment 1

2022 Council and Delegated Committee Meeting Dates

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
February 2022	Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee	Tuesday 1	4.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 1	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 8	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 15	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 22	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
March 2022	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 1	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 8	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 15	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 22	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 29	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
April 2022	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 5	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 12	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 26	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
May 2022	Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee	Tuesday 3	4.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 3	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 10	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 17	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 24	6.30pm



Agenda Item 9.11 - Attachment 1

2022 Council and Delegated Committee Meeting Dates

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
June 2022	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 7	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 14	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 21	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 28	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
July 2022	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 5	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 12	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 19	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 26	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
August 2022	Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee	Tuesday 2	4.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 2	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 9	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 16	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 23	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 30	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
September 2022	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 6	6.30pm
	Footscray Cemetery Trust	Tuesday 6	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 13	5.45pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 20	6.30pm



Agenda Item 9.11 - Attachment 1

2022 Council and Delegated Committee Meeting Dates

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
October 2022	Enterprise Maribyrnong Delegated Committee	Tuesday 4	4.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Tuesday 4	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Tuesday 11	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 18	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 25	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
November 2022	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM)	Wednesday 2	6.30pm
	Council Meeting – Election of the Mayor	Tuesday 8	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CDDC)	Wednesday 9	6.30pm
	Council Meeting	Tuesday 15	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 22	6.30pm
	Councillor Strategic Briefing Session (CM/CDDC)	Tuesday 29	6.30pm

Month	Meeting	Day/Date	Time
December 2022	Council Meeting	Tuesday 6	6.30pm
	City Development Delegated Committee	Tuesday 13	6.30pm



Agenda Item 9.11 - Attachment 1
2022 Council and Delegated Committee Meeting Dates

2022 Public Holidays (sourced from www.australia.gov.au)	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New Year's Day, Saturday 1 January• New Year's Day Holiday, Monday 3 January• Australia Day, Wednesday 26 January• Labour Day, Monday 14 March• Good Friday, Friday 15 April• Saturday before Easter Sunday, Saturday 16 April• Easter Sunday, Sunday 17 April• Easter Monday, Monday 18 April	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• ANZAC Day, Monday 25 April• Queen's Birthday, Monday 13 June• Melbourne Cup Day, Tuesday 1 November• Christmas Day, Sunday 25 December• Boxing Day, Sunday 26 December• Christmas Holiday, Monday 26 December• Boxing Day Holiday, Tuesday 27 December

2021 School Terms (sourced from www.education.vic.gov.au)	
Term One	Tuesday 28 January to Friday 1 April
Term Two	Tuesday 19 April to Friday 25 June
Term Three	Monday 12 July to Friday 17 September
Term Four	Monday 4 October to Friday 17 December 2021

Agenda Item 9.12**GOVERNANCE REPORT - OCTOBER 2021**

Director: Lisa King
Acting Director Corporate Services

Author: Danny Bilaver
Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services

PURPOSE

To receive and note the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor delegates' for the period October 2021 as well as other statutory compliance and governance matters as they arise.

ISSUES SUMMARY

Details of informal meetings Councillors and Councillor Delegates' Reports are presented to an Council Meeting on a monthly basis. The reports will be made available on Council's website for the term of the current Council.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Governance Report - October 2021 [↓](#)

OFFICER RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Governance Report containing the record of informal meetings of Councillors and Councillor Delegates' Reports for October 2021 which will be made available on Council's website for the term of the current Council.

Agenda Item 9.12**BACKGROUND**

It is considered good governance that written records of informal meetings of Councillors are, as soon as practicable, reported at a Council Meeting and incorporated in the minutes of that Council meeting. The Councillor delegates' reports demonstrate Council's commitment to open and transparent governance. Details of Councillor Delegates Reports are presented to a Council Meeting on a monthly basis, and made available on Council's website.

DISCUSSION/KEY ISSUES**1. Key Issues****Informal Meetings of Councillors**

Chapter 6 of Council's Governance Rules state that if there is a meeting of Councillors that:

- 1.1 is scheduled or planned for the purpose of discussing the business of Council or briefing Councillors;
- 1.2 is attended by at least one member of Council staff; and
- 1.3 is not a Council meeting, Delegated Committee meeting or Community Asset Committee meeting

the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a summary of the matters discussed at the meeting are tabled at the next convenient Council meeting.

These do not include:

- A meeting of the Council
- A special committee of the Council
- An audit committee
- A club, association, peak body, political party or other organisation.

The attached record is reported to Council in accordance with this requirement.

Councillor Delegates' Reports

As part of their governance and representation obligations, individual Councillors represent Council on a range of committees. The committees operate outside of the section 63 and 64 (of the Local Government Act 2020) Committees established by Council.

Councillor participation in peak associations, local and regional forums and specific issues committees is an important part of effective governance and representation.

Attached are the Councillor delegates' reports for the period.

2. Council Policy/Legislation**Council Plan 2021-2025**

This report contributes to Council's strategic objectives contained in the Council Plan 2021-2025 by considering:

Agenda Item 9.12

- Ethical leadership - lead our changing city using strategic foresight, innovation, transparent decision making and well-planned, effective collaboration to support economic growth during the ongoing challenges of the pandemic and beyond.

Legislation

This report is presented in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

Conflicts of Interest

No officer responsible for, or contributing to, this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to this report.

Human Rights Consideration

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

3. Engagement

There are no engagement implications associated with this report.

4. Resources

There are no resource implications associated with this report.

5. Environment

There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

CONCLUSION

The reporting of the Governance Report demonstrates Council's commitment to open and transparent governance.

Governance Report – October 2021

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports

Meeting and Date	Councillor Attendees	Council Staff Attendees	Matters Considered	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Confidential Councillor Briefing 5 October 2021 Informal Meeting of Councillors	Cr Sarah Carter Cr Michael Clarke Cr Simon Crawford Cr Jorge Jorquera Cr Cuc Lam Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Anthony Tran	Celia Haddock (Acting Executive Officer) Lisa King (Acting Director Corporate Services) Clem Gillings (Director Community Services) Craig Medcalf (Acting Director Infrastructure Services) Adrian Havryluk (Manager Major Projects and Strategic Relationships) Lauren McKenzie (Manager Customer Engagement) Tara Frichithavong (Manager Community Services and Social Infrastructure Planning) Michael Byrne (Manager Arts Community Learning and Libraries) Danny Bilaver (Acting Manager Governance and Commercial Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Footscray Civic and Community Hub Update • Consideration of COVID-19 business and community support • Putting Customers First Strategy – Engagement • Community Engagement Policy 2021 • Complaints Policy • NeXT Project – Advocacy Update and Next Steps • Review of Procurement Policy • Investment Policy 2021 • Financial Plan 2021-2022 to 2030-2031 • Annual assessment of its performance against the Audit and Risk Committee Charter for year ending 30 June 2021 • Amendment to Council’s Governance Rules • Review of Civic Awards Judging Panel Terms of Reference • Review of Council Delegations • Governance Report – September 2021 • Noting of the confirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting – 15 June and 24 August 2021 • Noting of the Confirmed Minutes of Delegated Committees 	- Nil

Governance Report – October 2021

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports

Meeting and Date	Councillor Attendees	Council Staff Attendees	Matters Considered	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
		Jeffrey Buttigieg (Senior Contracts and Procurement Advisor) Mark Connor (Manager Finance)		
Metropolitan Transport Forum 6 October 2021 Delegates Report	Cr Anthony Tran		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes of Previous Meeting, Wednesday 1 September 2021 • Presentations • Josef Seidler – Regional General Manager Vicinity Centres on Trackless Rapid Transit • Council Information Sharing • Regular Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Treasurers Report • Upcoming Events of Interest • Update from MAV • Administration • Strategic Plan • Upcoming Meeting Topics 2021 • General Business 	- Nil
Confidential Councillor Briefing 12 October 2021 Informal Meeting of Councillors	Cr Michael Clarke Cr Simon Crawford Cr Jorge Jorquera Cr Cuc Lam Cr Bernadette Thomas Cr Anthony Tran	Celia Haddock (Acting Chief Executive Officer) Lisa King (Acting Director Corporate Services) Craig Medcalf (Acting Director Infrastructure Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inner West Air Quality Community Reference Group • Quarterly Report – Transport • Update on Jemena Electrical Projects – Hyde Street and Geelong Road • Support and Engagement with Australia’s First Nations People • Advocacy Framework • M9 – Update on strategic priorities, advocacy priorities and Memorandum of Understanding implementation • Consideration of the Maribyrnong City Council Annual Report 2020/2021 	- Nil

Governance Report – October 2021

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports

Meeting and Date	Councillor Attendees	Council Staff Attendees	Matters Considered	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
		<p>Clem Gillings (Director Community Services)</p> <p>Ashley Minniti (Manager City Places)</p> <p>Bridget Monro-Hobbs (Manager Community Development Positive Ageing and Inclusion)</p> <p>Francesca O'Brien (Manager City Futures)</p> <p>Indivar Dhakal (Manager Assets and Infrastructure)</p> <p>Keith Loveridge (Senior Sustainability Officer)</p> <p>Sue Phillips (Senior Coordinator Environmental Services)</p> <p>Justice Nelson (First Nations Project Officer)</p> <p>Patrick Jess (Manager Leisure and Health)</p> <p>Francesca O'Brien (Manager City Futures)</p> <p>Sebastian Han (Service Desk and Desktop Support Officer)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 68 Newell Street, Footscray Planning Permit Application • 209 Ballarat Road, Footscray Planning Permit Application • Plan Melbourne Western Region Land Use Framework Plan – Council Submission • Inquiry into Apartment Design Standards – Council Submission • Maribyrnong Active Transport Committee (MATAC) Terms of Reference Review • Lease of the Footscray Integrated Early Learning Centre at 10A Hyde Street, Footscray • Discontinuance and Sale of Road Abutting 18 and 20 Stewart and 69 Hamilton Streets Yarraville • Community and Business Pandemic Recovery Support • Proposed Exemptions from Mandatory Food and Garden Organics (FOGO) bin rollout • Councillor Support and Expenses July 2021 to September 2021 • Confirmation of the Minutes of the Previous City Development Delegated Committee Meeting – 21 September 2021 	

Governance Report – October 2021

Details of Informal Meetings of Councillors and Delegate Reports

Meeting and Date	Councillor Attendees	Council Staff Attendees	Matters Considered	Conflict of Interest Disclosures
Maribyrnong Youth Advisory Committee 13 October 2021 Delegates Report	Cr Jorge Jorquera	Mahamad Ahmed (Senior Youth Participation and Advocacy Officer) Caitlyn Mesiti (Youth Worker) Vickie Cooper (Coordinator Youth Services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Update • Skill Building Workshop update • MYAC Project proposal update • YEPP Workshop • Engage Funding Application • Mental Health Week Activity – Affirmations Activity • General Updates • Next Meeting and Actions 	- Nil
Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum 14 October 2021 Delegates Report	Cr Michael Clarke		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Metro Update • Waste to energy – lessons from the European Union • Waste to energy – combustion technology how does it work • Regulating waste to energy facilities in Victoria • Panel Discussion • Motion to extend Forum Membership to June 2022 • Other business and meeting review 	- Nil
Roadsafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council 20 October 2021 Delegates Report	Cr Anthony Tran		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Road Safety Grants Program • Minutes of the last meeting conducted on 15 September 2021 • Matters Arising • Treasurers Report • Financial Report • Accounts for Payment • Secretary's Report • Correspondence • Other matters • Reports/Updates • Police Reports • Advocacy • General Business 	- Nil

Agenda Item 10.1**NOTICE OF MOTION: AFGHAN REFUGEES****Notice of Motion No: 2021/12****Councillor: Cr Bernadette Thomas**

BACKGROUND**Background:**

The City of Maribyrnong has one of the most culturally diverse populations in Victoria, with residents coming from more than 135 different countries and speaking more than 80 different languages. Maribyrnong celebrates this diversity and has a long history of promoting and fostering a sense of belonging amongst the community and welcoming our newest residents. As a community we recognise and respect difference and diversity.

At the 2016 Census, Maribyrnong City Council was recorded as being home to just over 90 Afghan-born residents. These residents are relatively newly arrived (post 2001) and places Maribyrnong in the top 20 Local Government Areas in Victoria for Afghan-born residents.¹

The City of Maribyrnong is an official Refugee Welcome Zone, joining 166 other Local Government Areas committed to:

- Welcoming refugees into the community
- Upholding the human rights of refugees
- Demonstrating compassion for refugees
- Enhancing cultural and religious diversity in the community.

In 2018, the City of Maribyrnong became a member of the Intercultural Cities Programme, joining 145 cities as part of the network, pledging to review policies through an intercultural lens and develop intercultural strategies to manage diversity positively. In 2021, Maribyrnong became the first Local Government Area in Victoria to endorse the Racism Not Welcome campaign, developed by the Inner West Multicultural Network in Sydney.

In advocating for the resettlement of Afghans in Australia, providing asylum, and permanent residency to those already living in Australia, Maribyrnong is joining many other voices from around the world asking their own national governments to act with compassion and empathy.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

¹ [Afghanistan-Community-Profile-2016-Census.pdf \(www.vic.gov.au\)](http://www.vic.gov.au)

Agenda Item 10.1**MOTION**

That Council writes to Senator the Hon Marise Payne, Minister for Foreign Affairs, calling on the Australian Government to:

- a. Increase Australia's capacity and speed to evacuate as many people as possible at risk within Afghanistan due to the fact they have worked for, or assisted, the Australian Government and Australian organisations, as well as human rights defenders and women and girls who are now under threat.**
 - b. Urge neighbouring governments in the region to keep their borders open for those fleeing Afghanistan.**
 - c. Increase Australia's resettlement places for Afghan refugees by matching Canada's offer of 20,000 additional places. This would also send a strong message to the rest of the world, that ensuring the safety of Afghan people is a shared responsibility.**
 - d. Immediately increase Australian aid to the region to support organisations within Afghanistan and in neighbouring countries assisting those who have fled.**
 - e. Ensure that people whose asylum claims in Australia have been previously rejected be supported to submit new claims in the light of the changed circumstances in Afghanistan.**
 - f. Provide much needed certainty to 4,300 Afghans currently on temporary protection visas by granting them permanent protection, given the situation in Afghanistan will remain volatile for years to come.**
 - g. Assist Afghan Australians, including people with temporary and permanent visas, with urgent family reunion applications for relatives who are at particular risk. There is considerable national interest and support for Australia to take a leading role in responding to the crisis.**
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Agenda Item 10.2**NOTICE OF MOTION: NESTING BOX PROGRAM****Notice of Motion No: 2021/13****Councillor: Cr Michael Clarke**

BACKGROUND

The need for nesting boxes:

- Past land clearing, in particular the removal of grassy woodlands and River Red Gums, has resulted in the majority of Maribyrnong's urban forest consisting of trees that are too young to have formed hollows. It is the hollows in mature trees, which normally provide habitat for native birds and mammals.
- The purpose of installing nesting boxes and creating hollows in dead (stag) trees, is to increase habitat for native wildlife, which contributes to increased biodiversity and overall ecosystem health.

Benefits of a coordinated nesting box program:

- A planned and coordinated nesting box program would enable a strategic approach to locating and monitoring nesting boxes, based on current knowledge of the natural areas throughout Maribyrnong.
- A well planned nesting box program has the potential to increase diversity of native birds and mammals, leading to improved broader biodiversity.

What's happening in and around the City of Maribyrnong:

- In 2019, with funding from the Westgate Tunnel Project, 30 habitat boxes were installed along the Stony Creek Corridor, providing habitat for a range of bird species, bats and Brushtail and Ringtail Possums.
 - Where COVID restrictions have allowed, initial monitoring has seen an uptake by Brushtail and Ringtail possums.
 - Once full face-to-face community engagement re-commences, monitoring of these boxes will be undertaken in partnership with Friends of and other community groups.
- Maribyrnong has undertaken opportunistic creation of habitat hollows in dead trees throughout natural areas. Development of a more planned and strategic approach to this, would complement a nesting box program.
- In 2017, Moonee Valley City Council began drafting an Ecological Connectivity Plan and in 2018 Hume and Brimbank City Councils began the Northwest Ecological Connectivity Investigation.
 - Both of these plans used modelling which assessed the status of ecological connectivity across Hume, Brimbank, Moonee Valley and some areas of Maribyrnong along the Maribyrnong River.
 - The results of this modelling would greatly benefit a nesting box program, as well as facilitate collaboration with neighbouring Councils.

Potential program inclusions:

- Engage community through encouraging nesting boxes on private property:

Agenda Item 10.2

- Information provided to property owners could be guided by data collected through the Northwest Ecological Connectivity Investigation and Moonee Valley's modelling.
- Potential for connections/partnerships with community organisations such as the Men's Shed to build the boxes.
- As with the WGTP funded Stony Creek project, Council could partner with Friends of Groups to further enhance habitat values of the areas they work in through nesting box installation and monitoring.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

MOTION**That Council:**

- 1. Requests the Chief Executive Officer investigate the potential for council to support the preservation of native bird life through the development of a Nesting Box Program.**
 - 2. Receives a report in March 2022 outlining how such a program could be implemented, indicative costs, opportunities for "Friends of Groups" and the community to participate and the potential to engage in an advocacy program with other western region Council's to implement a regional wide program**
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Agenda Item 10.3

NOTICE OF MOTION: STUDENT PLACEMENT PROGRAM

Notice of Motion No: 2021/14

Councillor: Cr Anthony Tran

BACKGROUND

Maribyrnong Council is responsible for a range of programs and services and draws its workforce from across multiple disciplines.

Council is well placed to assist local further education and tertiary students seeking a career in local government, to develop their practical workplace skills through work placements.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. Consider the inclusion of opportunities for local tertiary students who want to consider a career in local government to gain experience through a student placement program at Council.**
 - 2. Work with Victoria University through the Footscray University Town partnership to advance student placements**
 - 3. Request the Chief Executive Officer to formalise these opportunities in the Council workforce plan currently in preparation.**
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Agenda Item 10.4**NOTICE OF MOTION: SUPPORT FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD VIETNAMESE BILINGUAL PROGRAM AND ADVOCACY****Notice of Motion No: 2021/15****Councillor: Cr Jorge Jorquera**

BACKGROUND

In December 2020, Council adopted a motion supporting, in principle, the value of “community languages in enriching learning both cognitively and in terms of cultural literacy”, with specific reference to the importance of the Vietnamese language in the context of Maribyrnong’s cultural history and identity.

Though the Western Suburbs of Melbourne, in particular the municipality of Maribyrnong, is one of the most multicultural areas in Australia, it has a low offering of bilingual programs. A Vietnamese bilingual program was previously offered at Footscray Primary School was recently cancelled.

ATTACHMENTS

Not applicable

MOTION

That Council:

- 1. In acknowledgement of its December 2020 motion supporting ‘community languages’ and their importance for cultural literacy and multiculturalism, recognises the importance of concrete advocacy in this regard.**
 - 2. Acknowledges that in the context of the loss of the Vietnamese bilingual program at Footscray Primary School, and the significant numbers of people of Vietnamese heritage in our LGA, Maribyrnong Council has a special responsibility to advocate in support of the Vietnamese community’s language preservation.**
 - 3. Supports the efforts by the local community to develop Vietnamese-English bilingual language programs in educational settings in the City of Maribyrnong.**
 - 4. Will lend concrete support to the community not-for-profit organisation ViêtSpeak in its current objective of developing a Vietnamese-English bilingual language program in an early childhood setting in Braybrook, where 30 percent of the population speak Vietnamese at home.**
 - 5. Acknowledges the importance of these efforts to preserve community (heritage) languages as part of its #racismNOTwelcome campaign, adopted June 2021.**
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Agenda Item 10.4