



STRATHBOGRIE SHIRE COUNCIL

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of the Strathbogrie Shire Council will be held on Tuesday 13 November 2018 at the Euroa Community Conference Centre commencing at 5.00. p.m.

Chair:	Amanda McClaren (Mayor)	<i>(Lake Nagambie Ward)</i>
Councillors:	John Mason (Deputy Mayor)	<i>(Seven Creeks Ward)</i>
	Debra Bower	<i>(Lake Nagambie Ward)</i>
	Malcolm Little	<i>(Hughes Creek Ward)</i>
	Kate Stothers	<i>(Honeysuckle Creek Ward)</i>
	Alistair Thomson	<i>(Mount Wombat Ward)</i>
	Graeme (Mick) Williams	<i>(Seven Creeks Ward)</i>
Officers:	Steve Crawcour - Chief Executive Officer (CEO)	
	Phil Howard - Director, Innovation and Performance (DIP)	
	David Roff - Group Manager, Corporate and Community (GMCC)	
	Jeff Saker - Group Manager, Community Assets (GMCA)	

BUSINESS

1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land Owners
*'I acknowledge the Traditional Owners of the land on which we are meeting.
I pay my respects to their Elders, past and present'*
3. Apologies
4. Disclosure of Interests
5. Petitions
6. Reports of Council Officers
 - 6.1 Climate Change
 - 6.2 Infrastructure
 - 6.3 Private Enterprise
 - 6.4 Public Institutions
 - 6.5 Housing and Recreation
 - 6.6 Tourism
 - 6.7 Organisation
7. Urgent Business

8. Closure of Meeting to the Public to consider matters listed for consideration in accordance with Section 89(2) of the Local Government Act 1989
9. Confirmation of 'Closed Portion' Decision/s

Steve Crawcour
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

9 November 2018

An audio recording of this meeting is being made for the purpose of verifying the accuracy of the minutes of the meeting, as per Local Law No. 1 - Meeting Procedure (2014) or as updated from time to time through Council Resolution

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9.	CONFIRMATION OF 'CLOSED PORTION' DECISION/S	

6. REPORTS

6.7 ORGANISATION

6.7.1 Violet Town Occasional Care - Loss of Funding

Author & Department

Manager, Community Wellbeing / Corporate and Community Directorate

Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest in relation to advice provided in this report

The author of this report and officers/contractors providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989.

Summary

Violet Town Occasional Care service has lost funding of \$8,000 per year which has supported their service provision.

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That Council provide a contribution of \$4,000 in its upcoming mid year budget review to assist in funding the Violet Town Occasional Care service for the calendar year 2019 and that the service be encouraged to secure alternative external funding for the balance of the funding required to plan appropriately for the closure of the service.**
- 2. That Council assist with advocacy where possible to have funding restored for the service.**

Background

For the last 5 years, Violet Town Occasional Care has received \$8,000 funding each year through the Department of Education.

This ended on June 2018 and another round of funding was available for Centres that received the previous funding.

Violet Town Occasional Care applied for this funding along with 1321 other Occasional Care Centres and only 790 were approved. Unfortunately Violet Town Occasional Care was unsuccessful.

Without this funding there is a shortfall and the service will be unable to pay wages for 2019 unless a solution for the shortfall in funding is found.

The Administration officer of Violet Town Occasional Care has made contact with a number of government representatives including Damien Drum, Jenny Mikakos and Cathy McGowan.

6.7.1 Violet Town Occasional Care - Loss of Funding (cont.)

Discussions have also been held with the Manager of the North East Region Preschool Association (NERPSA) who suggested increasing fees and changing the service to permanent rather than occasional as an option. The committee discussed this option however, it was decided that they try other avenues first as they are concerned that families will stop using the service if those changes were made.

Contact was made with the Department of Education who advised that all money had been allocated. Advice was received that a second grant with Community Child Care Funding would be offered but no specific information as to when this would be available.

A meeting with Violet Town Action Group (VTAG) occurred on 19th September – they may provide assistance but are waiting to see what Council's response is before making any commitment

Goulburn Region Preschool Association who manages Nagambie Preschool have advised that they also lost the funding for occasional care. However, they have been able to absorb the occasional care enrolments into the Long Day Care program.

Alternative Options

The author and other officers providing advice in relation to this report have considered potential alternative courses of action. No feasible alternatives have been identified."

Risk Management

The author of this report considers that there are no significant Risk Management factors relating to the report and recommendation. Small numbers of impacted families use the occasional care service.

Strategic Links – policy implications and relevance to Council Plan

The author of this report considers that the report is consistent with Council Policies, key strategic documents and the Council Plan

Best Value / National Competition Policy (NCP) / Competition and Consumer Act 2010 (CCA) implications

The author of this report considers that the report is consistent with Best Value, National Competition Policy and Competition and Consumer Act requirements

Financial / Budgetary Implications

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no capital or recurrent budget considerations.

Economic Implications

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no significant economic implications for Council or the broader community

6.7.1 Violet Town Occasional Care
- Loss of Funding (cont.)

Environmental / Amenity Implications

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no significant environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community

Community Implications

Impact on a small number of families in the Violet Town community in relation to the availability of this service. The loss of this may result in families going out of the town to access occasional care. Additionally, there is potential subsequent flow-on impact to three year old and four year old kindergarten services.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

The author of this report considers that the recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006

Legal / Statutory Implications

The author of this report considers that the recommendation has no legal or statutory implications which require the consideration of Council

Consultation

The author of this report considers that the matter under consideration has involved consultation with a number of key stakeholders as outlined previously in this report.

Additional consultation may be required.

Attachments

Nil.

- 7. URGENT BUSINESS**
- 8. CLOSURE OF MEETING TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER MATTERS LISTED FOR CONSIDERATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 89(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989**
- 9. CONFIRMATION OF 'CLOSED PORTION' DECISION/S**

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS, THE MEETING CLOSED AT P.M.