



## **STRATHBOGIE SHIRE COUNCIL**

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council will be held on Tuesday 17 May 2022, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, commencing at 6.00 pm

<b>Chair:</b>	Laura Binks (Mayor)	<i>(Mount Wombat Ward)</i>
<b>Councillors:</b>	David Andrews	<i>(Lake Nagambie Ward)</i>
	Reg Dickinson	<i>(Lake Nagambie Ward)</i>
	Sally Hayes-Burke	<i>(Seven Creeks Ward)</i>
	Kristy Hourigan	<i>(Seven Creeks Ward)</i>
	Paul Murray	<i>(Hughes Creek Ward)</i>
	Chris Raeburn	<i>(Honeysuckle Creek Ward)</i>
<b>Officers:</b>	Julie Salomon	Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
	David Roff	Director, Corporate Operations (DCO)
	Amanda Tingay	Director, Community and Planning (DCP)
	Dawn Bray	Director, People and Governance (DPG)
	Kristin Favaloro	Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement (EMCE)

*The gallery is open to the public, and checking-in to enter the Conference Room is no longer required*

*Community members are also encouraged to watch the livestreaming of the meeting online at [www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au](http://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au)*

*Questions for the Ordinary Council Meeting must be submitted by **12 noon on Tuesday 17 May 2022** by emailing [info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au](mailto:info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au). Questions will be read out by the Mayor during the Public Question Time component of the meeting and responded to in the usual way by Councillors and/or Officers.*

1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Traditional Land Owners  
*We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the places we live, work and play.  
We recognise and respect the enduring relationship they have with their lands and waters, and we pay respects to the Elders past, present and emerging.  
Today we are meeting on the lands of the Taungurung peoples of the Eastern Kulin nation, whose sovereignty here has never been ceded.*
3. Apologies / Leave of Absence
4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest
5. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

**RECOMMENDATION**

***That the Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 April 2022 be confirmed.***

6. Petitions
7. Reports of Mayor and Councillors and Delegates
8. Public Question Time

Public Question Time will be conducted as per Rule 31 of Strathbogie Shire Council's Governance Rules. A copy of the required form for completion and lodgment, and associated Procedural Guidelines, are attached for information.

As the questions are a permanent public record and to meet the requirements of the Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014, only the initials of the person asking the question will be used together with a Council reference number.

Response/s to Public Questions raised and responded to at the Council meeting held on Tuesday 19 April 2022 were documented in the Minutes of the meeting.

9. Officer Reports
  - 9.1 Strategic and Statutory
  - 9.2 Community
  - 9.3 Infrastructure
  - 9.4 Corporate
  - 9.5 Governance and Customer Service
  - 9.6 Executive
10. Notices of Motion
11. Notices of Rescission

12. Urgent Business
13. Confidential Business

Julie Salomon  
**CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

13 May 2022

### **NEXT MEETING**

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 7 June 2022, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, commencing at 4.00 pm. This meeting will be to hear submissions to Council's draft 2022/23 Budget, draft 2022/23 Financial Plan and draft 2022/23 Fees and Charges, and the 2021-2025 Council Plan Draft Update April 2022.

The next monthly Meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 21 June 2022, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, commencing at 6.00 pm.



Council Ref. .... / 2022

## Public Question Time Form Ordinary Council Meeting

Strathbogie Shire Council has allocated a time for the public to ask questions in the business of an Ordinary Meeting of the Council.

**How to ask a question:**

Questions submitted to Council must be:

- (a) in writing, state the name, address and telephone number of the person submitting the question and generally be on this form, approved by Council; and
- (b) submitted to Council in person or electronically.

The Chair may refrain from reading a question or having a question read if the person who submitted the question is not present in the gallery at the time when the question is due to be read. Please refer to the back of this form for procedural guidelines.

**Question/s:** (please print clearly with a maximum of 25 words)

1.....  
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.....

2.....  
.....  
.....  
.....  
.....

**Name:** .....

**Address:** .....

**Telephone Number:** .....

**Signature:** (signature not required if submitted by email) .....

**Date of Ordinary Council Meeting:** .....

**Privacy Declaration:** Personal information is collected on this form to allow Council to undertake follow-up / response and to confirm identity for future reference where necessary. The questioner's initials only, together with a question reference number, will be included in Council's Minutes. Council Minutes are a public document which will be published on Council's Website and are available for public scrutiny at any time. Other personal details included on this form will not be included in the Minutes and will be kept for Council reference only, unless disclosure is required for law enforcement purposes or under any other statutory requirement

**Public Question Time – as per Rule 31 of the Strathbogie Shire Council Governance Rules**

**31. QUESTION TIME**

- 31.1 There must be a public question time at every Council meeting fixed under Rule 19 to enable members of the public to submit questions to Council.
- 31.2 Sub-Rule 31.1 does not apply during any:  
31.2.1 period when a meeting is closed to members of the public in accordance with section 66(2) of the Act; or  
31.2.2 election period.
- 31.3 Public question time will not exceed 30 minutes in duration.
- 31.4 Questions submitted to Council must meet all of the following:  
(a) be in writing and state the name and address of the person submitting the question;  
(b) be generally be in a form approved or permitted by Council; and  
(c) be lodged either by delivery to Council's main office, or electronically at the prescribed email address prior to 12 noon on the day of the Council meeting.
- 31.5 No person may submit more than two questions at any one meeting.
- 31.6 If a person has submitted two questions to a meeting, the second question may:  
31.6.1 at the discretion of the Chair, be deferred until all other persons who have asked a question have had their questions asked and answered; or  
31.6.2 not be asked if the time allotted for public question time has expired and Council has not resolved to extend the time allocated for public questions.
- 31.7 If the person who has submitted the question is not present at the meeting the Chair, or a member of Council staff nominated by the Chair, will read out the question on the person's behalf if the person has elected not to participate in the meeting either by way of the live streaming software or by teleconference.
- 31.8 A question may be disallowed by the Chair if the Chair determines that it:  
(a) relates to a matter outside the duties, functions and powers of Council;  
(b) Is defamatory, indecent, abusive, offensive, irrelevant, trivial or objectionable in language or substance;  
(c) deals with a subject matter already answered;  
(d) is aimed at embarrassing a Councillor or a member of Council staff;  
(e) relates to personnel matters;  
(f) relates to the personal hardship of any resident or ratepayer;  
(g) relates to industrial matters;  
(h) relates to contractual matters;  
(i) relates to proposed developments;  
(j) relates to legal advice;  
(k) relates to matters affecting the security of Council property; or  
(l) relates to any other matter which Council considers would prejudice Council or any person.
- 31.9 Any question which has been disallowed by the Chair must be made available to any other Councillor upon request.
- 31.10 All questions and answers must be as brief as possible, and no discussion may be allowed other than by Councillors for the purposes of clarification.
- 31.11 Like questions may be grouped together and a single answer provided.
- 31.12 The Chair may nominate a Councillor or the Chief Executive Officer to respond to a question.
- 31.13 A Councillor or the Chief Executive Officer may require a question to be put on notice. If a question is put on notice, a written copy of the answer will be sent to the person who asked the question within five (5) working days and the answer included in the following Council meeting's agenda.
- 31.14 A Councillor or the Chief Executive Officer may advise Council that it is his or her opinion that the reply to a question should be given in a meeting closed to members of the public. The Councillor or Chief Executive Officer (as the case may be) must state briefly the reason why the reply should be so given and, unless Council resolves to the contrary, the reply to such question must be so given.

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## **9. OFFICER REPORTS**

### **9.1 STRATEGIC AND STATUTORY PLANNING**

#### **9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664**

Author: Town Planner

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

- The proposal is to subdivide the land into twenty-seven lots, providing a road network with main access from Saleyard Road, Avenel. Included on the plan is an area for commercial and / or community uses potentially. No native vegetation is proposed to be removed.
- The application was notified to adjacent and nearby property owners and occupiers and two objections have been received to council. These detailed concerns about construction of the road, stormwater management and the current character of the town. The road is to be constructed and stormwater will be required to be managed to council's satisfaction.
- The application has not been assessed within the sixty-day timeframe given the objections and timing of the Council Meeting.
- The proposal meets the objectives of the Planning Policy Framework, Local Planning Policy Framework and the Zone.
- It is recommended that Council resolve to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit in accordance with the Officer's recommendation.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

##### ***That Council***

- 1. Having caused notice of Planning Application No. P2020-127 to be given under Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 decides to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit under the provisions of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme in respect of the land known as (Lot 1 & Lot 2 TP680727 V4001 F171 Parish of Avenel), 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664, for a Twenty Seven Lot Subdivision in accordance with endorsed plans and subject to the following conditions:***

##### **Conditions:**

##### **Endorsed Plan Subdivision:**

- 1. The subdivision must be carried out in accordance with the endorsed plans and permit. The endorsed plans or permit can only be altered or modified with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.***

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**General Amenity:**

2. *The subdivision, during construction, must be managed so that the amenity of the area or locality, in the opinion of the Responsible Authority, is not detrimentally affected, through the:*
- a) *transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;*
  - b) *appearance of any building, works or materials;*
  - c) *emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, waste water, waste products, grit or oil;*
  - d) *presence of vermin; and*
  - e) *others as appropriate.*

**Vegetation Retention:**

**Section 173 Agreement**

3. *Prior to Statement of Compliance being issued, the applicant/owner/developer must enter into a Section 173 Agreement to -*
- *preserve the identified Eucalyptus melliodora Yellow Box tree to be retained and protected on Lot 22 on the plan of subdivision under this planning permit.*
  - *A 'Tree Preservation Plan' must be provided and attached to the Section 173 identifying the location of the protected tree. This plan must show an area around the tree being the 'Tree Protection Zone' measuring 15 metres (diameter).*
  - *The Agreement must specify that this TPZ is not to be encroached by any buildings, storage or parking of vehicles.*

*The Section 173 Agreement is to be prepared by the Responsible Authority. The Responsible Authority will undertake to have the Agreement prepared upon receiving a written request from the owner. All costs associated with the preparation, execution and registration of the Agreement must be borne by the applicant / owner and paid prior to the execution and registration of the Agreement.*

**Telecommunications:**

4. *The owner of the land must enter into an agreement with:*
- *A telecommunications network or service provider for the provision of telecommunications services to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with the provider's requirements and relevant legislation at the time; and*
  - *A suitably qualified person for the provision of fibre ready telecommunications facilities to each lot shown on the endorsed plan in accordance with any industry specifications or any standards set by the Australian Communications and Media Authority, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the land is in an area where the National Broadband Network will not be provided by optical fibre.*

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**5. Before the issue of a Statement of Compliance for any stage of the subdivision under the Subdivision Act 1988, the owner of the land must provide written confirmation from:**

- **A telecommunications network or service provider that all lots are connected to or are ready for connection to telecommunications services in accordance with the provider's requirements and relevant legislation at the time; and**
- **A suitable qualified person that fibre ready telecommunication facilities have been provided in accordance with any industry specifications or any standards set by the Australian Telecommunications and Media Authority, unless the applicant can demonstrate that the land is in an area where the National Broadband Network will not be provided by optical fibre.**

**Referral Under Section 8 of the Subdivision Act 1988:**

**6. The plan of subdivision submitted for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 must be referred to the relevant authority in accordance with Section 8 of that Act.**

**Public Open Space Contribution:**

**7. Before the statement of compliance is issued under the Subdivision Act 1988, the owner must pay to the responsible authority a sum, or land set aside, or a combination, equivalent to five per cent of the site value of all the land in the subdivision.**

**The owners must advise Council, in writing, to undertake the property valuation and must pay the Council's reasonable costs and expenses to provide such a valuation for payment in lieu of the public open space contribution.**

**Road Names:**

**8. Prior to Certification, road names for the proposed roads (and/or common property) must be submitted on a plan of subdivision to Council for approval. Road names must be in accordance with Naming Rules for Places in Victoria, Statutory Requirements for Naming Roads, Features and Localities 2016.**

**Street Addressing:**

**9. Prior to the Certification of the plan of subdivision, the owner must complete and duly sign a Statutory Declaration agreeing to the Allocation of Street numbers.**

**Engineering:**

**Construction Management Plan**

**10. Prior to the commencement of works, including demolition and excavation, and Certification being issued, a Construction Management Plan must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. No works are permitted to occur until the Plan has been approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must be in accordance with the IDM and provide details of the following:**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- a) *Hours for construction activity in accordance with any other condition of this Permit;*
- b) *Measures to control noise, dust, litter, water and sediment laden runoff;*
- c) *Measures to inform adjacent residents of work schedules;*
- d) *Measures relating to removal of hazardous or dangerous material from the site, where applicable;*
- e) *A plan showing the location of parking areas for construction and sub- contractors' vehicles on and surrounding the site, to ensure that vehicles associated with construction activity cause minimum disruption to surrounding premises. Any basement car park on the land must be made available for use by sub-constructors / tradespersons upon completion of such areas, without delay;*
- f) *Contact details of key construction site staff;*
- g) *A site plan showing the location of any site sheds, on-site amenities, building waste storage and the like, noting that Council does not support site sheds on Council road reserves;*
- h) *Any other relevant matters.*

**Traffic Management Plan**

**11. Prior to the commencement of works, and Certification being issued, a Traffic Management Plan must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. No works are permitted to occur until the Plan has been approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must be in accordance with the IDM and provide details of the following:**

- a) *Swept path analysis demonstrating the ability for trucks to enter and exit the site in a safe manner for the largest anticipated truck associated with the construction;*
- b) *A plan showing the location and design of a vehicle wash-down bay for construction vehicles on the site;*
- c) *Measures to ensure that sub-contractors / tradespersons operating on the site are aware of the contents of the Construction Management Plan;*
- d) *Any other relevant matters.*

**Stormwater Management Plan**

**12. Prior to works commencing and Certification being issued, a properly prepared Stormwater Management Plan with an Overland Flow Analysis, with computations to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The information submitted must show the details listed in the council's Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) and be designed in accordance with the requirements of that manual. The information and plans must include:**

- a) *details of how the works on the land are to be drained and/or retarded;*

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- b) computations including total energy line and hydraulic grade line for the existing and proposed drainage as directed by Responsible Authority;**
- c) independent drainage for each lot (for subdivisions only);**
- d) location of the overland flow paths within the development;**
- e) underground pipe drains conveying stormwater to the legal point of discharge for each allotment;**
- f) measures to enhance stormwater discharge quality from the site and protect downstream waterways including the expected discharge quality emanating from the development (output from MUSIC or similar) and design calculation summaries of the treatment elements;**
- g) a maximum discharge rate from the site is to be determined by computation to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority;**
- h) documentation demonstrating approval from the relevant authority for the legal point of discharge;**
- i) the details of the incorporation of water sensitive urban design in accordance with clause 20.3.1 of the Infrastructure Design Manual;**
- j) the contours of the land as shaped to cause drainage to the legal point of discharge;**
- k) the location, siting and design of any required retardation basin in accordance with the Infrastructure Design Manual and to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority; and**
- l) maintenance schedules for treatment elements.**

**Prior to the issue of statement of compliance for the plan of subdivision the drainage detailed in the approved Drainage Discharge Plan must be constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. All works are subject to a twelve month liability period.**

**Roads, Pathways and Common Access**

- 13. Prior to the commencement of works and Certification being issued, final construction plans for all proposed roadways and pathways must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions, be in accordance with the IDM and must show: -**
- a) All bearings, distances, levels, street names, lot numbers, lots sizes, reserves and easements;**
  - b) The road reserve, carriageway and verge widths;**
  - c) All infrastructure including drainage, concrete footpath, kerb and channel, public lighting and utility services;**
  - d) Vehicle crossing for each lot;**
  - e) Street tree locations;**
  - f) All surface details;**
  - g) Proposed court bowls;**
  - h) All relevant road signage and line marking; and**
  - i) Speed limit signs as appropriate.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

***The final design parameters for the roadways and pathways must be based on Council's Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) as modified from time to time, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. All works shall conform to plans and specifications prepared by a qualified engineer at Owner's expense and approved by the Responsible authority. A list of specific details and requirements are as follows: -***

- a) ***Pram crossings must be provided at all intersections to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.***
- b) ***Include in the design plans recommendations resulting from any required Traffic Impact Assessment.***
- c) ***Provide temporary turnaround areas for roads terminated at stage boundaries. The size must be sufficient to turn service and emergency vehicles around without reversing. A minimum of 250mm depth of approved crushed rock material is required.***
- d) ***A pavement design must be submitted for the entire road network by a suitably qualified engineer in accordance with clause 12.7 of the IDM. Irrespective of such design a minimum pavement depth of 250mm must be provided in an approved material. Council requires that the pavement wearing course be in accordance with Clause 12.7.16.***
- e) ***Design of roads and footpath must be accessible to people with disabilities and include tactile ground surface indicators, and kerb ramps required for the safe movement of people with disabilities as per relevant Australian Standards.***
- f) ***The Vehicle crossings to the subject allotments from the road must be constructed at a location and of a size and standard satisfactory to the Responsible Authority.***
- g) ***Subsoil drainage installed for all kerb and channel.***

***14. Prior to certification of the plan of subdivision the owner must complete and duly sign a Statutory Declaration agreeing to the allocation of street numbers.***

***15. Prior to the issue of statement of compliance of the plan of subdivision, the owner must display street numbers for each lot which clearly identifies the address of each lot to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.***

***16. Prior to the issue of statement of compliance for the subdivision, vehicular crossings for each lot must be constructed in accordance with the endorsed plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, and must comply with the following: -***

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- a. **Standard concrete residential vehicular crossings, as per standard drawing SD240 of the Infrastructure Design Manual, must be constructed at right angles to the common access road to suit the proposed driveways, and tie in with the new kerb and channel.**
- b. **Any proposed vehicular crossing shall have satisfactory clearance to any side-entry pit, power or Telecommunications pole, manhole cover or marker, or street tree. Any relocation, alteration or replacement required shall be in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Authority and shall be at the applicant's expense;**
- c. **Crossings shall be either combined or at least 9 metres apart.**
- d. **The entrance to the common access must be in accordance with Councils current standard for industrial vehicle crossings with reference made to standard drawing SD250.**
- e. **Standard vehicular crossings shall be constructed at right angles to the road to suit the proposed driveways, and any existing redundant crossing shall be removed.**
- f. **The vehicular crossing shall have satisfactory clearance to any side-entry pit, power or Telecommunications pole, manhole cover or marker, or street tree.**
- g. **Any new, relocation, alteration or replacement required shall be in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Authority and shall be at the applicant's expense. Final location of vehicle crossing must be approved by Responsible Authority via vehicle crossing permit. Refer to Clause 12.9.1 "Urban Vehicle Crossings" of the Infrastructure Design Manual. Where there is no existing kerb and channel in the street refer to standard drawing SD255.**
- h. **The developer must have obtained a vehicle crossing permit from the responsible authority for each lot and have constructed the vehicle crossing in accordance with the requirements.**

**Landscaping**

17. **Prior to the works commencing / Certification being issued, a detailed landscape plan, for the whole of the site, must be prepared and implemented. The detailed landscape plan must be to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and must be submitted and assessed against the construction plans by the responsible authority. The landscape plan must be drawn to scale with dimensions and must show:**
  - a. **A survey of all existing vegetation and natural features showing plants (greater than 1200mm diameter) to be removed.**
  - b. **Landscaping of any retardation basin and its surrounds and other proposed public land within the subdivision.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- c. Additional planting within the road reserve frontage of the land.*
  - d. Details of the boundary fencing for the lots backing onto and abutting any proposed retardation basin and other reserves that includes a range of fencing styles so as not to create a solid fencing treatment along these boundaries.*
  - e. Details of fencing of any proposed retardation basin.*
  - f. Provision of a gravel path, avoiding the removal of native vegetation, along the road reserve frontage of the land.*
  - g. Vehicle access points for each lot in the subdivision.*
  - h. Details of all pathways linking parts of the development including the surface finishes.*
  - i. Detailed planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and groundcovers, including botanical names, common names, pot sizes, sizes at maturity and quantities of each plant.*
  - j. The removal of all existing disused structures, foundations, pipelines or stockpiles and the eradication of weeds,*
  - k. All trees planted as part of the landscape works shall have a minimum height of 2.0 to 2.5m at the time of planting.*
  - l. The supply and spread of sufficient topsoil and sub soil if required on the proposed areas of open space to provide a stable, free draining surface and hydro-seeding of proposed grass areas (including within the drainage reserve),*
  - m. Soil quality and planting techniques in median or verge tree planting zones along arterial roads (including service road nature strips) that will support full growth of medium to large trees.*
  - n. Mechanisms for the exclusion of vehicles,*
  - o. All proposed open space, streetscape embellishments such as installation of pathways, garden beds, seating, shelters, picnic facilities, boardwalks, tree planting, signage, drinking fountains, irrigation systems, playgrounds, artwork, retaining walls, protective fencing (temporary and permanent), wetlands and ornamental water bodies (including within the drainage reserve).*
  - p. A planting schedule of all proposed trees, shrubs and ground cover, which will include the location, number of size at maturity of all plants, the botanical names of such plants and the location of all areas to be covered by grass, lawn or other surface materials as specified.*
- 18. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance all nature strips and public open space must be seeded and fertilised and grass must be established.**
- 19. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance all landscaping works (including street trees) shown on the endorsed plan must be carried out and completed to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. The time of planting can be coordinated with Council to increase the survival rate of the street trees.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**20. The landscaping shown on the endorsed plans including street trees must be maintained for a period of twenty four months from the date of practical completion of the works to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Formative pruning must be undertaken to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority after twelve months. Any dead, diseased or damaged plants are to be replaced as needed. Refer to Clause 24 of the Infrastructure Design Manual.**

**Fencing**

**21. Prior to issue of statement of compliance for the subdivision the developer or owner must fence at their own cost the boundary of the allotments abutting any areas to be reserved for public open space. Such fencing is to be constructed no higher than 1.5 metres without written consent from the Responsible Authority.**

**Engineering Plans**

**22. Before issuing the Statement of Compliance all works constructed or carried out must be in accordance with all approved plans and completed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**

**23. Prior to issuing the Statement of Compliance for the subdivision or for each stage of the subdivision, the owner or developer must submit the following –**

- a) An assets statement for each street.**
- b) 'As Constructed' information for the entire work in each development and stage, detailing information as listed in the Infrastructure Design Manual.**
- c) A certified plan showing the extent and depth of fill in excess of 300mm placed on any of the allotments.**
- d) 'As Constructed' drainage information provided in D Spec format to Council's satisfaction.**

**Road Upgrading**

**24. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance, the developer must upgrade Saleyard Road along the site frontage (to the intersection, and including, at Bank Street) in accordance with plans and specifications submitted to and approved by the responsible authority. Specific details are as follows:**

- a) fully sealed pavement with kerb and channel and vehicular crossings(specify location);**
- b) footpaths and/or shared pedestrian/bicycle paths (specify location);**
- c) underground drainage;**
- d) street trees;**
- e) indented car parking and/or bus parking bays (specify location);**
- f) underground conduits for water, gas, electricity and telephone;**
- g) appropriate intersection and traffic measures;**
- h) appropriate street lighting and signage**
- i) high stability permanent survey marks.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**Street Lighting**

**25. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance, public street lighting must be provided to streets, footpaths and public open spaces designed in accordance with relevant Australian Standards, relevant Council Policy, the IDM and to the satisfaction of the responsible Authority (category P4 unless otherwise directed).**

**Signage**

**26. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance all internal street names and speed limit signs must be erected.**

**Site Management During Construction**

**27. Appropriate steps must be taken to retain all silt and sediment on site during the construction phase to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must be carried out in accordance with the following EPA guidelines and policies: -**

- **Environmental Guidelines for Major Construction Sites (EPA publication No. 480, December 19985); and**
- **Construction Techniques for Sedimentation Pollution Control (EPA publication No. 275, May 1991).**

**28. In the event of mud, crushed rock or other debris being carried onto public roads or footpaths from the subject land, appropriate measures must be implemented to minimise the problem to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**

**29. The permit holder shall ensure that dust suppression is undertaken in the form of constant water spraying or other natural based proprietary dust suppressant to ensure that dust caused by vehicles moving along the access road and/or within the site does not cause a nuisance to surrounding properties to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The development shall not have an adverse impact on existing or future air quality.**

**30. Soil erosion control measures must be employed throughout the construction stage of the development to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**

**31. The earthworks and lot filling must be as per the guidelines specified in Council's Infrastructure Design Manual, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**

**32. The site shall at all times be kept in a neat and tidy condition to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Any litter shall be immediately removed from the site and surrounding area at the direction of the Responsible Authority.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

***Engineering fees for maintenance bond and supervision***

***33. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance payment must be made to the Responsible Authority of an engineering design checking fee of up to 0.75% of the value of documented works, the amount to be determined by the Responsible Authority.***

***34. Prior to the issue of statement of compliance for the subdivision, a maintenance bond to the value of 5% of the actual total construction cost for road and drainage works must be paid to the Responsible Authority.***

***35. Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance payment must be made to the Responsible Authority of a supervision fee up to 2.5% of the actual total construction cost for roads and drainage works, the amount to be determined by the Responsible Authority (the permit holder must submit a copy of the road and drainage Construction Contract Schedule, for verification of the amount by Council).***

***Council's Assets***

***36. Before subdivision works commences, the owner or developer must submit to the Responsible Authority a written report and photos of any prior damage to public infrastructure. Listed in the report must be the condition of kerb & channel, footpath, seal, street lights, signs and other public infrastructure fronting the property and abutting at least two properties either side of the development. Unless identified with the written report, any damage to infrastructure post construction will be attributed to the development. The owner or developer of the subject land must pay for any damage caused to the Councils assets/Public infrastructure caused as a result of the development or use permitted by this permit.***

***On Site Stormwater Management for Future Development***

***Section 173 Agreement***

***37. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance, a Section 173 Agreement must be entered into that provides for the following requirements (a to f):***

- a) The on-site detention for stormwater for the future dwellings will each be designed by a qualified drainage engineer and must be approved by the Council prior to construction. A copy of each of the approved plans will be held by Council for future reference.***

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- b) The stormwater system must incorporate principles of Water Sensitive Urban design and be designed so that the rate of storm water runoff from the development must not be more than the rate of runoff from the site prior to the development, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The drainage system must be designed in accordance with the requirements of Clause 19 of the IDM "On-site Detention Systems". The on-site storage size for the development must be in accordance with Table 13. The allowable discharge rate to Council drains shall be the lesser of; a) that which is outlined in Table 13 and b) the remaining capacity of the existing pipe (clause 19.3.1 of the IDM).**
- c) A default allowable discharge rate of 25 l/s/ha may be used in lieu of calculations to determine the remaining capacity of the existing drainage network. [www.designmanual.com.au](http://www.designmanual.com.au)**
- d) Each on-site detention stormwater system must be constructed either prior to, or currently with, the construction of any dwelling on the specified lots. Each on-site detention stormwater system on the specified lots must be completed prior to connection to Council's drainage system and be constructed in accordance with the approved design plans.**
- e) The owner will maintain, and not modify without prior Council written approval, each on-site detention system and will allow each on-site stormwater detention system to be inspected by a duly appointed officer of the Council at mutually agreed times.**
- f) The Owner will pay for all the costs associated with the construction and maintenance of each on-site detention system.**

**Country Fire Authority:**

**Hydrants**

**38. Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance under the Subdivision Act 1988 the following requirements must be met to the satisfaction of the CFA:**

- a) Above or below ground operable hydrants must be provided. The maximum distance between these hydrants and the rear of all building envelopes (or in the absence of building envelopes, the rear of the lots) must be 120 metres and the hydrants must be no more than 200 metres apart. These distances must be measured around lot boundaries.**
- b) The hydrants must be identified with marker posts and road reflectors as applicable to the satisfaction of the Country Fire Authority.**
- c) Note – CFA's requirements for identification of hydrants are specified in 'Identification of Street Hydrants for Firefighting Purposes' available under publications on the CFA website ([www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)).**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**Roads**

- 39. Roads must be constructed to a standard so that they are accessible in all weather conditions and capable of accommodating a vehicle of 15 tonnes for the trafficable road width.**
- a) The average grade must be no more than 1 in 7 (14.4%) (8.1 degrees) with a maximum of no more than 1 in 5 (20%) (11.3 degrees) for no more than 50 metres. Dips must have no more than a 1 in 8 (12%) (7.1 degree) entry and exit angle.**
  - b) Curves must have a minimum inner radius of 10 metres.**
  - c) Have a minimum trafficable width of 3.5 metres and be clear of encroachments for at least 0.5 metres on each side and 4 metres above the access way.**
  - d) Roads more than 60 metres in length from the nearest intersection must have a turning circle with a minimum radius of 8 metres (including roll over kerbs if they are provided) T or Y heads of dimensions specified by the CFA may be used as alternatives.**

**Department of Environment, Water, Land and Planning:**

**Notification of permit conditions**

- 40. Before works start, the permit holder must advise all persons undertaking the works on site of all permit conditions pertaining to native vegetation protection.**

**Protection of native vegetation to be retained**

- 41. All works are to be completed in accordance with the Development Impact Report-Assessment of Trees on and adjoining pertaining to native vegetation protection.**

**Goulburn Valley Water:**

- 42. Payment of new customer contribution charges for water supply to the development, such amount being determined by the Corporation at the time of payment.**
- 43. Provision of a reticulated water supply and associated construction works to each allotment within the development, at the developer's expense, in accordance with standards of construction adopted by and to the satisfaction of the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation.**
- 44. Any existing water service that crosses any of the proposed allotment boundaries within the proposed development must be disconnected and re-located at the developer's expense, to be wholly within one allotment only, including notification of the proposed lot to be serviced by the existing water meter, to the satisfaction of the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation.**
- 45. Payment of new customer contributions charges for sewerage services to the development, such amount being determined by the Corporation at the time of payment.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- 46. Provision of reticulated sewerage and associated construction works to each allotment within the development, at the developer's expense, in accordance with standards of construction adopted by and to the satisfaction of the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation; (The works may include, but not be limited to the construction of a sewerage pumping station, rising mains and gravity mains).**
- 47. Provision of easements in favour of the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation over all existing and proposed sewer mains located within private property.**
- 48. The operator under this permit shall be obliged to enter into an Agreement with Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation relating to the design and construction of any sewerage or water works required. The form of such Agreement shall be to the satisfaction of Goulburn Valley Water. A copy of the format of the Agreement will be provided on request.**
- 49. The plan of subdivision lodged for certification is to be referred to the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation pursuant to Section 8(1) of the Subdivision Act, 1988.**

**AusNet Electricity Services:**

**50. The applicant must –**

- **Enter into an agreement with AusNet Electricity Services Pty Ltd for supply of electricity to each lot on the endorsed plan.**
- **Enter into agreement with AusNet Electricity Services Pty for the rearrangement of the existing electricity supply system.**
- **Enter into an agreement with AusNet Electricity Services Pty for rearrangement of the points of supply to any existing installations affected by any private electric power line which would cross a boundary created by the subdivision, or by such means as may be agreed by AusNet Electricity Services Pty.**
- **Provide easements satisfactory to AusNet Electricity Services Pty for the purpose of the Power Line in favour of AusNet Electricity Services Pty pursuant to Section 88 of the Electricity Industry Act 2000 where easements have not been otherwise provided, for all existing AusNet Electricity Services Pty electric power lines for any new power lines required to service the lots on the endorsed plan and/or abutting land.**
- **Obtain for the use of AusNet Electricity Services Pty any other easement required to service the lots.**
- **Adjust the position of any existing AusNet Electricity Services Pty easement to accord with the position of the electricity line/s as determined by survey.**
- **Set aside on the plan of subdivision Reserves for the use of AusNet Electricity Services Pty for electric substations.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

- **Provide survey plans for any electric substations required by AusNet Electricity Services Pty and for associated power lines and cables and executes leases for a period of 30 years at a nominal rental with a right to extend the lease for a further 30 years. AusNet Electricity Services Pty requires that such leases are to be noted on the title by way of a caveat or a notification under Section 88 (2) of the Transfer of Land Act prior to the registration of the plan of subdivision.**
- **Provide to AusNet Electricity Services Pty a copy of the plan of subdivision submitted for certification that shows any amendments that have been required.**
- **Agree to provide alternative electricity supply to lot owners and / or each lot until such time as permanent supply is available to the development by AusNet Electricity Services Pty. Individual generators must be provided at each supply point. The generator for temporary supply must be installed in such a manner as to comply with the Electricity Safety Act 1998.**
- **Ensure that all necessary auditing is completed to the satisfaction of AusNet Electricity Services Pty to allow the new network assets to be safely connected to the distribution network.**

**Expiry of Permit – Subdivision:**

**51. This permit will expire if:**

- a) The plan of subdivision is not certified within two years from the date of this permit; or**
- b) The subdivision is not completed within five years from the date of certification of the plan of subdivision.**

**The Responsible Authority may extend the time at part (a) if a request is made in writing before the permit expires or within six months afterwards**

**Planning Notes**

**Goulburn Valley Water**

- **Where the land is to be developed in stages, the above conditions will, in general, apply to any subsequent stage of the estate development. However, as any future stages of the development will be connected to the Corporation's water supply and sewerage systems independently of this stage, the Corporation reserves the right to revise any conditions applicable to any subsequent stages lodged.**

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**AusNet Electricity Services Pty**

- *It is recommended that, at an early date the applicant commences negotiations with AusNet Electricity Services Pty for a supply of electricity in order that supply arrangements can be worked out in detail, so prescribed information can be issued without delay (the release to the municipality enabling a statement of compliance with the conditions to be issued).*
- *Arrangements for supply will be subject to obtaining the agreement of other Authorities and any landowners affected by routes of the electric power lines required to supply the lots and for any tree clearing.*
- *Prospective purchasers of lots on this plan should contact this office to determine the availability of a supply of electricity. Financial contributions may be required.*

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The applicant is seeking approval to subdivide the land in to twenty-seven lots with a road network and main access from Saleyard Road. The lots range in size from 400 to 1500 square metres creating choice of medium density sites for residential development in this central location of Avenel. No native vegetation is proposed to be removed.

The subject site is located within the township of Avenel within walking distance of what is recognisable as a main commercial strip, having a milk bar, newsagency, pharmacy and cafe.

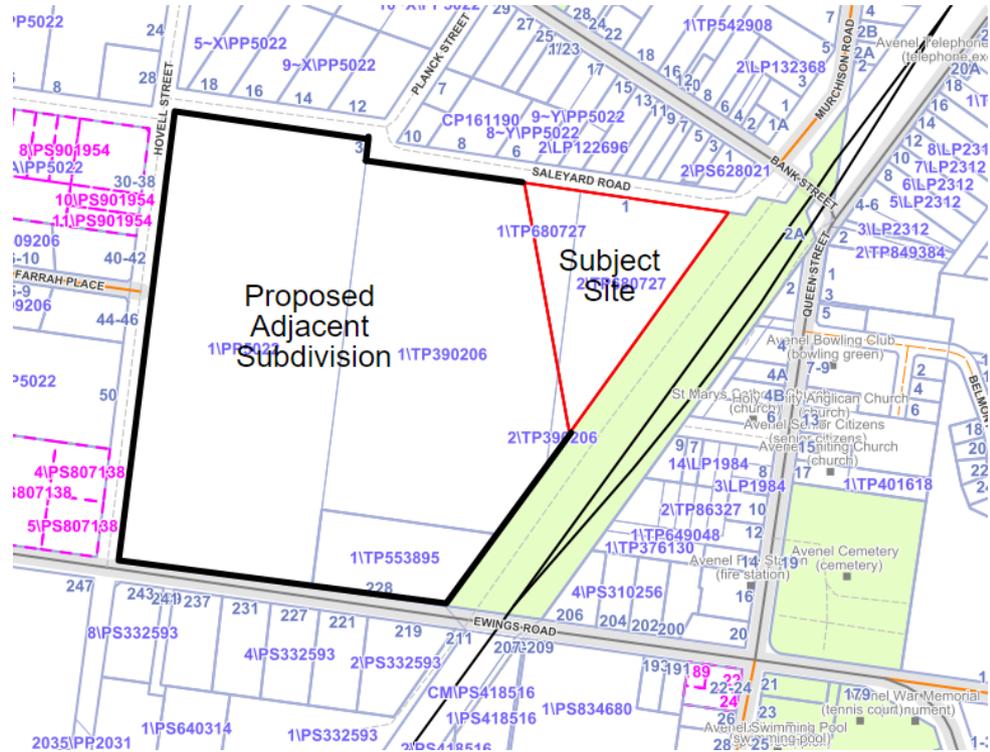
The plan indicates an area set aside for future potential commercial or community development, still within the residential zone, and a road layout that has been agreed to by council Engineers at the time of initial consultation with the developers.

This proposal is one of two in this location the other yet to be finalised and submitted to council. The proposal yet to be submitted proposes approximately 67 lots at the time of last consultation. Both applications have the potential to result in a total lot yield of 100 lots in this location.

Saleyard Road will be upgraded as required by council Engineers, to create an urban standard outcome in accordance with the Infrastructure Design Manual. Drainage infrastructure is required to ensure efficient and effective stormwater management in this locality.

The following indicates the subject site which is currently being considered by Council, including the proposed which is still to be submitted for consideration.

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)



The following insert represents the current proposal under consideration:



9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

Council is a Responsible Authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act). In this role, Council administers the Strathbogrie Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme) and, among other things, determines planning permit applications made for the use and development of land within the municipality.

Under delegated authority of Council, Council Officers determine some matters.

Any application that has received objections is heard before Council.

**SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES**

The proposal has been assessed against Clause 56 and meets the relevant objectives and standards.

Avenel is recognised as being able to accommodate population growth given its strategic location on a major highway and proximity to Melbourne. It has the ability to attract new residents with the potential to commute to the city and other towns for work and services. There is ample serviceable residential land within Avenel Township with a potential for approximately 1000 new dwellings. The majority of lots in town are currently larger than the standard urban lot sizes however, there is also a demand for smaller affordable lots within the township. More diverse housing options are required for the future due to ageing population, declining household sizes, retirees and lifestyle choices. Priority areas close to the town centre are considered to be suitable locations for small to medium size residential allotments.

The proposal provides for medium density lots that can be connected to reticulated utilities, with constructed roads and drainage, and are within close proximity to a range of services, employment opportunities, transport networks including public transport.

The proposal supports the purpose of the zone and is supported by relevant policy throughout the planning scheme. The proposal accords with the Avenel 2030 Strategy for the provision of smaller lot sizes within the township and in close proximity to the centre of town.

When weighted against the planning scheme, it is considered that the proposal weights in favour of support.

The objections have been considered and the civil infrastructure concerns can be addressed during construction. The size of the lots represents medium density and aligns with Avenel 2030 Strategy which recognises a lack of choice in lot sizes due to the current historical character and identifies that a more diverse range of lot sizes are in required to meet demand and changing demographics.

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Individual applications consider these requirements through assessment phase of each application as per the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and the provisions of the Strathbogrie Planning Scheme. The application was advertised to adjacent and nearby owners and occupiers. The proposal was accessible on Council's website. The notice was carried out in accordance with the legislation and two objections have been received.

The Assessing Officer passed on the objections to the applicant and also responded to the objectors from the perspective of the Engineering requirements being that drainage plans would be required to manage the stormwater on and around the site, Saleyard Road would be constructed, and the amenity during the construction can be managed by conditions of any planning permit that issues.

Neither objection has been withdrawn and both have been kept up to date as to the status of the proposal.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

**Council Plans and Policies**

There are no implications on the Council Plan or any Council Policies as a result of this decision.

**Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making.

Further detail is within the Planning Officer Report.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

This proposal is being considered under Section 61 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This application is being heard by Council due to the receipt of objections to the proposal. The report will be on the council website under the Agenda, objectors will be able to speak to their objection, be in the public gallery and got to VCAT should they wish to appeal any decision by Council.

***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

**Economic**

This proposal is supported by the planning scheme and state policy to allow for projected population growth to be accommodated in appropriate locations throughout the region. The economic implications are positive for the region and locality.

**Social**

The proposal will provide for diversity in housing and potential increase in residents to become part of the existing community, supporting the local economy, the local schools and businesses.

**Environmental**

The application has been assessed against the relevant provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. No native vegetation is to be removed and landscaping for the subdivision is required. The site is within the Bushfire Prone Area and the risk is considered to be low given there is no identifying planning overlay to suggest a high bushfire risk.

The layout meets the requirements of Clause 56 for good solar access.

**Climate Change**

The Strathbogie Planning Scheme has incorporated broader considerations on Climate Change. An assessment of the application has determined that the proposal will not have an impact on climate change within the municipality, as all works will be required to comply with relevant legislation.

***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

There are no human rights implications with this proposal. The application is being assessed in accordance with relevant legislation, and all parties will be afforded all relevant rights of appeal at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

9.1.1 Planning Permit Application No. P2020-127 - Twenty-Seven Lot Subdivision ~ 1  
Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664 (cont.)

**CONCLUSION**

After due assessment of all the relevant factors, it is considered appropriate to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a permit, subject to conditions, in accordance with the officer recommendation.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment 1:** Planning Officer Report

**Attachment 2:** Plans for Endorsement

**9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666**

Author: Town Planner

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- The proposal is for the use and development of land for a dwelling at Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Section H ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666.
- The application was advertised, and two (2) objections were received. Further detail is contained within the attached Officer Planning Report.
- The application has not been assessed within the 60-day statutory timeframe due to time taken in working with objectors and a referral authority to try and resolve their concerns.
- The proposal meets the objectives of the Planning Policy Framework, and the Farming Zone.
- It is recommended that Council resolve to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit in accordance with the Officer's recommendation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

1. *Having caused notice of Planning Application No. P2021-089 to be given under Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and having considered all the matters required under Section 60 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 decides to issue a Notice of Decision under the provisions of Clause 35.07-1 Use of land for a dwelling on a small lot in the Farming Zone, Clause 35.07-4 Buildings and works associated with a Section 2 Use and less than 20 metres from a road, and less than 100 metres from a neighbouring dwelling and waterway in the Farming Zone of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme in respect of the land known as Certificate of Title Volume 05032 Folio 344 Crown allotment 1 Section H and Certificate of Title Volume 05032 Folio 345 Crown Allotment 2 Section H known as 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666, for the Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in accordance with endorsed plans, subject to the following conditions:*

**Amended Plans:**

1. *Prior to the commencement of any buildings or works a plan or plans must be submitted to and approved by, the Responsible Authority. When approved these plans shall be endorsed and form part of this permit. The plans must show –*
  - a) *A finalised set of floor plans and elevations for the dwelling.*

**Endorsed Plans:**

2. *The use and development must be sited and constructed in accordance with the endorsed plans. These endorsed plans can only be altered or modified with the prior written approval of the Responsible Authority, or to comply with statutory requirements.*

- 9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**Lot Consolidation:**

3. *Prior to any works commencing, Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Section H on Certificate of Title Volume 05032 Folio 345 must be consolidated into one title, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*

**Environmental Health Conditions:**

**Septic Tanks Code of Practice**

4. *All sewage and sullage waters shall be treated in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Protection Act 1970 and the Guidelines for Environmental Management: Code of Practice – Onsite Wastewater Management 891. 4 (2016) and the Responsible Authority.*
5. *All wastewater shall be disposed of within the curtilage of the land and sufficient area shall be kept available for the purpose of wastewater disposal to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*
6. *No wastewater shall drain directly or indirectly onto an adjoining property, street or any watercourse or drain to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*

**Approval of wastewater disposal**

7. *Prior to installation/alterations works commencing on the septic tank system, a Permit to Install/Alter must be obtained from Council.*

**Area of wastewater disposal**

8. *No buildings or works shall occur over any part of the approved waste disposal system including the septic tank in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Protection Act 1970, the Guidelines for Environmental Management: Code of Practice – Onsite Wastewater Management 891.4 (2016).*

**Engineering Conditions:**

**Road Design Plan**

9. *The final design parameters for the roadways must be based on Council's Infrastructure Design Manual (IDM) as modified from time to time, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. All works shall conform to plans and specifications prepared by a qualified engineer at Owner's expense and approved by the Responsible authority. A list of specific details and requirements are as follows: -.*
- (a) *A pavement design must be submitted for the entire road network by a suitably qualified engineer in accordance with clause 12.4 and Standard Drawing 610 of the IDM.*
- (b) *The Vehicle crossings to the individual lots from the road must be constructed at a location and of a size and standard satisfactory to the Responsible Authority.*

- 9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffly VIC 3666 (cont.)

#### **Road Upgrading**

- 10. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling, the developer is to upgrade the unnamed road reserve accessed from Hobart Street to the satisfaction of Strathbogje Shire Council.**

**Specific details are as follows:**

- (a) Four metre width of gravel road and vehicular crossings;**
- (b) underground conduits for water, gas, electricity and telephone;**
- (c) appropriate intersection and traffic control measures;**
- (d) appropriate street lighting and signage;**

**Road reserve and road widths must be in accordance with the requirements of the Infrastructure Design Manual**

#### **Rural Vehicle Crossing Location**

- 11. Prior to the commencement of works on site, any new, relocated, alteration or replacement of required vehicular entrances to the subject land from the road shall be constructed at a location and of a size and standard in accordance with the requirements of the relevant Authority and shall be at the applicant's expense. The final location of the crossing is to be approved by the Responsible Authority via a Vehicle Crossing Permit. Reference should be made to Clause 12.9.2 "Rural Vehicle Crossings" of the Infrastructure Design Manual. Refer to standard drawing SD255 for small vehicles or SD265 for large vehicles.**
- 12. The vehicular crossing shall have satisfactory clearance to any power or Telecommunications pole, manhole cover or marker, or street tree and have a minimum of 50mm of gravel from the shoulder to the property boundary.**

#### **Internal Access Roads**

- 13. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling all internal access roads must be constructed, formed and drained to avoid erosion and to minimise disturbance to natural topography of the land to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Internal access, including the turn-around areas for emergency vehicles, must be all weather construction with a minimum trafficable width of 4m.**

#### **Rural Drainage - Works**

- 14. Prior to the occupation of the dwelling, all stormwater and surface water discharging from the site, buildings and works must be conveyed to the legal point of discharge drains to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority/Goulburn Murray Water or dissipated within the site boundaries. No effluent or polluted water of any type may be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.**

- 9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

#### **Drainage Discharge Plan**

- 15. Before any of the development starts a properly prepared drainage discharge plan with computations to the satisfaction of the responsible authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. When approved, the plans will be endorsed and will then form part of the permit. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and a minimum of three copies (or as specified) must be provided. The information submitted must show the details listed in the council's Infrastructure Design Manual and be designed in accordance with the requirements of that manual.**

**The information and plan must include:**

- a) Overall catchment plans showing the discharge location from four new lots and unmade road reserve**
- b) details of how the works on the land are to be drained and/or retarded.**
- c) computations including total energy line and hydraulic grade line for the existing and proposed drainage as directed by Responsible Authority**
- d) a maximum discharge rate from the site is to be determined by computation to the satisfaction of Council.**
- e) documentation demonstrating approval from the relevant authority for the legal point of discharge.**
- f) the details of the incorporation of water sensitive urban design designed in accordance either "Urban Stormwater Best Practice Environmental Management Guidelines" 1999.**
- g) maintenance schedules for treatment elements.**

**Prior to the occupation of the dwelling all works constructed or carried out must be in accordance with those plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.**

#### **Rural Drainage - Works**

- 16. All stormwater and surface water discharging from the site, buildings and works must be conveyed to the legal point of discharge drains to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority/Goulburn Murray Water or dissipated within the site boundaries. No effluent or polluted water of any type may be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.**
- 17. Appropriate steps must be taken to retain all silt and sediment on site during the construction phase to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must be carried out in accordance with the following EPA guidelines and policies: -**
- Environmental Guidelines for Major Construction Sites (EPA publication No. 480, December 19985); and**
  - Construction Techniques for Sedimentation Pollution Control (EPA publication No. 275, May 1991)**

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**18. Prior to the commencement of any works, the design parameters for any defined watercourse crossing(s), both structural and hydraulic design, shall be approved by the Responsible Authority (GBCMA – Works on Waterways Permit).**

**Council's Assets**

**19. Before the development starts or subdivision works commences, the owner or developer must submit to the Responsible Authority a written report and photos of any prior damage to public infrastructure. Listed in the report must be the condition of kerb & channel, footpath, seal, streetlights, signs and other public infrastructure fronting the property and abutting at least two properties either side of the development. Unless identified with the written report, any damage to infrastructure post construction will be attributed to the development. The owner or developer of the subject land must pay for any damage caused to the Councils assets/Public infrastructure caused as a result of the development or use permitted by this permit.**

**Ausnet Conditions:**

**20. The applicant must –**

- **Enter into an agreement with AusNet Electricity Services Pty Ltd for the extension, upgrading or rearrangement of the electricity supply to the Lot being built upon. A payment to cover the cost of such work will be required.**

**DELWP Conditions:**

**Access and Encroachment**

**21. No access is permitted to the subject land via the Crown land.**

**22. Adjoining Crown land must not be used for truck turning areas, entry points, parking areas or temporary stack sites during the construction of buildings or works.**

**23. No polluted and/or sediment laden run-off is to be discharged directly or indirectly into or watercourses on Crown land. Overland flows must be maintained at the same rate post development as on the undeveloped land.**

**24. No native vegetation is to be removed.**

**Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority**

**25. The finished floor level of the proposed dwelling must be constructed at least 300 millimetres above the highest existing ground level underneath the building footprint, or higher level deemed necessary by the responsible authority.**

- 9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**Goulburn Murray Water Conditions**

- 26. All construction and ongoing activities must be in accordance with sediment control principles outlined in 'Construction Techniques for Sediment Pollution Control' (EPA, 1991).**
- 27. All wastewater from the dwelling must be treated to a standard of at least 20mg/L BOD and 30mg/L suspended solids using a package treatment plant or equivalent. The system must have a certificate of conformity issued by the Conformity Assessment Body (or equivalent approval) and be installed, operated and maintained in accordance with the relevant Australian Standard and EPA Code of Practice.**
- 28. All wastewater must be applied to land via pressure-compensating sub-surface irrigation installed along the contour.**
- 29. The wastewater disposal area must be located at least: 60m from any waterways, 40m from any drainage lines, 60m from any dams, and 20m from any bores.**
- Where wastewater is treated to at least a secondary standard, the distance may be reduced in accordance with the current EPA Code of Practice – Onsite Wastewater Management. However, where possible setback distances must be maximised.**
- 30. The wastewater management system must be appropriately designed to manage the potential volume of wastewater generated under full occupancy (based on a minimum 4 bedrooms), including an appropriately sized disposal area based on a full water balance specific to the proposal and subject land in accordance with the requirements of the current EPA Code of Practice – Onsite Wastewater Management.**
- 31. The wastewater disposal area must be kept free of stock, buildings, driveways and service trenching and must be planted with appropriate vegetation to maximise its performance. Stormwater must be diverted away.**
- 32. No buildings are to be constructed within 30 metres of any waterways or on any drainage lines.**
- 33. Prior to the commencement of any works, the two parcels described as Crown Allotment 1 Section H Parish Ruffy and Crown Allotment 2, Section H, Parish Ruffy must be consolidated to create one parcel of land.**

**General Conditions:**

- 34. The external cladding of the proposed buildings, including the roof, must be constructed of materials in good order and condition, be non-reflective and be of muted colours to enhance the aesthetic amenity of the area.**

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**35. The amenity of the area must not be detrimentally affected by the use, through the:**

- (a) Appearance of any building, works or materials;**
- (b) Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;**
- (c) Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, wastewater, waste products, grit or oil;**
- (d) Presence of vermin, and;**
- (e) Others as appropriate.**

**Dwelling Conditions:**

**36. The dwelling must be connected to a reticulated potable water supply or have an alternative potable water supply with adequate storage for domestic use as well as for firefighting purposes.**

**37. The dwelling must be connected to a reticulated electricity supply or have an alternative energy source.**

**Permit Expiry:**

**38. This permit will expire if one of the following circumstances applies:**

- (a) The use and development has not started within two years of the date of this Permit.**
- (b) The development is not completed within four years of the date of this Permit.**
- (c) The use ceases for a period of two years or more.**

**The Responsible Authority may extend the periods referred to if a request is made in writing:**

- before the permit expires; or**
- within six months afterwards if the use or development has not yet started; or**
- within 12 months after the permit expiry date, where the development allowed by the permit has lawfully started before the permit expires.**

**Planning Notes:**

- This Permit does not authorise the commencement of any building construction works. Before any such development may commence, the Applicant must apply for and obtain appropriate Building approval.**
- This Permit does not authorise the creation of a new access way/crossover. Before any such development may commence, the Applicant must apply for and obtain appropriate approval from Council.**
- This Permit does not authorise the removal of any native vegetation including for access. Before any such works may commence, the Applicant must apply for and obtain appropriate Planning approval.**

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**Environmental Health Notes:**

- *The system must be at least 300 metres from potable water supply.*
- *The system must be at least 60 metres from any watercourse and/or dam (non-potable water supply) for primary sewage and 30 metres for secondary sewage, on the subject or neighbouring properties.*
- *A Medium Risk Template - Land Capability Assessment has been provided by Porta Environmental Pty Ltd and prepared in December 2020.*

**Ausnet Notes**

- *It is recommended that, at an early date the applicant commences negotiations with AusNet Services for a supply of electricity in order that supply arrangements can be worked out in detail. Arrangements for the supply may be subject to obtaining the agreement of other Authorities and any landowners that may be affected by routes of the electric power line required to supply the Lot and for any tree clearing.*

**DELWP Notes:**

- *The adjoining Crown land is not to be used for access, storage of materials or rubbish. Any private use of Crown land requires consent and/or licensing from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning.*

**Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority Notes:**

- *Please note that the 100-year ARI flood is not the maximum possible flood. There is always a possibility that a flood larger in height and extent, than the 100-year ARI flood, may occur in the future.*

**Goulburn Murray Water Notes:**

- *The subject property is located within an area of Cultural Heritage Sensitivity. Should the activity associated with proposed development require a Cultural Heritage Management Plan (CHMP), planning permits, licences and work authorities cannot be issued unless a CHMP has been approved for the activity.*

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The landowner is applying to use and develop the land for a dwelling on a small lot in the Farming Zone. The land is identified as Area 19 in the 2004 Strathbogie Shire Rural Residential Strategy and has an area of 0.329 hectares this does not meet the required 40-hectare area for an as of right use in the Farming Zone.

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

The proposal is for the construction of a single storey four (4) bedroom home with a floor area of 200.04 square metres. A length of 19.44 metres by 11.25 metres.

The proposed dwelling contains:

- Four bedrooms – including main bedroom with ensuite and WIR
- Media room
- Open kitchen, meals and family area
- Alfresco Area
- Double Garage



Subject Site

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

Council is a Responsible Authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. In this role, Council administers the Strathbogie Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme) and, among other things, determines planning permit applications made for the use and development of the land in the municipality. Under delegated authority of Council, Council officers determine some matters. Any application that receives objections is heard before Council.

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

*SUMMARY OF KEY ISSUES*

- The land is in the Farming Zone and is less than the 40-hectare requirement for an as of right use for a dwelling.
- The land is identified in the 2004 Strathbogie Shire Rural Residential Strategy (Area 19).
- The area is used for rural residential purposes.
- The objectors have indicated their objections stand and they do not wish to undertake mediation.

*Officer Response:*

It is considered appropriate to allow approval for the proposed dwelling. This is in keeping with the character of the area which is used for rural residential purposes and therefore can be considered under the Strathbogie Rural Residential Strategy.

It is recommended that conditions be included on any planning permit issued to ensure that:

- All sewage and sullage waters shall be treated in accordance with the requirements of the Environment Protection Act 1970 and be disposed of within the curtilage of the land. No wastewater shall drain directly or indirectly onto an adjoining property, street or any watercourse.
- All stormwater and surface water discharging from the site, buildings and works must be conveyed to the legal point of discharge drains to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority/Goulburn Murray Water or dissipated within the site boundaries. No effluent or polluted water of any type may be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.
- Crossovers and internal access will be constructed to the satisfaction of Council and provide emergency access.
- The proposed dwelling has an alternative potable water supply with adequate storage for domestic use as well as for firefighting purposes. The dwelling must be connected to a reticulated electricity supply or have an alternative energy source.
- The amenity of the area is not detrimentally affected by the use, through the:
  - (a) Appearance of any building, works or materials;
  - (b) Transport of materials, goods or commodities to or from the land;
  - (c) Emission of noise, artificial light, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, vapour, steam, soot, ash, dust, wastewater, waste products, grit or oil;
  - (d) Presence of vermin, and;
  - (e) Others as appropriate.
- No native vegetation is to be removed.

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

The objectors have indicated their objections stand. It is considered the above Conditions will address their concerns regarding drainage and effluent dispersal from the proposed site onto adjoining lots and amenity and environmental concerns. The addition of one proposed dwelling on this lot is considered appropriate and in keeping with the 2004 Strathbogie Shire Rural Residential Strategy.

In summary, the proposal meets the objectives of the Planning Policy Framework and the Farming Zone.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Individual applications consider these requirements through assessment phase of each application as per the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the provisions of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. The application was advertised to the neighbouring lots.

The application has been advertised pursuant to Section 52 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, by

- Sending letters to adjoining landowners (as shown on the plan below)
- Placing (a) sign on site

Council officers are satisfied that the notification has been carried out correctly. In addition, officers undertook a site visit.

Consultation was carried out with the objectors and the applicant and further information on this consultation can be found within the attached Officer Planning Report.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

**Council Plans and Policies**

There are no implications on the Council Plan or any Council Policies as a result of this decision (Please refer further to the Officer Planning Report attached).

**Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making.

The state policies are considered in the attached Officer Planning Report.

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

This application is being considered under Section 61 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This application is being heard by Council as the proposal has two (2) objections to the proposed use and development of land for a dwelling. Hearing the application in a public Council Meeting will allow all parties the opportunity to be heard by the Council prior to a decision being made.

**SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

**Economic**

The impact on agricultural productivity is considered minimal given the small size of the lot and surrounding residential development, the use of the land for agriculture would become incompatible with surrounding land uses and it is considered the development and use of the land for a dwelling will enhance the existing rural residential character of the area.

**Social**

The proposal is in keeping with Area 19 of the 2004 Strathbogie Shire Rural Residential strategy. There has been increased interest in rural residential type lots within the Shire and Ruffy township. The site is large enough to accommodate the buildings and is considered in keeping with the area and the rural residential development.

9.1.2 Planning Permit Application No. P2021-089 - Use and Development of land for a dwelling and access in an unnamed unmade road reserve (for Crown Allotment 1 and 2 Sec H) ~ 7 Hill Close, Ruffy VIC 3666 (cont.)

**Environmental**

The application has been assessed against the relevant provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The Land Capability Assessment provided to Council demonstrates the ability of the land to support the development as proposed without adversely affecting the environment. There is no proposal to remove vegetation. The applicant proposes they will plant native vegetation in the road reserve informally identified as "Peter Street" to act as a buffer between the rural residential lots and farming areas.

**Climate change**

The Strathbogrie Planning Scheme has incorporated broader considerations on Climate Change, with the assessment that the proposal will not have an impact on climate change within the municipality, as all works will be required to comply with relevant legislation.

***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

There are no human rights implications with this proposal. The application is being assessed in accordance with relevant legislation, and all parties will be afforded all relevant rights of appeal at the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.

***CONCLUSION***

After due assessment of all the relevant factors, it is considered appropriate to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a permit, subject to conditions, in accordance with the officer recommendation.

***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Officer Planning Report

**Attachment 2:** Subject Land Map

**Attachments 3 and 4:** Locality Maps

### **9.1.3 Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined - 1 to 30 April 2022**

Author: Manager Planning & Investment

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This report provides listings of all Planning Applications Received (Attachment 1) and Planning Applications Determined (Attachment 2) for the period of 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022. The latest available Planning Permit Activity Performance Figures are also attached (Attachment 3). The contents of this report are provided for information purposes only.

It is noted that there were 11 new planning applications received and 11 planning permit applications decided upon during the reporting period.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

##### ***That Council:***

- 1. Note that there were 11 new planning applications received, and 11 planning permit applications decided on during the period of 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022.***
- 2. Note the report.***

#### **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

To report to Council on the current planning application activity and matters considered under delegation.

#### **ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

Council is a Responsible Authority under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act). In this role, Council administers the Strathbogie Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme) and, among other things, determines planning permit applications made for the use and development of the land in the municipality. Under delegated authority of Council, Council officers determine some matters.

Many types of use and development do not require a planning permit and may take place without being recorded as part of the planning approvals data. The statistics presented do not represent all development activity in the municipality. In addition, some planning permits are not acted on, or there may be a delay between when the approval is granted and when works take place.

9.1.3 Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined  
- 1 to 30 April 2022 (cont.)

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Individual applications consider these requirements through assessment phase of each application as per the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the provisions of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme.

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This report continues to demonstrate that Council is being transparent in its position in relation to all applications received and determined by the Council.

**CONCLUSION**

This report is provided for Council to note the current planning permit application activity.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment 1:** Planning Applications Received

**Attachment 2:** Planning Applications Determined

**Attachment 3:** Planning Permit Activity Performance Figures

#### **9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets**

Author: Strategic Planner

Responsible Director: Director Community & Planning

##### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

Current land developments, including housing, industrial and commercial have the potential to impact the municipality's sustainability for years to come.

Council can improve the sustainability of private developments by incorporating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) requirements into the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. ESD requirements can help to minimise energy use, water and waste, improve environmental outcomes and amenity and reduce ongoing running costs for our community.

Introducing ESD requirements through Planning Policy is an effective and low-cost way for Council to influence the built environment in a way that will result in lasting improvements to sustainability and residents' quality of life.

Strathbogie Shire is a member of the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE). CASBE's Sustainable Subdivision Framework trial has resulted in improvements to sustainability outcomes from residential subdivision but is not sufficient to ensure all new development meets current ESD requirements.

Strathbogie Shire has been collaborating with CASBE, in partnerships with a group of 31 councils across Victoria in the Elevating ESD Targets Planning Project (the ESD Project).

Stage 1, which saw the preparation of new ESD standards for inclusion in the Planning Scheme, has now been completed and Stage 2 has commenced which seeks to introduce the new controls into the Planning Schemes of participating Council's.

Stage 2, will see the introduction of the new planning provision and policy recommendations of Stage 1 into the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. This will be achieved via an advisory committee, appointed by the Minister for Planning. An advisory committee provides timely advice to the Minister for Planning and the associated 31 Councils around the identified ESD Targets, planning provisions and policy recommendations. The objective of the Advisory Committee is to provide consistent advice in a transparent, simpler, more timely and cost-efficient process to introduce new planning provisions and controls for all affected and interested parties in line with the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*.

A Memorandum of Understanding will be entered in to between the participating council's in order to guide the planning scheme amendment process.

9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

**RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council:***

- 1. Request that the Minister for Planning and Housing establish an advisory committee to advise on the Environmentally Sustainable Development project in accordance with section 151 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987;***
- 2. Endorse the Planning advice report, Economic Cost Benefit Report, Technical Environmentally Sustainable Development and Development Feasibility Report as provided in Attachments 2,3 & 4 to this report, as supporting documents to the proposed Amendment;***
- 3. Authorises the Manager Planning & Investment to make minor changes to the Amendment or provide guidance to any advisory committee established by the Minister for Planning on behalf of Strathbogie Shire Council;***
- 4. Enters into the Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development Targets Planning Policy Amendment Memorandum of Understanding Stage 2 – Planning Scheme Amendment Process;***
- 5. Authorises officers to participate in an informal community awareness raising communications activities centrally led by CASBE on behalf of the partner councils and in accordance with Councils Community Engagement approach; and***
- 6. Writes to the State Government Minister for Planning and Housing, Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change, and Minister for Local Government and Suburban Development outlining the benefits to the community of introducing zero carbon focused and elevated Environmentally Sustainable Development planning policy into the Planning Scheme.***

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this report is to:

- Present the findings of Stage 1 of the Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development ('ESD') Targets Planning Project which developed the evidence base to support improved environmental performance within the Strathbogie Planning Scheme, in conjunction with the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and a group of 31 Victorian Councils.
- Seek approval to pursue authorisation from Department of Environment Land Water and Planning (DELWP)

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

- To prepare and exhibit a new single ESD Particular Provision in to the Strathbogie Planning Scheme through a collaborative joint planning scheme amendment process.
- Seek approval to participate in an informal community awareness raising communications activities centrally led by CASBE on behalf of the partner councils.
- Acquire approval of the Memorandum of Understanding, alongside the other participating Councils, to partner on Stage 2, which will including commencing a Planning Scheme Amendment.

##### **BACKGROUND**

Thirty-one project councils which form the Elevating ESD Targets Planning Project and MAV, have completed Stage 1 of a two-stage process.

The aims were to build on the existing local ESD Policies held by numerous Victorian Councils and deliver revised and elevated ESD targets for new development, including targets for zero carbon development.

The Elevating ESD Targets Working Group (which consists of a small number of members from the 31 Councils) developed a set of revised objectives and standards as a part of an improved zero carbon planning scheme that delivers healthy, sustainable and resilient buildings.

Consultants were engaged to independently review draft ESD planning policy objectives and standards. Fifteen case studies were selected from the project councils to inform the baseline and test the technical and development feasibility and economic implications of the elevated standards. The reports were as follows:

- Part A: Technical ESD and Development Feasibility,
- Part B: Planning Advice, and
- Part C: Economic Benefit Cost Analysis

Feedback was sought from the 31 member Councils in November 2020 on the reports, draft objectives and standards. This feedback has now been considered and amalgamated into a further refined set of objectives and standards. Elevating ESD Targets Working Group reviewed the proposed standards to frame them for inclusion in the planning scheme.

These reports form the evidence base underpinning the proposed joint Planning Scheme Amendment (Stage 2 of the project), as well as and advocacy to the Victorian State and Government.

A webinar was held for senior staff and Councillors briefing on the Stage 1 project outcomes on 16 March 2022.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

The leading councils now have a deadline of June 2022 to deliver a draft amendment. This includes:

- Final draft of proposed planning policy
- Final reports from technical, planning and cost analyst consultants testing the objectives and standards from a feasibility and viability perspective.

Amendment documentation has been prepared by the Elevating ESD Targets Working Group to support the participating councils prepare the planning scheme amendment.

#### **THE ESD THEMES, STANDARDS AND PROVISIONS**

The key environmental themes which will be addressed via the amendment are as follows:

- Operational Energy – this theme focuses on energy efficiency, on-site renewable energy generation and energy supply, with the aim of achieving net zero operational carbon.
- Sustainable Transport - this theme focuses on facilitating increased active transport with the aim of reducing private vehicle trips and setting the condition to ensure a smooth transition for the future uptake of electric vehicles.
- Integrated Water Management - this theme focuses on the reduction of potable water consumption through efficiency measures and use of non-potable water sources, and the improving the quality of stormwater discharging from site.
- Indoor Environment Quality - this theme focuses on improving the comfort of building occupants including internal temperatures, air quality and daylight access.
- Circular Economy - this theme focuses on improving rates of resource recovery during both construction and operation and closing the loop by encouraging the use of materials with recycled content as an alternative to virgin materials.
- Green Infrastructure - this theme focuses on increasing the amount of green infrastructure to provide a range of ecosystem service benefits and reducing the contribution of the built environment to the urban heat island effect.

These themes are then to be addressed by a series of detailed objectives and below these standards to be met. For each standard, the relevant objectives which the standard is intended to deliver will be identified, along with commentary as to how the standards would be assessed through the proposed process.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

##### **Next Steps**

Following completion of Stage 1, the Elevating ESD Targets Working Group is seeking confirmation as to which Councils intend on participating in State 2 of the project. The more Council's that participate, greater the cost savings will be across participating councils as a shared costs approach is proposed.

Advocacy will be required to the State Government as the project aims to introduce requirements that will go above the requirements expected to be introduced state-wide through the previously announced ESD Roadmap.

A planning scheme amendment will be submitted to Department of Environment Land Water and Planning for consideration that seeks authorisation to prepare and exhibit an amendment which will introduce a new Particular Provision into the Planning Scheme. An Advisory Committee is expected to be appointed to hear submissions from the community and interested stakeholders. An advisory committee provides timely advice to the Minister for Planning and the associated Councils on the ESD Targets and amendment documentation. The objective of the Committee is to provide consistent advice in a transparent, simpler, more timely and cost-efficient process to introduce new planning provisions and controls for all affected and interested parties in line with the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*. Experts that sit on an appointed advisory panel would likely have significant experience, in sustainable developments, building and construction, relevant as the Minister for Planning deems appropriate.

##### **ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

This planning scheme amendment will implement Council Plan initiative 3.2 which sets out to: *Prepare a planning scheme amendment to include an environmentally sustainable development policy that responds to climate change and minimises adverse environmental impacts created by new development*. It will further assist Council in implementing initiatives and actions identified within the Council Plan that relate to climate change action plan and reducing heat island effects.

Potential alternative courses of action which Council might consider:

Option 1: That Council pursues the proposed amendment and supports the request to be made to the Minister for Planning to establish an advisory committee to advise on the ESD project in accordance with section 151 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

As this amendment is associated with 31 other Councils an advisory committee will undertake the relevant steps required for a normal Council managed planning scheme amendment. This will include exhibition of relevant documents, consultation plan for all participating Councils, public hearings and a recommendations report. It is the recommendation of this report that Council undertaken Option 1.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

Option 2: That Council does not support the request to be made to the Minister for Planning, to establish an advisory committee to advise on the ESD project to amendment to the Strathbogie Planning Scheme and therefore abandons the amendment.

This would mean that no amendment would be undertaken. In this instance, if Council do not proceed with the amendment, initiative 3.2 of the Council Plan cannot be achieved or implemented within the timelines or budget parameters indicated.

However, if Council chose to undertake its own planning scheme amendment, this would take significant investment approximately \$500,000 and a timeframe of 3 - 5 years minimum after commencing the project. The project would need to include its own independent strategic justification separate to any work already undertaken by CASBE.

Undertaking this amendment with 31 other Councils, via an advisory committee, minimises the Strathbogie Shire Councils resource requirements with stronger policy outcomes compared to undertaking the amendment alone.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Due to the number of Council's involved and the complexities associated with consultation processes across so many areas, no community engagement has been undertaken as part of Stage 1 of the project.

Affected residents and interested stakeholders will be able to make a submission to any future planning scheme amendment relating to introducing a requirement for zero carbon development and improved sustainability of built form into the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. Considering the scale and complexity of this project, formal community consultation will occur as part of an extended exhibition period in the planning scheme amendment process. This will be formally requested of DELWP through the authorisation request. Informal community awareness raising is also proposed to occur following lodgement of the authorisation request.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **Council Plans and Policies**

##### **Council Plan 2021-25**

The Council Plan 2021-25 commits Council to action in 6 key areas

1. Engage. Create. Unite.
2. Live. Access. Connect.
3. Protect. Enhance. Adapt.
4. Inclusive. Productive. Balanced.
5. Strong. Healthy. Safe.
6. Accountable. Transparent. Responsible.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

This Planning Scheme Amendment specifically seeks to achieve item 3.2 of the Council Plan to: *Prepare a planning scheme amendment to include an environmentally sustainable development policy that responds to climate change and minimises adverse environmental impacts created by new development.*

The introduction of greater ESD controls into the Planning Scheme will ensure that development increases its performance in relation to environmental sustainability, reflecting the aspirations from the Council Plan.

##### **Draft Climate Action Plan** (currently on public exhibition)

The overarching theme of this plan will ensure that Council:

- Embed climate emergency responses into all Shire business activities and decisions;
- Accelerate the Shire's climate change adaptation and mitigation actions to the speed and scale required to address the Climate Emergency;
- Direct the Shire's efforts to engage and empower the local community and business to foster cultural shifts, so that ongoing climate action becomes the new standard;
- Assist and support a just and fair transition to a prosperous decarbonised economy; and
- Create and enhance collaboration and partnership opportunities between the Shire, community and the broader Climate Emergency movement to amplify action and coordinate advocacy.

The introduction of greater ESD controls on development both at local and state level is consistent with the Climate Emergency Action Plan.

##### **Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making.

The Victorian State Government is also developing a ESD Strategy to implement into all Victorian Planning Schemes. The Policies and strategies outlined through this proposed planning scheme amendment is over and above what the State has identified.

##### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

The evidence base recommends that Council seek a single ESD Particular Provision in a new Clause 53 as the most appropriate planning mechanism to implement the Elevated ESD Objectives and Standards.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

This recommendation differs from the State Government's proposed approach though Stage 2 of the ESD Roadmap's, which recommends:

- Introducing new ESD objectives and standards for commercial and industrial development through a new Clause 53; and
- Introducing new and updated ESD objectives and standards for residential development through Clause 54, 55, 56 and 58.

Based on the report findings, the Participating Councils are seeking to utilise a provision which does not currently exist within the suite of the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPP).

Legal advice was sought to determine whether the 31 participating councils could seek to prepare and introduce a new Particular Provision into their planning schemes under section 8A(2) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (P&E Act) without offending s 10(1) of the P&E Act (Part 1).

The relevant sections are as follows:

*8A(2) A municipal council must not prepare an amendment to the State standard provisions or the local provisions of a planning scheme in force in its municipal district unless it has applied to the Minister under this section and the Minister has authorised it to do so.*

*10(1) The power given to a planning authority to prepare an amendment to the State standard provisions of a planning scheme extends only to the inclusion of a provision in or deletion of a provision from the State standard provisions of the planning scheme.*

*S10(2) A planning authority (including the Minister) that is given power to amend more than one planning scheme may prepare amendments to two or more of those schemes in the one instrument.*

The legal advice confirmed that councils can seek to prepare and insert a new Particular Provision into their planning scheme, provided councils have authorisation from the Minister to do so.

The advice also suggested that if this is rejected by the Minister, participating councils could ask the Minister to be the proponent of such an amendment.

A further opportunity would be to appoint an Advisory Committee (AC) under Part 7, s151 of the Act and refer consideration of a draft amendment seeking to introduce a new Particular Provision to the AC.

#### **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

##### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In order to ensure transparency of process, this application is being heard at a council meeting that is open to the public. The documents associated with the planning scheme amendment will be made available for consideration in both a physical and an online format in accordance with the provisions of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

##### ***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

Council has allocated budget to join the CASBE project to deliver revised and elevated ESD targets for new development through a planning scheme amendment. The costs for the amendment to the Strathbogie Planning Scheme will form part of Council's operational budget. Costs will depend on the number of councils joining Stage 2 and will be confirmed through an Expression of Interest process. As Strathbogie Shire Council is a category 3 (small rural Council) member of CASBE the anticipated cost is approximately \$2000 - \$5000.

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) defines the governance for the project, including financial contributions. A MOU for Stage 2 will be signed by all participating Councils to define shared the cost between municipalities for the Planning Scheme Amendment.

Undertaking the project collaboratively will offer significant financial savings by enabling shared costs associated with the amendment.

##### ***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

##### **Economic**

Further strategic work will be undertaken to compare extra building costs associated with new requirements to be introduced with the planning scheme amendment, compared to the cost savings of ongoing costs such as power and utility costs.

##### **Social**

Increasing ESD standards will contribute towards a more equitable community where benefits of lower operating costs will be realised for tenants and owners.

Collectively improving these outcomes at a building scale will benefit the city more broadly improving health and liveability through a range of outcomes including healthy indoor environments, greener and cooler outdoor environments where natural elements are preserved and enhanced.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

The addition of a community resilience objective will mean that developments will be designed to support a future community to adapt to the impact of climate change, including heat, flooding and sea level rise.

##### **Environmental**

Environmentally sustainable development that uses renewable energy and water efficiently will reduce the negative impact of Strathbogie Shire's energy and water demands on the natural environment.

Use of urban buildings to provide solar energy systems will reduce the need to use non-urban land for this purpose and may assist in conserving land resources.

The actions in this report also will result in increased canopy cover from vegetation and landscaping, which has range of positive ecosystem benefits such as improved biodiversity and mitigation of urban heat impacts.

By increasing built form environmental standards, we will be contributing to large community reduction in greenhouse gas emissions that will align to the Paris Agreement and limit global warming to the preferred 1.5 degrees compared to pre-industrial levels.

##### **Climate change**

Council's approach to the implementation of ESD controls and a zero-carbon planning policy into the Planning Scheme constitutes a significant climate change action that will reduce the use of fossil fuel-based energy by households, businesses and for transport within the Strathbogie municipality.

Buildings that depart from the preferred height will be required to achieve a BESS score of 70%, ensuring they are sustainable and have a low level of greenhouse gas emissions.

The use of discretionary height control exceedance criteria allows Council to continue to individually assess each development application that proposes to exceed the discretionary limit and ensure that the height, built form and design are responsive to the existing and preferred future character of the centre and surrounding area.

##### **COLLABORATION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that collaboration with other councils, levels of government and statutory bodies is to be sought.

This amendment has been developed in conjunction with the Council Alliance for a Sustainable Built Environment (CASBE) and a group of 31 Victorian Councils. All of which have had input to the recommendations of the reports and outcomes that are being implemented into the Strathbogie Planning Scheme.

#### 9.1.4 Elevating Environmentally Sustainable Development (ESD) Targets (cont.)

##### ***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

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.

##### ***CONCLUSION***

This Planning Scheme Amendment will implement initiative 3.2 of the Strathbogie Council Plan, which seeks to prepare a planning scheme amendment to include an environmentally sustainable development policy that responds to climate change and minimises adverse environmental impacts created by new development. This report seeks approval for the amendment, which will allow the community to have input into the amendment process. The Planning Scheme Amendment will also assist in the achieving of actions with Council's land use strategy documents and draft Climate Action Plan.

##### ***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Amendment Document – Elevating ESD Draft Particular Provisions

**Attachment 2:** Amendment Document – Planning Advice Report

**Attachment 3:** Amendment Document – Economic Cost Benefit Report

**Attachment 4:** Amendment Document – Technical ESD and Development Feasibility Report

**Attachment 5:** Amendment Document – CASBE MOU for Stage 2

**Attachment 6:** Amendment Document – Minister Advocacy Letter 781619

## **9.2 COMMUNITY**

### **9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention**

Author: Manager Culture and Community

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

Council has received a sponsorship application from the Seymour Agricultural & Pastoral Society for \$5,000 for the Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention to be held on 24,25 & 26 June 2022. The funds would be used to help cover the cost of regional tours, printing and promotion, Regatta Centre Hire and local produce promotions. This is the first time this event will be held in Strathbogrie Shire.

The event application was of an acceptable standard, with the application scoring 15/25 in the Sponsorship Program criteria assessment. Under the Guidelines, organisations from outside Strathbogrie Shire can apply for sponsorship provided that the event takes place in the municipality.

The event will result in a number of significant social and economic benefits to the Strathbogrie Shire and will be delivered in line with Council's Events and Regulatory policies and procedures.

In Council's approved operating budget 2021/2022, Council allocated \$30,000 to the Sponsorship program to sponsor events held in the Strathbogrie Shire that meet the Sponsorship program criteria submitted in line with the Guidelines.

The value of all Sponsorship requests approved this financial year to date total \$20,000, leaving a balance of \$10,000 remaining.

This report recommends the partial approval of the sponsorship application from the Seymour & Pastoral Agricultural Society, providing a financial contribution of \$3,000 for the 2022 Victorian Agricultural State Convention plus in kind contribution to cover the fees associated with the hire of the Regatta Centre to the value of \$1,436 including GST.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

##### ***That Council:***

- 1. Approve sponsorship of \$3,000 to be funded from the 2021 – 22 budget allocations for sponsorship.***
- 2. Waive the Regatta Centre Hire fees of \$1,436 for the Seymour Agricultural & Pastoral Society to support the delivery of the Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention to be held 24, 25 & 26 June 2022.***

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention (cont.)

**RECOMMENDATION (cont.)**

3. ***Work with the Seymour Pastoral and Agricultural Society to reduce overall waste produced at the event through the implementation of the objectives of both the Waste Wise Events Guidelines and Sustainable Strathbogie 2030 in being “A Zero Waste Shire”.***
4. ***Make it a condition of the sponsorship funding that the Seymour Agricultural Society comply with COVID-19 directions issued by the Chief Health Officer/Department of Health at the time of the event.***

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention is generally held on an annual basis, with the last Convention being held in 2019 in Camperdown (2020 & 2021 Conventions were cancelled due to COVID-19). The Convention brings together organisers from Agricultural Societies and Field Days from around Victoria.

The Convention provides an opportunity for their Annual General Meetings, meetings of sub committees and a chance for delegates to attend workshops on key topics including but not limited to; insurance, homecraft judging, social media and animal biosecurity.

One of the features of the Convention is the presentation of the State finalists of the Junior State Ambassadors and the opportunity to meet Emerging Agricultural Leaders.

This year's main event will be hosted by Seymour Agriculture & Pastoral Society, following a successful Expression of Interest to the Victorian Agricultural Society and will be held at the Nagambie Regatta Centre with accommodation at the adjacent Discovery Park. Tours to Mitchelton Winery, a horse stud and various food manufacturing businesses in the region is planned to showcase the local region. The Gala Dinner is to take place at the Nagambie Mechanics Institute Hall.

This is a great opportunity to showcase our Shire and surrounds to delegates from the agricultural industry from across the State.

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

### 9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention (cont.)

The event organisers will obtain Event Approval from Strathbogrie Shire Council, as all required documentation including, risk plans, and public liability insurance will be provided. Due to the nature of the event, this event is deemed to be a very low risk event.

This event aligns well with the key principles of the Sponsorship Program as the event:

- Promotes community engagement and participation,
- Contributes to building healthy and vibrant communities; and
- Increases economic development, tourism and the visitor economy.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Holding the Victorian Agricultural Society Convention in Nagambie, ensures a economic uplift in Nagambie and across the Shire, with an expected 200 people in attendance, many will stay three nights in the Nagambie. It is a great opportunity to promote the region and encourage return visitation.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### Council Plans and Policies

*This initiative addresses the key objectives of the Council Plan 2021 – 2025 as follows:*

- *Strategic focus area 4: Inclusive. Productive. Balanced.  
Our Community's goals – We target economic development to enhance our region; we are capitalising on our region's strengths*

According to the 2021 – 2025 Council Plan, Agriculture is the largest industry in the Shire making Nagambie an ideal location for the Convention.

This initiative also directly relates to the Arts and Culture Strategy 2019 -2023 as follows:

- *Goal 1: A Connected and Vibrant Community which is focused on strengthening the strong sense of belonging and community pride, by increasing the opportunities for creative stimulation and connectedness.*
  - *Strategic Objective 1.1 – we will support initiatives that bring people together, encourage collaboration and partnerships and create networks.*

Again, this project will be delivered in partnership with the community, between agricultural societies, business and individuals. It will have positive impacts culturally, socially and economically.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles under section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention (cont.)

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

The author of the report has signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report. The officer responsible for the approval of this report has declared a general conflict of interest under Clause 127 of the Local Government Act 2020.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In the interest of transparency and open and honest communication with community, it is recommended that this request for sponsorship for the 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society Convention be acknowledged in a public forum providing full disclosure of how sponsorship funding is being approved and distributed within the community.

***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The Sponsorship requests granted this financial year to date total \$20,000, out of a total budget of \$30,000.

<b>Sponsorship Program</b>	
YTD Actuals	\$20,000
Budget remaining	\$10,000

**Victorian Agricultural Society Convention Event 2022- PROPOSED BUDGET**

<b>Income</b>	
Shire of Strathbogie Sponsorship	\$ 5,000
Delegate tickets	\$ 22,200
Saturday Dinner	\$ 2,700
Saturday Event & Friday evening	\$ 2,050
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$31,950</b>

<b>Expenditure</b>	
Showbags & consumables	\$ 3,250
Catering	\$ 23,950
Printing and Promotion	\$ 3,500
Speakers & Rural Ambassadors	\$ 1,250
<b>Estimated Expenditure</b>	<b>\$31,950</b>

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention (cont.)

***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

**Economic**

The event will result in a number of economic benefits for the Community. Delegates will require food, accommodation and supplies whilst they visit the area and participate in a number of tourist activities during their stay. All accommodation, catering and venues will be sourced locally and it is anticipated that delegates will stay extra days to explore the area. It is expected that this will also encourage return visitation to the region.

**Social**

The event will offer significant social benefits for those in attendance. The event also provides an opportunity for participants, community and visitors alike to connect, re-engage and explore the local area, this is particularly important after extended periods of restriction, isolation and the cancellation of the previous two Conventions due to the ongoing presence of Covid and Covid related fears.

**Environmental**

Council Officers will work with the organising Committee to support the delivery of the Victorian Agricultural Society Convention and reduce the overall waste produced at the event through the implementation of the objectives of both the Waste Wise Events Guidelines and Sustainable Strathbogie 2030 in being “A Zero Waste Shire”.

**Climate change**

The Convention will encourage and educate about the current best practice agricultural methods giving Farmers options some may not have considered previously.

***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

The Convention organisers will ensure that all regulatory and Covid safe requirements are in place as part of the approved event application.

***COLLABORATION***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that collaboration with other councils, levels of government and statutory bodies is to be sought.

Council will provide the required assistance to the event as per Council’s role and responsibility in line with the *Local Government Act 2020* and relevant policies and procedures.

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – 2022 Victorian Agricultural Society State Convention (cont.)

***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

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*.

***CONCLUSION***

It is recommended that this request for sponsorship be approved. The Convention will bring a wide range of delegates from around Victoria together showcasing the region, local attractions and local produce. The event will result in a number of economic and social benefits to the community.

***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Remplan Report

## **9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes**

Author: Waste Management Officer

Responsible Director: Director Corporate Operations

### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

'*Recycling Victoria*' is the Victorian Government's 10-year policy and action plan, aimed at fundamentally transforming our recycling sector. Dismantling the current operational paradigm in waste generation and recovery, a shift to operating under the lens of a circular economy will pivot Victoria toward a more sustainable future. To drive this transformation, \$129 million will be made available to assist Councils in reforming household waste and recycling services, ensuring Victoria is well placed in transitioning to a circular economy.

To meet the new, standardised regulations, staff completed and submitted a Draft Transition Plan to DELWP (September 2020), outlining the proposed implementation of a service model to incorporate a 4-bin kerbside collection service.

Staff have recently completed Stage 1 of the previously endorsed *Communications and Engagement Plan*. Through Council's multichannel communication means, our community was tasked in selecting their preferred kerbside collection bin configuration for the beginning of the new contract on July 1, 2025, including the addition of a monthly glass service.

Through these proposed collection configurations, Scenario 1 (36.34%) and Scenario 2 (33.99%) were the top-two preferred amongst our community. Scenario 3 (29.67%) was the least preferred option.

Council is now required to decide on the preferred kerbside bin configuration that balances our community's needs whilst addressing best economic, social and environmental sustainability outcomes.

### ***RECOMMENDATION***

#### ***That Council -***

- 1. Notes the following results from the community survey -***
  - a. Scenario 1 (Waste and Recycling fortnightly, FOGO weekly and Glass monthly) – 36.34% (294 votes)***
  - b. Scenario 2 (Waste fortnightly, Recycling and Glass monthly and FOGO weekly) – 33.99% (275 votes)***
  - c. Scenario 3 (Waste weekly, Recycling fortnightly, GOGO weekly and Glass monthly - 29.67% (240 votes)***

9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

*RECOMMENDATION (cont.)*

**2. Adopts the community preference of kerbside collection Scenario 1 which includes:**

- **Residual Waste (Bin with the Red lid) - Fortnightly Collection**
- **Comingled Recyclables (Bin with the Yellow lid) - Fortnightly Collection**
- **Food Organics & Garden Organics (Bin with the Green lid) - Weekly Collection**
- **Glass (Bin with the Purple lid) - Monthly Collection**

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

In February 2020 the State Government released its *Recycling Victoria – A new economy* document and a commitment to a \$300 million investment into recycling collection, processing and reuse in Victoria to address the urgent challenges that caused significant disruption to Victoria's recycling services and to make fundamental changes to help prevent these issues from reoccurring.

*Recycling Victoria* aims to disrupt the current waste collection and disposal paradigm by placing emphasis and strengthening the foundations of and toward the creation of a circular economy. By disrupting the current linear-economy mindset – take and throw away, our pivot toward an economy that not only seeks, but encourages, the continual reduction of environmental impacts along the production-consumption nexus will enable economic growth through more productive uses of our natural resources. The transition to a more inclusive, circular economy will create positive effects across the economic, social and environmental pillars of our society.

*Recycling Victoria's* investment will create jobs and economic growth, reduce waste and pollution whilst establishing a robust recycling system and the complete overhaul of Victoria's recycling system will change the very way Victoria does business, as the State engages in new efforts to *reduce, reuse, repair and recycle*.

*Recycling Victoria's* 10-year plan contains four key drivers:

1. By 2030 a new 4-bin waste and recycling system across Victoria,
2. By 2022-23 the introduction of a container deposit scheme,
3. The investment of \$100 million to strengthen Victoria's waste and recycling industry, and
4. Regulate the waste and recycling sector as an essential service with a new waste and recycling Act and waste authority.

### 9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

As part of this plan, the government is proposing that all 79 Councils in Victoria move to a 4-bin system. These 4 bins will be standardised across the state, including:

- The separate collection of glass, either via a kerbside service (bin with purple lid), drop-off facilities or a combination of both by 2027;
- The continuation of a commingled recycling service for paper, plastic and metals, (bin with yellow lid);
- The separate collection of Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO), either via a kerbside service (bin with light green lid), drop off facilities or a combination of both by 2030; and
- The continuation of residual garbage collection, (bin with a red lid).

As Council's current kerbside collection contract expires on June 30, 2025, Council will transition to a 4-bin system for the beginning of the new contract on July 1, 2025. The new contract will see all households who are required or request to have a kerbside collection adopt the fourth 'glass' bin.

#### ***KERBSIDE TRANSITION PLANNING – BUSINESS CASE***

To meet the State Government requirements, officers are considering a mixture of kerbside glass bins and transfer station drop off points to suit our rural population and organisational needs. Any changes to the service will only occur from July 2025, after the current contract expires.

Officers, with the other partner Councils that form the Goulburn Valet Waste Resource and Recovery Group (GVWRRG), engaged Frontier Economics and Jackson Environment and Planning (JEP), to create a business case. The business case presents a financial analysis of options (three) for implementing the Victorian government's kerbside waste reforms. The scenarios and their financial implications are based on our current business as usual expenditure, comparing what the collection cycle and frequency would look like and costs associated with the kerbside collection of moving to the new 4-bin system.

It is important to note that pricing is an estimate, solely based on current business as usual expenditure and is likely to change before the new system is introduced in 2025.

Strathbogie Shire Council currently offers kerbside waste services to approximately 4,510 properties, whilst approximately 3,416 remain without a kerbside service, as they lay outside of the regional townships and are serviced with access to either transfer stations or collection points.

For those that Strathbogie Shire Council offers a kerbside service, the standard service includes (current – forming the *base case*):

- **Fortnightly** residual waste service (120L red bins - MGB)
- **Fortnightly** commingled recycling service (240L yellow bins - MRB)
- **Weekly** food organics and garden organics service, FOGO (120L green bin - MOB).

9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

Residents receiving a kerbside waste service will be issued with a 240L glass bin (*purple lid*) in 2025, at the beginning of the new waste collection contract. The glass bin will be collected on a monthly basis. The four transfer stations and three collection points will offer glass drop off services for all households without kerbside services, additional to the expected container deposit scheme introduced by 2023.

**Scenario 1:**

Would see the introduction of the glass bin in 2025/26. The services for residual waste, comingled and organics services would remain the same as the current collection model or base case. FOGO drop off services are not offered in this scenario.

**Scenario 2:**

Would see the introduction of the glass bin in 2025/26. The services for residual and organics waste would remain the same as the base case. Comingled collection service would change from a fortnightly to monthly basis.

**Scenario 3:**

Would see the introduction of the glass bin in 2025/26. The services for the comingled and organics waste would remain the same as the base case. Residual waste collection service would change from a fortnightly to weekly basis.

Table 1 below details the three scenarios against the current collection model (base case).

**Table 1: Business Case Scenarios for Kerbside Collection**

	Residual waste	Commingled recycling	FOGO	Glass	Drop off services
Current approach (base case)	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	Weekly	N/A	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics
Scenario 1	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	Weekly	<b>Monthly</b>	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics, <b>FOGO glass</b>
Scenario 2	Fortnightly	<b>Monthly</b>	Weekly	<b>Monthly</b>	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics, <b>FOGO, glass</b>
Scenario 3	<b>Weekly</b>	Fortnightly	Weekly	<b>Monthly</b>	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics, <b>FOGO, glass</b>

9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

**WASTE DIVERSION**

The key intended benefit of transitioning to a 4-bin system is to increase the separation of waste streams and diversion of waste from landfill. Table 2 below highlights the estimated waste diversion outcomes for the comingled and glass streams of waste collection in SSC. Relative to the current collection model/base case, it is anticipated that a 32% reduction in comingled tonnage will be observed when the fourth glass bin will be introduced in 2025/26. This reduction is observed across all three scenarios, whilst under these scenarios, the diversion of residual and organic waste is not forecasted to be statistically significant. These figures also include a forecasted decrease of 12% comingle tonnage in the year 2023/24 via the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS).

The diversion of glass from other waste streams will aid in the recovery and re-use of paper, cardboard and other materials from households across SSC. The introduction of a glass bin will aid in the prevention of glass fragment contamination within household comingled and residual waste streams, enhancing the ability for a more resilient and responsible waste collection service in SSC.

**Table 2: Waste Diversion Outcomes**

Total tonnage in waste stream	Commingled recycling (2024/25)	Commingled recycling (2025/26)	Glass (2025/26)
Base case	972 tonnes	990 tonnes	Not introduced
Scenarios 1 - 3	972 tonnes	666 tonnes	324 tonnes

**ANTICIPATED COSTS**

Total kerbside costs are expected to increase in the base case, i.e. without the introduction of the kerbside reforms, due to:

- Population and dwelling growth, increasing the number of waste services provided by council and the quantity of waste to be managed,
- Collection cost increases from contractors,
- Disposal cost increases, including increases in landfill gate fees, landfill levies, and processing costs for separated waste streams (comingled recyclables, organics, glass),
- Cost of new bin stock, where all bins will be replaced in the new collection contract, and
- General inflation and cost increases in wages.

The overall increase of the kerbside collection costs, as per the base case, is anticipated to increase by approximately 19% by the year 2025/26. Table 3 presents the associated percentage cost increases as per each kerbside collection scenario.

### 9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

**Table 3: Increase in associated costs under Kerbside Collection Scenarios**

	Percentage change in total costs in 2025-26, relative to 2020-21 waste costs	Percentage change in total costs in 2025-26, relative to base case costs in 2025/26
Base case	19% increase	
Scenario 1	38% increase	16% increase
Scenario 2	25% increase	5% increase
Scenario 3	53% increase	29% increase

\*Please note – based on current expenditure, these figures *do not* represent the actual expenditure in 2025/26.

#### **KERBSIDE TRANSITION PLANNING – Community Engagement**

Stage 1 of Council's *Communication and Engagement Plan* regarding the pending kerbside transition is now complete.

This stage's purpose required Officers to educate and generate support for the transition toward a new 4-bin system amongst our community. This required extensive education and provision of materials, so the community had the ability to make an informed decision on their preferred collection configuration under the new government reforms.

To achieve this, tools, and methods of communication and engagement included using the information detailed in Figure 1 (below):

- Website Content
- Media Release(s)
- Social Media
- Council eNews
- Direct Letters to Action Groups & Community Groups
- Direct Messaging
  - SMS to ratepayers with a current kerbside collection
- Advertising
  - Posters in local establishments
  - Purple-Lidded Bins with Posters attached presented on Main Streets and Transfer Stations.

And importantly, the survey and information found on the project's Share Strathbogie page (<https://share.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/four-bin-kerbside-service>).

9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

**Figure 1:** Collection Configuration Scenarios as seen on Share Strathbogie, Posters & Media Releases

	 Residual waste	 Commingled recycling	 FOGO	 Glass	 Drop-off services	 Cost increase (2025/26)
<b>Current (base case)</b>	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	Weekly	N/A	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics	
<b>Scenario 1</b>	Fortnightly	Fortnightly	Weekly	Monthly	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics, FOGO, glass	16%
<b>Scenario 2</b>	Fortnightly	Monthly	Weekly	Monthly	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics, FOGO, glass	5%
<b>Scenario 3</b>	Weekly	Fortnightly	Weekly	Monthly	Residual waste, recycling, garden organics, FOGO, glass	29%

**SURVEY RESULTS**

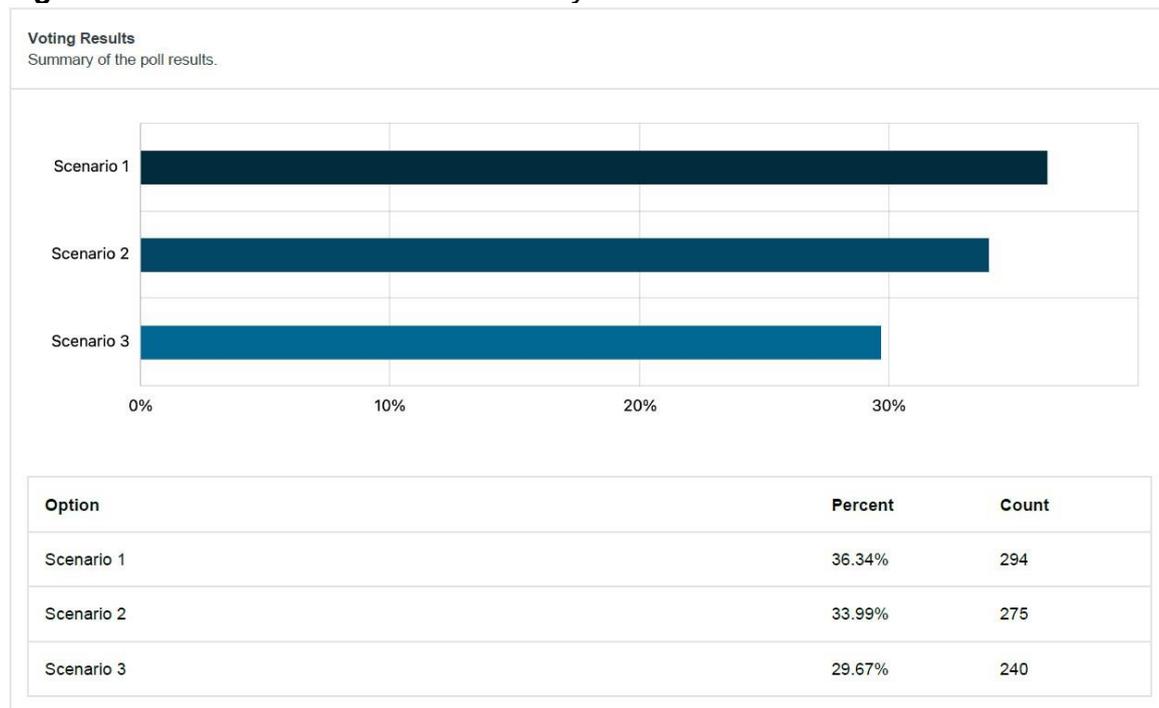
The Share Strathbogie page was open for 6 weeks, from 11 February 2022 to 25 March 2022. The project page was visited 1,800 times, whilst the survey was completed by 809 members of our community. This proved to be Council’s most engaged project on the platform to date.

The reach of Council’s Social Media posts ( $n = 8$ ) proved an extremely valuable tool in attracting and engaging members of our community to the Share Strathbogie project page, reaching over 8,500 individual accounts. The supporting data can be viewed in the attached Project Report (*attachment 2*).

Although close and as detailed in Figure 2 below, Scenario 1 was the most preferred collection configuration selected by our community with 36.34% of the votes ( $n = 294$ ). This was closely followed by Scenario 2 (33.99%,  $n = 275$ ) and Scenario 3 (29.67%,  $n = 240$ ).

9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

**Figure 2: 4-Bin Scenario Preference Survey Results**



**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations. Therefore, moving to a new 4-bin system will have far reaching economic, social and environmental benefits for our community.

The transition to a 4-bin system will present challenges for both Council and the members of our community. The business case provides three alternate scenarios for the kerbside collection service to be introduced in the 2025/26 financial year. Each scenario provides viable alternatives to the current service offered; however, each scenario also pertains a degree of economic, social and environmental costs and benefits, both positive and negative.

*Scenario 1* was the preferred configuration as selected by our community. This would see the current service configuration continue, with the addition of a monthly glass bin collection. This scenario supports the State government’s objective set out through the *Recycling Victoria* program and would result in a cleaner waste separation system. The additional charge per service would bear a 16% financial increase to the ratepayer relative to the base case.

### 9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

*Scenario 2* was the second most preferred configuration as selected by our community. This service configuration would see the addition of a monthly glass bin collection, whilst comingled recycling collection would move to a monthly basis, with all other services remaining as current. However, the shift to a less frequent comingled collection could result in increased levels of contamination in other household bins. It is anticipated that the introduction of a glass bin should decrease the volume of comingled household waste by 32%. The additional charge per service would bear a 5% financial increase to the ratepayer relative to the base case.

*Scenario 3* was the least preferred configuration as selected by our community. This service configuration would see the addition of a monthly glass bin collection, whilst residual waste would revert to a weekly collection. The additional charge per service would bear a 29% financial increase to the ratepayer relative to the base case. However, shifting to a weekly residual waste collection may hinder the inroads made toward minimising waste in the Shire and detract from the goals set out by *Recycling Victoria*. The convenience of weekly residual waste collection may prevent the benefits created via the implementation of the Shire's waste minimisation strategies.

All of the above scenarios would require waste education campaigns directed toward the wider community to better our waste minimisation practices leading to and throughout the transition to a 4-bin system.

Through these proposed collection configurations, *Scenario 1 & 2* would provide the best environmental and economic outcomes for our community, whilst also being the top-two preferred amongst our community. *Scenario 3*, although convenient to have a weekly residual waste collection, is the most expensive and would reduce Council's efforts of increasing waste diversion rates.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

The pending kerbside transition will entail significant changes to how our Shire and external contractors will conduct waste minimisation and achieve the ideals set out by *Recycling Victoria*. Through extensive community engagement that was informed via the provision of a Business Case, Council has the ability to factor in the community's input alongside the planning, costings and budgeting process(es) to determine the preferred configuration option.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **Council Plans and Policies**

Council actively tracks and monitors its contamination levels and tonnages diverted from landfill. The introduction of a kerbside glass bin will only further increase our diversions from landfill and will make our recycling stream cleaner and more able to be recycled and reprocessed.

## 9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

Action 3.6, under Protect. Enhance. Adapt. has the following action -

3.6 – Complete community engagement around the State Government's new 4 waste bin system, to determine the structure of the service for tender purposes.

This report presents the findings of the community engagement to determine the structure of the service for tender purposes.

### **Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making. The Recycling Victoria program is being driven by the State government

### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

Council is complying with a state government directive on what our waste services should look like and what our levels of service to our community are required to be.

### **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This matter is being discussed in an open Council meeting. Officers are seeking the approval of Council to select the configuration of Council's kerbside collection service that includes community and Officer recommendations.

### **FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

Each of these collection configuration scenarios with the addition of a fourth glass bin have a cost implication. These range from a 5% to 29% increase when compared to the business-as-usual rate of our current service in 2025/26. Council is required to balance this cost implication with socio-environmental outcomes. These costs are also incorporated each year into the budget planning processes based on the costs and prices increases from the previous year, based on the contracted rates.

### 9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

It is important to note that pricing percentages are an estimate, solely based on current business as usual expenditure and is likely to change before the new system is introduced in 2025.

#### **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

#### **Economic**

The synchronisation of all bin services across Victoria will lead to better economic certainty for both councils and re-processors. Council will also continue to jointly procure with our partner Councils to ensure best value for money for our residents.

Officers have conducted extensive community engagement to educate our community on the costs associated with the State Governments kerbside transition. The Share Strathbogie survey will aid Council in making a decision on the new kerbside collection service that considers the economic impact for households and business in our Shire, ensuring economic sustainability from an individual to a whole-of-waste processing level.

#### **Social**

The introduction of a fourth bin will impact our residents as they will be required to relearn what goes in which bin, but they have shown their resilience in this area by adopting the green bin in 2015 with gusto.

Officers have extensively engaged with the community in order to spread knowledge on the new best practice for waste minimisation, and reasoning for the transition to a 4-bin system.

This engagement has allowed staff to foster a wider understanding of the community's needs regarding the social impact this transition entails, allowing staff to focus on gaps required for addressing in future waste education campaigns, leading to enhanced socially sustainable outcomes.

#### **Environmental**

The introduction of a fourth bin and the other proposals recommended as part of Recycling Victoria will reduce our Shire's impact on our environment.

Engaging with the community on this transition, the anticipated benefits of the pending kerbside reform and future waste education campaigns, all have the potential to increase environmental consciousness amongst residents of the Shire. Hence, leading to bettered waste minimisation practice and awareness across other environmental domains.

The selected collection configuration will have environmental outcomes, with Scenario 1 and 2 likely to provide the best environmental outcomes.

9.2.2 Kerbside Transition Planning – 4-Bin Configuration Community Engagement Outcomes (cont.)

**Climate change**

The introduction of a cleaner recycling stream will make it easier for processors to reuse this product which means that less virgin material will be required to be used and this will generate less emissions.

***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

This is an important change in how Victorians deal with their waste and Council's previous work around the introduction of a third green bin has put us in good stead for the roll out of a fourth bin under this program.

***COLLABORATION***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that collaboration with other councils, levels of government and statutory bodies is to be sought.

***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

There are no human rights considerations arising from the issues discussed in this report.

***CONCLUSION***

Council is required to move to a 4-bin system as outlined in the State Governments Recycling Victoria policy. This report outlines the 3 different scenarios and the results of the community survey presented on Council's Share Strathbogie project page. Albeit close, the two-most preferred options selected by our community are the most socio-economically beneficial, and likelihood of providing the most environmentally sustainable outcomes.

***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Share Strathbogie Report - Four-Bin Kerbside Service

### **9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways**

Author: Director Corporate Operations

Responsible Director: Director Corporate Operations

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

The Nagambie Waterways comprises parts of the Goulburn River, Lake Nagambie, the Backwaters and the Goulburn Weir pool. The waterway is one of Victoria's premier boating destinations offering good facilities, constant water levels and sheltered waters. The waterways are extremely popular with both locals and tourists for a variety of boating activities and pursuits such as fishing, swimming, cycling, walking, hunting, towed sports and camping. Several major sporting events are held annually on the waterways, including rowing regattas and water skiing.

Improved and diverse boating technologies, increased leisure time and proximity to Melbourne has increased the number of powered and non-powered vessels sharing the waterways.

This has triggered safety concerns from the community and the visiting public. A review of waterway rules was required to better meet the demand for water access, improve the safe sharing of the waterways and responsibly plan for sustainable growth.

The recreational values of the Nagambie Waterways need to be managed against its primary role of regulating the Goulburn River for consumptive (i.e. irrigation, urban, domestic and stock purposes) and environmental uses.

This report proposes that Council endorse preparation of necessary documentation to enable changes to Rules that apply to Lake Nagambie, and parts of the Goulburn River for which Council is responsible for as Waterway Manager

This follows an extensive process involving:

- Risk Review
- Preparation of Issues Paper
- Bathymetric Survey of the Waterway
- Consultation with Marine Safety Victoria
- Several phases of community consultation
- Oversight of the Review process by Council's Advisory Committee.

9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

- 1. Endorse preparation of the necessary documentation to enable Rules changes as follows, and as outlined in Table 1: Overview of the proposed changes the document Final Report - Nagambie Waterways Rules Review 2021-22:**
  - a. Reduce the speed limit on Lake Nagambie to 20 Knots:**
    - i. Allow towed sports.*
    - ii. Minor realignments to the shoreline '5 Knot' 'No Boating' and 'No Boating-Swimming Only Zones' to make them easier to recognise.*
    - iii. Create a 'Powerboating Only Zone' between Deliah Island and the Leisure Park to ensure a smooth traffic flow around the lake.*
    - iv. Provide clearer direction for people doing lake laps located in the deeper sections of the lake.*
    - v. Allow low speed PWC freestyling 50m inside the lake laps course at a maximum speed of 20 Knots.*
  - b. Utilize the following three speed zones across the whole waterway:**
    - i. NO WAKE – Maximum 5 Knots**
    - ii. 20 Knots**
    - iii. 30 Knots**
    - iv. Where possible, rationalise and consolidate geographic speed zones to reduce the number of zones and improve traffic flow.*
  - c. A new rule will require NO WAKE- Maximum 5 Knots:**
    - i. Within 50m of a person in the water.**
    - ii. Within 50m of another vessel (Vital for rowing and paddle craft safety).**
    - iii. When a NO Wake-5 Knot Zone is signed.**
    - iv. Within 50m of a fixed or floating structure.**
    - v. Within 50m of a boat ramp.**
    - vi. An exemption may be provided for vessels engaged in towed sports and approaching another powered vessel, to pass at speed however the other powered vessel would be required to slow to No Wake-Maximum 5 Knots if not engaged in towed sports.*
  - d. 20 Knot Zones in narrower sections with sharper bends to remain similar to what is in place (opportunity to include 'The S-Bends' north of Heath Island and west of Teddy Bear Island once a safe course is marked with pairs of red and green buoys).**

9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

*RECOMMENDATION (cont.)*

- e. Reduce maximum speed to 30 Knots Zones where there are extended sight lines deep water and minimal midstream hazards:**
    - i. 30 Knots north and downstream of Kirwans Bridge.**
    - ii. Lake Nagambie reduced to 20 Knots.**
    - iii. The existing water ski area associated with the Nagambie Water Ski Club reduced to 30 Knots. Event permits can request higher speeds if required.**
  
  - f. Provide Towed Sports Areas with speed limits. Establish these areas strategically along the waterway. Consistently name and sign these areas:**
    - i. Initial sections of the Goulburn Weir - 30 Knots (once buoys are in position).**
    - ii. The main straights between Goulburn Weir and Kirwans Bridge 30 Knots.**
    - iii. Lake Nagambie 20 Knots.**
    - iv. The existing Water Ski Area 30 Knots.**
    - v. Provide an exemption to the 30 Knot rule for Bare Foot Skiing enabling them to exceed 30 Knots.**
  
  - g. Define and prohibit Wake-Surfing on the waterway. Wake-Surfing can be defined as the rider primarily using the wake as propulsion rather than a tow rope from the vessel to exclude it from the definition of towed sports.**
- 2. That a further report be presented to Council with strategies for implementation.**

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The Nagambie Waterways, comprising parts of the Goulburn River, Lake Nagambie, the Backwaters and the Goulburn Weir pool, are an important tourism and recreation asset in northern Victoria.

The waterway is one of Victoria's premier boating destinations offering good facilities, constant water levels and sheltered waters. The waterways are extremely popular with both locals and tourists for a variety of boating activities and pursuits such as fishing, swimming, cycling, walking, hunting, towed sports and camping. Several major sporting events are held annually on the waterways, including rowing regattas and water skiing.

### 9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

Improved and diverse boating technologies, increased leisure time and proximity to Melbourne has increased the number of powered and non-powered vessels sharing the waterways.

This has triggered safety concerns from the community and the visiting public. A review of waterway rules was required to better meet the demand for water access, improve the safe sharing of the waterways and responsibly plan for sustainable growth.

The recreational values of the Nagambie Waterways need to be managed against its primary role of regulating the Goulburn River for consumptive (i.e. irrigation, urban, domestic and stock purposes) and environmental uses.

#### ***ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION***

The issues summarised below were informed by the *Risk Review* and an ongoing dialogue with key stakeholders:

- Providing clear, consistent, safe and intuitive speed zones,
- The need to reduce unrestricted speed on Lake Nagambie and sections of the Goulburn River,
- A lack of understanding and compliance with speed and distance rules,
- Improving compliance with the direction of travel on Lake Nagambie,
- Providing effective and functional Aids to Navigation that shape safer behaviours,
- Managing the impacts of large wakes on other waterway users,
- Improving and diversifying additional towed-sports areas,
- Integration of major events with other waterway users, and
- Managing riverbank erosion.

The process of review has involved the following steps:

- A tour of the waterway with the Waterways Advisory Committee,
- Lake Nagambie and the Goulburn River Risk Review (2020-21),
- Lake Nagambie and Goulburn River Issues Paper (2020-21),
- Waterway Audit - Goulburn River/Lake Nagambie Waterway (MSV)
- Development of potential new rules,
- Bathymetric survey and sub-surface feature detection of Nagambie Waterways August and September 2021,
- Application to Maritime Safety Victoria (MSV) and consultation on proposed rules - Notice of Intention to Request a Waterway Rule,
- Engagement Report for the Nagambie Waterways Review,
- Strathbogie Shire Council Briefing, and
- Waterway Advisory Committee meeting 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022.

### 9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

A number of potential rule changes were identified and proposed actions are outlined in Attachment 1.

Broadly there was strong support (70%+) for most of the changes put forward to address the waterway issues.

Supported changes included:

- Reducing the speed limit on Lake Nagambie to 20 knots,
- Utilising 3 speed zones across the whole waterway,
- A new rule requiring 'NO WAKE-Maximum 5 Knots' in areas that are currently just 5 Knots,
- Provide towed sports areas with speed limits, and
- Reduce the maximum speed to 30 knots.

Three potential strategies/rules received significantly less support:

- Trialling confining wake surfing to two areas at the extreme ends of the waterway.  
Most feedback asserted that the practice of wake surfing (using the boats wake as the primary method of propelling a towed sport participant) should not be allowed on the waterway,
- Providing a new 20 Knot 'novice' towed sports area in the former "Barefoot Straight" immediately south of Chinamans Bridge; with mixed results when the survey and emailed submissions were reviewed, and
- Providing a towed sports area up stream of the Mitchellstown Bridge; with mixed results when the survey and emailed submissions were reviewed.

#### **Rule Change Strategies**

Once gazette, Rule changes will need to be comprehensively communicated.

There is a suite of strategies that set the scene for improved compliance with the public accepting 'common sense' boating rules. The summer 2021-22 survey has demonstrated there is a public appetite for change. Strategies include:

- Maximise situational awareness by using informative, easily visible, unambiguous signs in a totally consistent approach. Broader waterway safety signs need to set the scene at boat ramps and possibly key docks. On the waterway zones must be informative, accurately marked and highly visible.
- Ensure consistent online information about the changes. Provide prepared up-to-date web information for:
  - The Strathbogrie Boating Page and Boating Guide on Council website,
  - The MSV website,
  - The Goulburn Murray Water site,
  - Local Tourism sites,
  - Commercial websites directly associated with river boating. Leisure Park & Café, wineries, commercial boat tours etc.

### 9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

- Provide accurate information to ensure digital navigation platforms such as the MSV boating maps, Navionics and possibly Google Maps show the location of zones and rules.
- Prioritise enforcement work. Organise cross-government cooperation on water enforcement days. The NO WAKE- Maximum 5 Knot Rule, slowing to 5 Knots within 50 metres of another vessel or a person in the water are the most important safety improvements. Ensure all users are aware that Infringement Penalties and Court Penalties will be imposed on people disregarding rules.
- Follow up all enforcement work with regular media releases that reinforce why the rules are in place and compliment compliant vessel operators. Occasionally refer to enforcement statistics and compliance results that demonstrate a long-term approach.
- Accurate monitoring of Goulburn River and Lake Nagambie boating numbers is an ongoing requirement. Camera recording of trailer numbers at ramp parking is a simple approach. Boating numbers need to be reviewed in conjunction with accurate river health monitoring. The partnership with water resource managers to understand river health is important when adjusting boating rules. River health can include water quality, the rate of bank accretion and erosion, increases and decreases in river habitat, the number of trees falling into the river and impacts of ongoing development adjacent to the waterway.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Council's planned engagement program and associated communications campaign ensured waterway users, the Nagambie community and key stakeholders were aware we were seeking feedback on the proposed rules changes and how to have their say.

A survey was open for six weeks over the summer period where waterway usage is at its peak. We used social media, media releases and advertising to promote the survey and draw people to further information.

Council provided targeted communication materials via email and letters to relevant authorities, peak bodies, previous issues survey respondents and local stakeholders.

Council sent more than 40 letters to key stakeholders, and those who had been engaged previously, seeking their input.

### 9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

On [www.share.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au](http://www.share.strathbogrie.vic.gov.au) the project achieved:

- 874 views
- 150 contributions.

Survey respondents were based in local, regional and metropolitan areas with a diverse range of user groups taking part.

All major user groups – family boating, powered watercraft, fishers and water skiers were represented in the results.

Council also received 17 emailed submissions from across the state, some from as far as Melbourne suburbs Doncaster and Glen Iris.

#### ***POLICY CONSIDERATIONS***

##### **Council Plans and Policies**

Council Plan 2021–2025

Strategic Focus Area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe

*Action 5.1.3: Implement the outcomes of the Lake Nagambie and Goulburn River waterway zoning review to maximise opportunities for sage water-based activities*

##### **Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making.

Any change to Rules will need to be consistent with the approach of Marine Safety Victoria who have already been part of the consultation process and will have further input to ensure consistency with State legislation.

#### ***LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

Transport Safety Victoria (TSV) is the integrated safety regulator for bus and maritime. TSV through its maritime safety section, Maritime Safety Victoria (MSV) is responsible for determining standards and procedures for navigation and maritime, safety on state waters, including all inland waters such as, rivers, creeks, canals, lakes and reservoirs and assists the appointed waterway managers for many of Victoria's waterways.

Maritime Safety Victoria staff provide support, audits and advice for local waterway managers to ensure consistency across Victorian waterways. Other MSV responsibilities also include qualifications and boating safety, as well as licensing and registration for recreational vessels.

### 9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

Strathbogie Shire is the appointed manager for Nagambie Waterways that include the Goulburn River between Hughes Creek and the Goulburn Weir including Lake Nagambie.

The role of the waterway manager includes:

- Managing vessel activities on waters under their control
- Providing and maintaining navigation aids, appropriate signage of water levels, managing hazards and rules applying to the waters
- Controlling navigation and vessel movement
- Removing or marking obstructions.

#### **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

#### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

The process of rules review has included significant community engagement and an awareness campaign to attract feedback.

#### ***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The process of the rules review has been jointly funded by Council (\$9,036) and State Government (\$25,000) with additional funding from State Government for the bathymetric survey (\$48,000). There will be some costs in implementation of new rules including improved signage and update of collateral but opportunities for State funding will be explored.

Funding of \$58,950 has already been achieved for upgrade to some buoys and markers.

#### ***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

#### **Economic**

The waterway attracts a large number of visitors to the region who contribute to economic activity through expenditure on accommodation, entertainment and meals fuel etc

### 9.2.3 Review of Rules for Waterways (cont.)

#### **Social**

The waterway provides a valuable opportunity for recreation and if properly regulated creates an opportunity for an enhanced experience.

#### **Environmental**

Some proposals for extension to towed sports areas have not been supported and this together with reduced speed limits will reduce potential adverse impacts on the environment.

#### **Climate change**

As outlined above, reduced speed limits has the potential to decrease the consumption of fossil fuels.

#### ***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

The proposals are intended to improve the way in which the waterway operates through better regulation of usage.

#### ***COLLABORATION***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that collaboration with other councils, levels of government and statutory bodies is to be sought.

Collaboration has occurred with Marine Safety Victoria and the Waterways Advisory Committee which has representation from:

- Nagambie Lakes Tourism and Commerce
- Nagambie Angling Club
- Nagambie Riparian Landowners Association Inc.
- Nagambie Rowing Club
- Licensed commercial business operators
- Strathbogie Shire Ward Councillors and council officers
- Goulburn Murray Water
- Goulburn Valley Water
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
- Victoria Police.

#### ***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

The proposals attempt to balance the rights of a range of users in a way that promotes responsible use of the waterway and appropriate levels of access.

#### ***CONCLUSION***

The recommendation is to proceed with the formal process to make new rules that apply to the waterway – identified as **Table 1: Overview of the proposed changes** in the Attachment.

#### ***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Final Report - Nagambie Waterways Rules Review 2021-22

#### **9.2.4 Proposed Christmas Decorations Grant – Funding Guidelines 2022**

Author: Manager Community and Culture

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

##### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

As a result of the Pitch My Project initiative introduced for community to 'pitch' ideas for consideration as part of the development of the draft 2022/23 Council Budget, a number of submissions were received around Christmas decorations. In response to this theme, it is proposed to introduce a new community grant program called the Christmas Decorations Grant.

The objective of the Christmas Decorations funding program is to provide financial support for our towns to decorate their main street and/or public space to celebrate the Christmas season. This grant would enable local community organisations to purchase, install and store Christmas decorations.

Townships eligible for the Christmas Decoration Grant are:

- Euroa
- Nagambie
- Violet Town
- Avenel
- Longwood
- Strathbogie

Funding of up to \$5,000 would be available per town, with eligible organisations required to apply for funding through a competitive funding round.

##### **RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council:***

- 1. Adopt 'in principle' the Christmas Decorations Grant Program – Funding Guidelines 2022 subject to feedback on the draft 2022/23 Budget and final adoption of the 2022/23 Council Budget in the June Council meeting cycle;***
- 2. Authorise Officers to make minor changes to the Christmas Decorations Grant Program Funding Guidelines 2022 resulting from the final adoption of the Council 2022/23 budget as require,;***
- 3. Subject to the approval of the budget at the June 2022 Council Meeting, release and promote the 2022 Christmas Decorations Grant Program on the Strathbogie Shire Council website, local media, publications and broadly through a range of engagement networks with grants opening on 1 July 2022 and closing on 1 August 2022; and***

#### 9.2.4 Proposed Christmas Decorations Grant – Funding Guidelines 2022 (cont.)

*RECOMMENDATION (cont.)*

- 4. Receive a further report in the September 2022 Council meeting for consideration detailing the outcomes and proposed grant recipients for the 2022 Christmas Decorations Grant.**

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The proposed new Christmas Decorations Grant program provides a total allocation of \$30,000 funding which would be made available to townships of Avenel, Euroa, Longwood, Nagambie, Strathbogie and Violet Town to enable local community organisations to purchase and install festive decorations such as lighting, Christmas trees, feature decorations, signage and banners. The grant is aimed at creating a festive atmosphere within each town, by purchasing and installing sustainable festive decorations to decorate their main street, public space, and/or high visibility areas in each town to celebrate the festive season.

To ensure a consistent allocation of funds a limit of \$5,000 applies to each grant application. The program funding is limited to the purchase and installation of festive decorations and associated costs (including installation and decommissioning).

Events and activities cannot be funded by this program; alternatively, applications can be made to Council's Sponsorship Program or other Community Grant opportunities. The majority of grant funds are required to be allocated to the purchase of decorations in an effort to increase the township's stock of decorations over time.

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

Subject to feedback on the draft 2022/23 budget, the new Christmas Decorations Grant program will be introduced. The program guidelines propose that the funding will support:

- Purchase, installation and decommission of outdoor Christmas decorations such as lighting, Christmas trees, feature decorations, signage and banners and/or decorations that provide sensory experiences.
- Installations that will be located outdoors in public areas, such as main streets, and/or iconic, high visibility areas in each town/locality.
- Priority will be given to the purchase of decorations that can be used for multiple years and those that do not have any detrimental impact on the environment.

Funded projects must be able to demonstrate community support, have a clear scope on what will be delivered and address safety and risk issues in the installation of decorations.

#### 9.2.4 Proposed Christmas Decorations Grant – Funding Guidelines 2022 (cont.)

Consideration will also need to be given to the ongoing storage and proposed lifespan of the decorations by the community group.

Grants are available up to \$5,000 per township, multiple applications may be considered if within the \$5,000 township allocation and applications are complimentary.

In previous budgets, a small allocation of \$1,000 has been available for Community Action Groups to apply for funding to provide Christmas Decorations in their towns. In 2021, the definition and scope of this allocation was broadened from Christmas Decorations to include larger town festivals or festivities. The allocation will still remain within the Community Action Group funding stream, however will not be able to be utilised for the purpose of Christmas Decorations if an incorporated group (including an Action Group) receives Christmas Decorations Funding within the respective township.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

The development of this new program resulted from a number of submissions received as part of the 2022/23 'Pitch My Project' submissions.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **Council Plans and Policies**

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

- 2021-2025 Council Plan, specifically:
  - Strategic focus area 1: Engage. Create. Unite
  - Strategic focus area 4: Inclusive. Productive. Balanced
  - Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe
  - Strategic focus area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

There is no specific legislation governing the establishment of community grants, however under the Local Government Act 2020 Council must be accountable for how public funds are spent and governance arrangements around decision making.

#### **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

#### 9.2.4 Proposed Christmas Decorations Grant – Funding Guidelines 2022 (cont.)

##### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

In the interest of transparency and open and honest communication with our community it is recommended that these guidelines be acknowledged in a public forum providing full disclosure of the new funding program.

##### ***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The 2022 Christmas Decorations Grant Program has an anticipated total budget allocation of \$30,000 subject to the adoption of the 2022/23 operational budget in June 2022.

##### ***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

##### **Environment**

Through the application process, applications that deliver environmental benefits to residents of the Shire will be encouraged. Applicants will be asked to outline the environmental impacts/benefits of their project as part of the application process, including the purchasing of items that are able to be reused.

##### **Climate change**

Through the application process, applications that deliver improved outcomes for climate change will be encouraged. As above, decorations that are able to be reused for years to come will be welcomed.

##### **Economic**

It is anticipated that the purchase of materials and acquisition of services will be from local businesses. This includes the process of the creation, installation and removal of the proposed festive decorations.

##### **Social**

Through the establishment of the Christmas Decorations Grants program, Council seeks to provide the community with an opportunity to play a significant and positive role in ensuring the Strathbogie region has an exciting festive atmosphere.

#### 9.2.4 Proposed Christmas Decorations Grant – Funding Guidelines 2022 (cont.)

##### ***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

If approved, this will be the first year that Council has offered a stand-alone Christmas Decorations Funding Stream. Should the program be endorsed, the guidelines will be reviewed for the 2023 program.

##### ***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

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

##### ***CONCLUSION***

The proposed new Christmas Decorations Grant program provides a total allocation of \$30,000 funding which would be made available to townships of Avenel, Euroa, Longwood, Nagambie, Strathbogie and Violet Town to enable local community organisations to purchase and install festive decorations such as lighting, Christmas trees, feature decorations, signage and banners. The grant is aimed at creating a festive atmosphere within each town, by purchasing and installing sustainable festive decorations to decorate their main street, public space, and/or high visibility areas in each town to celebrate the festive season.

##### ***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** 2022 Christmas Decorations Grant - Funding Guidelines

### **9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26**

Author: Coordinator Community Services & Inclusion

Responsible Director: Director Community & Planning

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

At the 19 October 2021 Council meeting, Cr Sally Hayes-Burke sought a report from officers regarding Council's role in January 26 activities in recognition of First Nations people.

Council has partnered with community groups to deliver celebrations on January 26 for many years. These celebrations usually include a community gathering, barbeques, local performance and often community awards.

However, January 26 is a difficult day for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, the anniversary of this day is not one to celebrate as it marks the start of the dispossession and marginalisation of First Nations people. Calls to shift the date of Australia Day have gained significant momentum over past years with the wider community growing increasingly aware that it is a day that many First Nations people find difficult or even offensive.

Councils across Australia are reviewing the traditional Australia Day celebrations to be more respectful and to begin to recognise the significance of the day to our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians.

This report explores the relevance of January 26 in Strathbogie Shire and Council's role in relation to the day. The report recommends Council undertake further consultation in regard to January 26 and proposes consultation with Australia Day Committees located in the Shire and the broader community on the two options outlined in this report.

Option 1 is consistent with the direction of the signed Memorandum of Understanding with Taungurung Land and Waters Council and the endorsed Strathbogie Community Vision within the adopted Council Plan 2021-25 '*We care deeply for Country and First Nations people*' and '*We are bold*'. It is important to note that within this option, each township can still continue to hold Australia Day events, accessing funding directly from the National Australia Day Council with no formal involvement from Council. Furthermore, this option recommends that Council formally acknowledges our volunteers on an annual basis in May in respect and acknowledgment of the important and significant role they play in community life.

Options 2 involves Council taking no action to change the celebration of Australia Day on January 26 and is consistent with the current arrangements.

Following the consultation, Council will Consider a report recommending Council's preferred position in regard to January 26 incorporating the feedback gathered at a special Council meeting to be held on June 28 2022 at 6pm in the Community Conference Centre, Binney Street, Euroa.

9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

**RECOMMENDATION**

**That Council:**

1. **Authorise Council Officers to consult directly with the Australia Day Committees operating within the municipality, and the broader community through the Share Strathbogie portal, on the following options for acknowledging January 26:**

- i) **Option 1**

***In accordance with the inclusivity objectives within the Community Vision and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council, Strathbogie Shire Council no longer formally supports celebrations on January 26 each year as follows:***

- ***Lower the Aboriginal Flag to half-mast on January 26 out of respect for the First Nations people and what the day represents for First Nations people;***
- ***Continue Council's requirement to hold a Citizenship Ceremony on January 26 as required;***
- ***Advocate to the State and Federal Governments where appropriate to change the date of 'Australia Day' to a date that can be celebrated by all;***
- ***Funding from the National Australia Day Council to hold or host Australia Day awards or celebratory activities to be the responsibility of the individual township Australia Day Committees for events in 2023 and beyond;***
- ***Amend Council's event sponsorship and community grant guidelines deeming activities celebrating Australia Day on January 26 (in kind or cash) as ineligible;***
- ***Promotion of celebrations held on January 26 to be coordinated by the individual township Australia Day Committees for events in 2023 and beyond; and***
- ***Formally support the celebration of community contribution with annual awards in May as part of Volunteer Week, recognising the outstanding community contribution of individuals and groups within Strathbogie Shire, commencing in 2023.***

**AND**

- ii) **Option 2**

***Council continues to celebrate January 26 as per current arrangements.***

### 9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

*RECOMMENDATION (cont.)*

- 2. Note that Officers will continue their ongoing communication with Taungurung Land and Waters Council and Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation on any future acknowledgment of January 26; and**
- 3. Consider a report on Council's position in regard to January 26 incorporating the feedback from community feedback at an Extraordinary Council meeting to be held on June 28 2022 at 6pm in the Euroa Community Conference Centre, Bury Street, Euroa.**

#### **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

Australia Day was first celebrated in 1938 to mark 150 years since the arrival of the First Fleet. Since 1994 Australia Day has been a public holiday that all states and territories celebrate on January 26. Australia Day is marked by events across Australia, including Citizenship ceremonies.

For First Nations Australians, January 26 marks the beginning of invasion and dispossession. Celebratory events can cause pain and suffering and commemorate the loss of their sovereign rights to their land, loss of family and loss of the right to practice their culture.

There is growing national debate on the relevance and significance of Australia Day celebrations, specifically concerning the date; January 26.

Historically in Strathbogie Shire, Australia Day celebrations are held in most towns across the municipality led by community-based Australia Day Committees. Events planned over the past few years have been impacted by Covid with lower attendance numbers and cancellations. This year, Strathbogie township elected not to proceed with the event. The celebrations are organised by local community groups and committees with the support and guidance of Council's events team and include Council's Australia Day Awards Program and funding from National Australia Day Committees.

In 2022 Council received \$22,000 in funding from National Australia Day Committees with \$900 distributed to each town for their celebrations, funds were used to pay artists, for supplies, equipment, catering, waste and photography. Under the most recent guidelines, community groups were eligible to receive these funds directly from the National Australia Day Council, and the funding was not specific to Local Government Authorities.

#### Australia Day Awards

Each year at these community celebrations, individuals and groups can be nominated and recognised for outstanding community achievement or contribution. These awards can be recognition at a local and/or Shire wide level.

### 9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

#### **ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

At the 19 October 2021 Council meeting, Cr Sally Hayes-Burke sought a report from officers for a future Council meeting to consider a range of options and activities that could be held within the Shire on 26 January 2022 that will promote understanding, respect and reconciliation of the First Nations people, in light of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council.

A number of Councils have already made small to large scale changes relating to January 26 ranging from changing the language used around Australia Day by simply removing the word celebrate, renaming Australia Day awards to 'Community Awards', abolishing celebrating Australia Day all together. Some Councils have elected not to change the way they celebrate January 26 and continue to hold Australia Day activities on January 26.

Below is a snapshot of other Council's approaches to January 26:

- In 2017 Yarra City and Darebin City Council determined that they would no longer refer to January 26 as Australia Day. Yarra City ceased holding citizenship ceremonies on that date whilst Darebin renamed their Australia Day Awards to Darebin Community Awards.
- Moreland City Council has determined to support the "Change the Date Campaign"
- Whittlesea City Council has decided to no longer hold an Australia Day event on January 26, but will continue to hold a citizenship ceremony on this day.
- Mitchell Shire and the Shire of Campaspe will go ahead with their usual Australia Day events.
- Surf Coast Shire adopted changes in September 2021 to drop all Australia Day celebrations and fly Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island flags at half-mast on January 26
- Shepparton City Council are currently considering options for 2023.

Council continues to develop its relationship with First Nations people. Most recently this was formalised through the of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Taungurung Land and Waters on 28 October 2021. The MOU established a series of mutual commitments and formal relationship between both parties. It is underpinned by a number of principles relevant to the discussion on the celebration of January 26. These principles are as follows:

- a) The Taungurung people are acknowledged as the first peoples, and Traditional Owners of Taungurung Country.
- b) The arrival of non-Aboriginal people to Taungurung Country brought massive change to the landscape and way of life of the Taungurung people.
- c) The Council desires to address the past and embrace the process of reconciliation and truth telling.

### 9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

- d) TLaWC and the Council are committed to working together to support, knowledge and respect the Taungurung people's self-determination.
- e) The Council respect, and hold in strong regard the Aboriginal Cultural Heritage, traditions, customs and beliefs of the Taungurung people.
- f) The parties agree that improvements in Aboriginal participation, health and wellbeing outcomes will realise long term benefits for the community as a whole.
- g) Council supports the recognition of Aboriginal sovereignty in the Australian constitution.
- h) Council supports the notion of treaty as proposed by the Victorian State Government and Traditional Owners.

Council endorsed a Community Vision at the September 2021 Council meeting. This vision was developed by a community panel, representative of the Strathbogie Shire community. This vision specifically identifies First Nations people, collective history and brave decision making as a priority for the municipality.

*'The Strathbogie Shire is a region of natural beauty with vibrant communities who are respectful, optimistic and inclusive. We have a strong sense of belonging and of our collective history. We care deeply for Country and First Nations people. We are bold. We embrace opportunities. We welcome you'.*

Moreover, the Local Government Act 2020 also states Traditional Owners of the land in a municipal district as part of the 'municipal community'. As defined in the Local Government Act 2020, the 'municipal community' includes:

- (a) *people who live in the municipal district of the Council; and*
- (b) *people and bodies who are ratepayers of the Council; and*
- (c) *traditional owners of land in the municipal district of the Council; and*
- (d) *people and bodies who conduct activities in the municipal district of the Council.*

Based on the information available, it is proposed that Council consider and consult on two options in relation to the celebration of January 26 as detailed below. Consultation would be undertaken directly with the Australia Day Committees operating within the municipality, and the broader community through the Share Strathbogie portal.

#### **Option 1**

In accordance with the inclusivity objectives within the Community Vision and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Taungurung Land and Waters Council, Strathbogie Shire Council no longer formally supports celebrations on January 26 each year as follows:

- Lower the Aboriginal Flag to half-mast on January 26 out of respect for the First Nations People and what the day represents for First Nations people;
- Continue Council's requirement to hold a Citizenship Ceremony on January 26 as required;
- Advocate to the State and Federal Governments where appropriate to change the date of 'Australia Day' to a date that can be celebrated by all,

### 9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

- National Australia Day Council funding to hold or host Australia Day awards or celebratory activities to be the responsibility of the individual township Australia Day Committees for events in 2023 and beyond,
- Amend Council's event sponsorship and community grant guidelines deeming activities celebrating Australia Day on January 26 (in kind or cash) as ineligible,
- Promotion of celebrations held on January 26 to be coordinated by the individual township Australia Day Committees for events in 2023 and beyond; and
- Formally support the celebration of community contribution with annual awards in May as part of Volunteer Week, recognising the outstanding community contribution of individuals and groups within Strathbogie Shire commencing in 2023.

#### **Option 2**

- *Council continues to celebrate January 26 as per current arrangements.*

It is important to note that option 1 does not inhibit community groups from continuing to celebrate Australia Day. Community Groups, if eligible, will be able to apply for National Australia Day Council funding and can choose to recognise the day in a manner appropriate to their community.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Officers have contacted Taungurung Land and Waters Council and Yorta Yorta Nations Aboriginal Corporation to get their position on January 26 respectfully. Whilst Taungurung have not formed a formal position on January 26, they verbally indicated that they are supportive of change, in principle.

Officers highlight the level of engagement undertaken to develop the Community Vision. This vision was created by an independent community panel and represents the views of Community. This Vision specifically includes statements relevant to this report; '*We care deeply for Country and First Nations people*' and '*We are bold*'. This report provides an opportunity for Council to consider decisions that will enable the Community Vision to come to fruition.

This report authorises additional broader consultation on the options presented in this report.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **Council Plans and Policies**

This report is consistent with the direction of the endorsed Strathbogie Community Vision within the adopted Council Plan 2021-25 '*We care deeply for Country and First Nations people*' and '*We are bold*' and the inclusivity objectives within.

### 9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

Strategic focus area 4: Inclusive. Productive. Balanced

In the future we involve the community in decisions that affect them This means we care, support and listen to each other

Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe

In the future our communities are filled with happy, healthy people.

The consideration also demonstrates a commitment to the MOU between Council and the Taungurung Land and Waters Council which governs our interactions and was established to build practical and mutually respectful and beneficial connections.

#### **Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making.

In 2020, the National Australia Day Council (NADC) launched a new campaign, 'The Story of Australia' that calls on Australian to reflect, respect and celebrate on Australia Day. The Victorian Government states that Australia Day is a day for all Australians, no matter where our personal stories began. It is a day to reflect on what it means to be Australian, to respectfully acknowledge our history and to celebrate contemporary Australia.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

Australian Citizenship Act 2007 (the Citizenship Act) sets out the legal requirements for conducting Citizenship ceremonies as well as the roles and responsibilities for those involved in their delivery.

#### **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

#### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This report supports public transparency as it shares the process by which the topic has been considered and the decision is being made.

#### **FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

### 9.2.5 Future Acknowledgement of January 26 (cont.)

While these events are community led events, Council provides a support role with increased administrative support to the organising groups in the lead up to the events as well as helping supply equipment and in-kind support and materials on the day.

#### ***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

#### **Economic**

The costs associated with delivering Australia Day celebrations to Council is minimal with in-kind support provided in Officers time. All other costs are covered by external funding. It is anticipated each Australia Day event brings minimal economic value to each town.

#### **Social**

This report considers human rights, equity and inclusion outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in recognising the rights of First Nations people and seeking to promote respect and understanding of these rights among the broader Australian community. It recognises the rights of all people to have choice about how they live and the means to make those choices including the ability for First Nations people to participate in Australian society as equals with a distinct status and culture that can be celebrated within the diversity of the nation.

#### **Environmental**

There are no significant environmental impacts associated with this report.

#### **Climate change**

There are no significant climate change impacts associated with the report.

#### ***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

This report supports and is in alignment with the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 most notably in the areas of recognition, equality and cultural rights.

#### ***CONCLUSION***

This report explores the relevance of January 26 in Strathbogie Shire and Council's role in relation to the day. The report recommends Council undertake further consultation in regard to January 26 and proposes consultation with Australia Day Committees located in the Shire and the broader community on the two options outlined in this report.

Following the consultation, Council will consider a report recommending Council's preferred position in regard to January 26, incorporating the feedback gathered at an Extraordinary Council meeting to be held on June 28 2022 at 6pm in the Euroa Community Conference Centre, Bury Street, Euroa.

### 9.3 **INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### 9.3.1 **Contract Variation - No. 21-22-30: Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue**

Manager Project Delivery

Responsible Director: Director Community & Planning

##### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

Upgrade to the the existing Retard Basin at McGregor Avenue with a pump system forms part of Council's 2021/22 Capital Works Program. This project is being undertaken to reduce future flood damage to existing development in Nagambie township and its environs. To achieve this goal, Council provides funding for the reduction of flood hazards through improvements of existing drainage structure, or implementation of a new stormwater management system where there is none in existence.

The works were tendered and awarded under Contract CN 21/22-30 to S&R Engineering and Construction Pty Ltd under Council delegation on 12/01/2022. Contractor has progressed work to 65% completion. However, a build-up of silt and other unforeseen conditions at the ponds have necessitated additional works which are considered necessary to successfully complete the project. The variation to works is \$33,480.00 + GST bringing the total project cost to \$200,286.00 +GST if approved.

##### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council approve the variation of \$33,480.00 (plus GST) to cover additional works required to complete work increasing the value of Contract No. 21-22-30 Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue, from the original amount of \$152,946.00 (plus GST) to \$200,286.00 (plus GST).***

##### ***PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND***

This report seeks Council approval of the proposal to increase the value of Contract No 21-22-30 – *Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue* by \$33,480.00 (plus GST) to cover additional works required to complete the work.

Additional work required to complete project includes:

- 1) Desilting of Pump Well location to allow for adequate installation,
- 2) Desilting at around inlets/outlets of pumps up to 2.000 meters in depth,
- 3) Smudging of banks of each retention basin to remove minor vegetation,  
and
- 4) Removal of the additional silt throughout retention basin #2.

The revised scope of works came about due to the depth and quantity of silt present in each retention basin appearing to be far greater than assumed in design. There were also existing geofabric and stone beaching that must be protected.

9.3.1 Contract Variation - No. 21-22-30: Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue

A comprehensive investigation of underground condition was not carried out prior to design due to water retained within basins, therefore the new discovery was not anticipated and allowed for in the initial scope of work. The situation therefore leaves the New Pump System open for possible variation during construction

**VARIATION DETAILS**

Additional works discovered during construction are as summarised below.

**Table 1: Summary of Additional Works**

S/N	Description	Amount (Ex GST)	Comments
01	Initial Contract	\$152,946.00	Approved under delegation
02	Variation 01:	\$13,860.00	Within 10% of contract, approved under delegation
03	Variation 02: (This Variation) Desilting of pump location area for adequate installation	\$33,480.00	Requiring Council Approval
<b>New Contract Value if approved</b>		<b>\$200,286.00</b>	

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

**Summary**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

The alternative option to accepting the additional work would be to continue the work as tendered and defer the additional works until later. However, leaving silts in the basin hole would impact on the pumps performance, resulting in frequent costly repairs. It would eventually reduce the pumps life span, thus requiring complete replacement within a few years. Therefore, the alternative option considered is not viable.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

The matter under consideration does not warrant a community consultation process.

**Community Implications**

The recommendation has no significant community or social implications for Council or the broader community.

9.3.1 Contract Variation - No. 21-22-30: Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue

**Risk Management**

Timely consideration of the variation during construction will ensure the successful delivery of the project. Delay in taking a decision could attract further costs once the contractor moves out of site.

***POLICY CONSIDERATIONS***

**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.

This report is consistent with the Strathbogie Shire Council Procurement Policy.

The *Council Plan 2015-25* is relevant with the following Strategic Focus Area 2: Live. Access. Connect.

Our community's goals

- We all have access to important services

Our Strategies to achieve these goals

- We have strategies and long-term capital budgets in place to ensure we work towards all our facilities and buildings being accessible by people of all abilities.

*Asset Management Policy*

- Asset renewal – is the upgrading or replacement of an existing Asset, or a component, that restores the service capability of the Asset to its original functional condition and performance.

*Asset Management Strategy*

- Ensure the Shires infrastructure enhances efficiency for people and freight movement, service delivery and community amenities.

***LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law

The recommendation has no legal or statutory implications which require the consideration of Council.

**Conflicts of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This report, in line with Council's Procurement Policy, ensures transparency in the process.

9.3.1 Contract Variation - No. 21-22-30: Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue

Decisions made by Council will be: -

- undertaken in accordance with the Act and the Governance Rules.
- will be conducted in an open and transparent forum with information available via Council reports,

Council meetings will be open to the community or can be viewed on the livestream (and available as a recording) unless closed for reasons permitted by s.66(2) of the Act.

**FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured

**Financial / Budgetary Implications**

The budget allocated for this Work in the current Financial Year budget is \$165,000.00. However, the total cost including the proposed additional work at \$200,286 + GST exceeds Council allocated budget by \$35,286.00 +GST. The offset of \$35,286.00 required to complete this project can be accommodated within the existing 2021/22 Capital Works budget from other projects where savings have been achieved.

**SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted

**Economic Implications**

The recommendation has no significant economic implications for Council or the broader community.

**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.

**INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

**HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS**

**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.

9.3.1 Contract Variation - CN 21-22-30: Upgrade Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue

**CONCLUSION**

The contract for Upgrade of Nagambie Solar Pump at McGregor Avenue was awarded to S&R Engineering and Construction Pty Ltd under Council delegation. The contract is being executed in accordance with the Council's Contract Management Guidelines and Procurement Policy. Additional works emanating from latent conditions during construction are considered necessary to the successful delivery of the project.

### **9.3.2 Contract Variation – CN 21/22-06: 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program**

Author: Manager Projects Delivery, Senior Project Officer

Responsible Director: Director Community & Planning

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Strathbogie Shire Municipal Roads Reseal Program for 2021-2022 Financial Year is underway. The annual reseal program is necessary to protect Council's Road Infrastructure, to increase roads life span, lower maintenance costs and generally improve safety of road users.

At the 19 October 2021 Council Meeting, Council approved to award Contract No 21/22-06 for 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program to Rich River Asphalt Pty Ltd, as the preferred tenderer following a competitive tender process. The lumpsum contract was awarded for a total sum of \$419,953.27 plus GST.

Rich River Asphalts have completed over 75% of Works at the time of submitting this Report. However, additional funds are required to cover one (1) extra road segment requiring urgent sealing at Upton Road, and two (2) spray variations between design and actual across all the road sections. The total project costs would be \$476,269.59 plus GST, an increase of \$56,316.32. The adopted 2021/22 Council budget had an allocation of \$794,000.00 for this program of works. As part of Council's budget mid-year review process, the amount allocated to this program was adjusted at the February 2021 Council Meeting in line with the approved contract amount of \$419,953.27 plus GST as ratified by Council at the October 2021 Council Meeting. This report seeks Council approval for a variation to Contract No 21/22-06 to increase the contract amount by \$56,316.32.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council approve the variation to Contract No 21/22-06 – 2022-22 Roads Reseal Program, from the original amount of \$419,953.27 plus GST to \$476,269.59 plus GST to complete the required works.***

#### **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

This report seeks Council approval for a variation to Contract No 21/22-06 – 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program by an amount of \$56,316.32 plus GST (13.41%) to cover the additional works required to complete the annual program.

The Annual Roads Reseal Program is an important part of Strathbogie Shire Council Capital Works, being a vital avenue through which Council Road Infrastructure are protected against degradation and a key means by which the Shire roads are brought up to compliance with current Safety Standards.

The factors enumerated below have led to cost variation in the contract as follows:

- Resealing of additional 5016m<sup>2</sup> road section at Upton Road identified for resealing during inspection. Additional cost of \$15,850.56 +GST was approved as a variation to contract under delegation and the work has been completed.
- Adjustment for spray rate difference between the design rate (at tender) and actual rate applied during work execution. The additional cost due to this spray rate variation was \$40,465.76 .

9.3.2 Contract Variation – CN 21/22-06: 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program (cont.)

**VARIATION DETAILS**

Details of variation to construction contract are as summarised below:

**Table 1: Breakdown of Variation Cost**

SN	Description	Amount (Ex GST)	Comments
1	Initial Contract	\$419,953.27	Council approved
2*	Variation 01 - Additional Reseal at Upton Road	\$15,580.56	Approved under delegation (3.8% of contract)
3*	Variation 02 – Adjustment for spray rate difference	\$40,735.76	Requiring Council Approval
4	<b>Total Variation Proposed (Excl GST) (*total of line items 2 &amp; 3)</b>	<b>\$56,316.32</b>	13.41% of contract
<b>New Contract Value if approved</b>		<b>\$476,269.59</b>	

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

**Summary**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

The alternative option to variation cost would be to reduce the scope of work to stay under the threshold allowed for cost variation. This would ultimately imply that Council is deferring part of the work for next year with a potential for higher cost considering the high inflation rate currently prevalent across Australia. Accepting the variation represents the best value outcome.

In addition, the overall project cost inclusive of additional works stays within Council approved budget of \$794,000.00, therefore this proposal would not impact negatively on Council budget.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

No community consultation has been undertaken, as this report relates to contractual matters between the appointed contractor and Council.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

Council Plans and Policies

The report is consistent with Council Policies, key strategic documents, and the Council Plan and with the Strathbogrie Shire Council Procurement Policy.

### 9.3.2 Contract Variation – CN 21/22-06: 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program (cont.)

The *Council Plan 2015-25* is relevant with the following Strategic Focus Area 2: Live. Access. Connect.

Our community's goals

- We all have access to important services

Our Strategies to achieve these goals

- We have strategies and long-term capital budgets in place to ensure we work towards all our facilities and buildings being accessible by people of all abilities.

*Asset Management Policy*

- Asset renewal – is the upgrading or replacement of an existing Asset, or a component, that restores the service capability of the Asset to its original functional condition and performance.

*Asset Management Strategy*

- Ensure the Shires infrastructure enhances efficiency for people and freight movement, service delivery and community amenities.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law

Under Council's Procurement Policy, this variation request requires the consideration and any subsequent approval via a Council resolution.

#### **Conflicts of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

#### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

It is considered by the author of this report that all steps have been taken in line with Council's Procurement Policy which ensures transparency in the process.

Decisions made by Council will be: -

- undertaken in accordance with the Act and the Governance Rules;
- will be conducted in an open and transparent forum with information available via Council reports,

Council meetings will be open to the community or can be viewed on the livestream (and available as a recording) unless closed for reasons permitted by s.66(2) of the Act.

#### **FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

### 9.3.2 Contract Variation – CN 21/22-06: 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program (cont.)

The budget allocated to Reseal Program in the current Financial Year is \$794,000.00. Therefore, with the proposed overall variation of \$56,312.32 to contract, the new contract sum of \$476,269.59 plus GST remains within budget.

#### ***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted

#### **Economic**

The recommendation has no significant negative economic implications for Council or the broader community.

#### **Social**

The recommendation has no significant negative social implications for Council or the broader community.

#### **Environmental**

The recommendation has no significant negative environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

#### **Climate Change**

The recommendation has no significant negative environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

#### ***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

Council's Reseal Program aims to protect existing roads, enable lower road maintenance costs, enhance safety of road user and support economic activities across the shire

#### ***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

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.

#### ***CONCLUSION***

Following the tender evaluation process, Council awarded tender CN21/22-06 – 2021-22 Roads Reseal Program to Rich River Asphalt Pty Ltd. The contract is being executed in accordance with Council's Contract Management Guidelines and Procurement Policy. Additional costs emanating from conditions discussed in this report are considered necessary to ensure the success of the project. It is hereby proposed that Council endorses the recommendation to undertake a variation of the contract to accommodate the necessary works discussed in this report.

**9.3.3 Contract No. 21/22-23: Tender process for Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation – reduction of mandatory Pricing and Regional Benefit evaluation weightings**

Author: Procurement and Tenders Officer

Responsible Director: Director Corporate Operations

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

In preparing the documentation for Contract Number 21/22-23 - Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation (**the Tender**), Council Officers sought oversight from a senior Probity Advisor from Corporate Governance.

The Probity Advisor recommended that due to the size of the project, the significant budget, the environmental requirements and risks associated with the Project, that quality, and previous experience and commitment to delivery timeframes should be considered a higher evaluation value than normal as opposed to financial. Furthermore, it was recommended to reduce the local/regional benefit weighting in recognition that most experienced tenderers in this specialised market would likely be metropolitan based.

In accordance with Councils Procurement Policy (page 18), this report is to request Council to approve the reduction of pricing weighting from the mandatory 50% to 40% and from 10% to 5% for Local/Regional Benefit weighting for tender CN 21/22-23 - Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation.

**RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council:***

- 1. Approve the tender evaluation weighting on Pricing to be reduced from the Mandatory 50% to 40% for the public open tender process for CN 21/22-23 Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation;***
- 2. Approve the tender evaluation weighting on Local/Regional Benefit be reduced from the Mandatory 10% to 5% for the public Tender process for CN 21/22-23 Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation; and***
- 3. Note that the residual 55% be allocated to the Quality, Previous Experience and Commitment to on-time delivery criteria of the Public Tender.***

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

In line with Council's approach to transparency and good governance, the Council's Procurement Policy stipulates that any reduction of pricing weighting from the mandatory 50% be approved by Council via Council Resolution.

9.3.3 Contract No. 21/22-23: Tender process for Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation – reduction of mandatory Pricing and Regional Benefit evaluation weightings (cont.)

**Issues for Discussion**

Council Officers sought tender process oversight and consultancy from a senior Probity Advisor from Corporate Governance advisors Dench McLean Carlson for Contract Number 21/22-23 - Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation.

It was a primary recommendation both from the Probity Advisor and subsequently supported by Council Officers, that due to the size of the project, the significant budget, the environmental requirements and risks associated with the Project, that quality, and previous experience and commitment to delivery timeframes should be considered a higher evaluation value than normal.

Given the specialised nature and importance of this work to comply with Environmental Protection Authority standards, the specialist Probity Advisor and Council Officers recommend the pricing weighting be reduced from 50% to 40%, and that Regional Benefit be reduced to 5%, and that this residual 55% be placed on Quality, Previous Experience and Delivery commitments.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Given that the matter relates to Council policy and achieving best value outcomes for our Shire, community engagement on this matter is not required.

**Consultation**

External stakeholders (Probity Advisor) have been engaged providing expert input on this tender process.

**Community Implications**

The author of this report considers that the recommendation will provide for an improved quality and delivery of this project without reducing Best Value.

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contracts involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This report demonstrates that Council is being transparent by providing information to the community regarding the awarding of any capital works contract.

9.3.3 Contract No. 21/22-23: Tender process for Construction of Violet Town Landfill Rehabilitation – reduction of mandatory Pricing and Regional Benefit evaluation weightings (cont.)

**FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The public tender process will by its nature ensure that Best Value continues to be achieved, and Council Officers will continue to work towards delivery of this project under or at budget.

**SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

**Economic**

Due to the scope and size of this project we do not expect a negative economic impact to the Regional Economy with this change.

**Social**

Each project includes several social benefits to our community. Some of these benefits include enabling improve traffic flow, infrastructure that encourages health and wellbeing activities and amenity improvements.

**Environmental**

The works will be undertaken in line with an approved scope of works and ensure that the site is made good upon completion of the works.

**Climate Change**

The recommendation has no significant implications on Climate Change however the project itself will deliver a reduced carbon footprint.

**HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS**

This report considers that the recommendations do not limit any Human Rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

**CONCLUSION**

It is important that decisions and actions taken under delegation be properly documented and transparent in nature. This report outlines the recommendations of the specialist Probity advisor and Council Officers that the mandatory Pricing weighting be reduced from 50% to 40%, and that the Regional Benefit weighting be reduced from 10% to 5%. This recommendation will ensure Best Value outcomes will continue to be achieved.

### **9.3.4 Contracts and Purchases Awarded Under Delegation**

Author: Manager Projects

Responsible Directors: Director Community & Planning / Director Corporate Operations

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

The purpose of this report is to inform Council and the community of the status of request for tenders that have been awarded under delegation and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded as of 1 April 2022. This report specifically relates to works that form part of Council's 2021/22 budget.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council note the:***

- 1. Contracts awarded under delegated authority by the Chief Executive Officer;***
- 2. Contracts and purchases awarded under delegated authority by Director; and***
- 3. Contracts and purchases awarded under delegated authority by Manager***

#### ***PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND***

In line with Council's approach to transparency and good governance, the Contracts Awarded Under Delegation report will be tabled for information purposes at each Council Meeting. The report details any contracts that have been awarded under delegated authority by the Chief Executive Officer, a Director, or a Manager within their approved financial threshold. This report specifically relates to works that form part of Council's approved 2021/22 budget.

The report also details an update on the commencement time of projects that have previously been awarded by Council.

#### ***ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION***

Any contract awarded under delegation is undertaken in line with Council's Procurement Policy. Through the *Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer* the Council has delegated authority to the following:

- Chief Executive Officer – award a contract up to the value of \$150,000 for Goods and Services and \$200,000 for Works
- A Director – award a contract up to the value of \$50,000 for Goods and Services and \$50,00 for Works
- A Manager – award a contract up to the value of \$15,000 for Goods and Services and \$15,000 for Works.

9.3.4 Contracts and Purchases Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

**Tendered Contracts Awarded Under Delegated Authority by CEO**

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 21/22-44
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Street Scape Longwood</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump sum contract
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$170, 965
<b>Awarded to</b>	Kialla Lawn & Gardens
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	2/05/2022
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	4/07/2022

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 21/22-43
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Street Scape Avenel</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump sum contract
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$110,110
<b>Awarded to</b>	Kialla Lawn & Gardens
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	2/05/2022
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	20/07/2022

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 21/22-45
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Street Scape Euroa</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump sum contract
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$178,985
<b>Awarded to</b>	Kialla Lawn & Gardens
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	2/05/2022
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	31/ 07/2022

9.3.4 Contracts and Purchases Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 21/22-29
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Point of Sale Software for Waste Recover Centres</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump sum contract
<b>Value Including GST</b>	\$72,402
<b>Awarded to</b>	Ask Waste Management
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	Currently in implementation period – Contract for supply to commence 1 <sup>st</sup> August 2022
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	31/07/2025

**Contracts awarded under delegated authority by A Director**

<b>Contract No.</b>	RFQ
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Euroa Saleyards</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump Sum Contract (Removal of trees & concrete)
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$30,600
<b>Awarded to</b>	Cleaves Earthmoving
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	11/04/2021
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	30/04/2022

<b>Contract No.</b>	RFQ
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Euroa Saleyards</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump Sum Contract (Supply new pressure pump)
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$31,680
<b>Awarded to</b>	Aquatec Enviro Pty LTD
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	11/04/2021
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	15/05/2022

9.3.4 Contracts and Purchases Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

<b>Contract No.</b>	RFQ
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>ERC Infrastructure Resilience Project (Electrical Works)</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump Sum Contract
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$26,778
<b>Awarded to</b>	Byers Electrical Pty LTD
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	04/04/2022
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	30/05/2022

**Contracts awarded under delegated authority by Manager**

<b>Contract No.</b>	RFQ
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Euroa Memorial Oval Netball Change Room Scoping &amp; Design</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump sum Contract
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$13,600
<b>Awarded to</b>	Bruce Mactier Designers
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	2/05/2022
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	30/05/2022

<b>Contract No.</b>	20/21-21 – Architectural and Drafting Design - Panel of Suppliers
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Nagambie RSL Scope &amp; Design</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Lump Sum Contract
<b>Value Excluding GST</b>	\$20,500
<b>Awarded to</b>	Chris Smith & Ass
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	20/04/2021
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	10/06/2022

#### 9.3.4 Contracts and Purchases Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

##### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Where required, external stakeholders have been engaged providing input on relevant projects.

##### **Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All offices, and/or contracts involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

##### **Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This report demonstrates that Council is being transparent and accountable by providing information to the community regarding the awarding of any works contract under delegation.

##### **FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The contracts awarded under delegation are projects and works that formed part of Council's adopted 2020/21 budget.

##### **SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social, and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

##### **Economic**

Works awarded under delegation provide an opportunity to generate great economic benefit using local contractors and the purchasing of materials and supplies. In addition, the enhancement of infrastructure continues to make our municipality a place of destination, one where people choose to live, work and play.

##### **Social**

Each project includes several social benefits to our community. Some of these benefits include enabling improve traffic flow, infrastructure that encourages health and wellbeing activities and amenity improvements.

##### **Environmental**

The works will be undertaken in line with an approved scope of works and ensure that the site is made good upon completion of the works.

#### 9.3.4 Contracts and Purchases Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

##### **Climate Change**

The recommendation has no significant implications on Climate Change and on the general environment.

##### ***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

This report considers that the recommendations do not limit any Human Rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

##### ***CONCLUSION***

It is important that decisions and actions taken under delegation be properly documented and transparent in nature. The report details the publicly advertised contracts awarded by the Chief Executive Officer, Directors and Managers under delegated authority of the Council during the period 1 December 2021 to 1 May 2022.

## **9.4 CORPORATE**

### **9.4.1 Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee - Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meetings held on Friday 11 March 2022, Friday 25 March 2022 and Thursday 7 April 2022**

Author: Director Corporate Operations

Responsible Director: Director Corporate Operations

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

This report presents the draft unconfirmed Minutes of the Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee meetings held on Friday 11 March 2022, Friday 25 March 2022 and Thursday 7 April.

Items considered by the Committee at the meeting were:

#### 11 March 2022

- Review of Draft Strategic Risk Register

#### 25 March 2022

- Election of Chair
- External Audit and Audit Strategy
- Internal Audit program
- Budget preparation 2022/23 update
- Audit Committee Work Plan
- Key Strategic Indicators – Human Resources
- Risk Management Update

#### 7 April 2022

- Review of Draft of Draft Budget and Financial Plan

It is recommended that Council notes the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meetings held on Friday 11 March 2022, Friday 25 March 2022 and Thursday 7 April 2022.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

##### ***That Council:***

- 1. Notes the Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meetings held on Friday 11 March 2022, Friday 25 March 2022 and Thursday 7 April 2022.***
- 2. Notes that the Unconfirmed Minutes will be signed by the Chair of the Committee, once accepted, at the next Committee meeting, and any substantive changes to the unconfirmed Minutes will be reported to the next Council meeting.***

9.4.1 Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee  
- Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meetings held on Friday 11 March 2022, Friday 25  
March 2022 and Thursday 7 April 2022 (cont.)

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

The Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee is a Committee appointed by Council and pursuant to section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The primary objective of the Audit and Risk Committee is to assist Council in the effective conduct of its responsibilities for compliance with Council policies and legislation, sound financial reporting and financial management, oversight of risk management including the Strategic Risk Register, good corporate governance, maintaining a reliable system of internal controls and facilitating the organization's ethical development.

**KEY ISSUES AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

The independence of the Audit and Risk Committee ensures there is a 'watchdog' over Council operations at all times, which helps ensure the best interests of the municipal community are achieved through Council operations and decisions.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Consultation on this matter is not required under Council's Community Engagement Policy given the operational nature of the committee and its operation under the Audit and Risk Committee Charter 2020.

The Audit Committee Charter is comprised of for four independent Community representatives and two Councillors.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

The Council Plan 2021-25 contains several strategies :

As a Council we will:

- Achieve the highest level of good governance across the organization and as an elected Council
- Be accountable for the decisions we make and the quality of services we deliver
- Maximize public transparency and accountability around our performance and decision making processes
- Be financially responsible achieving the greatest possible community benefit from the programs, initiatives and services we fund.

The Audit Committee plays a key role in monitoring implementation of these strategies.

9.4.1 Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee  
- Unconfirmed Minutes of the Meetings held on Friday 11 March 2022, Friday 25  
March 2022 and Thursday 7 April 2022 (cont.)

The Audit and Risk Committee has been established under State government legislation and its workplan and Charter have been developed in accordance with State government guidelines.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

The Audit and Risk Committee has been constituted and established under sections 53 and 54 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, which requires all councils to appoint a Committee under a Charter developed in accordance with the 2020 Act.

The work on developing a work plan for the newly appointed Committee is a new requirement under the Act.

**Conflict of Interest**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

The appointment of an Audit and Risk Committee, along with noting the unconfirmed minutes through this Council agenda at a public meeting ensures transparency around the operation of the Committee and the issues that it is considering/monitoring.

**CONCLUSION**

This report advises the public of the matters considered by the Audit and Risk Committee and recommends noting of the unconfirmed Minutes of the meetings held on 11 March 2022, 25 March 2022 and 7 April 2022.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment 1:** Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 11 March 2022

**Attachment 2:** Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 25 March 2022

**Attachment 3:** Unconfirmed Minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 7 April 2022

#### **9.4.2 Financial Report to 31 March 2022**

Responsible Director: Corporate Operations

##### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

The appended March Financial Report compares year-to-date Mid-Year Budget to Actual March 2022.

The report contains the Operational Performance, Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Cash Flow Statement, and capital performance and other financial data in graphical format.

In relation to the current year the operating surplus for the nine months period ending 31 March was \$7,037,023.

As at 31 March 2022, total capital works was \$3,282,320 not including committed works.

##### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council note the Financial Report for the nine months ended 31 March 2022.***

##### ***PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND***

The 2021/22 Budget was prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and was formally adopted at an extraordinary Council Meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> June 2021. A mid-year budget review was adopted at the Ordinary Council meeting on 15 February 2022.

Council considers and notes quarterly Financial Reports in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 (Act). Under Section 97 the Act, Council must establish and maintain a budgeting and reporting framework that is consistent with the principles of sound financial management. This report satisfies those requirements.

##### ***KEY ISSUES AND DISCUSSION***

Explanation for significant budget variances are provided in financial performance overview section.

##### ***COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT***

Council officers believe that appropriate community engagement has occurred during the annual budgeting process and the quarterly financial statements are now ready for Council consideration.

##### ***DISCUSSION***

##### ***POLICY CONSIDERATIONS***

This report is consistent with Council Policies, the Long-Term Financial Plan and the Council Plan. The report also addresses Council's desire to review all aspects of Council's operations.

#### 9.4.2 Financial Report to 31 March 2022 (cont.)

##### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

There are no statutory or legal implications. The Local Government Act 2020 allows for budget reallocations. Consideration and adoption of quarterly financial reports as per the Local Government Act 2020 ensures Council complies with its Legal and Statutory obligations.

No member of Council staff, or other person engaged under a contract, involved in advising on or preparing this report has declared a direct or indirect interest in relation to the matter of the report.

##### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

The attached report, in conjunction with the detailed briefing to Council, considers all known economic and financial implications for the financial year ending 30 June 2022.

##### **ENVIRONMENTAL/SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

The recommendation in this report has no significant environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

##### **SOCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

This report has no significant unfavourable community or social implications for the Council or the broader community.

##### **HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS**

The recommendation contained in this report does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

##### **CONCLUSION**

The report presents Council's actual financial performance compared to the adopted budget for the three months ended 31 March 2022.

##### **ATTACHMENTS**

###### **Attachment 1:**

- Operational Performance
- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Financial Performance Overview
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Capital Performance
- Other Financial Data

## **9.5 GOVERNANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE**

### **9.5.1 Draft Motion relating to Mandatory Candidate Training – Municipal Association of Victoria State Conference**

Author: Director People & Governance

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

#### ***EXECUTIVE SUMMARY***

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) is holding its annual State Council on 24 June 2022. The purpose of this annual gathering of council representatives across the state is to receive an update on the MAV's activities and to consider motions submitted by members.

Each council has two seats on the State Council – one for the Council nominated Councillor representative, which is Mayor Binks, and the other for the Chief Executive Officer but only one vote per Council.

An individual council or a group of councils can submit a motion for consideration at the meeting. A resolution must be passed by the council (s) putting the motion forward.

At its March meeting, Council noted its submission to Local Government Victoria in response to the Local Government Culture Project. In its submission, Council clearly expressed the need for vastly improved training prior to an election so that prospective candidates could develop a sound understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a councillor prior to nominating. It also outlined an initiative to provide centralised Councillor induction training after an election to ensure all newly elected councillors across the state received the same training, provided on a regional basis and paid for by the State government.

Given the strength of feeling within the Council around these proposed initiatives, it is thought prudent that they be the focus of a motion for the annual meeting.

Importantly, it they are matters that meet the pre-requisites for a MAV State Council motion in that it affects the entire local government sector and is consistent with the MAV Strategy 2021-25.

It is recommended that the motion be endorsed by Council for submission to the MAV State Council.

9.5.1 Draft Motion relating to Mandatory Candidate Training – Municipal Association of Victoria State Conference (cont.)

**RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council endorse the following motion to be put to the Municipal Association of Victoria State Council Meeting on 24 June 2022:***

- 1. That the Municipal Association of Victoria work in partnership with the State Government to:***
  - a) replace the candidate certification program used for the 2020 General Election with a mandatory comprehensive candidate training program for the 2024 general election cycle to ensure all prospective candidates have a deep and clear understanding of the role of a councillor and council to drive sector capability and good governance.***
  - b) develop and deliver a statewide councillor induction program for the 2024 general election cycle that is driven by Local Government Victoria, delivered on a regional basis and funded by the State to ensure all councillors receive the same induction training in a way that is efficient and helps build relationships and support networks across the state.***

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

Any motion to be put to the MAV State Council must first be passed by a resolution of the submitting council.

Motions submitted to the MAV must be in a certain form and outline the rationale for the proposed motion so that other voting members can understand the context of what is being put to them.

The closing date for motions is Friday 27 May 2022. All motions are distributed to member councils on 10 June 2022.

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

Council highlighted the need for far more comprehensive candidate training in the lead up to a council election in its submission to Local Government Victoria's Local Government Culture Project. The model provided by the State in 2020 was the requirement for candidates to watch a video and then answer a series of questions afterwards to receive their certification to be a candidate. This certification was a prerequisite to nominate to stand for council. The 2020 mandatory candidate certification program was widely criticized across the sector and there is an acceptance from Local Government Victoria that improvements can be made for future certification processes.

9.5.1 Draft Motion relating to Mandatory Candidate Training – Municipal Association of Victoria State Conference (cont.)

Our submission to the Culture Project also argued that there needed to be improvements to the way that councillors are inducted into their role. At present every council is responsible for its own induction program, which is provided at significant cost to each council through the hiring of external consultants and a significant amount of officer time to develop and deliver the program. This current model of delivery means that every council delivers the induction program in different ways and with different content. It also means that councils become quite insular for the first six months as they work through the induction program.

Strathbogie Shire suggested an alternative through its Culture Survey submission in the form of the induction program being developed and delivered by the State on a regional basis, with a focus on face-to-face training. The rationale for this model is that the State, through the Local Government Act 2020, mandate that each councillor must participate in the induction program and then certify within 6 months of their election that they have completed training in a number of areas. This was a new requirement introduced by the State in 2020 and has had significant resource implications, particularly for small rural councils such as Strathbogie.

Instead of each Council developing, delivering and paying for its own induction program in an insular way, our suggestion is that newly elected councillors can receive the same content at the same time but on a regional basis that allows them to develop support networks from the very start of their term as councillors. It is also a far more efficient model of delivery that would result in savings for each council.

Given there are no timelines around the State government's response to the Culture Project, it is considered that every opportunity needs to be taken to raise concerns around the lack of candidate training and councillor induction, particularly in light of the ever-increasing complexity of being a councillor and high community expectations around what a councillor can and should deliver.

The draft motion is set out in Attachment 1 in accordance with the MAV's Rules, which govern how a State Council is to be governed and managed.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

While there has been no community consultation around this proposed motion, it is being put by Council in the best interests of this municipal community and those across the state to ensure effective representation by all future councillors.

9.5.1 Draft Motion relating to Mandatory Candidate Training – Municipal Association of Victoria State Conference (cont.)

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

**Council Plans and Policies**

Council's advocacy around the creation of a candidate certification process prior to an election is consistent with the following strategy outlined under Strategic Focus Area 6 Accountable. Transparent. Responsible:

Achieving the highest level of good governance across the organisation and as an elected Council.

**Regional, State and National Plans and Policies**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making.

Any motion submitted to the MAV State Council must be of sector wide interest and importance according to the MAV's Rules.

Motions must be consistent with the MAV's Strategy 2021-25. Theme 5 of this Strategy relates to '*Sector capability and good governance*'. There are a number of objectives and initiatives relevant to Council's proposal for the creation of a comprehensive candidate training regime. Relevant objectives and initiatives from the Strategy are:

*Strengthen local government's capacity to deliver good governance*

- *Represent council interests on the oversight board for the implementation of the Local Government Act*
- *Deliver capacity building activities in relation to good governance practices.*

*Develop a strategic framework to support the design and delivery of MAV learning and events activities:*

- *Develop MAV Learning and Events Strategy*
- *Implement a learning management system and digital learning platform to support the design and delivery of online learning content*
- *Commence a review and update the 2006 MAV Councillor Capability Framework.*

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

There are no legal considerations arising from the proposed motion, which is consistent with the Municipal Association Act 1907 and the MAV's Rules (last revised in 2013 and which govern how the MAV operates and how its direction is set through the State Council).

9.5.1 Draft Motion relating to Mandatory Candidate Training – Municipal Association of Victoria State Conference (cont.)

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

The purpose of this report is to inform the community about the continuing advocacy of Council in relation to improving the electoral process and ensuring that prospective councillors are well informed prior to standing to represent their community.

***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The proposal to centralise councillor induction programs through delivery by the State government would result in financial and resource savings for the 2024 election cycle. It is expected that up to \$10,000 would be saved through not having to engage external subject experts and significant savings would be gained through reducing officer time spent on the design, procurement and delivery of a six-month induction program. While some internal induction would still be required around Council policy, governance and priorities, this would be a marked reduction in time and resources compared to the 2020 councillor induction process.

***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

There are no significant sustainability impacts arising from the proposed motion, however it could be said that the upskilling of candidates will heighten their awareness of sustainability issues, particularly around the legislative requirements of mitigating climate change impacts which are now outlined in a number of Acts relevant to local government.

***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

The suggested improvement to candidate training through a comprehensive mandatory certification program is one way in which this Council is seeking continuous improvement across the state in relation to elected representatives. It is consistent with the strong views put to Local Government Victoria by Council in response to their culture review.

9.5.1 Draft Motion relating to Mandatory Candidate Training – Municipal Association of Victoria State Conference (cont.)

***COLLABORATION***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that collaboration with other councils, levels of government and statutory bodies is to be sought.

The proposed motion drives collaboration with the MAV, Local Government Victoria and other councils across the state through the use of the platform the MAV State Council meeting provides.

The suggestion that councillor induction should be provided by the State at a regional level would assist in developing relationships between councillors and councils within each region to establish a basis on which future collaboration could flourish. This is entirely consistent with the principles of the Local Government Act 2020.

***HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS***

The proposed motion is consistent with the substantive rights outlined by the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 by promoting participation in public life and driving good governance that supports the recognition of equality before the law.

***CONCLUSION***

The proposed MAV State Council motion continues Strathbogie Shire Council's advocacy around enhancing the mandatory candidate training program to ensure all prospective councillors have a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of councillors and the council prior to standing in an election.

***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** MAV State Council Motion Submission Form

**9.5.2 Mayor and Councillor expense request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 19-22 June, 2022**

Author: Policy Research and Councillor Support Officer

Responsible Director: Director People and Governance

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is hosting the 2022 National General Assembly at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from Sunday 19 June until Wednesday 22 June 2022. The event provides a unique opportunity for Local Government to engage directly with the Federal Government, to develop national policy, and to influence the future direction of our councils and our communities.

The 2022 NGA theme is *Partners in Progress* and reflects the important role local government plays in building a stronger, more inclusive, and more sustainable Australia and its role in working with other governments to support community outcomes and the nations recovery post COVID.

The Mayor, Councillor Laura Binks and Councillor Chris Raeburn have expressed interest to attend this national conference and represent interest of the Shire.

Given that this is an interstate conference that supports Councils advocacy as detailed in Councils recently released Advocacy Ask, all costs associated with attendance (registration, accommodation, travel and meals) will sourced from the Councillors' expenses budget allocation. Under the Council Expenses Policy, a Council resolution is required for the approval of interstate travel and costs exceeding \$1501 for any one Councillor.

**RECOMMENDATION**

***That Council:***

- 1. Endorse the request from the Mayor Councillor Laura Binks and Councillor Chris Raeburn to travel interstate to attend the 2022 National General Assembly (NGA22) in Canberra as part of Strathbogie Shire Council's advocacy strategy and campaign;***
- 2. Fund the cost of conference registration, transport, accommodation and meal expenses incurred through attendance to the NGA22 in Canberra, estimated at \$2,768.80 for Mayor Binks and \$2,732.80 for Cr Raeburn; and***
- 3. Receive a conference and advocacy evaluation report outlining the learnings and municipal benefits received upon Mayor Laura Binks' and Councillor Chris Raeburn's return from the NGA22 in Canberra in accordance with the Council Expenses Policy.***

9.5.2 Mayor and Councillor expense request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 19-22 June, 2022 (cont.)

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

As per the Victorian Local Government Act 2020, Part 2, Division 1, Section 8 -9 the role of a Council and overarching governance principles and supporting principles is to advocate on behalf of the community they represent and give priority to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations; and taking regional, state and national plans into account in strategic planning and decision making.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) was founded in 1947 and today represents 537 councils across Australia as the national voice of local government. ALGA's policies and strategic priorities are to champion a strong local government sector focusing on:

- financial sustainability
- roads and infrastructure funding
- waste and recycling
- stronger community resilience
- addressing the risk of climate change.

Mayor Binks and Cr Raeburn have expressed their interest to attend Canberra in June 2022 for the National General Assembly of Local Government, where they plan to secure advocacy meetings with Federal Government representatives, pending the outcome of the May 2022 Federal election.

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

It is important that councillors keep abreast of trends, issues and possible solutions to matters that impact on Strathbogie Shire and its community. Mayor Binks and Cr Raeburn noted their interest to attend this conference for advocacy advancement.

The NGA22 provisional program (refer Attachment 1) will operate from 19<sup>th</sup>- 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2022 and will explore how councils are responding to new challenges and opportunities to create jobs and drive economic growth, and how they are shaping a better future for their community and all Australians. The event will include a series of panels where mayors and councillors will share their learnings and lived experience leading their communities through the turbulence of the past few years and importantly, engage with either a new or re-elected Federal Government about building stronger relationships and partnerships.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

Community engagement is not required for the purpose of this report and its subject matter. It is the role of the Mayor and Councillors to attend industry related conferences.

9.5.2 Mayor and Councillor expense request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 19-22 June, 2022 (cont.)

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

**Council Plans and Policies**

The Strathbogie Shire Council Plan 2021-2025 highlights and identifies strategic focus areas and specific advocacy areas, projects and requirements that the region needs for future generations, which our budget and resources cannot accommodate without additional contribution. These 'Advocacy Asks' usually require multi-stakeholder approvals, contributions and funding that is beyond Council's service delivery role and requires Council representatives to call for action from those who can.

It is through activities such as advocacy correspondence, relationship building, meetings, industry publications, news updates, networking, conferences and community events that the Mayor and Councillors will make change, advance progress and realise opportunities to be secured, delivered and achieved.

**LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law.

The Council Expenses Policy outlines the parameters for reasonable expenditure to support advocacy, learning and development. Provision for Conferences and Training is outlined in section 17 of the Policy and states:

*Conferences or seminars:*

- *held interstate or overseas; and/or*
- *exceeding \$1501 in total cost (defined as including registration, travel and accommodation)*

*must be approved by way of Council resolution prior to any bookings being made. As a general guideline each councillor, other than the mayor, will be limited to one (1) interstate conference per year (pg 17).*

**Reporting of public benefit gained through conference/training attendance to Council**

*Following attendance at a conference or training that:*

- *was subject to a Council resolution to approve the travel; and/or*
- *must be recorded on the Travel Register (see section 14.1).*

*The Councillor must submit a written report to Council at the next Ordinary Meeting under the item 'Reports of Mayor and Councillors and Delegates'.*

*This report must identify the key issues discussed, issues of relevance to the Strathbogie Shire and the community benefit gained through the councillor's attendance. (pg 18)*

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

All officers involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

9.5.2 Mayor and Councillor expense request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 19-22 June, 2022 (cont.)

**Transparency**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

This report outlining Mayoral and Councillor expense requests relating to public funds achieves public transparency.

Itemised details of individual councillor and mayoral expenses are presented quarterly to Councils Audit and Risk (A&R) Committee and are available in the minutes from these meeting which are tabled at a Council meeting in the month following the A&R meeting. Furthermore, individual Councillor expenses are published in the Strathbogie Shire Council Annual Report, which is uploaded to the Council website annually, and made available to members of the public on request.

Expenses incurred as part of interstate, international travel and travel within Victoria for more than 3 days undertaken on behalf of Council will also be recorded in the travel register required under the Act, as per the template attached to this policy.

The travel register and councillor allowance and expense reports will be published concurrently.

***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

The anticipated expense per person reviewing two transport scenarios, are as follows:

Costs for Mayor Binks:

Conference Registration	\$989.00
Regional Delegate Forum	\$225.00
Accommodation for 4 x nights	\$1,198.80
Meal expenses	\$320.00
Car Parking	\$36.00

**Total Estimate**

**\$2,768.80**

Costs for Cr Chris Raeburn:

Conference Registration	\$989.00
Regional Delegate Forum	\$225.00
Accommodation for 4 x nights	\$1,198.80
Meal Expenses	\$320.00

**Total Estimate**

**\$2,732.80**

9.5.2 Mayor and Councillor expense request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 19-22 June, 2022 (cont.)

It is important to note that unforeseen expenses may arise when travelling interstate that may vary this budget forecast.

**INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

The theme of this year's NGA22 is *Partners in Progress*, which encapsulates the current industry priorities and needs based on the impacts of recent national bushfire and flood disasters, the coronavirus pandemic, business and resilience recovery. The conference is designed to maximise knowledge sharing, networking and advocacy opportunities to all who attend.

**COLLABORATION**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that collaboration with other councils, levels of government and statutory bodies is to be sought.

The conference provides opportunity for Strathbogrie Shire representatives to meet with, hear from and exchange ideas with Mayors, Councillors and Executive Officers from other councils, levels of government and industry professionals across a broad sector of expertise as well as Federal politicians and policy makers.

**CONCLUSION**

The National General Assembly of Local Government 2022 is a highly reputable and industry recognised conference that many Australian Councils send representatives to attend on an annual basis. It provides a meaningful opportunity for the Mayor and Cr Raeburn to lobby for the interests of the municipal community at the federal level in accordance with our 'Advocacy Ask' document.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment 1:** NGA22 Conference Program

### **9.5.3 Monthly Performance Report**

The May 2022 Monthly Performance Report includes reports as follows:-

- Building Department – April 2022 Statistics
- Planning Department – Planning Application Approvals – Development Cost (Capital Improved Value) - April 2022
- Customer Enquiry Analysis Report – Report for April 2022
- Waste Management Reporting ~ Year to Date – April 2022
- Actioning of Council Reports Resolutions – Council Meeting 19 April 2022
- Outstanding Actions of Council Resolutions to 30 April 2022
- Review of Council Policies and Adoption of new Policies – April/May 2022
- Records of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings – 1 to 30 April 2022

By reporting on a monthly basis, Council can effectively manage any risks that may arise. The Business Management System will also incorporate Council's corporate goals and objectives.

***RECOMMENDATION***

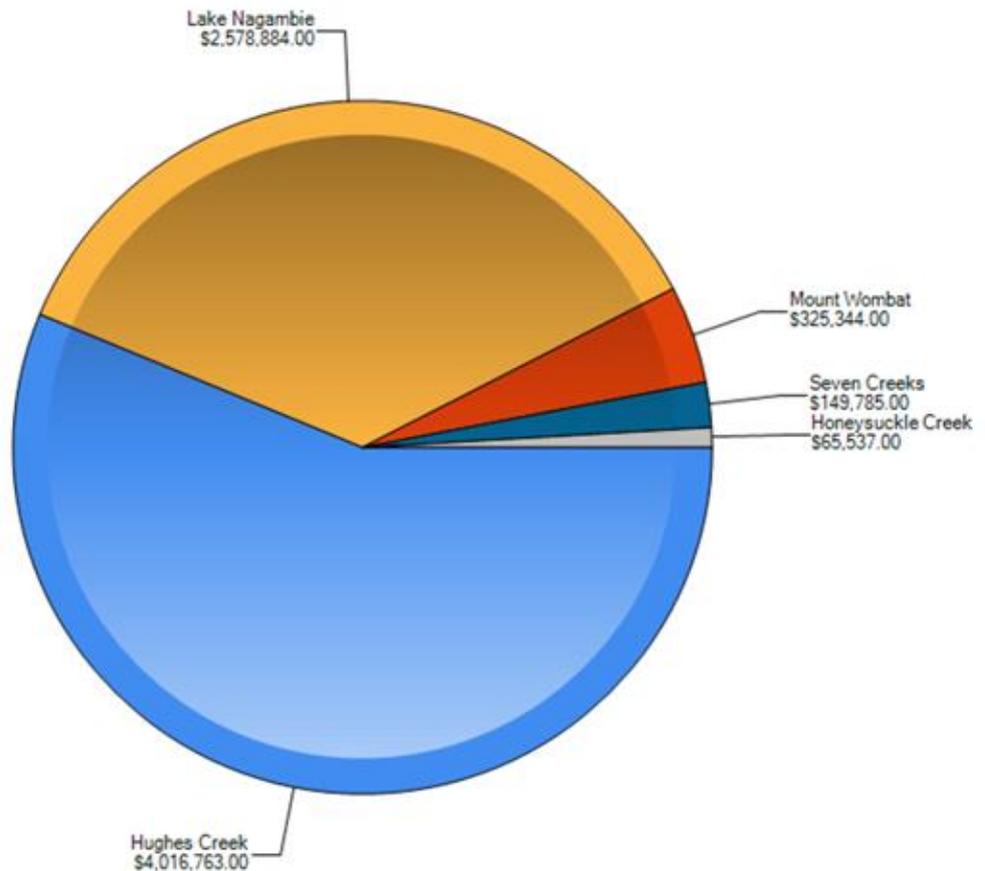
***That the report be noted.***

**BUILDING ACTIVITY**

**APRIL 2022**

**A report on new building permits recorded in Council's building permit register in April 2022**

Sum(Cost Of Works Number)	Number of Lodgements	Ward
\$65,537.00	2	Honeysuckle Creek
\$4,016,763.00	11	Hughes Creek
\$2,578,884.00	9	Lake Nagambie
\$325,344.00	5	Mount Wombat
\$149,785.00	3	Seven Creeks
<b>\$7,136,313.00</b>	<b>30</b>	



## Honeysuckle Creek

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
4119557593694	22/04/2022	Construction of	Farm Shed	Violet Town	\$42,692.00
6729367559972	21/04/2022	Construction of	Farm Storage	Boho South	\$22,845.00
					<b>\$65,537.00</b>

## Hughes Creek

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
1801827905400	22/04/2022	Construction of	Shed	Avenel	\$190,000.00
2028041657836	27/04/2022	Restump of	Dwelling	Longwood	\$13,200.00
3731009608598	22/04/2022	Construction of	Veterinary Clinic	Avenel	\$1,600,000.00
4194253176845	21/04/2022	Construction of	Dwelling	Avenel	\$672,482.00
5306874946750	4/05/2022	Construction of	Farm Shed	Longwood	\$14,220.00
5311839407788	21/04/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Avenel	\$605,963.00
5685585045691	21/04/2022	Construction of	Detached Dwelling & Garage	Avenel	\$342,980.00
6040136680396	2/05/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Avenel	\$304,900.00
6323761645723	27/04/2022	Construction of	Shed	Avenel	\$15,500.00
7588838532406	22/04/2022	Construction of	Horse Stable	Avenel	\$182,415.00
8758967596959	21/04/2022	Construction of	Swimming Pool & Spa	Avenel	\$75,103.00
					<b>\$4,016,763.00</b>

## Lake Nagambie

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
1792485029239	29/04/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$665,773.00
2608733861878/0	21/04/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Bailleston	\$927,130.00
4722504255123	21/04/2022	Construction of	Public Toilets	Graytown	\$90,534.00
5656654563038	22/04/2022	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Mangalore	\$61,644.00
7836021617646	29/03/2022	Additions to	Train station platform extension	Nagambie	\$140,000.00
7959021982924	22/04/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$348,361.00
9253705635603	4/04/2022	Construction of	Shed	Nagambie	\$50,000.00
9299227139351	8/04/2022	Construction of	Garage	Nagambie	\$14,000.00
9649877454883	25/11/2021	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$281,442.00
					<b>\$2,578,884.00</b>

## Mount Wombat

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
2844292170108	28/04/2022	Construction of	Retaining Wall	Strathbogie	\$14,137.00
6138320609098	28/04/2022	Construction of	transportable Dwelling	Strathbogie	\$8,000.00
6352845516500	7/04/2022	Construction of	Cartakers Dwelling	Euroa	\$100,000.00
6651980826216	6/04/2022	Construction of	Farm Storage	Strathbogie	\$103,207.00
8216324093744	21/04/2022	Extension to	Dwelling	Euroa	\$100,000.00
					<b>\$325,344.00</b>

## Seven Creeks

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
2775981481376	22/04/2022	Construction of	Deck & Verandah	Euroa	\$30,000.00
3747675946246	22/04/2022	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Euroa	\$66,990.00
9561964466028	7/04/2022	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Euroa	\$52,795.00
					<b>\$149,785.00</b>

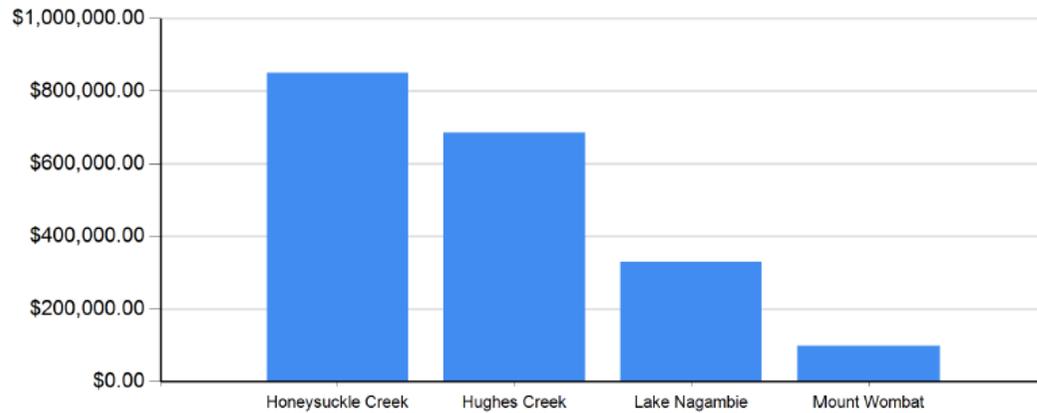
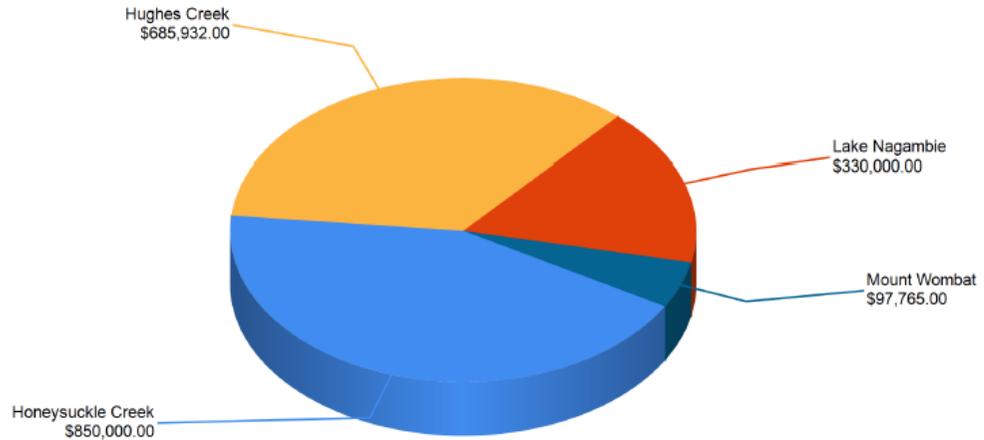
**PLANNING APPLICATION APPROVALS – DEVELOPMENT COST (CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE) - APRIL 2022**



**Planning Applications Determined**

April 2022

<b>Honeysuckle Creek</b>	<b>\$850,000.00</b>
Violet Town	\$850,000.00
<b>Hughes Creek</b>	<b>\$685,932.00</b>
Locksley	\$685,932.00
<b>Lake Nagambie</b>	<b>\$330,000.00</b>
Arcadia South	\$300,000.00
Tabilk	\$30,000.00
<b>Mount Wombat</b>	<b>\$97,765.00</b>
Longwood East	\$17,765.00
Strathbogrie	\$80,000.00
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>\$1,963,697.00</b>



**CUSTOMER ENQUIRY ANALYSIS REPORT  
- REPORT FOR APRIL 2022**



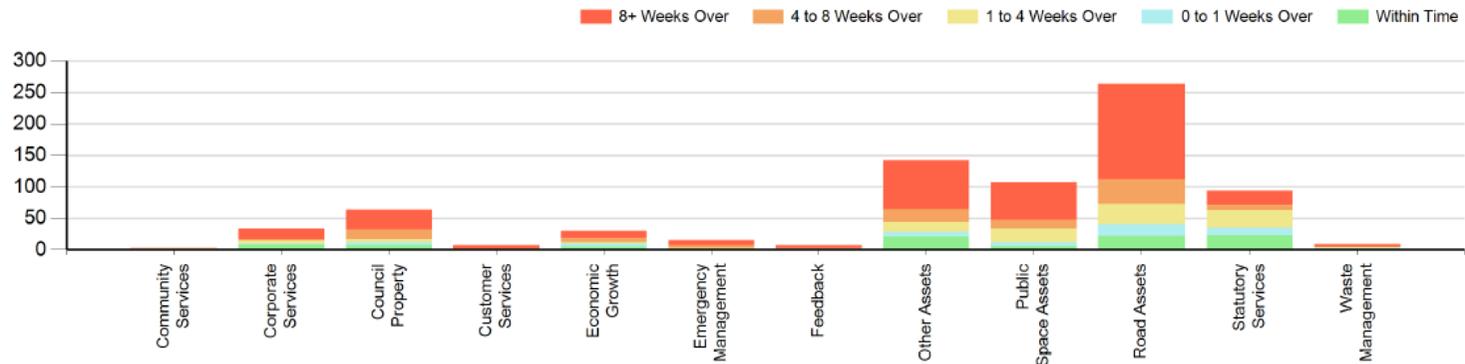
**Request Throughput Analysis**

01/04/2022 to 30/04/2022

C N O R	Complete / New	> 80%	50-80%	< 50%
	Overdue / Remaining	< 33%	34-70%	> 70%

Service Area	Existing Requests	New Requests	Completed Requests	Remaining Requests	C N	Within Time	Over Time	O R	Pending Resources	Service Area Usage
Community Services	4	29	30	3	🟢	1	2	🟡	0	
Corporate Services	33	79	78	34	🟢	8	26	🔴	0	
Council Property	64	33	33	64	🟢	7	57	🔴	0	
Customer Services	8	9	10	7	🟢	0	7	🔴	0	
Economic Growth	36	153	159	30	🟢	5	25	🔴	0	
Emergency Management	19	9	13	15	🟢	0	15	🔴	0	
Feedback	5	4	2	7	🟡	1	6	🔴	0	
Other Assets	110	39	7	142	🔴	21	121	🔴	0	
Public Space Assets	120	38	35	107	🟢	6	101	🔴	16	
Road Assets	250	65	51	264	🟡	22	242	🔴	0	
Statutory Services	106	117	127	96	🟢	23	71	🔴	0	
Waste Management	8	20	19	9	🟢	2	7	🔴	0	
<b>Total</b>	<b>763</b>	<b>595</b>	<b>564</b>	<b>778</b>		<b>96</b>	<b>680</b>		<b>16</b>	

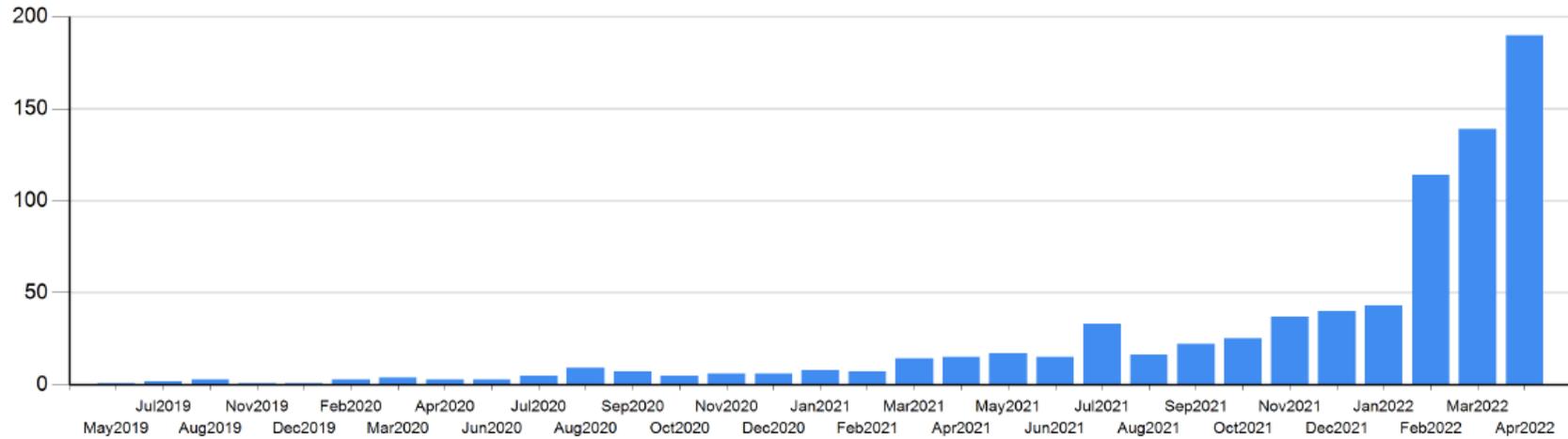
**Request Ageing**



### Service Usage



Remaining Requests by Original Request Date



	Community Services	Corporate Services	Council Property	Customer Services	Economic Growth	Emergency Management	Feedback	Other Assets	Public Space Assets	Road Assets	Statutory Services	Waste Management
2019	May									1		
	July								2			
	August									3		
	November								1			
	December								1			
2020	February								1	1		1
	March								1	3		
	April									2	1	
	June						1		1		1	
	July			2					2		1	
	August			1		2		1	1	3		1
	September								2	5		
	October		1			1				3		
	November			2					2	2		
	December			1					4	1		

2021	January		3	3		1							1
	February			1						2	3	1	
	March	1		3		1			3	1	4	1	
	April								5		10		
	May						2		5		8	2	
	June			1					7	2	5		
	July			3		2		1	12	2	12	1	
	August		2	1					1	4	6	2	
	September			1	1	1			2	6	10	1	
	October			2	1	1	1		3	6	9	2	
	November		1	3					7	7	15	3	1
	December		1	2	1		2	1	10	3	17	3	
2022	January		8	3		1	2		8	7	14		
	February		2	9	3	3	2	2	20	22	45	5	1
	March	1	4	12	1	6	5		25	23	35	27	
	April	1	12	14		11	1	2	33	20	47	45	4
Total		3	34	64	7	30	15	7	142	123	264	96	9

## Definitions

Service Area	Grouping of services by area of responsibility
Existing	Requests open prior to reporting period
New	Requests made during reporting period
Within Time	Remaining Requests where defined deadline is after reporting period
Pending Resources	Requests where additional resources are required to continue. This includes labour, materials, and financial resources.

Service	Activities that provide value to the customer
Remaining	Requests incomplete at end of reporting period
Completed	Requests completed during reporting period
Over Time	Remaining Requests where defined deadline is before the end of the reporting period

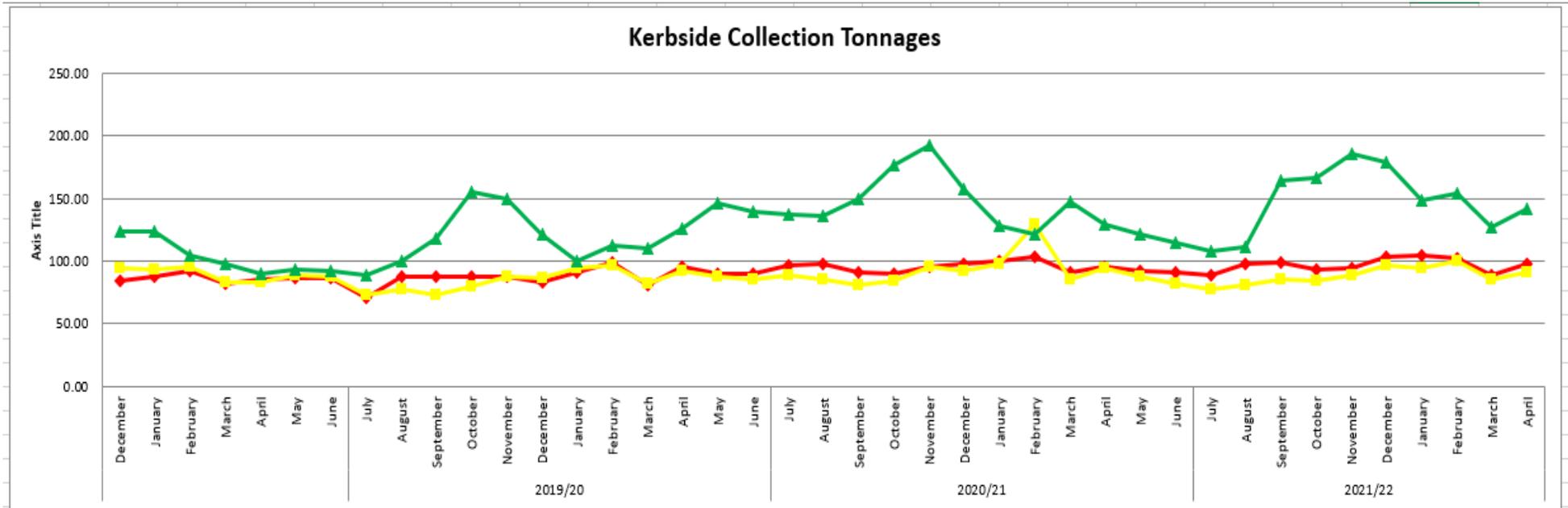
C  
N Complete / New  
An indicator showing the ratio of Completed requests and New requests. Designed to represent how well we are keeping up with the demand for a service.

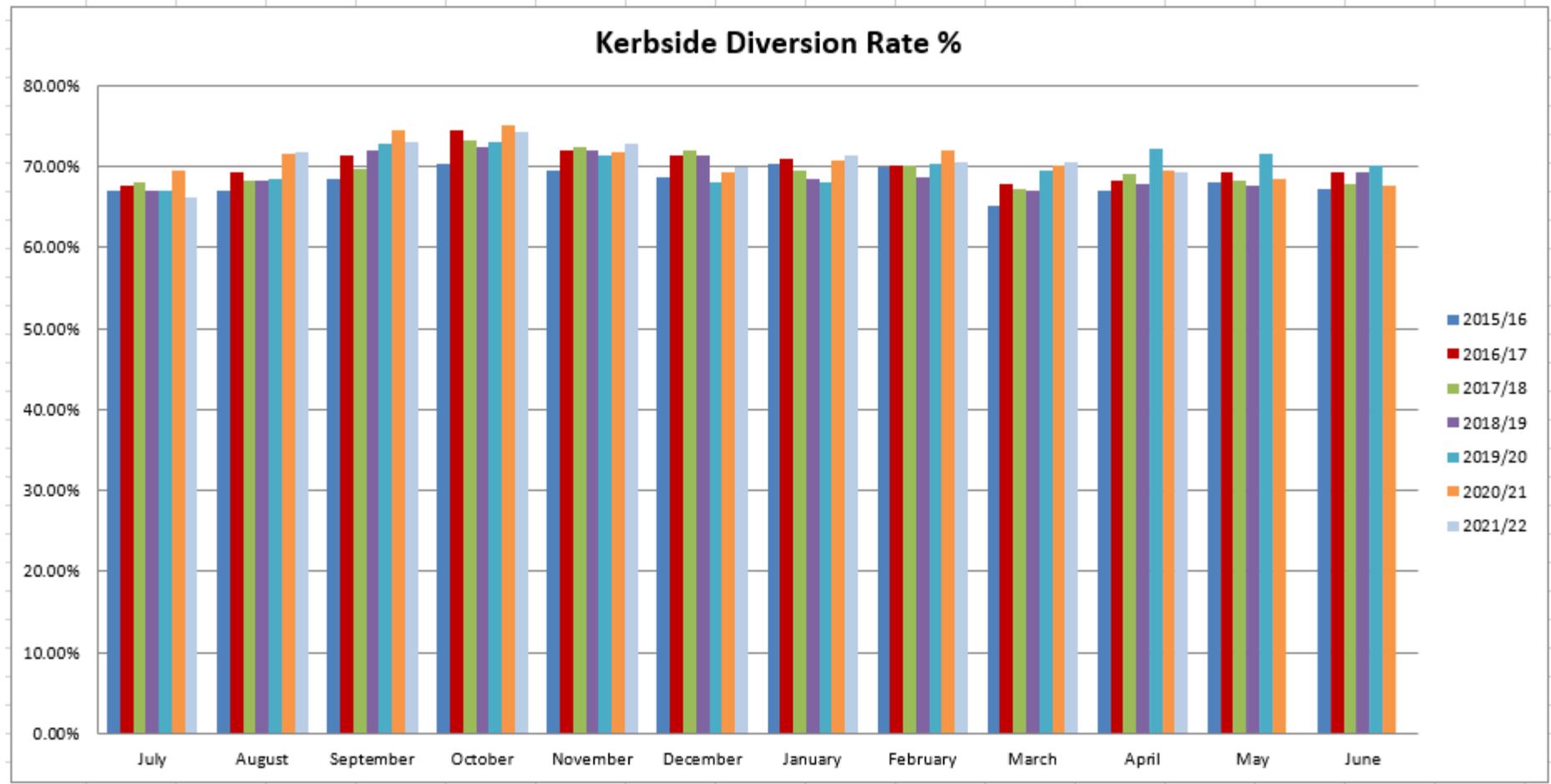


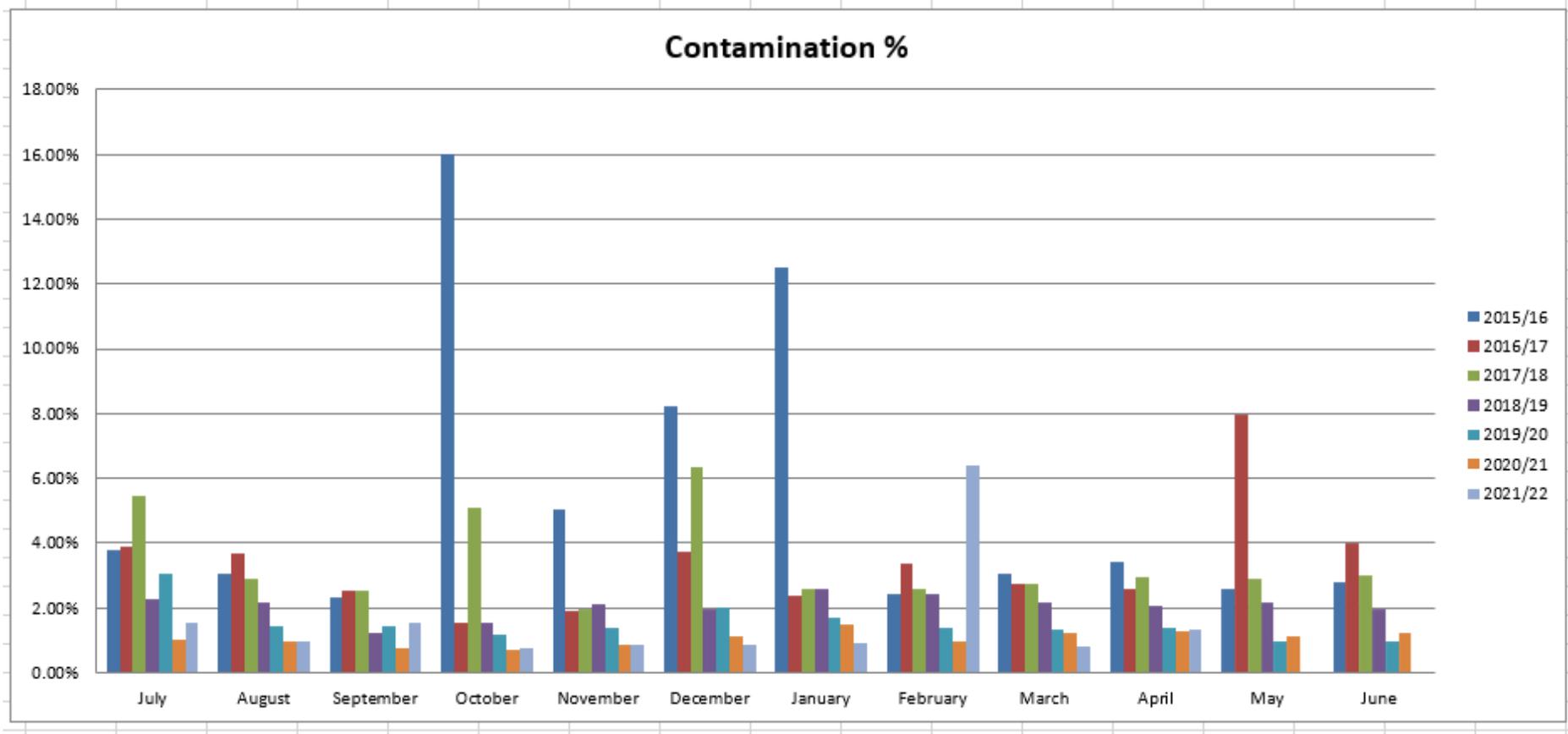
O  
R Overdue / Remaining  
An indicator showing the ratio of Overdue requests and Remaining requests. Designed to represent how well we are keeping to the defined deadlines.



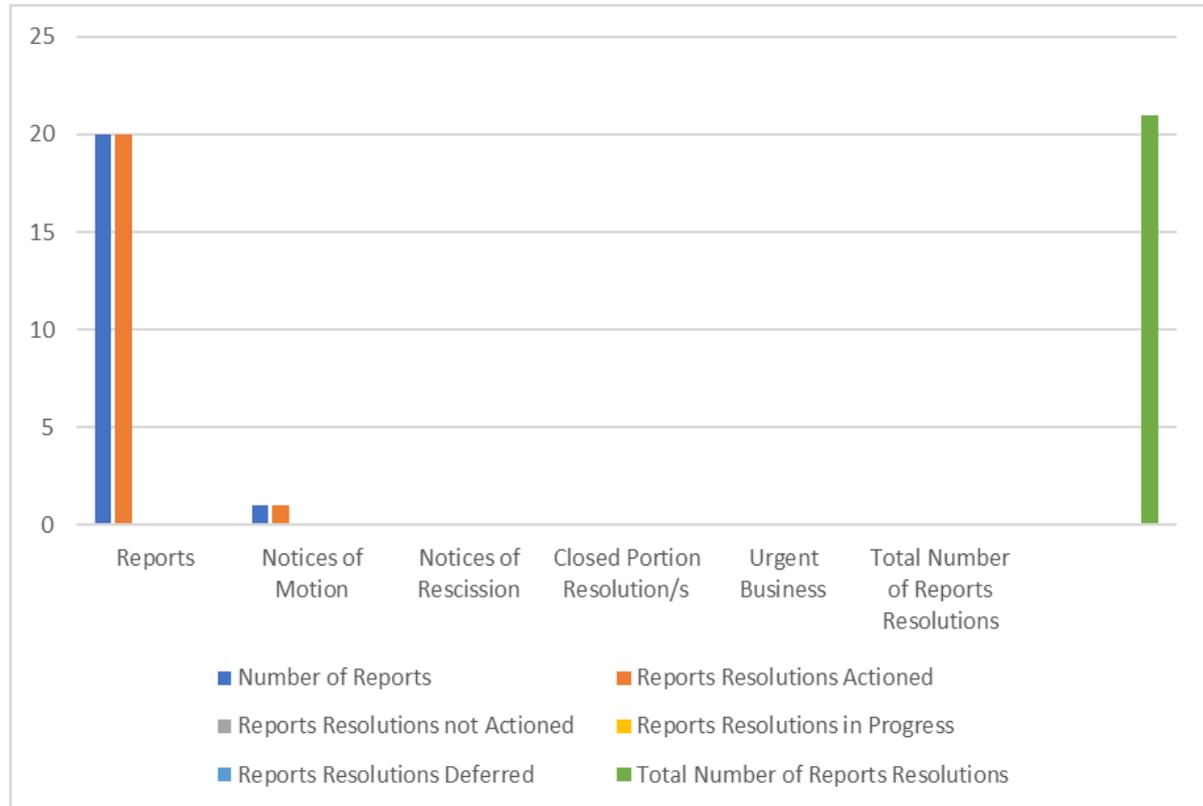
**WASTE MANAGEMENT REPORTING**  
**YEAR TO DATE - APRIL 2022**







**ACTIONING OF COUNCIL REPORTS RESOLUTIONS**  
**COUNCIL MEETING – 19 APRIL 2022**



**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS TO  
30 APRIL 2022**

*This Report is to advise the Executive Management Team, Councillors and the community of the status of previous Council resolutions which are in progress but are yet to be finalised.*

<b>Council Meeting Date</b>	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
<i>Nil</i>		

**REVIEW OF EXISTING COUNCIL POLICIES  
AND ADOPTION OF NEW POLICIES**

<b>Review of Policy / New Policy</b>	<b>Policy Name</b>	<b>Details</b>
<i>Nil</i>		

## **RECORDS OF INFORMAL COUNCIL BRIEFINGS / MEETINGS**

### **For period 1 to 30 April 2022**

Record in accordance with Council's Public Transparency Policy 2020

*Note: Details of matters discussed at the meeting that have been designated confidential under Rule 103 of the Governance Rules and sections 3 and 125 of the LG Act 2020 are described in a separate "confidential addendum" that will be reported to the next closed Council meeting*

**Name of Meeting:** Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 5 April 2022

**Time:** 11.00 am to 3.00 pm

**Attendees:**

Councillors

Laura Binks (Mayor)  
David Andrews  
Reg Dickinson  
Sally Hayes-Burke  
Kristy Hourigan  
Chris Raeburn

Officers

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)  
Amanda Tingay [Director, Community and Planning]  
David Roff (Director, Corporate Operations)  
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)  
Upul Sathurusinghe (Manager, Finance) *(Item 3)*  
Molly Odgers (Environment and Waste Co-Ordinator *(Item 4)*)  
Rachael Frampton (Manager, Community and Culture) *(Item 5)*  
Kate McKernan (Co-Ordinator Community Services and Inclusion *(Item 5)*)

Apologies:

Councillor Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)  
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Performance)

1. Councillors Discussions
2. Briefing on Planning Applications to be presented to April Council meeting / Objections
3. Budget Briefing/Update
4. Climate Change Action Plan Workshop
5. Australia Day – Council's future involvement

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s - NIL

Officer/s - NIL

## Record of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

Record in accordance with Council's Public Transparency Policy 2020

*Note: Details of matters discussed at the meeting that have been designated confidential under Rule 103 of the Governance Rules and sections 3 and 125 of the LG Act 2020 are described in a separate "confidential addendum" that will be reported to the next closed Council meeting*

**Name of Meeting:** Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 12 April 2022

**Time:** 11.00 am to 4.30 pm

**Attendees:**

Councillors

Laura Binks (Mayor)  
David Andrews  
Reg Dickinson  
Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)  
Chris Raeburn

Officers

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)  
David Roff (Director, Corporate Operations)  
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Performance)  
Molly Odgers (Environment and Waste Co-Ordinator *(Item 5)*)  
Braydon Aitken (Manager, Planning and Investment *(Item 6)*)

Apologies:

Councillor Sally Hayes-Burke  
Councillor Kristy Hourigan  
Amanda Tingay [Director, Community and Planning] (*participated virtually – Item 6*)  
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)

1. Councillors/CEO Discussions
2. Councillors Discussions
3. Rail Freight Alliance
4. Citizenship Ceremonies
5. Climate Change Action Plan
6. Review of draft April Council Meeting Agenda and Confidential Appendices

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s -

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Councillor/s who disclosed interest	Did the Councillor/s leave the meeting?
<i>Item 6 / 9.1.2</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>Cr Laura Binks</i>	<i>No</i>

Officer/s -

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
<i>Item 6 / 9.3.2</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>Director, Community and Planning</i>	<i>Yes (left meeting at 3.40 pm / returned at 3.43 pm)</i>

## Record of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

Record in accordance with Council's Public Transparency Policy 2020

*Note: Details of matters discussed at the meeting that have been designated confidential under Rule 103 of the Governance Rules and sections 3 and 125 of the LG Act 2020 are described in a separate "confidential addendum" that will be reported to the next closed Council meeting*

**Name of Meeting:** Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 19 April 2022

**Time:** 3.30 pm to 4.15 pm  
6.00 pm to 7.31 pm

**Attendees:**

Councillors

Laura Binks (Mayor)  
David Andrews  
Reg Dickinson  
Sally Hayes-Burke  
Kristy Hourigan

Officers

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)  
David Roff (Director, Corporate Operations)  
Amanda Tingay [Director, Community and Planning]  
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Performance)

Apologies:

Councillor Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)  
Councillor Chris Raeburn  
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)

1. Councillors Discussions
2. Council Meeting

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s -

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Councillor/s who disclosed interest	Did the Councillor/s leave the meeting?
<i>Item 2 / 9.1.2</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>Cr Laura Binks</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Item 2 / 9.4.2</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>Cr Kristy Hourigan</i>	<i>Yes (left meeting at 6.51 pm / returned at 6.53 pm)</i>

Officer/s -

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
<i>Item 2 / 9.3.2</i>	<i>128</i>	<i>Director, Community and Planning</i>	<i>Yes (left meeting at 6.35 pm / returned at 6.37 pm)</i>

## **9.6 EXECUTIVE**

### **9.6.1 Strathbogrie Shire Brand Renewal**

Author: Executive Manager Communications & Engagement

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Action 1.1.5 of Council's 2021-25 Council Plan is to prepare and adopt a Strathbogrie Shire Brand Strategy.

This action was included in the Council Plan after more than nine months of broad community engagement that provided Council with a clear understanding of our community's values and priorities.

Through hundreds of conversations, we heard people loved where they lived, they were proud of our region and felt lucky to live in Strathbogrie Shire.

To better represent the 'heart and soul' of our Shire and townships and to effectively engage with residents, community, tourists and business, Council Officers have created a renewed brand strategy.

The aim through the creative strategy and design is to:

- Reflect our community's vision for the future
- Facilitate the promotion of Strathbogrie Shire and our township's many unique offerings
- Instil pride and belonging with our local residents

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

##### ***That Council:***

- 1. Adopts the renewed Strathbogrie Shire Council Brand Strategy.***
- 2. Notes the expenditure of \$60,000 allocated in the 2021/22 Budget for updated town entry signage***
- 3. Notes the roll out of the new branding will start with our digital assets, at no cost, then through Council's ongoing maintenance and renewal program.***

#### **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

Strathbogrie Shire Council's renewed brand strategy is designed to:

- position the Strathbogrie Shire as a progressive, exciting, desirable regional location to live, work and play
- reflect our community's vision for the future
- facilitate the promotion of the Strathbogrie Shire's many unique offerings
- instil pride in our community and Council, and
- create a positive platform to launch new projects and initiatives.

### 9.6.1 Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal (cont.)

Council's current logo was approved in February 2015, with the Love Strathbogie tourism brand in 2013, however these branding strategies have had limited success and reach.

Mixed branding remains across the Shire and there has never been a consistent approach to Council documents, communications materials, or signage.

A renewed brand strategy does not simply address the aims outlined in the dot points above, it is the most efficient way (in terms of time and thus resources) to communicate with our community.

#### ***ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION***

Council is working hard to transform the organisation. Councillors and Council Officers are committed to being better, delivering for our community and responding to its needs.

It's a commitment that is based around key areas:

1. Communication
2. Consultation and engagement
3. Community-based decisions, and
4. Customer service.

The development of our 2022-2025 Council Plan shows our commitment to change. Through a broad engagement program, we developed a clear understanding of our community's values and priorities.

We asked our community why they loved living in Strathbogie Shire. We heard they loved:

- the sense of community
- the natural beauty of our creeks, tracks and trails
- green spaces, parks and gardens
- the spirit, the passion, the vibe, and
- the feeling of safety.

The Strathbogie Shire Community Panel identified the need for Council to provide 'strong support' for promoting tourism and our region's profile, supporting tourism and economic development.

Support for promoting the townships for their individual attractions and their name being the identity was also a request of Council during this engagement program.

This led us to consider the visual identity of our brand.

Strathbogie Shire has enormous potential for tourism expansion, economic diversity and increased investment.

However, we need to do more to capitalise on our strengths – our unique environment, communities, and key industries.

### 9.6.1 Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal (cont.)

The updated approach is flexible with elements that can collectively and separately identify the Council brand and a destination township brand.

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations.

The renewed branding reflects a Council that is connected, natural and contemporary. It conveys:

- A municipality that offers it all
- A place where good things grow – families, community, produce and business.

We used our Community Vision as a brief and the renewed design achieves this.

The font and use of the 'S' represent the landscape of the Strathbogie Ranges, the meandering path of our rivers, creeks and streams.

The deep purple colour reflects the colour that can be seen across the Shire as the sun sets over the ranges.

In particular, the flexible elements will allow Council to promote the Shire and individual townships.

#### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making.

To develop our 2021-25 Council Plan, we held hundreds of conversations with our community. We asked our community why they loved living in Strathbogie Shire, and we heard:

- I love the people and sense of community
- It's the natural beauty, creeks, tracks and trails,
- Green spaces, parks and gardens
- It's a safe place,
- We are active communities.

Our Strathbogie Shire Community Panel identified the need for Council to provide 'strong support' for promoting tourism and our region's profile, supporting tourism and economic development.

Submissions to the Council plan called on Council to promote our townships for their individual attractions and their name being the identity.

This feedback led us to consider our brand and question if it was representing the 'heart and soul' of our communities.

The brand renewal was included as an action in our Draft Council Plan under strategic focus area 1 – Engage. Create. Unite. This plan was subject to a public consultation period, before the final Council Plan was adopted at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, October 26, 2021.

### 9.6.1 Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal (cont.)

Council Officers have tested the brand strategy with Council's Tourism, Arts and Culture Advisory Group.

This group provided strong support for the brand strategy and updated logos. In particular the group agreed flexibility was key to work right across the Shire.

We heard some concern Council would 'takeover' other brand strategies used in our area. This is not the intention.

Our aim is position Council and our Shire as progressive and a great place to live, work and play. The brand strategy's flexible elements allow us to work alongside community and business groups to better represent the character of our individual townships.

#### ***POLICY CONSIDERATIONS***

##### ***Council Plans and Policies***

Council Plan 2021-2025: Strategic Area Focus 1: Engage. Create. Unite

Action 1.1.5 is to 'Prepare and adopt a Strathbogie Shire Brand Strategy'.

##### ***Regional, State and National Plans and Policies***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision-making.

List and discuss the regional, state and national plans/policies that are relevant to the report/issue.

##### ***Conflict of Interest Declaration***

All officers, and/or contractors, involved in the preparation of this report have signed a written declaration that they do not have a conflict of interest in the subject matter of this report.

##### ***Transparency***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

The decision to adopt a new brand strategy was made when the 2021/25 Council Plan was adopted at the Special Council Meeting on Tuesday, October 26, 2021. To ensure even greater public transparency this report notes the adoption of the new Brand Renewal.

#### ***FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

### 9.6.1 Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal (cont.)

The Strathbogie Shire brand renewal has been completed entirely in house by Council's graphic designer.

Council's 2021/22 Budget contains \$60,000 for new town entry signage, which will be expended to create new town entry signs using the renewed branding.

Council Officers will begin the roll out the new branding across our digital assets, at no cost, then through Council's ongoing maintenance and renewal program

#### ***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

#### **Economic**

The Strathbogie Shire has enormous potential for tourism expansion, economic diversity and increased investment; however, we face employer and business growth challenges through staff attraction and retention.

Without population growth and development, we will have limited economic growth.

This brand renewal will position Strathbogie Shire as a progressive, exciting, desirable regional location to live, work and play

#### **Social**

Branding is one of the most important aspects of a successful business and Strathbogie Shire Council is no different. It is the first impression we give to our community, our visitors, or businesses and those looking to invest in our region.

Branding is not just a logo. It is our voice, the way we stand out. It gives us credibility, consistency, helps us build confidence in our region and what we offer.

Branding is the most efficient way (in terms of time and thus resources) to communicate with our community.

#### **Environment**

Our renewed branding was built around the brand essence: A place of natural beauty. Our goal is to represent this through our many attributes including the Strathbogie Ranges, our tracks and trails, granite hills, waterways and Aboriginal culture.

#### **Climate change**

Action 16 of the Draft Climate Change Action Plan is Waste: Monitor paper use and implement paper saving measures across the organisation.

Renewed branding, and subsequent style guide, will ensure Council Officers have the tools to implement action 16 of this plan.

### 9.6.1 Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal (cont.)

#### ***INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is the pursuit of innovation and continuous improvement.

The brand renewal will:

- Position Strathbogie Shire as a progressive, exciting, desirable regional local to live, work and play
- Reflect our Community Vision
- To facilitate the promotion of our Shire and township's unique offerings
- Instil pride in our community and Council
- Create a positive platform to launch new projects and initiatives

#### ***CONCLUSION***

The Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal ensures Council is completing action 1.1.5 of Council's 2021-25 Council Plan.

It will provide a more consistent, professional, and innovative approach to branding and marketing to maximise impact and strengthen our identity.

Renewed branding will help Strathbogie Shire raise its profile outside our region, perhaps the most importantly, it reflects our Community Vision.

#### ***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Strathbogie Shire Brand Renewal

**10. NOTICES OF MOTION**

**11. NOTICES OF RESCISSION**

**12. URGENT BUSINESS**

**13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS**

**NEXT MEETING**

An Extraordinary Meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 7 June 2022, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, commencing at 4.00 pm. This meeting will be to hear submissions to Council's draft 2022/23 Budget, draft 2022/23 Financial Plan and draft 2022/23 Fees and Charges, and the 2021-2025 Council Plan Update.

The next monthly Meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday 21 June 2022, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, commencing at 6.00 pm

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