

Strathbogie Shire Council

Council Meeting Agenda

February 21, 2023

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which we strive, the peoples of the rivers and the hills of the Strathbogie Shire region who walked these lands for generations.

We pay our respects to the elders of the past, and the speakers of the first words, who lived in harmony with this country.

We acknowledge the elders of the present, who seek to regain their culture, and to teach the elders of the future their law, their history and their language.

We pay our respects to them and extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples today.

We honour their spirit – and the memory, culture, art and science of the world's oldest living culture through 60,000 years.

Agenda

Council Meeting

Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 6pm

Meeting to be held at the Euroa Community Conference Centre and livestreamed on Council's website:

<https://www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au/council/our-council/council-meetings-and-minutes/>

Council:

Cr Laura Binks (Mt Wombat Ward) – Mayor
Cr Paul Murray (Hughes Creek Ward) – Deputy Mayor
Cr David Andrews (Lake Nagambie Ward)
Cr Reg Dickinson (Lake Nagambie Ward)
Cr Sally Hayes-Burke (Seven Creeks Ward)
Cr Kristy Hourigan (Seven Creeks Ward)
Cr Chris Raeburn (Honeysuckle Creek Ward)

Officers:

Julie Salomon – Chief Executive Officer
Amanda Tingay – Director Community and Planning
Dawn Bray – Director People and Governance
Vlad Adamek – Director Sustainable Infrastructure
Kristin Favaloro – Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

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1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Country
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, December 13, 2022, be confirmed.

6. Petitions
7. Reports of Mayor and Councillors and Delegates
8. Public Question Time
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
February 17, 2023

Next meeting

The next monthly meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, at 6pm.

Public question time

Questions for the Ordinary Council Meeting can be submitted to be read, and responded to, by the Mayor during the Public Question Time. Questions must be submitted before 12 noon on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, by emailing info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au.

Public Question Time will be conducted as per Rule 31 of Strathbogie Shire Council's Governance Rules. The required [form](#) for completion and lodgement, and associated [Procedural Guidelines](#), can be found on Council's website at www.strathbogie.vic.gov.au.

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 in the Minutes of the meeting, together with a Council reference number.

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9. OFFICER REPORTS

9.1 STRATEGIC AND STATUTORY PLANNING

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206)

Author: Planning Officer

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The application is for a one hundred lot subdivision, including sixteen lots that are 320 square metres in area to accommodate town housing. The lots range in size from 320 to 1450 square metres. Access to the subdivision will be from Saleyard Road and Hovell Street, Avenel. Secondary connectivity with the adjacent subdivision at 1 Saleyard Road is also provided. The plans show reserves around the boundaries at points and a stormwater detention basin.

This subdivision is proposed to be undertaken in stages and that will be determined as the plans for certification are submitted.

There is a requirement to remove native vegetation with twenty-two trees deemed lost, due to encroachment in the Tree Protection Zone. Only four trees are physically proposed for removal, to facilitate the subdivision development. The Biodiversity Report provided was drawn up by an appropriately qualified officer and the three-step approach has been carried out which is avoid, minimise, offset. DELWP have given conditional consent.

The proposal was referred to the utility providers; the CFA regarding fire hydrant and road design for emergency vehicles; to DELWP regarding the native vegetation removal; to the Mangalore Airport management due to the Airport Environs Overlay being partially applied to the site; to the Head of Transport for Victoria given the number of lots ensuring the connectivity to the transport network is satisfactory; and to Council's Engineers to ensure that all civil infrastructure, management of the site during and after construction, is achieved to a satisfactory conclusion. All have given conditional consent to the proposal.

The proposal was also advertised to adjacent and nearby owners, and occupiers and included posts in the Euroa Gazette and Seymour Telegraph. Fourteen objections have been received. These are discussed in detail in the attached Planning Report and the matters to do with civil infrastructure can be addressed by plans for drainage and road upgrades to the area and adjacent to the subdivision.

In summary the proposal provides for a variety of lot sizes 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 provides for a choice of lot sizes within Avenel township to meet the demographics that have been identified in population growth attracted to the area. The location of this subdivision allows for infill development within the township and although bringing more folk to town, does not create sprawl and allows the nature of the township to be retained.

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When assessed against the planning scheme, it is considered that the proposal weights in favour of support and it is therefore recommended that a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit be issued.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. ***Having caused notice of Planning Application No. P2022-098 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 TP390206 V4001 F170 Parish of Avenel and CA1 Parish of Avenel), 3 Saleyard Road, Avenel VIC 3664, for a Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal, in accordance with endorsed plans, subject to 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.***

Airport Environs Overlay Building Construction and Siting Requirements
Section 173 Agreement

2. ***Prior to the issue of Statement of Compliance for the first stage of the development, a Section 173 Agreement must be entered into that provides for the following requirements:***
 - a) ***Any new building must be constructed so as to comply with any noise attenuation measures required by Section 3 of Australian Standard AS 2021-2015, Acoustics - Aircraft Noise Intrusion - Building Siting and Construction, issued by Standards Australia Limited. Please note - In Section 3 of Australian Standard AS 2021-2015, Table 3.3 refers to both building types and activities within those buildings. Each building type listed has its ordinary meaning and should not be interpreted as defined in this scheme.***

General Amenity:

3. ***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.***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

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.***
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 for Stage 1 of the development, 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 for each stage, 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.***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Street Addressing:

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

Engineering:

10. ***Prior to the Certification of the plan of subdivision for each stage, surveyor plans must be submitted for the approval of the Responsible Authority. The plan must show:***
- a) ***All bearings, distances, levels, street names, lot numbers, lot sizes, reserves, and easements.***
 - b) ***Road Reserve, carriageway, and verge widths***
 - c) ***Other information relevant to the land such as dams, wells, filled land, land subject to inundation, creeks, and natural water courses, etc.***
11. ***Prior to the Certification of the plan of subdivision for stage one of the development. Traffic Management Strategy (TMS), Stormwater Management Strategy (SMS), and Outline Development Plan (ODS) must be submitted for the approval of the Responsible Authority.***
- a) ***The developer must provide a Traffic Management Strategy conforming with Clause 9 of the Council's Infrastructure Design Manual for consideration of the responsible Authority.***
 - b) ***The developer must provide a stormwater management strategy conforming with clause 11 of the council Infrastructure Design Manual for consideration by the Responsible Authority and also Demonstrate how the catchment flows are to be conveyed to the LPOD (Hughes Creek).***

Road

12. ***Prior to final design approval, detailed design plans for all proposed roadways and pathways must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. All the works must conform to plans and specifications prepared at the expense of the developer by a suitably qualified engineer and approved by the Responsible Authority prior to the commencement of construction. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Authority will only approve plans and specifications complying with the council's Infrastructure Design Manual's clause 12. In particular, the design plans must include:***
- a) ***fully sealed road pavement with kerb and channel;***
 - b) ***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;***
 - c) ***footpaths and shared paths as appropriate;***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

- d) underground drainage;*
- e) appropriate intersection and traffic control/mitigation measures;*
- f) on-street parking (where applicable);*
- g) appropriate street lighting and signage;*
- h) high stability permanent survey marks;*
- i) provision of suitable traffic management measures to mitigate vehicles in the form of cars from entering the reserve and basin land where the road reservation abuts;*
- j) where stub roads remain at the conclusion of each stage, arrangements must be made to ensure temporary court bowls, secured by an easement of way or similar, are designed, constructed and fenced, and that the permanent sealed road surfaces are not damaged by traffic using these unsealed court bowl areas;*
- k) a certified plan showing the extent and depth of fill in excess of 300 mm placed on any allotment must be provided to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority;*
- l) services and street lights.*

Road Upgrades

13. **Prior to the construction the developer must upgrade the developer must upgrade Hovell Street, Saleyard Road, and Ewings Road, which must be upgraded in accordance with Endorsed Plan(s) approved plans by the Responsible Authority. The plans must also consider any recommendation from the Traffic Impact Assessment Report (TIAR). The plans must be drawn up by a suitably qualified engineer at the expense of the developer. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, the Responsible Authority will only approve plans and specifications complying with Council's Infrastructure Design Manual. The works must include:**

- a) fully sealed pavement with kerb and channel;*
- b) footpaths and shared paths as appropriate;*
- c) underground drainage;*
- d) appropriate intersection and traffic control/mitigation measures;*
- e) appropriate street lighting and signage;*
- f) high stability permanent survey marks; and*
- g) all disused or redundant vehicle crossings must be removed and reinstated to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Common Access

14. ***Prior to approval of the final design, detailed design plans for any areas set aside for common access must be submitted for approval, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The plans must include the following in accordance with Council's adopted 'Infrastructure Design Manual':***
- a) Dimensioned common access roadway and verge***
 - b) Concrete pavement design (or equivalent) for the common access incorporating kerb and channel.***
 - c) Common area set aside for rubbish and mail collection.***
 - d) Drainage design.***
 - e) Vehicle crossing for each lot.***
 - f) Landscape plan.***
 - g) Treatments.***

Stormwater Management, Drainage, and Treatment

15. ***Prior to approval of the final design, a properly prepared Drainage Discharge Plan with computations as per the Infrastructure Design Manual, must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions and a minimum of three copies must be provided. The Drainage infrastructure system design must incorporate and be capable of storage for a 100-year storm event in accordance with IDM clause 18. The location of any required storage capacity detention/ retardation areas must be shown generally in accordance with stormwater management strategies and certified plans. The information and plans must include:***
- a) Details of how the works on the land are to be drained and/or retarded.***
 - 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.***
 - d) Underground pipe drains convey stormwater to the legal point of discharge for each allotment.***
 - e) Measures to provide required stormwater treatment from the site as per IDM clause 20 and protect waterways downstream of the development, Output from MUSIC, and design calculation summaries of the treatment elements is required.***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

- f) A maximum discharge rate from the site is to be determined by computation to the satisfaction of the council.*
 - g) Documentation demonstrating approval from the relevant authority for the legal point of discharge.*
 - h) The provision of gross pollutant and/or litter traps installed at the drainage outfall of the development to ensure that no effluent or polluted water of any type may be allowed to enter the council's stormwater drainage system.*
 - i) The details of the incorporation of water-sensitive urban design designed in accordance with "urban stormwater best practice environmental management guidelines" 1999.*
 - j) The contours of the land, as shaped to cause drainage to the legal point of discharge.*
 - k) The proposed finish surface level of each lot and the finished slope of each lot.*
 - l) Indication of extent and depth of cut and/or fill to be carried out to the natural profile of the land.*
- 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. No effluent or polluted water of any type may be allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.**
- 17. Drainage Basin is designed as a free draining and fully functioning treatment and retardation basin, providing for the following:**
- a) meet the Objectives of Clause 18 (Retardation Basins) of the Council's IDM.*
 - b) designed in such a way to withstand and contain the 1% AEP flood event effects from the development site and any impacting effects from upstream catchments, including freeboard.*
 - c) the area is made safe for public access, or by agreement, constructed in such a way to prohibit public access, with allowance for maintenance and emergency services.*

Landscape Plan

- 18. Prior to the works commencing for, 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.*

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

- b) Landscaping of any proposed retardation basin and its surrounds and other proposed public land within the subdivision.***
- 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) Vehicle access points for each lot in the subdivision.***
- g) Details of all pathways linking parts of the development including the surface finishes.***
- h) 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.***
- i) The removal of all existing disused structures, foundations, pipelines or stockpiles and the eradication of weeds,***
- j) All trees planted as part of the landscape works shall have a minimum height of 2.0 to 3m at the time of planting.***
- k) 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),***
- l) 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.***
- m) Mechanisms for the exclusion of vehicles,***
- n) 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).***
- o) 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.***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

19. ***Street trees must be maintained for a period 24 months, or until the developer can demonstrate that the plantings have become established from the date of acceptance of the works to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. Any dead, dying or diseased trees are to be replaced within 24 months of the date of acceptance of the works.***
20. ***Prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, the nature-strip and all disturbed areas are to be topsoiled and seeded to establish grass cover. Alternative finishes may be approved by written agreement.***
21. ***Prior to issue of Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development 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.***

Construction Management Plan

22. ***Prior to the commencement of works, including demolition and excavation, a Construction Management Plan must be submitted to and endorsed by the Responsible Authority. No works are permitted to occur until the Plan has been approved by the Responsible Authority. The plan must provide details of the following:-***
 - a) ***Hours for construction activity in accordance with any other condition of this Permit;***
 - b) ***Measures to control noise, dust, water and sediment laden runoff;***
 - c) ***Measures to inform adjacent residents of work schedules, etc.***
 - 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) ***A Traffic Management Plan showing truck routes to and from the site;***
 - g) ***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;***
 - h) ***A plan showing the location and design of a vehicle wash-down bay for construction vehicles on the site;***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

- i) Measures to ensure that sub-contractors / tradespersons operating on the site are aware of the contents of the Construction Management Plan;*
 - j) Contact details of key construction site staff;*
 - k) 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; and*
 - l) Any other relevant matters*
23. *Prior to the commencement of works, a Site Environment Management Plan (SEMP), must be submitted to and approved by the responsible authority and, where relevant, other authorities.*
24. *Prior to the Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, all approved designs must be constructed as per approved plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*

As- Constructed Plans

25. *Prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, the developer must provide as-constructed information for all infrastructure created by this development, and passing into the ownership and control of the Council in accordance with the council's Infrastructure Design Manual, and be submitted to and accepted by the Responsible Authority. The following must be submitted:*
- a) an assets statement for each street;*
 - b) 'as - constructed' information for the entire works area as per approved civil construction plans in each development stage detailing information as listed in the council's 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) certified as-constructed information presented as being true and correct; and*
 - e) information to be presented in pdf., dwg., D, and R SPEC formats, or unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Authority.*

Fees and Charges

26. *Before the Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, the developer must make a payment comprising up to 2.5% of the value of the works, to the Responsible Authority, for supervising the works on the land.*

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

27. ***Before the Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, the developer must make a payment comprising of 0.75% of the value of the works to the Responsible Authority, for checking of the engineering design of the works.***
28. ***Prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, the developer must provide the Responsible Authority with a maintenance bond for the total costs of roads, drainage and landscaping works (excluding GST) and the calculated amount based on the priced Bill of Quantities and lodged with Council for the term of the Defect Liability Period. The Authority will hold the bond(s) until any and all defects notified to the developer before or during the liability period have been made good to the satisfaction of the authority. A request must be made to Council for their release and maintenance bond(s) shall be to the following value:***
- a) equal to 5% of roads, drainage, and hard landscaping-related infrastructure.***

Defect Liability

29. ***Prior to the issue of the Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, all works must be constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. All works are subject to a twelve-month liability period, as per IDM clause 8.***

General

30. ***Prior to the Certification for each stage of the development, any easements for the purpose of draining lots to the legal point of discharge must be created.***
31. ***Prior to the issue of the Statement of Compliance for each stage of the development, the subdivider developer must construct/provide vehicle crossing to each and every lot and/or reserve within the subdivision development in accordance with Council's Infrastructure Design Manual standards. Alternatively, vehicle crossings are not required to be constructed where a mountable kerb and channel (SM2-M) is used.***
32. ***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: -Civil construction, building, and demolition guide (EPA publication No. 1834, November 2020); and***
33. ***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.***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

34. *The permit holder shall ensure that dust suppression is undertaken in the form of constant water spraying or another 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 surround properties to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The development shall not have an adverse impact on existing or future air quality.*
35. *Soil erosion control measures must be employed throughout the construction stage of the development to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*
36. *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.*
37. *All earthworks and lot filling must be in accordance with Clause 15 (Earthworks and Lot filling) of the Council's Infrastructure Design Manual.*
38. *No excavated or construction materials may be placed or stored outside the site area or on the adjoining road reserves, except where the materials are required in connection with any road or footpath construction works in such reserves that are required as part of this permit.*
39. *Care must be taken to preserve the condition of existing infrastructure adjacent to the site. If any damage to existing infrastructure occurs as a result of this development, the affected infrastructure must be replaced, and the full cost met, by the developer, to the specification and satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.*
40. *No such contaminants will be permitted to enter the stormwater drainage system under any reasonably foreseeable circumstances.*
41. *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).*
42. *Prior to the issue of a statement of compliance all internal street names and speed limit signs must be erected.*

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Asset Protection

43. ***Prior to the commencement of works, the owner or developer must submit to the Responsible Authority a written asset protection 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 on 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.***

Country Fire Authority:

Hydrants

44. ***Prior to the issue of a 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 web site (www.cfa.vic.gov.au)***

Roads

45. ***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 meters. 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 60m in length from the nearest intersection must have a turning circle with a minimum radius of 8m (including roll-over kerbs if they are provided) T or Y heads of dimensions specified by the CFA may be used as alternatives.***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

Notification of permit conditions

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

Protection of native vegetation to be retained

47. ***Before works start, a native vegetation protection fence must be erected around all native vegetation to be retained within 15 metres of the works area. This fence must be erected at:***

- a) ***A radius of 12 times the diameter of the tree trunk at a height of 1.4 metres to a maximum of 15 metres but no less than 2 metres from the base of the trunk of the tree; and***
- b) ***Around the patch(es) of native vegetation at a minimum distance of 2 metres from retained native vegetation.***
- c) ***The fence must be constructed of star pickets and paraweb or similar, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority and the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The protection fence must remain in place until all works are completed to the satisfaction of the department.***

Protection of retained vegetation

48. ***Except with the written consent of the department, within the area of native vegetation to be retained and any tree protection zone associated with the permitted use and/or development, the following is prohibited:***

- a) ***vehicular or pedestrian access;***
- b) ***trenching or soil excavation;***
- c) ***storage or dumping of any soils, materials, equipment, vehicles, machinery or waste products;***
- d) ***construction of entry and exit pits for underground services; or***
- e) ***any other actions or activities that may result in adverse impacts to retained native vegetation.***

Native vegetation offsets

49. ***The total area of native vegetation permitted to be removed is 0.406 hectares, as identified in Native Vegetation Removal Report 364-20220630-015. To offset the removal of 0.406 hectares of native vegetation the permit holder must secure a native vegetation offset(s) that meets all the following:***

- a) ***A general offset of 0.185 general habitat units located within the Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority boundary or Strathbogie Shire Council;***
- b) ***have a Strategic Biodiversity Value score of at least 0.348;***
- c) ***provide protection for at least 11 large trees;***
- d) ***must be in accordance with the Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation (DELWP, 2017).***

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Offset evidence

50. Before any native vegetation is removed, evidence that the required offset for the project has been secured must be provided to the satisfaction of the responsible authority. This evidence must be an established first party offset site. This must include:

- a management plan detailing the 10-year management actions and ongoing management of the site to the satisfaction of the Strathbogie Shire Council.**

This evidence must be one or both of the following.

- a) Every year, for ten years, after the responsible authority has approved the offset management plan, the applicant must provide notification of the management actions undertaken towards implementing the offset management plan, to the department. An offset site condition statement, including photographs must be included in this notification;**

and/or

- b) credit extract(s) allocated to meet the requirements of the permit from the Native Vegetation Credit Register.**

A copy of the offset evidence must be endorsed by the responsible authority and form part of this permit.

Within 30 days of endorsement of the offset evidence by the responsible authority, the permit holder must provide a copy of the endorsed offset evidence to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning at p&a.north@delwp.vic.gov.au.

Where habitat trees (i.e. hollow bearing, containing nests etc.) are impacted, they must be inspected by an ecologist immediately prior to removal and any occupying fauna relocated with the appropriate permissions from DELWP under the Wildlife Act 1975 or Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988.

Goulburn Valley Water:

51. Payment of new customer contribution charges for water supply to the development, such amount being determined by the Corporation at the time of payment;

52. 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;

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

- 53. Downstream Water Supply network augmentation works are required;**
- 54. Provision of one water tapping per lot at the developer's expense, in accordance with standards of construction adopted by and to the satisfaction of the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation;**
- 55. Payment of new customer contributions charges for sewerage services to the development, such amount being determined by the Corporation at the time of payment;**
- 56. 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 will include, but not be limited to the construction of a sewerage pumping station, rising mains and gravity mains);**
- 57. Reserves for sewage pump stations to be in favour of Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation. The reserve must be adequately sized to enable unrestricted access to the sewage pump station for operation and maintenance purposes. The reserve must not be encumbered by any easements.**
- 58. Augmentation works i.e. pump station upgrade will also be required to service the proposed development;**
- 59. Provision of easements in favour of the Goulburn Valley Region Water Corporation over all existing and proposed sewer mains located within private property;**
- 60. 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;**
- 61. 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.**

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

AusNet Electricity Services:

62. 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.*
- *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.*

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Department of Transport:

63. *Before the plan of subdivision is submitted to the Responsible Authority for certification under the Subdivision Act 1988 unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Head, Transport for Victoria, a Functional Layout Plan for the intersection of proposed Subdivisional Road and Great Alpine Road must be submitted to and approved by the Head, Transport for Victoria. When approved by the Head, Transport for Victoria, the plans must be endorsed by the Responsible Authority and will then form part of the permit. The plans must show the following:*
- a) *Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR) and Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL) at the intersection of Bank Street & Hovell Street.*
 - b) *Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR) and Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL) at the intersection of Bank Street & Planck Street intersection.*
 - c) *Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR) and Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL) at the intersection of Bank Street & Saleyard Road intersection.*
64. *Prior to the issue of a Statement of Compliance unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Head, Transport for Victoria, the following roadworks on Great Alpine Road must be completed to the satisfaction of and at no cost to the Head, Transport for Victoria unless otherwise agreed in writing by the Head, Transport for Victoria:*
- a) *Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR) and Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL) at the intersection of Bank Street & Hovell Street.*
 - b) *Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR) and Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL) at the intersection of Bank Street & Planck Street intersection.*
 - c) *Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR) and Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL) at the intersection of Bank Street & Saleyard Road intersection.*
 - d) *Any other works required.*

VicTrack:

65. *At all times the common boundary with the railway land must be fenced with a 1.8m paling or black chain mesh fence and must be repaired and maintained all at no cost to the VicTrack to prohibit unauthorised access to the rail corridor.*
66. *Any replacement, repair or reconstruction of any fence on the boundary to railway land must be in accordance with VicTrack's requirements.*
67. *No drainage, effluent, waste, soil or other materials must enter, be stored or be directed to railway land.*

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Expiry of Permit – Subdivision:

68. 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.*
- c) *For staged plans, certification must be gained within two years from the date of certification of the previous stage.*

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

Engineering

- *Prior to works commencing on public land or roads, the applicant must obtain a permit from the relevant authority giving Consent to Work within a Road Reserve.*

Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning

- *The department advises that works or other activities on public land, which may affect protected native plants, will require a Protected Flora Licence or Permit under the Flora and Fauna Guarantee Act 1988 (FFG). All native vegetation likely to be affected should be checked against the Protected Flora List (DELWP 2017) to determine whether FFG approvals are required. Protected Flora Permits can be obtained from the regional DELWP office (p&a.north@delwp.vic.gov.au).*
- *Offset requirements are determined in accordance with DELWP (2017) Guidelines for the removal, destruction or lopping of native vegetation. Proposed offset sites must meet eligibility requirements including land use, bushfire risk, quality of vegetation and size of vegetation site. Please visit <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/native-vegetation/native-vegetation> for further information.*

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 Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

Department of Transport

- ***Separate consent for works within the road reserve and the specifications of these works is required under the Road Management Act 2004. For the purposes of this application the works will include provision of:***
 - i. Basic Right-turn Treatment (BAR)***
 - ii. Basic Left-turn Treatment (BAL)***
 - iii. Any other works required.***

End of Conditions

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The report to Council is in response to Officer Delegations and receipt of more than five objections to a planning application. A total of fourteen objections have been received.

The proposal is to subdivide the land into one hundred lots and remove native vegetation to enable the development and provision of utilities and road upgrades.

The lots range in size from just over 320 sqm (x 16 which are proposed for townhouse development) and then the larger lots from 693sqm to 1450sqm.

The access is proposed from Hovell Street and Saleyard Road with an interconnection through the subdivision at 1 Saleyard both via a road and a pedestrian pathway.

An area of reserve along the frontage at Hovell Street and along Ewings Road is set aside and a reserve has also been proposed within the subdivision.

The subdivision is proposed to be undertaken in stages and this will be determined when plans are submitted for certification.

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The purple lots are the larger lots ranging from 1000sqm to 1450sqm.

The blue lots are the lots that range from 693sqm to 968sqm.

The pink lots are the smaller lots that range in size from 320 sqm to 325sqm.

This proposal is one of two in this location the other being P2020-127 for a twenty-seven lot subdivision.

Saleyard Road (and surrounding as per the requirements of Council's Engineering in discussion with VicRoads) 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.

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (cont.)

The removal of the native vegetation to enable the subdivision development has been minimised in accordance with the 'Guidelines' and an offset will be provided. This offset is unlikely to be within the vicinity. The vegetation to be impacted by the subdivision comprises 22 native tree species which includes 11 large trees and equates to a total extent of 0.406 hectares. The assessment has concluded that although this area is identified as an Endangered Ecological Vegetation Class, due to there being less than 0.5ha of total removal proposed, the removal will not have a significant impact on habitat for a rare or threatened species. Of these only four are proposed to be removed with the remainder deemed lost due to Tree Protection Zone encroachment.

Due to the proposed removal, an offset is required and this equates to providing for a General Offset of an amount equating to 0.185 general habitat units (with a minimum strategic biodiversity value score of 0.348) to be provided for within the Goulburn Broken Catchment area or Strathbogie Shire.

The site is within the Airport Environs Overlay given the proximity of the Mangalore Airport. To protect those dwellings potentially located within it from aircraft noise, a requirement through a Section 173 Agreement ensures they will be constructed to the standards required to mitigate any impact. There are only a small number of lots along the western boundary that are within it. A public open space contribution has been required and this will assist in either maintaining and enhancing existing or providing for new open space for public use within Avenel and will align with Council's Open Space policy. The proposal supports the purpose of the zone and is supported by relevant policy throughout the planning scheme. The proposal meets the objectives of Clause 56. Local strategic direction identifies the larger infill lots within the township, that are zoned for residential development, should be encouraged to be subdivided to provide for a range of lot sizes to meet the demand from the population growth projected, and their demographics. By utilising existing large infill lots it is hoped that the character of the town can be maintained to a certain extent, by minimising sprawl into the surrounding hills and farmland.

9.1.1 Planning Application P2022-098: Multi Lot Residential Subdivision and Native Vegetation Removal ~ 3 Saleyard Road Avenel VIC 3666 (comprising CA1 Parish of Avenel & Lot 1 TP390206) (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 Strathbogie 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.

This application is to be determined by Council in accordance with Council's Planning Permit Applications Referral to Council Policy.

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.

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

- sending letters to adjoining landowners
- Placing (a) sign on site
- Notification of the application on Council's website.

Fourteen objections/submissions have been received.

The matters raised are detailed in the Planning Officer Report attached however the primary matters raised are -

- Upgrades to the roads and drainage required and how they will impact the residents during construction.
- Amenity impacts during construction of the subdivision and from the growth being promoted.

A site visit has been carried out.

Consultation has been undertaken with the objectors by way of a meeting in Avenel on 9 February 2023 at Avenel Hub whereby objectors were able to speak with the planning team and engineering team members about their concerns raised and draft plans were provided for reference.

Further information is contained within the Planning Officer Report as attached.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan – the proposal provides for connected living for a growing population where no net loss to the biodiversity is addressed, public open space is required for health and wellbeing, and the balance of statutory timeframes, engagement with the community and service to the applicant have been weighed up.

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.

- *Hume Regional Growth Plan 2014*
- *Avenel Neighbourhood Character Study 2009*
- *Avenel 2030 Strategy*

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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 has been assessed under the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and 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.

The Assessing Officer has no conflict of interest regarding this application.

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 fourteen objections in accordance with Council's Planning Permit Applications, Referral to Council Policy. Hearing, the application in the public meeting will allow all parties the opportunity to be heard by the councillors prior to a decision 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.

Potential future costs to Council could be incurred through a VCAT appeal lodged by –

- *The applicant for a failure to determine*
- *The permit holder regarding conditions*
- *Objectors against a Notice of Decision to Grant a Planning Permit*

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

There are no broader economic implications from the proposal or as a result of this application.

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Social

The proposal will provide for additional residents within the Avenel Township. The development will provide for upgraded roads and footpaths, which will provide for a better level of connectivity for residents within the township.

Environmental

The development has been designed to consider the relevant environmental impacts. Native Vegetation Removal has been kept to the minimum extent necessary with a number of large trees being retained as part of the proposal. The application proposes a stormwater management system that will see on-site retention and treatment and the proposal provides for a separate open space reserve.

Climate change

The Strathbogie Planning Scheme has incorporated broader considerations on Climate Change and any works would be required to comply with relevant legislation.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no human rights implications.

CONCLUSION

Following an assessment of the application against the relevant requirements of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme, it is recommended that a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit is issued.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Officer Report (*separate document*)

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022

Author: Strategic Planner

Responsible Director: Director Community & Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Strathbogie Planning Scheme sets out the policies and provisions for the use and development of land within the Strathbogie Shire.

Under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, a planning scheme must be reviewed regularly to ensure it remains current. This includes strategic direction, addressing key issues currently facing the municipality, and anticipating any potential challenges into the future.

Section 12B (1)(a) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 states a planning authority which is a municipal council must undertake a planning scheme review:

- no later than one year after each date by which it is required to approve a Council Plan under section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020.

The purpose of a planning scheme review is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of the planning scheme by meeting:

- The objectives of planning in Victoria
- The objectives and strategies of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme, Including the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) and Municipal Planning Statement (MPS)
- A thorough review of the schemes provisions, such as the local planning policies, Zones, Overlays and Schedules, and whether they facilitate the objectives and strategies of the planning scheme.

Following a procurement process, Strathbogie Shire appointed SD Planning to undertake the planning scheme review, which began in December of 2021. The consultation undertaken as part of the review identified 5 key themes:

- Neighborhood Character
- Sustainable Development
- Connectivity
- High Quality Commercial, Residential & Industrial Developments; and
- Vegetation and Environment.

The priority strategic work identified as part of the review will give consideration to these key themes.

Overall, the Strathbogie Planning Scheme is operating effectively. The settlement narrative in the scheme is clear, however, there are some strategic gaps in the planning scheme. These have been identified as part of the review and the strategic work program with an integrated approach as to achieve the overarching goals and actions set out in Strathbogie Council Plan (2021-2025).

This planning scheme review is required to be submitted to the Minister for Planning as stipulated in section 12B(5) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022 (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022.

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Following a competitive procurement process, SD Planning was appointed to prepare the Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review.

The objective of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review is to:

- Meet the Requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Section 12B), which stipulates that a planning scheme must be reviewed within one year of the completion of a new Council Plan; and,
- Review how well the Strathbogie Planning Scheme is aligned with the intent of the Council Plan.

The Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review does not make changes to the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. It is an audit of the scheme, which provides recommendations about what actions need to be taken.

Additionally, the review outlines the strategic work necessary to continue to facilitate good orderly development, by providing strategic justification for future work programs. This will inform future budget allocations and as well as applications to State or Federal grant funding opportunities (when they become available) to achieve the requirements of the work program.

This review provides:

- Recommendations for future strategic work required, as well as a program for action;
- Recommendations for how the local content can be rewritten to improve clarity, performance, and include new local directions and respond to State Government changes; and,
- An overview of how well the local content of the Scheme is aligned with the new Planning Policy Framework (PPF), strategic outcomes of the Council Plan and opportunities to provide further support.

This planning scheme review is required to be submitted to the Minister for Planning as stipulated in section 12B(5) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

The planning scheme review also audits the operation of the Statutory Planning team, the main findings are:

- Council has achieved a high level of statutory compliance in its processing of planning permits. In particular, delegate assessments demonstrated high competency and understanding of key issues associated with the application.
- The statistics and processing times should be commended.

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022 (cont.)

- There are a few areas for improvement that could further enhance the process and provide for good decision making, particularly concerning documenting pre-application meetings and on-site inspections (this is already being addressed via the better planning approvals project).
- Better technology is required to aid the ability for Council to receive applications online as well as ensure that external users can view the planning register.

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.

The report has identified a recommended further work program which consists of:

High Priorities:

- Rural Residential & Rural Land Use Strategy (underway)
- Nagambie Industrial Development Plan (underway)
- Avenel Township Strategy Review (underway)
- Combined Planning Scheme Amendment and Planning Permit – Dookie Violet Town Road, Violet Town (underway)
- Update Municipal Planning Statement (not commenced)
- Planning Scheme Amendment C80- Combined permit amendment 401 High Street, Nagambie (underway)
- Planning Scheme Amendment C52 - Flood amendment to introduce updated flood modelling for Euroa, Violet Town and Nagambie (underway)
- Settlement Strategy (not commenced)
- Update Public Open Space Policy to leverage developer contributions (not commenced)

Medium Priorities:

- Planning Scheme Amendment C85 – Residential Rezoning from Farming Zone to General Residential Zone Murray St, Nagambie (underway)

Low Priorities:

- A planning scheme amendment to implement land use documents such as Euroa Township Strategy into the Planning Scheme. (Not commenced)
- Update the Violet Town District Strategic Development Plan (underway)
- Anomalies Planning Scheme Amendment (not commenced)
- Planning Scheme Amendment to update schedules to Environmental Significance Overlay (not commenced)

These priorities have been derived from the 2021-2025 Council Plan and the consultation process forming part of the review, in association with relevant sections stipulated by the *Planning & Environment Act 1987*.

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.

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022 (cont.)

Extensive engagement was undertaken as part of the planning scheme review to identify issues relating to the performance of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. As well as to understand stakeholder's expectations, how they understand the planning scheme and its processes, and how they think it can be improved.

The community engagement plan for this project included the following:

Engagement Depth: Involve

Public participation goal: To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public concerns and aspirations are consistently understood and considered.

Promise to the public: We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and aspirations are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision.

In developing the Review, general and targeted consultation has taken place with the following stakeholders:

- Councillors
- Council Officers
- Department of Environment Land Water and Planning
- Goulburn Broken Catchment Management Authority
- Goulburn Murray Water
- Environment Protection Authority
- Country Fire Authority
- Frequent applicants to Strathbogie Shire Council.

The consultation process included:

- Two workshops with Strathbogie Shire Council. The first was held on 15 May 2022 with Councillors and another on 13 September 2022 with council officers.
- Four one-on-one meetings with external referral agencies
- Internet survey was sent to a range of stakeholders and agencies for completion.
- Survey hosted on Share Strathbogie webpage
- Council Planners also undertook Talk To A Planner Day's at Violet Town, Graytown, Avenel, Euroa, Ruffy, Strathbogie, Nagambie and Longwood. Planners were available for one-on-one's all day for each session.

Throughout the engagement process the following themes were raised:

Theme	General synopsis
Neighborhood Character	Planting more vegetation within developments and commercial centers. Consider climate change when assessing developments. Develop schedules to protect existing character, have them represent country developments not metro. Have wider roads and footpaths in new developments.

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022 (cont.)

Sustainable Development	Asking developers to provide more social infrastructure. Overcrowding of housing on small blocks when all the houses on bare blocks have multiple air conditioners and heaters running constantly thereby impacting upon the lifestyle of neighbours as well as creating greenhouse gases. Unnecessarily creating urban heat islands and concrete jungles.
Connectivity	Reduce parking and use more traffic calming measures to prioritise walking and cycling.
Commercial, residential & industrial developments	Lack of industrial land. Poor service availability, reliability and capability.
Vegetation & Environment	Protection of native vegetation. More of a focus on climate change. More enforcement of unlawful removal of native vegetation. Planting more vegetation

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The adoption of this report finalises action 4.1.2 of the 2021-2025 Strathbogie Shire Council Plan to “complete a review of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme”.

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 planning scheme review is a legislative requirement under section 12 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*.

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 adoption and progression of the review report identified themes and recommendations ensures compliance with Section 12B of the *Planning 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.

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 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 review has undertaken extensive engagement with the general public, referral authorities and major users of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme. This engagement process is detailed in appendix D of the Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review Report.

This report is being discussed in a Council meeting open to the public.

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 review outlines the strategic work necessary to continue to facilitate good orderly development, by providing strategic justification for future work programs. This will inform future budget allocations and as well as applications to State or Federal grant funding opportunities (when they become available) to achieve the requirements of the work 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 work undertaken as part of this review process enables Council to consider long term strategic priorities which assist with facilitating considered development and contributing to economic development throughout the Shire.

Social

The recommendation assists in providing direction with recommendations for guiding development through land use planning for the community.

Environmental

The review report considers how the planning scheme can assist with guiding sustainable development that will protect and enhance our natural environment.

Climate change

The Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review supports the ongoing advocacy work of the Environmentally Sustainable Design (ESD) amendment and associated principals. The review also identifies actions to implement climate change objectives into the Municipal Planning Strategy within the Strathbogie Planning Scheme.

9.1.2 Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 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.

The Strathbogie Planning Scheme is a continuous improvement process. The review identifies actions and outcomes for internal process improvements and a strategic work program to facilitate good orderly development across the Strathbogie municipality.

Council's Statutory Planning Team have already begun implementing actions identified within the Statutory Planning Audit of the planning review. Council's Statutory Planning Department has been working with the Department of Environment Land Water & Planning (DELWP) on the Better Planning Permit Approvals program. This will increase the quality of planning permit applications with documented pre-development meetings and set agendas and templates to ensure nothing gets missed and applicants are aware of minimum requirements to lodge planning permits.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The report does not limit any human rights under the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

CONCLUSION

The planning scheme review has been completed to meet the requirements of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (Section 12B), which stipulates that a planning scheme must be reviewed within one year of the completion of a new Council Plan. A planning scheme review must also, determine how well the Planning Scheme is aligned with the intent of the Council Plan and informs the Strategic Planning workplan.

Overall, the Strathbogie Planning Scheme is operating effectively. The settlement narrative in the scheme is clear, however, there are some strategic gaps in the planning scheme. These have been identified as part of the review and a strategic work program with an integrated approach as to achieve the overarching goals and actions set out in Strathbogie Council Plan (2021-2025).

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review 2022 (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 2: Planning Scheme Audit (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 3: Strategic Work Program (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 4: Planning Processes and Permit Audit Report (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 5: Strathbogie Planning Scheme Review – Share Strathbogie Report (*separate attachment*)

9.1.3 Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined - 1 to 31 December 2022 and 1 to 31 January 2023

Author: Manager Planning and 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 to 31 December 2022 and 1 to 31 January 2023. 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 eighteen (18) new planning permit applications received and thirty-two (32) new planning permit applications decided upon during the reporting period.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note that there were eighteen (18) new planning permit applications received, and thirty-two (32) planning permit applications decided upon during the period of 1st to 31st December 2022 and 1st to 31st January 2023.***
- 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 31 December 2022 and 1 to 31 January 2023 (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

Attachments 1-3: Planning Applications Received / Planning Applications Determined / Planning Permit Activity Performance Figures (*separate attachment*)

9.2 COMMUNITY

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – RuffArtZ Outdoor Concert Phil Para Band March 2023

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a sponsorship application from RuffArtZ to assist with the delivery of the 2023 Outdoor Concert event scheduled to be held on 25 March 2023.

The request is for a cash contribution of \$2,000 to assist with the cost of musicians, technical production, advertising and venue hire for the event.

The event application was of an acceptable standard, with the application scoring 15/25 in the Sponsorship Program criteria assessment.

The event will result in social and economic benefits to the Ruffy Community and will be delivered in line with Council's Events and Regulatory Policies and procedures.

In Council's approved operating budget 2022/2023, Council allocated \$30,000 to the Sponsorship program to sponsor events held in the Strathbogie Shire that meet the Sponsorship program criteria, submitted in line with the application Guidelines. There are a total of three sponsorship applications being considered at the February Council meeting that are all eligible for this funding program

This report recommends the approval of the sponsorship application from the RuffArtZ for \$2,000 to support the delivery of the 2023 Outdoor Concert event.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Approve sponsorship of \$2,000 to RuffArtZ to assist with the delivery of the Outdoor Concert featuring the Phil Para Band at the Ruffy Recreation Reserve on 25 March 2023; and***
- 2. Work with the RuffArtZ to reduce overall waste produced at the event through the implementation of the Waste Wise Events Guidelines, and the State Government ban on single use plastics as outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan 2022 – 27.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Council has received a sponsorship application from RuffArtZ to assist with the delivery of the 2023 Outdoor Concert event at the Ruffy Recreation Reserve.

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – RuffArtZ Outdoor Concert Phil Para Band March 2023 (cont.)

RuffArtZ is a not-for-profit local community volunteer group which presents and supports arts activities and events in Ruffy.

The request is for a cash contribution of \$2,000 to assist with the cost of musicians, technical production, advertising and venue hire for the event.

This is a family picnic style concert featuring the Phil Para Band. The RuffArtZ Committee believe the event will appeal to a wide audience and be a great event to bring the whole community together, showcasing the engaged Arts community in Ruffy and the broader Strathbogie Region.

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.

The event organisers will obtain Event Approval from Strathbogie Shire Council, which requires documentation including (amongst other considerations) risk plans, waste wise plans and public liability insurance.

Due to the nature of the event, this is medium impact 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.

RuffArtZ have a long history of producing high quality theatre and music events. They have a large regular following from in the Ruffy township and the wider region. The community will be directly contacted through the data base and through advertising on Facebook and in the media. The Outdoor Concert give families and individuals an opportunity to come together and celebrate the beauty of the region, whilst enjoying the arts.

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

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – RuffArtZ Outdoor Concert Phil Para Band March 2023 (cont.)

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.

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.

Event permits are required prior to the event occurring to ensure the delivery of a safe event.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

The author of this report and officers/contractors providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 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, this request for sponsorship from RuffArtZ is to be acknowledged in a public forum providing full disclosure of the allocation of sponsorship funding 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.

2022 - 23 Council Sponsorship Budget Allocation

Allocated Budget	\$ 30,000
2022 – 23 Actuals (cash approved sponsorship applications)	\$ 15,115
2022 – 23 remaining budget	\$ 14,885
2022 – 2023 Approved in kind sponsorship value	\$ 205
Number of sponsorship applications approved as at 16 / 11 / 2022	7

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – RuffArtZ Outdoor Concert Phil Para Band March 2023 (cont.)

There is a total budget allocation of \$30,000 to Event Sponsorship in the 2022/23 Council Budget. In the current financial year, seven applications have been approved for sponsorship totalling a cash value of \$15,115 leaving a balance of \$14,885. In addition to this application, there are two other sponsorship applications being considered at the February Council meeting.

RuffArtZ Outdoor Concert Event – PROPOSED BUDGET

Income

Event Sponsorship	Strathbogie Shire Council	\$ 2,000
Ticket Sales		\$ 2,000
	Total	\$ 4,000

Expenses

Technical Production		\$ 550
Musicians	Phil Para Band	\$ 2,500
Venue Hire	Ruffy Rec Reserve	\$ 150
Advertising		\$ 200
Printing		\$ 200
Contingency		\$ 400
	Total	\$ 4,000

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 several economic benefits to the Ruffy Community and the wider region. All the items relating to the event will be sourced locally, where possible and the event is estimated to attract a large number of people to Ruffy.

Social

The event will offer significant social benefit. The event provides an opportunity for participants, community and visitors alike to join together and experience high quality live music in a beautiful location. The experience will be on offer to all sectors of the community. Ticket cost will reflect expenses, as per budget, this is a not for profit event.

Environmental

Council officers believe this event will have minimal environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

9.2.1 Application for Sponsorship – RuffArtZ Outdoor Concert Phil Para Band March 2023 (cont.)

Council officers will work with RuffArtZ to ensure that Council's Waste Wise Policy and Guidelines are considered in conjunction with the State Government's ban on single use plastics which came into effect on 1 February 2023. This ban is consistent with existing Council guidelines around the use of single use plastics at Council events.

Climate change

Council officers believe this event will have minimal climate change implications as per the above environmental statement.

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 event has been planned with input from the community and is reflective of what the community would like to see in their local 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.

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.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

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 from RuffArtZ be approved for \$2,000 to support the delivery of the Outdoor Concert featuring Phil Para's Band on 23 March 2023 at the Ruffy Recreation Reserve. The event will bring a wide range of community members the region and to Ruffy and showcasing the engaged arts community in Ruffy. The event will result in several economic and social benefits to the community and will be delivered by a voluntary committee operating in Strathbogie Shire.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.2.2 Application for Sponsorship – Labour Day Tennis Tournament March 2023

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a sponsorship application from Euroa Lawn Tennis Club to assist with the delivery of the Labour Day Tennis Tournament event on 11-13 March 2023.

The sponsorship request is for \$3,000, this includes a financial contribution of \$2,500 to help cover with the cost of construction for temporary courts and sponsorship to the value of \$500 for Council's extra bins and support responsible waste disposal.

The event application was of an acceptable standard, with the application scoring 13/25 in the Sponsorship Program criteria assessment.

The event will result in social and economic benefits to the Euroa Community and will be delivered in line with Council's Events and Regulatory Policies and procedures.

In Council's approved operating budget 2022/2023, Council allocated \$30,000 to the Sponsorship program to sponsor events held in the Strathbogie Shire that meet the Sponsorship program criteria, submitted in line with the application Guidelines. There are a total of three sponsorship applications being considered at the February Council meeting that are all eligible for this funding program.

This report recommends the approval of the sponsorship application from the Euroa Lawn Tennis Club to the value of \$3,000, inclusive of \$500 allocated for Council delivered waste services, to support the delivery of the 2023 Labour Day Tennis Tournament.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Approve sponsorship to the value of \$3,000, inclusive of \$500 for waste services, to Euroa Lawn Tennis Club Incorporated to assist with the delivery of the Labour Day Tennis Tournament event held on 11-13 March 2023; and***
- 2. Work with the Euroa Lawn Tennis Club to reduce overall waste produced at the event through the implementation of the Waste Wise Events Guidelines and the State Government's ban on single use plastics as outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan 2022 – 27.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The Euroa Lawn Tennis Club is hosting their 93rd Labour Day Tournament to run from 11-13 March 2023. There is an expected attendance of 1000 people, inclusive of competitors and spectators who visit the town and region for a number of days.

9.2.2 Application for Sponsorship – Labour Day Tennis Tournament March 2023 (cont.)

The event is the Club's primary source of income helping to support maintenance and development of the club, with the Tournament recently being awarded the 2022 *Most Outstanding Tournament* award at the annual Australian Tennis Awards in October 2022.

This event showcases the Euroa township and broader region and has significant social and economic impacts in the local area, particularly in the areas of accommodation, hospitality and retail.

As a major sporting event for the town, participation, healthy lifestyle and well-being are promoted along with social connection and the engagement opportunity for more than 40 volunteers.

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.

The event organisers will obtain Event Approval from Strathbogie Shire Council, and will be required to submit documentation including, risk plans, waste wise plans and public liability insurance.

Due to the nature of the event, this is medium impact 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.

Euroa Tennis Club Inc have a long history of producing high quality tennis tournament events having run 92 previous Labour Day Tennis Tournaments. They have a large following in Euroa and the wider region and were recently awarded 2022 Most Outstanding Tournament award at the annual Australian Tennis Awards in December 2022.

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

9.2.2 Application for Sponsorship – Labour Day Tennis Tournament March 2023 (cont.)

- Strategic Objective 1.1 – we will support initiatives that bring people together, encourage collaboration and partnerships and create networks.

This event aligns with the intent of the Sponsorship Program and the above areas of the Council Plan 2021-2025.

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.

There are no regional, state or national plans or policies that are relevant to this report.

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.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

The author of this report and officers/contractors providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 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, this request for sponsorship from Euroa Lawn Tennis Club is to be acknowledged in a public forum providing full disclosure of the allocation of sponsorship funding 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.

2022 - 23 Sponsorship Budget

Allocated Budget	\$ 30,000
2022 – 23 Actuals (cash approved sponsorship applications)	\$ 15,115
2022 – 23 remaining budget	\$ 14,885
2022 – 2023 Approved in kind sponsorship value	\$ 205
Number of sponsorship applications approved as at 16 / 11 / 2022	7

9.2.2 Application for Sponsorship – Labour Day Tennis Tournament March 2023 (cont.)

There is a total budget allocation of \$30,000 to Event Sponsorship in the 2022/23 Council Budget. In the current financial year, seven applications have been approved for sponsorship totalling a cash value of \$15,115 leaving a balance of \$14,885. In addition to this application, there are two other sponsorship applications being considered at the February Council meeting.

Labour Day Tennis Tournament Event– PROPOSED BUDGET

Income

Event Sponsorship	Strathbogie Shire Council	\$ 3,000
Entry Fees		\$ 23,000
Tournament Dinner		\$ 7,000
Other Sponsorship		\$ 2,000
Kitchen Sales		\$ 12,000
Bar Takings		\$ 12,000
	Total	\$ 59,500

Expenses

Prize Money/Trophies		\$ 6,000
Tournament Dinner		\$ 3,500
Kitchen Catering		\$ 6,000
Bar Stock		\$ 6,000
Balls & Court Infrastructure		\$ 5,000
	Total	\$ 26,500

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 several economic benefits to the Euroa Community and the wider region. All the items relating to the event will be sourced locally, where possible and the event is estimated to attract 1000 people to Euroa.

Social

The event will deliver significant social benefit to the community. The event provides an opportunity for participants, community, and visitors alike to join together in the Tennis Tournament. The event free of charge to spectators in the community.

9.2.2 Application for Sponsorship – Labour Day Tennis Tournament March 2023 (cont.)

Environmental

Council Officers believe this event will have minimal environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

Council Officers will work with Euroa Lawn Tennis Club to ensure that Councils Waste Wise Policy and Guidelines are considered in conjunction with the State Government's ban on single use plastics which came into effect on 1 February 2023. This ban is consistent with existing Council guidelines around the use of single use plastics at Council events.

Climate change

Council officers believe this event will have minimal climate change implications and action is consistent with the above.

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.

With a proud 92-year history the event is very popular and a testament to the organisers, and the club more broadly as the event has continued to grow and attract a large number of competitors. Their recent National Award is another example of this.

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.

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 for a total \$3,000, inclusive of \$500 to support waste services. The Euroa Lawn Tennis Club's Labour Day tournament 2023 will bring a wide range of visitors to Euroa and showcase the broader region, resulting in several economic and social benefits to the community and will be delivered by a voluntary Committee operating on Strathbogie Shire.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.2.3 Application for Sponsorship – Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival February 2023

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has received a sponsorship application from Longwood Football Netball Club to assist with the delivery of the 2023 Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival event scheduled on 25 February 2023.

The request is for \$5,000 to be used to help cover the cost of Bands, audio and visual equipment, equipment hire for toilets, fencing, marquees, and waste. This event has been successfully run annually since 2018. The Longwood Football and Netball Club has applied for Council's Sponsorship Program on three previous occasions and has been successful in obtaining funding for a total of \$7,000 prior to this application. The event application was of an acceptable standard, with the application scoring 18/25 against the Sponsorship Program criteria assessment.

The event will result in social and economic benefits to the Longwood Community, as well as the wider region and will be delivered in line with Council's Events and Regulatory Policies and procedures.

In Council's approved operating budget 2022/2023, Council allocated \$30,000 to the Sponsorship program to sponsor events held in the Strathbogie Shire that meet the Sponsorship program criteria, submitted in line with the application Guidelines. In addition to this application, two other sponsorship applications are being considered at the February Council meeting.

This report recommends approval of the sponsorship application from Longwood Football Netball Club for \$3,000 to support the delivery of the 2023 Longwood Beer, Wine and Cider Festival. This recommendation for partial funding is due to the demonstrated demand of event sponsorship fund to date and is consistent with similar applications approved by Council this financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. *Approve financial sponsorship to the value of \$3,000 in cash to Longwood Football Netball Club Incorporated to assist with the delivery of the Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival event on 25 February 2023; and***
- 2. *Work with the Longwood Football and Netball Club Incorporated to reduce overall waste produced at the event through the implementation of the Waste Wise Events Guidelines and the State Government ban on single use plastics as outlined in the Climate Change Action Plan 2022 – 27.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival was established to connect to the broader community (not just "sporting people") and to provide a vibrant cultural and social activity that is accessible to all people, including families.

9.2.3 Application for Sponsorship – Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival February 2023 (cont.)

It is an opportunity to showcase the wide variety of producers in the local and regional area, as well as support local business and tourism in the Longwood area.

The event brings people from across the state and from NSW, as well as a large number of people from the Strathbogie Region. Visitors utilise the free camping at the Longwood Recreation Reserve and the accommodation options in Euroa, Avenel and Ruffy (with a shuttle bus bringing people to/from the festival).

The event features live music and supports acts from the Strathbogie Shire region and beyond. It is a celebration of people, music and produce in a laid back country setting.

The outdoor festival aims to be low waste by using a large number of recycled items, such as second-hand furniture and furniture created from pallets or recycled timber/items. Strathbogie Shire Council officers have worked with the Longwood Football and Netball Club in the past supporting the event to be low-waste and promote the Shire's exceptional waste program.

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.

The event organisers will obtain Event Approval from Strathbogie Shire Council, and will be required to submit documentation including, risk plans, waste wise plans and public liability insurance.

Due to the nature of the event, this is medium impact 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.

Longwood Football and Netball Club have been producing this event since 2018, with great success. They have a large following in Longwood and beyond and expect 700 attendees to the festival. The community will be notified via advertising on Facebook and media. The Longwood Beer, Wine and Cider festival gives the community an opportunity to come together for a family day out and experience regional craft beer, cider and wine, local food vendors, live music and children's activities while showcasing the region.

9.2.3 Application for Sponsorship – Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival February 2023 (cont.)

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
- Strategic Objective 1.1 – we will support initiatives that bring people together, encourage collaboration and partnerships and create networks.

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.

There are no regional, state or national plans or policies relevant to this report.

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.

Conflict of Interest Declaration

The author of this report and officers/contractors providing advice in relation to this report do not have a direct or indirect interest, as provided in accordance with the *Local Government Act 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, this request for sponsorship from Longwood Football Netball Club is to be acknowledged in a public forum providing full disclosure of the allocation of sponsorship funding 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.

2022 - 23 Council Sponsorship Budget Allocation

Allocated Budget	\$ 30,000
2022 – 23 Actuals (cash approved sponsorship applications)	\$ 15,115
2022 – 23 remaining budget	\$ 14,885
2022 – 2023 Approved in kind sponsorship value	\$ 205
Number of sponsorship applications approved as at 16 / 11 / 2022	7

9.2.3 Application for Sponsorship – Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival February 2023 (cont.)

There is a total budget allocation of \$30,000 to Event Sponsorship in the 2022/23 Council Budget. In the current financial year, seven applications have been approved for sponsorship totalling a cash value of \$15,115 leaving a balance of \$14,885. There are three applications for sponsorship being considered at the February Council meeting.

Longwood Beer, Wine and Cider Event– PROPOSED BUDGET

Income

Event Sponsorship	Strathbogie Shire Council	\$ 5,000
Tickets pre-sold at this time		\$3,540.00
Tickets Projected		\$10,000.00
Other Sponsorship		\$1,650.00
	Total	\$ 20,190

Expenses

Insurance		\$1,100
Bands and AV		\$5,700
Bus and generated fuel		\$400
Bus hire		\$745
Generator Hire x2		\$492
Equipment hire – toilets, fencing, marquees		\$2,626
Festival reusable glasses		\$5,447
Kids activities (jumping castle, craft, games)		\$1,258
Marketing/Promotional Material		\$1,000
Consumables/Hygiene/equipment		\$200
Ice for vendors		\$450
Bins/waste and can bins		\$210
Arm bands		\$62
Bus drivers		\$500
	Total	20,190

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.

9.2.3 Application for Sponsorship – Longwood Beer, Wine & Cider Festival February 2023 (cont.)

Economic

The event will result in several economic benefits to the Strathbogie Shire Region, showcasing local vendors, musicians and facilities. All the items relating to the event will be sourced locally, where possible and the event is estimated to attract a large number of people to Longwood.

Social

The event will offer significant social benefit. The event provides an opportunity for, community and visitors alike to join together in a family friendly event. As indicated in the budget the event is a not-for-profit event, so ticket price is aimed at cost recovery, in an attempt to make the event accessible for most within the community.

Environmental

Council officers believe this event will have minimal environmental or amenity implications for Council or the broader community.

Council officers will work with Longwood Football Netball Club to ensure that Council's Waste Wise Policy and Guidelines are considered in conjunction with the State Government's ban on single use plastics which came into effect on 1 February 2023. This ban is consistent with existing Council guidelines around the use of single use plastics at Council events.

Climate change

Council officers believe this event will have minimal climate change implications, as per the above environmental statement.

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.

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 partially approved to the value of \$3,000 in cash. The Longwood Beer Wine and Cider Festival will bring a wide range of visitors to Longwood and showcase local producers and the broader community. The event will result in several economic and social benefits to the community and is being delivered by a volunteer Committee located within Strathbogie Shire.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.2.4 Strathbogie Shire Draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 - 2027

Author: Economic Development and Project Coordinator

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has been working to develop an Economic Development Strategy, with a draft strategy now established. The draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 (draft EDS) outlines the key directions and priorities for Strathbogie Shire Council to support economic development and sustained growth for the local economy.

The key actions and recommendations outlined in the draft strategy are designed to achieve economic development outcomes and drive economic uplift to benefit the community, workers and businesses within the Shire.

The draft EDS is the result of a comprehensive literature review and community engagement and is intended to map the shires economic development direction for the next five years. The development of the draft strategy was enabled through the engagement with the two business chambers; Go Nagambie and Euroa Chamber of Business and Commerce, two business and industry events, a survey and through the Share Strathbogie web platform.

It is intended that this document now be published for further public consultation and feedback before considering the final document. It is recommended that consultation for the draft strategy be from the period of 22 February 2023 - 5 April 2023.

This feedback will then be collated and reviewed to inform the final strategy for presentation to Council in the second quarter of 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Endorses the release of the draft Strathbogie Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 for broad community consultation and feedback for the period 22 February 2023 to 05 April 2023; and***
- 2. Receives a further report at the May 2023 Council Meeting to consider the final Economic development Strategy 2023 – 2027 detailing the outcomes of the community consultation on the draft Strathbogie Economic Development Strategy.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Following a competitive procurement process, Urban Initiative was engaged to assist Strathbogie Shire Council develop an Economic Development Strategy. The purpose of the draft Strathbogie Shire Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 (EDS) outlines the key directions and priorities for Strathbogie Shire Council to support economic development and sustained growth for the local economy.

9.2.4 Strathbogie Shire Draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 (cont.)

This five-year Strategy guides Council's future role and identifies relevant actions to support the economy for the benefit the community, workers and businesses within the Shire.

The information in this Strategy is informed by independent research and analysis, as well as consultation with industry representatives, residents, local businesses, Council officers and Government stakeholders.

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.

The adoption of a comprehensive economic development strategy will assist in guiding the council to facilitate economic uplift and prosperity for the municipality. The draft EDS has been developed following engagement through several methods. This included the engagement with the two business chambers; Go Nagambie and Euroa Chamber of Business and Commerce, two business and industry events, a survey and via the Share Strathbogie web platform.

The draft EDS has been developed based on four (4) key themes with strategic directions underpinning each theme as follows:

- Theme 1: An activated and 'Investment-Ready' Shire – Stimulate investment across the Shire and promote efficient uses of land to foster local economic growth.
 - Deliver a strategic and supportive planning environment
 - Facilitate strategic infrastructure investments
- Theme 2: An Innovative and Sustainable Business Base – develop a vibrant business community from a diverse range of industry sectors that capitalises on Strathbogie Shire's competitive advantages.
 - Support an engaged, well-informed and resilient business community
 - Support business investment and diversification
 - Support a thriving and productive agricultural sector
- Theme 3: A Supported Community and Labour Force – Ensure residents and workers are engaged, productive and contribute to business and economic activity.
 - Support population attraction and workforce growth
- Theme 4: A Thriving Visitor Economy – Establish Strathbogie Shire as a desirable and high-value visitor destination that drives year-round visitation and generates economic benefits for the region.
 - Strengthen the destination brand and tourism governance
 - Support industry in delivering a high-quality visitor experience
 - Deliver a successful and diverse events calendar

9.2.4 Strathbogie Shire Draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 (cont.)

The draft EDS is supported by an Action Plan that provides a guide for the delivery of the projects identified in the framework above. It includes relevant actions, responsible stakeholders, priority status (high/medium/low) and indicative timeframes categorised from short-term (1 year) through to long term (4-5 years).

The next five year actions, will be driven by Council's Economic Development Unit, with responsibility, support and advocacy by relevant government departments, industry and community stakeholders. Implementation of the Strategy will be monitored on an ongoing basis using the key performance measures and monitoring tools outlined throughout the Action Plan.

The draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 - 2027 and associated Action Plan is now considered ready for final consultation prior to presenting back to Council at the May 2023 Council Meeting.

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.

Depth of engagement: Collaborate

Public participation goal: To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution.

Promise to the public: We will look to you for advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible.

The Strategy was prepared in close consultation with Council, community and industry, to reflect local values and identify the unique challenges and opportunities for Strathbogie Shire. In summary the engagement included:

- Industry and community survey – 49 Participants
- Industry workshops – 51 Participants
- Council – internal workshop with Council Officers
-

The next step is inviting further community feedback and comment on the draft Economic Development Strategy.

Submissions will be open from 22 February 2023 and will close on 5 April 2023 and will be used to inform the final draft strategy. As part of the consultation, we will be engaging with our First Nations people to strengthen economic outcomes for cultural tourism, and associated activities.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

Section 4.1.1 of the 2021-2025 Council Plan calls for the adoption of an Economic Development Strategy.

9.2.4 Strathbogie Shire Draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 (cont.)

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

The state of Victoria has a regional economic development strategy which is based around nine regional partnerships. Strathbogie Shire is a member of the Goulburn Regional Partnership along with Greater Shepparton City Council, Mitchell Shire, Moira Shire and Murrindindi Shire. In order to effectively engage in this partnership, it is necessary to define Strathbogie Shire's economic profile and goals through an Economic Development Strategy which will assist in providing guidance to the State government on issues such as infrastructure, the visitor economy and business support.

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 issues to be considered in this matter.

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 subject of this report is to be considered in an open Council meeting which the public may attend. The draft ESD is to be published for final community feedback.

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

Local Government plays an important role in supporting and facilitating economic growth within their municipalities. Typically, local Governments role in economic development includes the following core functions:

- Supporting the development of the business base
- Attracting new businesses and jobs
- Growing the visitor economy
- Promoting liveable communities; and
- Undertaking advocacy efforts to attract infrastructure funding.

Economic development requires an integrated, whole of government approach that can be achieved through an Economic Development Strategy with clear objectives and measurable actions aligned with Council's other strategies and activities.

9.2.4 Strathbogie Shire Draft Economic Development Strategy 2023 – 2027 (cont.)

Social

Tourism events are a vital part of the Strathbogie Shire's visitor economy and provide a range of economic and social benefits, including:

- Showcasing the region's assets
- Attracting visitors to the area
- Generating local consumption; and
- Promoting community engagement for locals.

Environmental

There are a number of proposed actions identify in the draft Strategy and action plan. The draft action plan suggests the preparation of a Circular Economy Plan will help promote environmental sustainability and encourage a more efficient – and resilient – business base. This includes measures and actions to help businesses reduce and re-use waste, use resources more efficiently, as well as other measures to save inputs and reduce costs.

Climate change

The draft strategy considers the Macroeconomic context that will have implications for economic development in Strathbogie Shire. This includes the recent government commitments to reducing emissions, environmental sustainability is playing an increasing role within local government and influencing business and consumer decisions. As a result, there is increased demand for investment in new, clean energy technologies to increase energy efficiency and reduce emissions, as well as transition to more sustainable circular economy practices.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

This report does not limit any human rights under the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and encourages participation in civic life by our community.

CONCLUSION

Council has been working to develop an Economic Development Strategy, with a draft strategy now established. The draft Economic Development Strategy and associated Action Plan outlines the key directions and priorities for Strathbogie Shire Council to support economic development and sustained growth for the local economy.

This report seeks Council endorsement to release the draft Economic development Strategy 2023 - 2027 for board community consultation until 5 April 2023 with a further report received at the May 2023 Council Meeting presenting the final draft informed by the findings of this engagement.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Draft Strathbogie Shire Economic Development Strategy (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 2: Strathbogie Shire Economic Development Strategy Appendices (*separate attachment*)

9.3 CORPORATE

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23

Author: Chief Finance Officer

Responsible Director: Director People & Governance

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

A mid-year budget review for the 2022-23 financial year has been undertaken as a means of tracking where the delivery of the budget and capital works program is at and also to better inform the development of the 2023-24 budget and revision of our 2022-23 to 2031-32 Long Term Financial Plan.

There are a number of significant factors at play that have impacted on the mid-year review; some positive and some negative. Overall, it is an increasingly tight and difficult financial environment that Council is operating in.

The cost of materials and services has increased significantly (a \$4.5 million impact), there are materials shortages that are impacting on project delivery and overall project costs, the labour market is very tight and it is difficult to find staff to fill vacancies (particularly in specialist positions) and interest rates have been rising beyond our expectations at the start of the financial year.

The impact of the October 2022 flood event cannot be overstated.

This has not only led to escalated staffing costs in after hours emergency costs (\$30,000), but it will also divert funds from our existing capital works program to ensure that roads, bridges and drains are repaired and upgraded to achieve better flood resilience.

While some of the repair costs will be covered by insurance and Government Grants – the latter for which we have already received \$1.5 million, the expected overall damage bill to buildings, roads and other Council infrastructure is in the tens of millions.

Having said that, the mid-year review has led to an adjustment of our financial year records of an improvement in the operating result of \$3,675,730. Cash reserves at the end of the year will be \$7.3 million, which means Council is able to achieve its goal of having at least \$5 million in cash and cash equivalents at any one time.

There is an overall decrease in capital expenditure by \$1,589,804 when compared to the adopted Budget. This is made up of:

- Capital projects carried forward from prior year - \$5,548,362 (add \$)
- New capital projects identified (grant funded) - \$420,456 (add \$)
- Market cost escalations on existing projects - \$1,275,098 (add \$)
- Savings on existing projects - \$1,003,541 (subtract \$)
- Projects identified as operational/maintenance - \$94,000 (subtract \$)
- Projects carried forward to future years - \$4,926,691 (subtract \$)
- Projects removed from adopted capital works program - \$2,809,855 (subtract \$).

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

Overall, the 2022-23 financial year will end up with a positive operating result, however there are challenges ahead in terms of the significant adverse economic environment that Council is operating in, along with the increasing cumulative detriment of the rate capping environment which will impact on our ability to deliver a broad capital works program and other services into the future.

Unfortunately, the Audit and Risk Committee have not had an opportunity to be presented with the mid-year review due to timing, however they will be presented with the review for noting at its 3 March 2023 meeting.

The mid-year review, and associated financial statements, are presented to Council for noting.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note and endorse the Mid-Year Review financial statements for the period ending 30 June 2023.

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The 2022/23 Budget was prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) and was formally adopted at ordinary Council meeting held on 21 June 2022 after being subject to community engagement and input.

Under Section 96 and 97 of the Act, Council must establish and maintain a budgeting and reporting framework that is consistent with the principles of sound financial management. Undertaking a mid-year review to assess where the budget is currently at, and how this may impact the development of the 2023-24 budget, satisfies these requirements.

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.

Process

As part of the mid-year budget process, all operating income, expense line items and capital projects were reviewed by each department manager to identify potential changes to the adopted budget.

Spending priorities were assessed based on various factors such as already committed work, grant funding agreement commitments, prioritising flood recovery initiatives and discussions with Council in relation to the organisation's ability to deliver the capital works program.

These changes were assessed and approved by the Executive Leadership Team for the consideration and adoption by Council.

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

Factors informing the Mid-Year Review

The following factors were considered during the mid-year review.

- Natural disasters/flood – Asset maintenance and capital projects were prioritised around flood recovery work. Additional expenditure and related grant income are included in the mid-year budget. The quantum of National Disaster Funding Assistance (NDFA) funding and insurance recovery payments are unknown at this stage.
- Macro-economic factors affecting Council operations - High inflation, labour and material shortage, shortage of contractors and high interest rates were considered during the mid-year budget review. As a result, mid-year and long-term budget assumptions were changed to reflect latest market trends.
- Our capacity to deliver – the organisation's capacity to deliver capital projects depends upon various factors including availability of contractors and materials, weather, and availability of in-house project officers to manage capital projects. Sourcing of contractors is particularly difficult during natural disaster events as surrounding councils are competing for the same contractor in regional area. Officers have worked hard to assess the damage quickly and work with our insurers to ensure we can secure contractors quickly before other Councils have completed similar assessments.
- The mid-year budget includes income and expense items that were not originally identified in the adopted budget. These include flood recovery related grant income and expense (an additional \$1.5 million in income), electoral representation review expense (an additional \$65,000 in costs), extension of the Human Resource Advisor position to assist with the implementation of our Workforce Plan and Gender Equity Action Plan (a \$60,000 in costs), increased after hours emergency call out allowance due to floods/storms (an additional \$30,000 cost), Nagambie splash park maintenance (an additional \$65,000 in costs) and unexpected grant funding for new capital projects (an increase of \$420,000 in income).

These micro and macro-economic factors affect council operations both in short term and longer term. As a result, cash position and current ratio (current assets to current liabilities) have deteriorated over 10-year period. Removal of non-priority capital projects from our extensive capital works program will ease adverse long-term impacts on Council's overall financial position.

The major variations made to our financial statements as a result of the mid-year review are:

Positive

- Grant funding received in 2021/22 but income recognised in 2022/23.
- Grant funding received but not budgeted – Flood recovery related grants.
- Increase in interest income and increased user fees income.

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

Negative

- Carried forward expenditure from 2021/22.
- Flood recovery expenditure (offset by grants income).
- Removal of capital projects.

In relation to the current year, the forecasted operating surplus at the end of the period ending 30 June 2023 is \$5,536,217.

Capital works for 2022/23 is expected to be \$20,974,196 including committed works.

After extensive discussions, the following capital projects are proposed to be removed from the capital projects list to prioritise flood recovery works, reflect our capacity to deliver projects and ensure that Council's ongoing financial position is a sustainable one.

Fix tracks & asphalt training tracks. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In progress, to be delivered as part of the Reseal Program 	Euroa Saleyards - Security System (cameras) (project not proceeding) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works subject to completion of Privacy Policy Agreement.
Avenel Vic Track Land- Carpark -Pitch My Project. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project not proceeding. Council does not have an agreement in place with Vic Track. Vic Track have been approached but are yet to formally respond 	Euroa Depot - Upgrade maintenance shed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ongoing works have commenced from alternate budget allocation
Euroa Bowling Club - Male Toilet Renovation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funded under flood recovery - in construction 	Civic Centre Toilet Upgrade (savings) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Savings - project currently out for Quotations
Plant and Equipment purchases deferred to future years <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of existing plant and equipment underway to reflect the current maintenance needs 	Strathbogie Memorial Hall Kitchen Upgrades <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project to be re-scoped – insufficient funds to undertake the project
Strathbogie Memorial Hall-Bike Racks - Pitch My Project <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project completed from existing materials. 	L Building - Longwood Community Centre - Interior Painting (deferred to a future year). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Works deferred to future years
Avenel Primary School scope parking solution. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project on Education Department land 	Pit & Pipe Replacement Program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No section renewed this financial year.
Violet Town Bush Nursing Centre - Car Parking Area Rose St. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project not on Council land 	Drainage Strategy & Design for the catchment area at the southwest end of Euroa. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be considered as part a Flood and Stormwater Drainage Strategy
Construct GPT at Blayney Lane Nagambie Outlet. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be considered as part a Flood and Stormwater Drainage Strategy 	Town Centre Outlet to Lake Nagambie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be considered as part a Flood and Stormwater Drainage Strategy
Hovell St - Sealed Road between Ewings Rd and Bank St. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Currently in design, no budget allocated for construction 	Violet Town Drainage - Survey & Design of Drainage Solutions along Shiffner & Mitchell Streets. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be considered as part a Flood and Stormwater Drainage Strategy

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

Mansfield Rd / Kennedy St Intersection upgrade. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires Department of Transport & Planning contribution, looking future programs for availability. 	Red bridge over the Honeysuckle Creek. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No responses received by market
Euroa Civic Centre-Strathbogie Shire Main Offices - Carpet replacement. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Savings – project completed 	Hurley St in Longwood - drainage installation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be considered as part a Flood and Stormwater Drainage Strategy
Marie Street - Scoping & design to construct gravel section to seal. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires resolution of Boyd Street retaining wall. 	Euroa Apex Walking Track - Street Lighting on Spencer St. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient funding
Kerb & Channel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No kerbs section renewed this financial year. 	Euroa Lions Park - Solar Lighting <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project not fully scoped – insufficient funds
Building - Avenel, Violet Town & Nagambie Pools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Savings – project to replace chlorinators underway Savings – project completed 	Euroa Apex Walking Track - Upgrade Stage 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project not fully scoped – insufficient funds
Arboretum Link from Campbell Street to Arboretum north side (1.5m gravel). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Insufficient funds to deliver project. 	Forlonge Memorial Road - minibus parking area <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Council will be required to purchase land if project is to proceed
Euroa Civic Centre Roof/ Toilets/ Fit outs (project not proceeding) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Savings 	Seven Creeks Masterplan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Savings – project underway
Euroa Saleyards sprinkler system. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Stage 1 completed; no funding allocated to complete remaining works 	Walking Track Renewal Program <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works to be completed under Flood Recovery
Euroa Saleyards - PA System (project deferred) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Works subject to completion of Privacy Policy Agreement. 	

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.

A significant amount of community engagement and participation was undertaken in the development of the 2022-23 budget. There has been no consultation for the mid-year review, which is essentially an internal assessment as to the progress of the budget's implementation and unexpected factors that need to be reflected in Council's financial statements.

Council's Audit and Risk Committee have unfortunately not had the opportunity to review the mid-year financial statements, however they will be presented to the Committee for noting at the Committee's 3 March 2023 meeting.

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

Communities and organisations directly impacted by the removal of capital works will be directly informed of the reasons as to why the project has had to be cancelled.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The 2022/23 Budget was prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and was formally adopted at a Special Meeting of Council held on 21 June 2022.

The guidance set out in relevant policies, such as the Revenue and Rating Plan and the Long Term Financial Plan have informed this review.

The mid-year review is consistent with the strategies outlined in the 2021-25 Council Plan under:

Strategic Focus Area 2: Live. Access. Connect.

- Our integrated service and infrastructure planning enables Council to adapt to and meet changing needs and a growing population.
- 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.

Strategic Focus Area 4: Inclusive. Productive. Balanced

- Our services and infrastructure projects are focussed on supporting the development of our local economy, particularly in responding to the challenges of the Covid 19 pandemic and recognising that agriculture is the municipality's key economic driver.
- Our tourism sector is driven by our community and the private sector and provides for a growing range of events, attractions and facilities.

Strategic Focus Area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe

- A comprehensive strategic planning framework guides long term capital works program that delivers a growing range of services, infrastructure and facilities to support improved physical and mental health.

Strategic Focus Area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible.

- Maximise 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.
- Ensure our organisation's structure and resource allocation are regularly reviewed so they align with the goals and deliverables of the Community Vision and this Council 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.

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

Applicable regional, state and national plans and policies have been taken into account when preparing mid-year budget review.

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.

While there are changes to the capital works program and a range of unexpected costs and savings, the changes are not of a nature to require a new budget to be prepared under the Act.

The consideration of a mid-year review is a key way in which Council implements the strategic financial management principles outlined in section 101 of the Act, which are:

- (a) *revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and financial transactions must be managed in accordance with a Council's financial policies and strategic plans;*
- (b) *financial risks must be monitored and managed prudently having regard to economic circumstances;*
- (c) *financial policies and strategic plans, including the Revenue and Rating Plan, must seek to provide stability and predictability in the financial impact on the municipal community;*
- (d) *accounts and records that explain the financial operations and financial position of the Council must be kept.*

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.

There are no declared conflicts of interest.

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 consideration of this report in the public arena, outlining the positive and negative influences on Council's financial position, along with the listing/communication of capital works projects that have been removed 2022/23 budget process, is aimed at achieving greater transparency and accountability around our financial management.

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 net estimated financial impact from the mid-year budget review is an improvement of \$7,355,264.

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

However, it must be noted that savings in the capital works programs and operational budgets have had to be found to ensure Council's cash and cash equivalent reserves are sufficient enough to ensure our position is sustainable in the face of a very challenging economic and service delivery environment.

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 mid-year budget report provides updated details on how the Council generates income and spends funds during the financial year. Our report is intended to inform the community of the wider financial and economic impact of council activities. A focus on flood recovery capital works is a key way in which Council can support the community's recovery from the October 2022 flood event.

Social

Strathbogie Shire Council, in partnership with other levels of government, is responsible for aspects of everyday life that our community value – from our public open space to accessible libraries, to strong local business and employment opportunities.

Effective planning and reporting by councils is essential for ensuring transparency and accountability to the community and other levels of government as to how public money is being spent and the quality of services delivered.

The mid-year budget review provides an insight into to how the council will spend its funds during 2022/23.

Environmental

There are no adverse effect on environmental initiatives from the mid-year budget changes.

Climate change

There are no adverse effect on climate change from the mid-year budget changes.

INNOVATION AND CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

Council continues to refine its budget and the proposed changes in the mid-year budget will better reflect its actual expenditure by the year end.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no human rights implications in relation to the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* arising from this report.

9.3.1 Mid-Year Budget Review 2022/23 (cont.)

CONCLUSION

That following a comprehensive review of every expenditure and capital works item by the Management Team and the Executive Leadership Team, that Mid-Year Review for the period ending 30 June 2023, along with its financial statements, be noted.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Mid-Year Budget Review Financial Statements (*separate attachment*)

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee

Author: Director People & Governance

Responsibility: Mayor Laura Binks

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council established a Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee, in accordance with section 45 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act), in December 2021.

Under the Act, A Council Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy must be adopted by Council, which was originally adopted by Council on 19 October 2021 and recently reviewed at its November 2022 Ordinary Council meeting. This policy is used to set the remit of the Committee and provide guidance around how Council will seeking independent input from a human resource expert.

Council's policy, like a number of other councils, states that a suitably qualified independent member will form part of the committee. Clauses 6 and 7 of Council's policy provide clear guidance around qualifications, term of the role and the responsibilities of the independent member.

For the first 12 months of the Committee's formation, the Municipal Monitor appointed by the Minister for Local Government, Janet Dore, performed the role of the independent Committee member. This term came to an end in December 2022.

A public advertising process, informed by an Expression of Interest Document outlining the purpose and remit of the role, was undertaken initially between 18 November – 12 December 2022 and 3 – 13 January 2023.

The CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee members appointed by Council at its 13 December 2022 meeting were appointed as the interview panel; Mayor Laura Binks, Deputy Mayor Paul Murray and Cr Kristy Hourigan.

A total of three applications were received.

Deputy Mayor Murray declared a conflict of interest in relation to two of the parties and subsequently withdrew from the interview panel upon identifying the conflict. Mayor Laura Binks and Cr Kristy Hourigan interviewed the three applicants in January 2023.

After a comprehensive interview and referee check process, the Committee recommend that Wendy Jones be appointed as the Independent Committee member from a period commencing on 22 February 2023 to 21 February 2027.

Wendy lives in the Shire and has an extensive human resources/executive management recruitment and performance appraisal background, with a BA and Master of Business (Human Resource Management), along with completion of the Australian Institute of Company Directors' course (AICD) Wendy has served in several CEO/Executive positions and has served on a wide variety of boards, including being the Chair of the Employment and Remuneration Committee for the Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Group from 2018-22.

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee (cont.)

The CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy states that a stipend is to be paid in accordance with Victorian Government guidelines for like committees. The Victorian Government classify entities in different groups depending on its function. A proposed hourly rate of \$169 is recommended to reflect that meetings of the Committee are unlikely to last a full day or for there to be requirements for more than a few days a year to be spent on employment, performance review and remuneration issues.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. ***After seeking expressions of interest from the public for suitably qualified persons and having completed an interview along with two referee checks, appoint the preferred candidate, Wendy Jones, as the independent human resource expert to the Chief Executive Officer's Employment and Remuneration Committee.***
2. ***Set the term for Wendy Jones' appointment as being from 22 February 2023 to 21 February 2027 in accordance with clause 6 of the Chief Executive Officer's Employment and Remuneration Policy to ensure continuity in approach between the current Council and the new Council, to be elected in October 2024.***
3. ***Set the stipend for the term of 22 February 2023 – 1 July 2023 at a rate of \$169 per hour based on the hourly rate for an advisory board as set out in the Victorian Government's Appointment and Remuneration Guidelines 2022, with indexation occurring annually as per the Chief Executive Officer's Employment and Remuneration Policy.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

As detailed under the Executive Summary.

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.

The appointment of an Independent member that has extensive qualifications and expertise in executive remuneration/performance reviews ensures Council meets its obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee (cont.)

In accordance with Council's Policy, the independent member must have:

- human resources related qualifications
- demonstrated management skills, senior business experience, preferably with experience in local government and/or an employment law
- demonstrated experience in undertaking executive level performance appraisals, setting key performance indicators and negotiating remuneration packages
- significant experience working with executives and board members in a similar professional advisory role
- an understanding of good governance and previous experience working with Governance bodies or Boards
- Ability to work effectively with Councillors and the CEO
- Knowledge and understanding of the issues affecting Strathbogie Shire.

The Policy also states the independent member will be appointed for a term of up to four (4) years.

Shortlisting and Interview Process

The three expressions of interest were provided to the Committee for their review. This led to Deputy Mayor Murray declaring a conflict of interest in relation to two candidates and excluding himself from any further involvement in the selection process.

Mayor Binks and Councillor Hourigan shortlisted all Applicants for interview.

The interviews were all undertaken on 17 January 2023 and consisted of a set list of questions that addressed the selection criteria and expertise/qualifications outlined in Council's Policy.

At the conclusion of all three interviews, Mayor Binks and Councillor Hourigan independently scored all candidates, identifying Wendy Jones as the preferred candidate (refer to Confidential Attachment 1).

Mayor Binks then performed two Referee checks, circulated the outcomes to Councillor Hourigan and confirmed with the Director People & Governance that the preferred candidate for Council's consideration for appointment to the role was Wendy Jones.

Mayor Binks contacted the preferred candidate, who indicated that she would like to accept the position should it be so resolved by Council. The Director People & Governance contacted the unsuccessful applicants to advise them of the Committee's recommendation.

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.

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee (cont.)

The position was advertised through an Expression of Interest process, which was publicised through the Shire's website, social media pages, Seek and in printed newspapers to ensure maximum exposure to attract suitable candidates.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The appointment of an independent subject expert to provide advice and guidance to the CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee achieves Strategic Focus Area (SFA) 6 Accountable. Transparent. Responsible.

The relevant strategies outlined in the Council Plan are:

As a Council we will:

- *Achieve the highest level of good governance across the organisation and as an elected Council*
- *Be accountable for the decisions we make and the quality of service we deliver*
- *Maximise public transparency and accountability around our performance and decision-making processes.*

The recruitment process ensured maximum coverage to attract suitably qualified candidates and ensured procedural fairness to all applicants. The process was undertaken in accordance with a range of CEO Directives in relation to recruitment and selection. All candidates were asked the same set of questions to ensure consistency in the process.

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 appointment of an independent expert to provide advice to the Councillor representatives, and to Council, on CEO recruitment, employment and remuneration issues is consistent with the approach taken by the State Government and also other peak bodies and quasi government entities.

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 appointment of an independent human resource expert to provide advice to the CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee and Council meets the requirements of section 45(2)(a), which states:

A Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy must:

- (a) *provide for the Council to obtain independent professional advice in relation to the matters dealt with in the Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Policy.*

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee (cont.)

Once appointed, the independent member will also be required to prepare a personal interests form to identify any potential conflicts of interest during the term of appointment and to ensure the highest standards of governance are maintained by this Committee.

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.

All of the interview panel were required to sign a conflict of interest form identifying whether or not they had any conflict of interest in relation to any of the Applicants upon receiving a copy of the expressions of interest received.

This led to Deputy Mayor Murray identifying that he had a conflict due to knowledge of two candidates, one who was a neighbour and the other whom he has had a long-standing working relationship with.

Deputy Mayor Murray therefore took no further part in the interview or selection process upon identifying this conflict of interest.

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 Expression of Interest was publicly advertised for a number of weeks and publicised in the local media, the Shire's website and the key recruitment website Seek. The Expression of Interest document that informed the application process clearly set out the roles and responsibilities of the independent member, along with the details of the stipend and reimbursement of travel costs.

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 cost of the independent member's stipend and travel costs can be met by existing resource allocations.

The Victorian State Government's Appointment and Remuneration Guidelines (effective 1 July 2022) provide a framework for the appointment, terms and remuneration for various types of advisory committees, panels and boards providing advice to the State government.

To meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 in relation to the CEO Employment and Remuneration Policy, use was made of a template provided by Local Government Victoria in forming Council's policy.

This suggested use of the Victorian Government guidance was a way of benchmarking this new independent member position.

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee (cont.)

The Victorian Government guidance suggests an upper limit of \$678 per sitting day, up to four hours, be paid to this type of advisory entity. To reflect that often the time commitment for the Independent member will be less than four hours, an hourly rate has been derived from this rate of \$169.

All applicants were informed of this suggested stipend but informed that it needed to be considered and resolved by Council. All accepted those terms, including the preferred candidate.

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 considered to be no discernible sustainability impacts from the appointment of the Independent member.

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 appointment of an Independent member is the first time this approach has been taken by Council under its Policy given the Municipal Monitor has been performing this role over the past twelve months.

It is considered that the provision of independent human resource, recruitment and executive remuneration benchmarking expertise to the Committee from a suitably qualified person that is also a local resident will be beneficial to supporting the Committee in discharging its roles and responsibilities under the Act.

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 appointment of an Independent Committee member is a new way in which Council is collaborating with suitably qualified people that are external to the organisation.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The selection and interview process, along with having a source of Independent expert advice available to the Committee, ensures our responsibilities under the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 are met when dealing with any CEO employment or remuneration matter, including:

- recognition and equality before the law
- taking part in public life
- fair hearing.

9.3.2 Recruitment of Independent Member – Chief Executive Officer Employment and Remuneration Committee (cont.)

CONCLUSION

After conducting a thorough and fair interview and selection process and ensuring due diligence, Wendy Jones is the recommended Applicant to fill the vacant position of Independent Member on Council's CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee.

It is recommended a four-year term be set for Wendy, along with a stipend of \$169 per hour until indexation occurs on 1 July in accordance with the State Government rate cap.

ATTACHMENTS (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 1: Scoring for Expression of Interest Candidates following interviews by the CEO Employment and Remuneration Committee (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2: Wendy Jones' resume (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 3: Mayor Bink's notes from the Referee discussions (CONFIDENTIAL)

9.4 INFRASTRUCTURE

9.4.1 Contract Variation – Contract No. 20-21-65: Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment

Author: Manager Projects Delivery, Senior Project Officer

Responsible Director: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment project formed part of Council's 2020/21 Capital Works Program which carried forward to 2021/22 and subsequently to 2022/23. The primary objective of the project is to improve road safety at the intersection.

At the April 2021 Council Meeting, Council approved to award Contract No 20/21-65 for Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Road Intersection Realignment to 'Wrights Earthmoving Pty Ltd', after emerging as the preferred tenderer following a competitive tender process. The lumpsum contract was awarded to the contractor for a total sum of \$352,516.30. As the execution of works delayed due to tree permit issues Council agreed to revise the Contract price to \$423,204.94. Budget allocation was adjusted to suit this amount in this financial year.

Contract works commenced in December 2022 and contractors proceeded to remove the existing road, there was a significant amount of soft ground treatment emerged as the works progressed. These latent conditions are due to natural springs that are located underneath the pavement area to be constructed. It is essential to perform proper treatment to build up the new road pavement to achieve expected durability thereby providing best value for the shire assets. In addition, the surrounding community requested additional bus bay to be construct through the project to facilitate school bus pick up at the intersection to ensure safety for children accessing the bus.

These latent conditions and additional requirements result in a cost increase of \$113,995.20 which is 26.94% increase on Contract value revised recently. The new Contract value of the project would be \$537,200.14 should this variation be approved.

Given the topography of the site, there is further possibility that more soft saturated ground will be discovered when the remaining work area is excavated for construction. This will yield potential variations amounting up to \$110,000.00 based on current expenditure to treat and complete the project as per the standards.

Note: All monetary values mentioned in this report are inclusive of GST.

9.4.1 Contract Variation – Contract No. 20-21-65: Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. **Accept the variation of \$113,995.20 increasing the value of Contract No 20-21-65 Harrys Creek & Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment, to \$537,200.14 to cover additional works required to complete the work, and**
2. **Authorise responsible council officers to accept further variations up to the value of \$110,000.00 to cover any possible additional works required to complete the project, and**
3. **Note that the additional budget allocations can be accommodated within the 2022/23 Capital works budget.**

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

This report seeks Council approval of the proposal to increase the value of Contract No 20/21-65 – Harrys Creek & Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment by \$113,995.20 (26.94%) to cover additional works required to complete the work.

Contract work of Harrys Creek & Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment commenced in December 2022 after final approval for the tree removal permit was issued. During works it was identified that a significant area of soft ground treatment works were required, these works emerged from ground disturbance after the construction had commenced. This was not foreseen during the design stage, and it was not until construction commenced that the springs appeared within the excavated ground. To bring the road up to the required standards and meet the necessary durability requirements it was essential to treat this unsuitable ground and allow proper drainage before construction of the new road could commence. The proposed treatments will ensure the shire's asset created through this project provides best value in terms of ongoing maintenance and upkeep.

Given the topography of the site, there is a great potential to uncover more soft saturated ground when the remaining work area is excavated for construction. This will yield potential variations amounting up to \$110,000.00 to treat and complete the project as per the standards.

VARIATION DETAILS

Additional work encountered during construction, to date, is summarised as below.

Table 1: Summary of Additional Works

S/N	Description	Amount (Ex. GST)
1.0	Construction of additional Bus Bay	\$17,234.80
2.0	Unstable areas and Drainage	\$50,635.20
3.0	Subgrade replacement due to spring water	\$46,125.20
Total		\$113,995.20

9.4.1 Contract Variation – Contract No. 20-21-65: Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment (cont.)

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.

Accepting to include the additional works was therefore in the best interest of Council as it represents the best value outcome.

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

The author of this report considers that the matter under consideration did not warrant a community consultation process

Community Implications

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

Risk Management

The Responsible Officer considers timely consideration of the variation while construction is ongoing as vital to successful delivery of the works under this project. Delay in taking decision could attract further costs. The Responsible Officer therefore advises timely consideration of this approval by Council.

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* is relevant with the following:

Goal 3 - To provide quality infrastructure.

Key Strategy – Provide best practice management of all assets including roads, bridges and facilities.

Approach – Target major capital works projects to seek government funding to reduce Council's costs.

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.

9.4.1 Contract Variation – Contract No. 20-21-65: Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment (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

The author of this report considers that 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.

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

The budget allocated to Harrys Creek & Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment in the current Financial Year is \$423,204.94. With the proposed variation of \$113,995.20 to the contract, the new contract sum will be of \$537,200.14.

Officers propose that the additional budget allocation can be accommodated within the 2022/23 Capital works 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 Implications

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

9.4.1 Contract Variation – Contract No. 20-21-65: Harrys Creek and Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment (cont.)

Environmental / Amenity Implications

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.

The outcome of the project would ensure safety and promote social interaction across communities within the shire, this would in turn enhance innovation within the society.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

Council approved tender evaluation recommendation to Award 20/21-65 for Harrys Creek & Bonnie Doon Roads Intersection Realignment to Wrights Earthmoving Pty Ltd. The contract is being executed in 2022 accordance with the Council's Contract Management Guidelines and Procurement Policy.

Additional works emerging from latent conditions during construction are considered necessary to the success of the project. It is proposed that Council endorses the recommendation to increase the value of contract to accommodate the additional works as discussed in this report.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.4.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23 – 22: Design and Construct of New Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations

Author: Environment and Waste Coordinator

Responsible Director: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In September 2022 Council was successful in receiving funding from the Transfer Station Upgrade Fund – Round 2, to build bin bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations. This report will outline the competitive tender process that was undertaken and make a recommendation on a preferred tenderer.

The public tender process for this tender was undertaken to meet Council's compliance requirements under Council's Procurement Policy.

The public tender was initially released on "Tendersearch" via the Council website on the 14 October 2022. By close of tenders at 4.00pm on 10 November 2022, one (1) tender was received.

The tender was assessed and evaluated by Council Officers and having considered the results of the evaluation, it is recommended that Council awards this contract to CivilVic Pty Ltd for the lump sum of \$275,000 inc GST.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the outcome of the tender assessment process for Contract No 22-23-22 Design and Construct of new Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations;***
- 2. Awards the tender for Contract No 22-23-2 Design and Construct of new Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations - Lump Sum to Civilvic Pty Ltd based in Wantirna Victoria for a total amount of \$275,000, inclusive of GST;***
- 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Contract by signing and affixing with the Common Seal of Strathbogie Shire Council; and***
- 4. Notes that it is anticipated that works will commence on 13 March 2023 and be completed by 1 May 2023.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Strathbogie Shire Council owns and operates seven (7) transfer stations across the Shire and these sites provide waste disposal and recycling services for residents.

Council was successful in receiving funding from the State Government from the *Transfer Station Upgrade Fund – Round 2* to install new bins bays at the Avenel and Nagambie Transfer Stations to ensure access and future proofing our transfer stations against projected population growth.

9.4.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23 – 22: Design and Construct of New Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations (cont.)

ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Tender Process

The public tender was initially released on “Tendersearch” via the Council website on the 14 October 2022. By close of tenders at 4.00pm on 10 November 2022, one (1) tender was received.

A tender site inspection was rescheduled from Thursday 21 October to Thursday 27 October due to the flooding emergency that was impacting on our Council at the time.

The tenderer submission was accessed for compliance including the contractual terms and conditions and the requirements of the response schedules. The tender was deemed conforming.

Table 1 below lists the tenderer that was received at the close of the advertised tender period.

Table 1: Tender Submissions Received

Tender Submissions Received at the close of Tender Period
Civilvic Pty Ltd

Tender Price

Table 2 below shows the tender price offer at the close of the advertised tender period.

Table 2: Tender Offers Received (Incl GST)

Tender Offers Received at Close of Tender Period (Incl GST)
\$275,000

Panel Assessment Process

In accordance with Council’s Procurement Policy, the evaluation panel and evaluation criteria weightings were determined prior to release of the Tender documentation. The evaluation panel members were nominated prior to release of the tender submissions for evaluation. The panel signed ‘Conflict of Interest’ statements prior to the evaluation panel viewing the submitted tenders.

The Tender Evaluation Panel members were made up of the following Strathbogie Shire Council staff members:

1. Project Officer; Sustainable Infrastructure
2. Environment and Waste Coordinator; Sustainable Infrastructure
3. Climate Change Officer, Sustainable Infrastructure
4. Procurement & Tender Officer; Finance (Moderator, non-voting member)

The principle that underlies the awarding of all Council contracts is that a contract is awarded on the basis of providing the overall Best Value, offering the most benefit to the community and the greatest advantage to Council.

9.4.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23 – 22: Design and Construct of New Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations (cont.)

The tender was assessed and evaluated against the following criteria and weightings:

- Tendered Price (60%)
This criterion measures the price only – either lump sum or unit rates – submitted by the tenderer. In accordance with Council's Procurement Guidelines, a price weighting of 60% is applied, unless a Council exemption is sought.
The submission was given a weighted score for their submitted price based on a comparative assessment of pricing for all tenders.
- Business and Management Requirements (5%)
Quality Management Systems, Policies, Relevant Certifications, and Insurance are likewise considered vital and therefore included with an allocated weighting of 5%.
- Capability and Experience (10%)
As the Work requires timely completion and elimination/mitigation of work-related risks, this criterium is considered important and therefore allocated a weighting of 10%.
- Compliance with Specification (5%)
As the Work is dependant compliance with the specification this criterium is considered important and therefore allocated a weighting of 5%.
- Local Content (10%)
In accordance with Procurement Guidelines and being consistent with value for money principles, where different products are of comparable price, quality and equivalent value can be sourced either locally or regionally; preference will be given to local suppliers. A weighting of 10% was allocated to this tender.
- Sustainability (10%)
In accordance with Procurement Guidelines and Council's commitment to the environment this criterium is important and a weighting of 10% was allocated to this tender.

Table 3: Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Weighting (%)
Price	60
Business and Management Requirements	5
Capability and Experience	10
Compliance with Specification	5
Sustainability	10
Local Content	10
Total	100

9.4.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23 – 22: Design and Construct of New Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations (cont.)

Evaluation Moderation Process

The Tender Evaluation Panel individually reviewed all tender submission in detail and assessed the tenderer response and attachments submitted against the evaluation criteria.

No Moderation meeting was required for this tender as no scoring was outside of three scoring points and the sole tenderer provided adequate details not requiring Panel discussion.

Panel Assessment 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.

At the completion of the tender evaluation process, Civilvic Pty Ltd attained a total score of 84.99%. Whilst they were the sole tenderer, the Tender Evaluation Panel was satisfied they met the required standard to be awarded a Contract from Council, with a qualitative score of 24.99% out of 40%. The Tender Evaluation Panel was therefore satisfied that their tender represents the best value outcome for Council.

Civilvic Pty Ltd have demonstrated capability to complete the Works outlined in the tender based on their submitted documents and previous experience.

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.

Staff have identified the need for additional bin bays at Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations to meet growing population demands in these townships. Council has also recently released some media coverage of grant funding received and will continue to keep the community informed of the progress of the works.

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.

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

The Council Plan 2021-25 is relevant with the following:

- *Focus Area 3: Protect. Enhance. Adapt.*
We are minimising harmful impacts on our natural environment.

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.

9.4.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23 – 22: Design and Construct of New Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations (cont.)

The funding received for this project from the State Government is part of *Recycling Victoria* to build a more resilient waste sector in Victoria.

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.

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.

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.

Council was successful in receiving \$290,000 from the State Government as part of the Transfer Station Upgrade fund, with no co contribution from Council.

Staff had already noted that these capital works would be required and bin bays at Nagambie had been budgeted to be completed in 2022/23 and Avenel in 2023/24. As the grant covers the complete build, Council potentially will be able to redirect these funds as required to other capital works projects.

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.

9.4.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23 – 22: Design and Construct of New Waste Bin Bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations (cont.)

Economic & Social

The project will continue to maintain a vital Council assets, and keep the relevant facilities and area in great order to promote and increase the useability of the transfer stations. It will also help to future proof our transfer stations for the increasing populations in Nagambie and Avenel.

Environmental

The proposed works will not have a negative impact on the natural environment and will assist with better operations at our transfer stations.

Climate change

The recommendation has no significant implications on Climate Change and on the general environment.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

Council invited tenders for CN 22/23-22 for Design and Construct of new waste bins bays at the Nagambie and Avenel Transfer Stations. The submitted tender was evaluated in accordance with Council's Procurement Policy and against the provided brief and specifications. It is recommended that Council award the contract to Civilvic Pty Ltd.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

APPENDICES

As a sole tender was received, no confidential comparison report is required.

9.4.3 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-33: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed Road Works (patching) - with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions

Author: Manager Assets Planning

Responsible Director: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has undertaken a competitive tender process for the rectification of the flood damage to our sealed road network caused by the October 2022 flood event (AGRN 1037) as a component of the Flood Recovery Program to be funded through the National Disaster Funding Assistance (NDFA). The Department of Transport and Planning assesses submitted flood defects for funding approval on behalf of Emergency Management Victoria (EMV). Since the event, Council have had regular update meetings with the assessor and received provisional approval to commence immediate reconstruction works.

Council met the required compliance obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 and the Strathbogie Procurement Policy (2021) by undertaking formal public request for tender.

The tender was released on “Tendersearch” via the Council website on the 2 December 2022. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 3 December 2022, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 20 January 2023, two (2) submissions had been received.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Awards the tender for Contract No 22/23-32 – Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed road works (patching) to Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd of Wodonga for lump sum price of \$354,108.00 including GST;**
- 2. Awards the Tender as Panel of Suppliers option to:
Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd and
Cleaves Earthmoving and Drainage Pty Ltd;**
- 3. Authorises officers to advise the unsuccessful tenderers; and**
- 4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Contract by signing and affixing with the Common Seal of Strathbogie Shire Council.**

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

This report seeks Council approval of the recommendations from the Asset Services on Contract Number **22/23-32 - Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed road works (patching) with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions** and to award the contract to the winning submitter as provided in this report.

9.4.3 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-33: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed Road Works (patching) - with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

TENDER PROCESS

The tender was released on “Tendersearch” via the Council website on the 2 December 2022. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 3 December 2022, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 20 January 2023, two (2) submissions had been received.

Table 1: Tender Submissions Received

Tender Submissions Received at the close of Tender Period (in Alphabetical Order)
Cleaves Earthmoving and Drainage Pty Ltd
Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd

Assessment Process

The tender evaluation panel (TEP) reviewing the tenders were made up of the following:

1. Manager Asset Planning
2. Infrastructure Development Engineer
3. Asset System Coordinator
4. Procurement and Tenders Officer (process facilitator, non-voting member).

The principle that underlies the awarding of all Council contracts is that a contract is awarded on the basis of providing the overall Best Value, offering the most benefit to the community and the greatest advantage to Council.

The tenders were assessed and evaluated against the following criteria and weightings:

TABLE 2: Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Weighting (%)
Price	50%
Business & Management Requirements	5%
Capability, Methodology and Experience	35%
Regional Benefit	10%

At the completion of the tender evaluation, it was determined that Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd (located in Wodonga, Victoria) offered the best value and could deliver the project as per the specifications. Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd have significant experience in sealed road reconstruction.

Council Officers assessing the submissions were therefore satisfied that Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd submitted tender represents the best value outcome for Council.

Due to the nature of this disaster event and the road assets impacted by flood, a panel of suppliers provision under this contract will allow Council effective response to further works which may occur once all flood waters have receded.

9.4.3 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-33: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed Road Works (patching) - with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (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.

Consultation

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

Community Implications

The recommendation enables rectification of the damage incurred during the October flood event at the earliest opportunity. Subsequently we can inform the community with regards to estimated time of completion of these reconstruction works.

Risk Management

The Tender Evaluation Panel considers early commencement of Work as vital to its successful delivery, to ensure work is completed during spring.

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.

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

The *Council Plan* is relevant with the following:

2.1.2 Review resources and service standards to align with the Asset Plan and Road Management Plan.

5.8 Monitor the compliance of Council's emergency management framework with changing legislative requirements.

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.

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.

9.4.3 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-33: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed Road Works (patching) - with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

It is considered 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.

Assigned Council staff work closely with the assessor and EMV to ensure the Victoria's *Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA)* funding guidelines are strictly followed in lead up to all awarded works packages, during execution of the works, as well as, at completion when finally logging claims for reimbursement of all eligible costs incurred by Council.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

Council invited tenders for Contract No 21-22-33 – Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed road works (patching). The Procurement Policy was followed when completing the formal Request for Tender process. The submission from Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd represented overall Best Value outcome to the Strathbogie Shire.

Due to the nature of this disaster event and the road assets impacted by flood, a panel of suppliers provision under this contract would allow Council effective response to further works which may occur once all flood waters have receded.

It is proposed that Council endorses the recommendations discussed herein.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-33: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed Road Works (patching) - with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (CONFIDENTIAL)

9.4.4 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-34: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions

Author: Manager Assets Planning

Responsible Director: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has undertaken a competitive tender process for the rectification of the flood damage to our unsealed road network caused by the October 2022 flood event (AGRN 1037) as a component of the Flood Recovery Program to be funded through the National Disaster Funding Assistance (NDFA). The Department of Transport and Planning assesses submitted flood defects for funding approval on behalf of Emergency Management Victoria (EMV). Since the start, Council have had regular update meetings with the assessor and received provisional approval to commence immediate reconstruction works.

Council met the required compliance obligations under the Local Government Act 2020 and the Strathbogie Procurement Policy (2021) by undertaking formal public request for tender.

The tender was released on “Tendersearch” via the Council website on the 2 December 2022. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 3 December 2022, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 20 January 2023, five (5) submissions had been received.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Awards the tender for Contract No 22/23-34 – Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed road works as a panel contract, awarding contracts to the following contractors for a combined maximum value of \$1,900,000 inclusive of GST, as follows:
Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd of Wodonga,
Extons Pty Ltd of Benalla,
HP Hire (Vic) Pty Ltd of Euroa,
Kipping DIRTWORX Pty Ltd of Euroa, and
Seven Creeks Excavations Pty Ltd of Euroa;***
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer Award individual contracts to members of the panel to a maximum value of \$500,000, including GST, with the maximum value of all of the packages to be not greater than \$1,900,000, inclusive of GST;***
- 3. Authorises officers to advise the unsuccessful tenderers; and***
- 4. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Contract by signing and affixing with the Common Seal of Strathbogie Shire Council.***

9.4.4 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-34: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

This report seeks Council approval of the recommendations from the Asset Services on Contract Number **22/23-34 - Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed road works with optional Panel of Suppliers** and to award the contract to the winning submitter as provided in this report.

It was determined that a Panel of Suppliers Contract would be issued. The benefit of a Panel of Supplier Contracts for these essential rectification works are:

- Enables several Contractors to work on the rectification concurrently resulting in faster completion and better outcome for community,
- Allow Contractors to choose work that was within their capacity,
- Obtain schedule of rates for rectification not listed on the defect reports at the time (nature of flood defects can mean rapid decline in condition at any time), and
- Ensure internal Procurement Policy compliance requirements are met whilst achieving overall Best Value requirements.

TENDER PROCESS

The tender was released on “Tendersearch” via the Council website on the 2 December 2022. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 3 December 2022, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 20 January 2023, five (5) submissions had been received.

Table 1: Tender Submissions Received

Tender Submissions Received at the close of Tender Period (in Alphabetical Order)
Country Wide Asphalt Pty Ltd
Extons Pty Ltd
HP Hire (VIC)
Kipping DIRTWORX
Seven Creeks Excavations Pty Ltd

Table 2 below lists the tender offers (including GST) at the close of the advertised tender period. As this was a Panel of Suppliers Contract, not all tenderers have priced all defect items.

Table 2: Tender Offers Received (including GST)

Tender Offers Received for up to 29 Defects listed, at Close of Tender Period (including GST) in lowest to highest order
\$868,512 (total of 27/29 defects priced)
\$880,791 (total of 20/29 defects priced)
\$165,880 (total of 3/29 defects priced)
\$338,250 (total of 6/29 defects priced)
\$1,800,564 (total of 29/29 defects priced)

9.4.4 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-34: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

Assessment Process

The tender evaluation panel established to review the tenders received was made up of the following:

1. Manager Asset Planning
2. Infrastructure Development Engineer
3. Asset System Coordinator
4. Procurement and Tenders Officer (process facilitator, non-voting member).

The principle that underlies the awarding of all Council contracts is that a contract is awarded on the basis of providing the overall Best Value, offering the most benefit to the community and the greatest advantage to Council.

The tenders were assessed and evaluated against the following criteria and weightings:

Table 3: Evaluation Criteria

Criteria	Weighting (%)
Price	50%
Business & Management Requirements	5%
Capability, Methodology and Experience	35%
Regional Benefit	10%

At the completion of the tender evaluation process, it was determined that all suppliers could deliver the flood rectification works in some capacity, as per the as per the specifications. All have significant experience in un-sealed road reconstruction.

Council Officers assessing the submissions were therefore satisfied that all submitted tender represents the best value outcome for Council.

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

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

Community Implications

The recommendation enables rectification of the damage incurred during the October flood event at the earliest opportunity. Subsequently we can inform the community with regards to estimated time of completion of these reconstruction works.

Risk Management

The Tender Evaluation Panel considers early commencement of Work as vital to its successful delivery, to ensure work is completed during spring.

9.4.4 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-34: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

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.

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

The *Council Plan* is relevant with the following:

2.1.2 Review resources and service standards to align with the Asset Plan and Road Management Plan.

5.8 Monitor the compliance of Council's emergency management framework with changing legislative requirements.

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.

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.

It is considered 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.

9.4.4 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-34: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

Assigned Council staff work closely with the assessor and Emergency Management Victoria (EMV) to ensure the National Disaster Funding Assistance (NDFA) funding guidelines are strictly followed in lead up to all awarded works packages, during execution of the works, as well as, at completion when finally logging claims for reimbursement of all eligible costs incurred by Council.

The scope of works offered to each contractor will be based on a value for money exercise taking into account geographic locations of the projects, and the contractor's capacity to perform the works to a maximum value of \$500,000 including GST per contractor.

Once created, the contractors will be offered the opportunity to complete the scope of work at the prices they submitted.

Once the contractors agree to perform the scope of works, individual contracts will be executed by the Chief Executive Officer to a maximum value of \$500,000 incl. GST to any one contractor.

The cumulative value for all of the packages will not exceed \$1,900,000 inclusive of GST.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

Council invited tenders for Contract No 22/23-34 - Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Unsealed road works with optional Panel of Suppliers. Council's Procurement Policy was followed when completing the formal Request for Tender process.

It is recommended that a panel contract be awarded to all of the tenderers.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

APPENDICES

Appendix 2: Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-34: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (CONFIDENTIAL)

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender

Author: Environment and Waste Coordinator

Responsible Director: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

North East and Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Groups (NE&GVWRRG) jointly sponsored and facilitated a collaborative tender process to procure kerbside collections, waste disposal and processing services for kerbside waste streams for Local Government Councils and Alpine Resort Management Boards (Participants) in their respective Regions from 1 July 2025.

Strathbogie Shire Council tendered for the following services

- Kerbside Collection Services
- Events Bins
- Public Place Bins
- Bulk Bin transport
- General Waste disposal services
- Commingled recycling processing services
- FOGO processing services
- Glass processing services

This process has now been completed and this report will outline the competitive tender process that was undertaken and make recommendations on the preferred tenderer for each of the services.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. ***Receives and notes the outcome of the tender assessment process for Contracts***
 - a. ***CN 25-26/01 – Kerbside Collection***
 - b. ***CN 25-26/02 – Landfill Disposal***
 - c. ***CN 25-26/03 – Comingled Recycling Processing***
 - d. ***CN 25-26/04 – FOGO Organics Processing***
 - e. ***CN 25-26/05 – Glass Processing***

Completed by staff as part of the Hume Region Collaborative Waste Tender;

2. ***Award the tender for contract no CN 25-26/01 Kerbside Collection to Foott Waste Pty Ltd;***
3. ***Award the tender for contract no CN 25-26/03 Comingled Recycling Processing to Foott Waste Pty Ltd;***
4. ***Award the tender for contract no CN 25–26/04 FOGO Organics Processing to Western Composting Pty Ltd;***

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)*RECOMMENDATION (cont.)*

5. ***Award the tender for contract no CN 25-26/05 Glass Processing to Veolia Pty Ltd;***
6. ***CN25-26/02 Landfill Disposal tender is set aside and not awarded at this time. Council officers to commence new process and report back by 1 December 2023; and***
7. ***Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Contract by signing and affixing the Common Seal of Strathbogie Shire Council***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

In 2014 the Councils of Strathbogie, Benalla, Murrindindi, Mansfield and Mitchell Shire came together to collaboratively procure kerbside and transfer station collection, disposal and recycling services. This resulted in a much smoother and easier tender process and significant savings for all Councils involved. The ability to work together to deliver Councils biggest contract meant that the participating Councils were able to bring in external expertise to help manage the process.

Strathbogie Shire Council's current waste contracts are due to expire 1 July 2025 and the North East and Goulburn Valley Waste and Resource Recovery Groups (WRRGs) have come together again to procure this important community service as part of the 'Resource Recovery Collection – Hume'.

This initiative will support the ongoing delivery of essential kerbside waste and recycling services beyond current contracts and provide an opportunity for councils and alpine resorts to implement actions contained in the Victorian Government's circular economy policy, *Recycling Victoria – A new economy*.

The 'Resource Recovery Collective – Hume' will seek to ensure councils and alpine resorts from across the Hume region continue to lead the state in the diversion of waste from landfill, whilst supporting the achievement of sustainable regional circular economy opportunities and economic growth.

The Participants are:

- Alpine Shire Council;
- Benalla Rural City Council;
- Falls Creek Alpine Resort Management Board;
- Mansfield Shire Council;
- Rural City of Wangaratta;
- Towong Shire Council;
- Greater Shepparton City Council;
- Lake Mountain Alpine Resort (Southern Alpine Resort Management Board)
- Mitchell Shire Council;
- Moira Shire Council;
- Murrindindi Shire Council; and
- Strathbogie Shire Council.

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (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.

The aims of this regional procurement were to:

- Encourage regional investment in people, sustainable infrastructure and innovative services:
 - Investing in infrastructure and services that are resilient and flexible as well as socially and environmentally sustainable, and
 - Building local service provider capability, resilience, and supplier diversity.
- Increase in resource recovery while advancing a circular economy:
 - Improving recycling and contamination rates as well as maintaining a leadership position in Victoria with adaptable goals, and
 - Encouraging services that support a circular economy.
- Maintain a strategic focus in procurement and service delivery:
 - Aligning to Local and State Government requirements with the ability to adapt to new requirements, and
 - Improve the measurability and efficiency of waste management data capture to improve services, improve performance and influence customer behaviours.
- Embrace innovative waste services models:
 - Adopt a price and risk model that ensures continuity of service,
 - Turn waste into revenue whilst achieving circular economy outcomes, and
 - Encourage innovative management of waste streams where productivity and sustainability outcomes can be achieved.
- Achieve best outcomes for people and the environment:
 - Provision of high-quality service for and on behalf of the community,
 - Education of community to improve waste outcomes and advance local circular economies, and
 - Minimising greenhouse gas emissions and environmental impact.

Due to the size and complexity of the planned tender, consultants were engaged:

- ArcBlue – Procurement process management
- Rawtec – Waste technical input
- Russell Kennedy – Legal
- Landell – Probity

NEWRRG and GVVRRG (Later DELWP) provided central coordination, administration, document management and a range of localised assistance; including obtaining ACCC exemption for the event.

A working group (CPWG) was established to steer strategic decision making and monitor risk throughout the process. Each Participant is represented on the CPWG and all major decisions and recommendations were reviewed by the CPWG.

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

The team developed the specification and documentation collaboratively, with each Participant providing their own data, identifying the particular services required, and reserving the right to recommend the service providers most suited to their particular situation.

Due to the complexity and high capital costs associated with processing waste contracts tenderers were able to tender for either a 15-year contract or a 7.5 plus 7.5 years with the extension at the sole discretion of the Council. The kerbside contracts were only able to be tendered for a 7.5 plus 7.5 year period with extension at the discretion of Council and with new vehicles at the start of the extension period.

To ensure consistency with contract dates and that Council can ensure that we are always operating with best practice operators it is recommended that all contracts offered are on a 7.5 plus 7.5 year basis.

Tender Process

The tender was released at 11am 6 June 2022 via eProcure and all questions and clarifications were managed through eProcure and reviewed by the Probity Advisor where necessary. The tender was extended from the original close date of 12 September 2022 to 19 September 2022 to allow tenders to respond to some changes and clarifications late in the process.

The compliance evaluation was conducted by ArcBlue Consulting. All tenders passed the minimal acceptable standard and progressed. Two had no issues of note, eight (8) had minor issues to be noted, three (3) had issues that were recommended for further investigation. None of the issues would exclude tenderers from being awarded.

Tenders for each service were received from:

Kerbside Collection Services	General Waste Disposal	Commingled Recycling Processing	FOGO Processing	Glass Processing
Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Solo Resource Recovery	JJ's Waste and Recycling	Western Composting	JJ's Waste and Recycling
Solo Resource Recovery	Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd	Cleanaway Pty Ltd	Repurpose-It Pty Ltd	Cleanaway Pty Ltd
Foott Waste Solutions		Foott Waste Solutions	Biomix Pty Ltd	Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd
Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd		Veolia Environmental Services (Australia) Pty Ltd		

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

Panel Assessment Process

The Tender Evaluation Panel (TEP) was established in accordance with the Evaluation Plan. DELWP provided the Chair and the Deputy Chair and Secretary, who were non-scoring.

Participants provided two representatives to score responses related to their services and some provided a non-scoring observer from their Procurement team. A detailed listing of the members of the Tender Evaluation Panel can be found in Appendix 3 (Confidential).

The evaluation process proceeded in accordance with the Evaluation Plan.

- Evaluators scored individually.
- A consensus meeting was then held and scores considered and adjusted by evaluators.
- Clarifications were sought from tenderers throughout the process where further information was required to agree a score.
- Where scorers could not attend the meeting, they were contacted and their input included.
- Once qualitative scores were established, price scores were added.
- Final scores were mapped for Participant organisations, then the range of viable options discussed with each Participant organisation, taking into account their particular circumstances.
- Once Participants had shortlisted to between 1 and 3 options for each service, the potential outcomes were communicated to tenderers to see whether this impacted their bids.
- Participants then reviewed offers again with this new information, collectively, to identify opportunities offered by multiple-participant volumes.
- In parallel, legal departures were negotiated.

The evaluation weighting had been agreed prior to tender release and recorded in the Evaluation Plan. The weightings applied differed slightly between Collections and Processing/Disposal services, as displayed in the table below, however price remained at 30% for both.

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

Contents	Collection	Processing/ disposal services
Respondent Details	Mandatory	
Service to be bid	Mandatory	
Compliance and risk	Mandatory	
Performance	4%	4%
Previous relevant experience of Contractors	6%	6%
Subcontractors		
TOTAL	10%	10%
Fleet Plant and equipment	10%	5%
Facilities	0%	5%
Customer support team	2%	5%
Complaints management and rectification	5%	1%
Future capacity and growth	3%	4%
TOTAL	20%	20%
Mobilisation and transition	7%	4%
Performance and continuous improvement	7%	7%
Disaster recovery	2%	4%
Contamination incidents	4%	5%
TOTAL	20%	20%
Employment practices	1%	1%
Local employment	4%	4%
Community and social engagement and education	2%	2%
Environment and sustainability	8%	8%
TOTAL	15%	15%
Innovation Past	1%	1%
Innovation New	4%	4%
TOTAL	5%	5%
Price	30%	

As the final service required a combination of kerbside collector, processor/disposer, and transportation of collected material; the combination of score and price could only be an indicator to assist in shortlisting.

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

Each processing/disposal contract option needed to take into consideration the collector transport costs for that processing/disposal option. Each collector would have a different cost to transport material to each processing/disposal option, which made certain combinations much more expensive. A cheap collection cost may suddenly be the most expensive option if that collector applied a high transport cost, and the most attractive processor was a large distance away. Therefore, the price needed to be considered for the service in total, however the qualitative scoring could only be applied for the service being offered. This meant a simple “highest score” approach could not be applied and some flexibility remained for Participants to consider the merits of service combinations.

Each Participant was presented with a range of viable options and the combined options considered in detail.

Three rounds of clarifications were sought from tenderers, covering a range of issues including:

- Clarification surrounding aspects of glass processing
- Clarifications covering service offering
- Clarifications related to resourcing and requirements

The price score is impacted by the cost to transport the waste to the proposed processing/disposal site and therefore varies depending upon the combination of kerbside collector and processing/disposal site.

The myriad of combinations were mapped, however only a shortlist of the most viable combinations including highest score and cheapest price. Further information on the short-listed options can be found in Appendix 4 (Confidential).

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 staff have undertaken significant community engagement with the community with the Four Bin Kerbside Service was one of the most engaged projects on Share Strathbogie. In 2025 when preparing to roll out the new services staff will undertake further engagement to inform our community of the changes.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The key strategic focus area that links in with the delivery of waste management services is

- Strategic Focus Area 3: Protect. Enhance. Adapt.

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

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

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 proposed regional tender will consider that there has been significant policy, regulatory and industry change within the waste and resource recovery sector.

Key regulatory and current state changes that will be considered include:

China National Sword

- Widespread disruption to the recycling industry in 2018 due to a ban on the export of waste to China
- SKM Recycling insolvency and Cleanaway entry to the market

Government Intervention

- Guidance Notes and Model Contract Clauses (Model Clauses) for local governments 2018
- National Waste Policy at Federal level
- Greater regulatory scrutiny at State level

Environment Protection Act 2017 (Vic)

- General environmental duty, specific duties and permissions regime

Circular Economy Act 2021 (Vic)

- Greater consistency and transparency in service delivery
- Greater State government oversight (Recycling Victoria)

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 provides waste management services to its community and these are seen as one of the fundamental core functions of Council. This tender will ensure that we continue to deliver these services with best value for money for our community.

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.

All participants of the Collaborative Procurement Working Group have signed confidentiality agreements and Conflict of Interest declarations.

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.

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

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.

While the project aims to assist councils and alpine resorts to reduce the significant resource burden required to manage a major tender, a commitment to the working group and supporting required inputs is necessary.

Strathbogie Shire Council's long term financial plan includes projections/assumptions regarding the cost of kerbside waste services. This tender will allow Council to project the cost of these services more accurately over the long term. The ability to leverage significant tonnages from across the region will ensure value for money services can be 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

The ability to collaboratively procure waste services across the region will mean that Council will be able source the best value for money service for our residents.

Social

Waste is considered a key service that Council delivers for its residents. Participating in this collaborative procurement process will mean that our residents continue to have access to high quality, best practice waste management services.

Environmental

This tender will have as one of its core tenants' mitigations to reduce the environmental impacts of waste management services. All staff involved in the development of this tender participated in a "Strategic Objectives Workshop" to ensure that the things that were important to the participating Councils were captured.

Reduction of carbon emissions, encouraging the development of the circular economy and investment in sustainable infrastructure all rated highly and were part of the tender and evaluation process.

9.4.5 Outcomes of the Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender (cont.)

Climate change

As part of the tender process the impacts of climate change will be investigated, but the strategic objectives of this tender are to minimise greenhouse gas emissions and environmental outcomes.

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.

By collaboratively procuring and maximising our tonnages we will be able to attract better technology to the region. The tender process will also ask for any innovative value adds to the contracts.

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.

Strathbogie Shire Council will be collaborating with other Councils within the Goulburn Valley and North East Waste Management Groups.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

Council was involved in a collaborative procurement tender process with other Shires in the North East and Goulburn Valley and this report provides an overview of the tender and evaluation process and makes recommendations on preferred tenderers for each of the services.

ATTACHMENTS (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 1: Resource Recovery Collective – Hume Evaluation Report (CONFIDENTIAL)

Attachment 2: Strathbogie Shire Council Evaluation Report (CONFIDENTIAL)

9.4.6 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation

Author: Procurement and Tenders Officer

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 the publicly advertised tenders, invitations for written quotations and quotations provided using collaborative and/or third party contracts which have been awarded under delegation for the period 1 December 2022 to 31 January 2023. This report specifically relates to works that form part of Council's 2022/23 budget and urgent rectification works required due to the October 2022 flood event.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the:

- 1. Contracts awarded under delegated authority by the Chief Executive Officer;***
- 2. Contracts and works awarded under delegated authority by a Director; and***
- 3. Works awarded under delegated authority by a Manager.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

In line with Council's approach to transparency and good governance, the Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation report will be tabled for information purposes at each Council Meeting. The report details any contracts and works 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 2022/23 budget.

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.

9.4.6 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)**Contracts Awarded Under Delegated Authority by Chief Executive Officer**

Contract No.	CN 22/23-29
Contract Name	<i>Flood Damage Rectification (Immediate) – Strip/Seal Mitchellstown, Moss, Goulburn & Weir-Murchison Roads Nagambie</i>
Contract Details	2 weeks – immediate (emergency repairs) Awarded under Emergency provisions
Value Including GST	\$60,800
Awarded to	Bild Infrastructure
Scheduled Commencement	14 December 2022
Scheduled Completion Date	6 January 2023

Contract No.	CN 22/23-30
Contract Name	<i>Flood damage rectification Charles St, Sheans Creek Rd, Turnbull St, Ankers Rd, Merton-Strathbogie Rd, Polly McQuinns Rd, Bonnie Doon Rd, Halsalls Ln, Faithfulls Creek Rd</i>
Contract Details	2 weeks – immediate (emergency repairs) Awarded under Emergency provisions
Value Including GST	\$119,466
Awarded to	Cleaves Earthmoving and Drainage
Scheduled Commencement	2 December 2022
Scheduled Completion Date	16 December 2022

Contract No.	CN 22/23-31
Contract Name	<i>Flood damage rectification- Sealed road Patching & Scour Shoulder works: Moglonemby Rd, Long/Pranjip Rds, Tarcombe Rd</i>
Contract Details	2 weeks – immediate (emergency repairs) Awarded under Emergency provisions
Value Including GST	\$60,800
Awarded to	Sevens Creeks Excavations Pty Ltd
Scheduled Commencement	19 December 2022
Scheduled Completion Date	13 January 2023

9.4.6 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

Contract No.	CN 22/23-21
Contract Name	<i>Investigation, Assessment and Detailed Design of Kirwans Bridge</i>
Contract Details	3 months with further service options offered pending outcome of initial findings, recommendations, and budget availability.
Value Including GST	\$117,425
Awarded to	JJ Ryan Consulting Pty Ltd
Scheduled Commencement	16 January 2023
Scheduled Completion Date	9 May 2023

Contracts Awarded Under Delegated Authority by Director/s

Purchase Ref No.	PN 22/23-05
Project Name	<i>Flood damage rectification- River damage and debris survey</i>
Details	X2 days Awarded under Emergency provisions
Value Including GST	\$29,370.00
Awarded to	Hydroquip Pty Ltd
Scheduled Commencement	25 November 2022 <i>Note: this work was authorised after the December 2022 meeting reporting timeline had closed</i>
Scheduled Completion Date	26 November 2022

Purchase Ref No.	PN 22/23-08
Project Name	<i>Goulburn Region Tourism Partnership Baseline Research</i>
Details	6 weeks
Value Including GST	\$28,900
Awarded to	Remplan Pty Ltd
Scheduled Commencement	1 February 2023
Scheduled Completion Date	15 March 2023

9.4.6 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

Contracts Awarded Under Delegated Authority by Manager/s

Nil.

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 by providing information to the community regarding the awarding of any works projects.

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 that have formed part of Council's adopted 2022/23 budget. Emergency rectification works to address damage associated with the October 2022 flood event are outside of the approved annual budget.

Whilst Council welcomed the \$1,000,000 grant from the State Government to use to address immediate flood impacts, this funding was exhausted quickly. Officers have submitted for further funding through the State and Australian Governments to recoup costs incurred.

To ensure that Council has capacity to address and reprioritise funding to address flood rectification works, the midyear budget has been adjusted accordingly and is a subject of a separate report.

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.

9.4.6 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

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 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 author of this report considers that 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 tenders, invitations for written quotations and quotations provided using collaborative and/or third party contracts which have been awarded by the Chief Executive Officer, Directors and Managers under delegated authority of the Council during the period 1 December to 31 January 2023.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

9.5 GOVERNANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE

9.5.1 Process for Tender – Internal Audit Services

Author: Director People & Governance

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The current contract with AFS and Associates Pty Ltd for the provision of internal audit services ends on 1 July 2023. At its end, the contract will have run for 5 years.

Internal auditors are an essential player in Council's good governance framework and deliver an internal audit program. The Local Government Act 2020 requires Council to appoint an Audit and Risk Committee, which is responsible for overseeing internal audit functions under Section 53 and 54 of the Act.

Internal Auditors undertake a variety of functions, including providing the Audit and Risk Committee with expert opinions on Council's governance structures, internal controls and the efficacy of policies/procedures. They therefore play an important role in supporting the Council's continuous improvement program and form an integral part of the Audit and Risk Committee's work program.

Recommendations from the Independent Auditors are presented to the Administration for review and comment, which are then submitted to the Audit and Risk Committee. Actions arising from the internal audits then form an action plan, the progress of which is tracked and reported to the Audit and Risk Committee every quarter.

This report outlines the public tender process to allow Council to enter into a new contract, recommended to be a three-year initial term with options for two terms of 1 year (totalling 5 years). Council would reserve the right to take up the two options of a year's extension based on the performance of the internal auditor, the recommendations of Council's Audit and Risk Committee and the views of the Council at the time.

Funds have been allocated in the current budget and those for future years to ensure there is ongoing provision for the independent audit service, which is integral to meeting our legislative and Council Plan obligations.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note that a public process to seek tenders for the provision of Independent Auditing Services will be undertaken in late February 2023.***
- 2. Receive a further report once tenders have been assessed by a Tender Evaluation Panel and the results of the evaluation considered by Council's Audit and Risk Committee.***

9.5.1 Process for Tender – Internal Audit Services (cont.)

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to appoint an Audit and Risk Committee and create a Charter to guide the roles and responsibilities of the Committee. Section 54 (2)(d) requires the Charter to outline its role in overseeing internal and external audit functions. This means that Council must ensure internal audit services are available to the Committee and Council at all times.

The current contract is due to end in mid-2023, therefore the tender process must commence soon.

It is considered appropriate and transparent to outline the tender process and timelines to ensure continuity in these services.

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.

Internal audit services are integral to our commitment to good governance and continuous improvement.

The current internal auditors, AFS and Associates, were first appointed as Council's auditors in 2012. The current contract was a three year term, with the option of 2 further one year options that Council resolved in 2021 and 2022 to exercise given the need for continuity during the Covid 19 pandemic.

During the life of the existing contract, an average of five internal audits have been scheduled and undertaken each year.

The process for seeking tenders is outlined in Council's Procurement Policy.

The table below outlines the key milestones of the tender process and the suggested timeframes for the Internal Audit Services tender:

Milestone	Target Date
Initial discussion between Director People & Governance and Council's Procurement and Contracts Officer to determine optimal tender process	Mid February 2023
Completion of a Procurement Plan and development of specifications by Director People & Governance	End February 2023
Advertisement of tender (3 ½ weeks)	March 2023
Tender Evaluation and moderation meeting	April 2023
Special Audit and Risk Committee meeting to consider tenders and evaluation outcomes	April 2023
Council meeting to consider report to appoint contract for Internal Audit Services	May 2023

9.5.1 Process for Tender – Internal Audit Services (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.

The public tender for Internal Audit Services will be facilitated through Council's online tender portal.

Advertisements will appear on Council's website and also printed media, including local newspapers and The Age.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

Being transparent around the public tender process is consistent with the goals under Strategic Focus Area 6 Accountable. Transparent. Responsible. One of the strategies outlined under this focus area is to achieve the highest level of good governance across the organisation and elected council.

Action 6.1.6 relates to supporting the Audit and Risk Committee in completing its work plan for 2022-23. Continuity in internal audit services is essential to ensure this work program can be delivered.

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 appointment of independent auditors is a mandatory requirement for all Victorian councils and forms a fundamental part of State government policy.

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.

Division 8 of the Act relates to Audit and Risk Committees. Section 54 requires the Committee to set a Charter that must outline its responsibilities, including oversight of the internal audit function. Furthermore, section 54(3) requires the Committee to prepare an annual workplan, which must include receipt and consideration of internal audits in accordance with the agreed internal audit program.

The Strathbogie Shire Council Audit and Risk Committee Charter sets out its role in overseeing the internal audit functions, which includes:

- setting the program for the functions and services to be audited during the life of the contract
- receiving the internal audit reports and their recommended actions to remedy any shortfalls or risks
- monitoring the Administration's progress with the action plan arising out of the internal audit reports.

9.5.1 Process for Tender – Internal Audit Services (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 how the tender for the internal auditor will be undertaken.

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.

There is existing provision in the 2022-23 budget for internal audit services of \$50,000.

Provision has been made for internal audit services in the draft 2023-24 budget and future years given the importance of this program in supporting the work of Council's Audit and Risk Committee.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no implications arising from this matter in relation to the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

CONCLUSION

It is essential that preparations for the call for tenders to provide Council and its Audit and Risk Committee with internal audit services commence this month to ensure continuity of service.

Council will receive a further report once the public tender process has been completed, the submissions evaluated by the Tender Evaluation Panel and the Panel's recommendations reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil.

9.5.2 Annual Adjustment Determination of Councillor Allowances – Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal

Author: Director People & Governance

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal has released its annual review of the allowances payable to mayors, deputy mayors and councillors.

The Tribunal is required to undertake an annual review of allowances payable to all councils across Victoria. The last determination (the first made by the Tribunal under the new Local Government Act 2020) was released in March 2022.

The Tribunal has reviewed a number of factors to inform its determination; current and projected economic conditions/trends, financial position and fiscal strategy for the State, recent remuneration adjustments for comparable roles and the short time between the first determination made by the Tribunal.

The Tribunal received two written submissions during the consultation period (which it notes did occur during the October flood event). One of these was from Mayor Binks, which highlighted the need for a consistent wage across the State given all councils have to meet the same legislative requirements. Mayor Binks argued that this meant the workload and responsibilities for councillors, whether they be from a small rural or large metropolitan council is essentially the same.

The determination is to index allowances at 1.5% each year for the next four years for allowances payable to the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. Allowances for other councillors and the remote area allowance will continue to be reviewed annually by the Tribunal.

Strathbogie remains a Category 1 municipality, which means the allowances are at the lowest end of those set for all councils.

Council must award councillors the allowance set by the Tribunal under the Local Government Act 2020. It is also noted that the indexed allowances must be backdated to 18 December 2022. The 2022-23 mid-year review and draft 2023-24 budget include provision for the indexed allowances.

The purpose of this report is to note the findings of the Tribunal and to align the allowances set by the Tribunal to those paid to our Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors for the period between 18 December 2022 and December 2023.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Note the findings of the report by the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal in relation to allowance payable to Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors (Victoria) Annual Adjustment Determination 2022.***

9.5.2 Annual Adjustment Determination of Councillor Allowances – Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

2. ***Set the base allowances for the period between 18 December 2022 and 17 December 2023 as follows:***
 - (a) Mayor - \$77,933***
 - (b) Deputy Mayor - \$38,967***
 - (c) Councillors - \$25,147.***
3. ***Request the Chief Executive Officer to award the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors backpay at the higher allowance rates to 18 December 2022 as soon as practicable.***
4. ***Note that the Tribunal has determined base allowances for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor will be indexed annually by 1.5% on 18 December 2023, 2024 and 2025.***
5. ***Note that a Council member that normally resides more than 50 kilometres from the location of Council meetings and other meetings they are required to attend by Council resolution is entitled to be paid a Remote Area Travel Allowance of \$54 for each day on which such meetings are held, up to a maximum allowance of \$5,625 per annum.***
6. ***Note that councillors can elect to receive:***
 - (a) all of the allowance to which they are entitled***
 - (b) a nominated portion of the allowance***
 - (c) receive no allowance.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal to review and determine councillor allowances.

The Tribunal's report outlines the factors it took into account in making its determination, which include but are not limited to:

- current and projected economic conditions/trends
- financial position and fiscal strategy for the State
- recent remuneration adjustments for comparable roles
- and the short time between the first determination made by the Tribunal in March 2022
- Written submissions (two were received, including one from Mayor Binks).

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.

9.5.2 Annual Adjustment Determination of Councillor Allowances – Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (cont.)

The Tribunal have taken the unusual step of indexing the allowance for the next four years for mayor and their deputies. In the past, allowances have been indexed annually, with a determination made in December each year after considering a range of factors.

It is noted that the allowances for other councillors will be undertaken annually, along with a review of the remote area allowance.

It is considered indexation of allowances at 1.5% until 18 December 2026 for mayors and deputy mayors means that the allowance will effectively be cut in real terms over the next four years. This is because inflation is currently at 6.9% and is expected to be above 1.5% for some time to come. The approach taken by the Tribunal could be construed as not effectively reflecting the roles of these two positions, which have significant legislative responsibilities under the Local Government Act 2020.

The full report from the Tribunal can be accessed through the following link: [Allowances for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors – annual adjustment | Victorian Government \(www.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.vic.gov.au/allowances-for-mayors-deputy-mayors-and-councillors-annual-adjustment)

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 has not undertaken any engagement process in relation to this matter given the Local Government Act 2020 is clear the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal is responsible for setting allowances.

The Tribunal did seek input from the public during a consultation phase, with two submissions received. The Tribunal did note that the submission period coincided with the October 2022 flood event, which affected many municipalities across the state.

The submissions, including that made by Mayor Binks, are viewable on the Tribunal's webpage using the following link: [Submissions to the 2022 Local Government Annual Adjustment Determination | Victorian Government \(www.vic.gov.au\)](https://www.vic.gov.au/submissions-to-the-2022-local-government-annual-adjustment-determination)

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

Being transparent around the setting of Councillor allowances is consistent with the goals under Strategic Focus Area 6 Accountable. Transparent. Responsible. One of the strategies outlined under this focus area is to achieve the highest level of good governance across the organisation and elected council.

9.5.2 Annual Adjustment Determination of Councillor Allowances – Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (cont.)

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 setting of allowances in accordance with the Tribunal's findings is consistent with State legislation and policy.

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.

Division 6 of the 2020 Act sets out Entitlements. Section 39 relates to allowances for mayors, deputy mayors and councillors and clearly sets out that only one allowance is to be paid – that is you cannot receive a mayor or deputy mayor allowance and a councillor allowance at the same time.

Section 39(4) also states that a council cannot resolve to pay allowances that exceed the amounts specified by the Tribunal's determination.

Section 39(5) states that a mayor, deputy mayor or councillor may choose to:

- Receive all of the allowance to which they are entitled
- Part of the allowance (the amount of allowance to be paid must be specified by the councillor)
- None of the allowance.

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 findings of the Remuneration Tribunal and to ensure a council resolution is in place to note the allowances to be paid to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

9.5.2 Annual Adjustment Determination of Councillor Allowances – Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (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.

Provision for the indexed allowances for the 2022-23 financial year have been made through the mid-year review. Provision for the indexation of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor allowances will be made in the 2023-24 draft budget and future years.

No provision has been made for the payment of the Remote Area Travel Allowance given Councillors have elected not to claim this payment to date.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

There are no implications arising from this matter in relation to the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

CONCLUSION

The relatively poor increase in Councillor allowances of 1.5% is disappointing, particularly given there had been no previous indexation between December 2019 – 2021. The indexation of allowances for the Mayor and Deputy Mayor at 1.5% means Councillors holding these positions will face reductions in their allowance in real terms given inflation is expected to be far higher than this figure and is currently sitting at 6.9%.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.5.3 Councillor Audit and Risk Committee Representation – 2022/2023

Author and Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In past years Council has nominated representatives for a number of internal committees as well as external committees and working groups on an annual basis.

The Councillor representative's role is to attend meetings on behalf of Council and to provide Council with briefings and updates on the matters/issues raised for further discussion by the Council as a whole.

In accordance with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter adopted by Council 14 December 2021, Councillor members will be appointed for a one-year term of office with their term expiring at the Statutory Meeting of Council. They may be renominated. The Statutory Meeting of Council was held on the 8 November 2022, but consideration of Councillor representatives on various groups and bodies was not considered until the Council meeting held on December 13, 2022.

Following the Council resolution at its December 2022 meeting, Council nominated and endorsed Councillor representatives on the various groups and bodies.

However, at this meeting, the Councillor representation on Council's Audit and Risk Committee was not ratified.

To ensure that there is appointed Councillor representation at the next Audit and Risk Meeting scheduled for Friday 3 March 2022, this report recommends that Council nominate two Councillors as representatives to attend the March Audit and Risk Committee Meeting. Once the Committee has finalised the review of its Audit and Risk Committee Charter, Councillor representation can be modified in accordance with any amendments to membership.

RECOMMENDATION

That:

- 1. Council approves Cr _____ and Cr _____ as the Councillor Members for the Audit and Risk Committee meeting to be held on Friday 3 March 2023;***
- 2. Council confirm Councillor membership at the March or April 2023 Council meeting, pending any amendments made to the 2021 Audit and Risk Committee Charter regarding Councillor membership made at the Audit and Risk Committee meeting to be held on Friday 3 March 2023; and***
- 3. The Chief Executive Officer notifies the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee of this appointment.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Councillors represent the municipal community in a variety of ways as part of their normal duties. This includes being appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee.

9.5.3 Councillor Audit and Risk Committee Representation – 2022/2023 (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.

The *Audit and Risk committee* (the Committee) is an advisory *committee* to the *council* and its membership is usually a combination of independent advisors and councillors. The Committee is appointed by Strathbogie Shire Council to oversee the activities of council particularly its risk management and internal control processes in addition to the activities of the Council's external and internal auditors.

The committee gives independent advice to Council on:

- appropriate accounting and financial reporting
- internal and external auditing
- internal control
- business risk management
- compliance and reporting systems
- fraud prevention
- processes and practices to ensure good governance

Meeting quarterly (or more frequently as required), they consider and make recommendations to the Council and its management on many issues and internal audits.

In accordance with the Audit and Risk Committee Charter adopted by Council 14 December 2021, two (2) Councillor members will be appointed for a one-year term of office with their term expiring at the Statutory Meeting of Council. They may be renominated. The Statutory Meeting of Council was held on the 8 November 2022, but consideration of Councillor representatives on various groups and bodies was not considered until the Council meeting held on December 13, 2022.

However, at the December 2022 meeting, the Councillor representation on Council's Audit and Risk Committee was not ratified.

This report ensures that Council fulfills the requirements of the Charter for attendance at the March 2023 Committee meeting.

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.

Independent Committee members are appointed to the Audit and Risk Committee following a public advertising and recruitment process in the past.

The nomination and endorsement of Councillor membership occurs annually at the Statutory (or equivalent meeting) each calendar year.

9.5.3 Councillor Audit and Risk Committee Representation – 2022/2023 (cont.)

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The appointment of Councillors to Council's Audit and Risk Committee is consistent with Strategic Focus Area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible and implements strategy 6.1.6 of the 2121-25 Council Plan (2022 review), which refers to:

- Support the Audit and Risk Committee in completing its work plan for 2022–23.

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.

An Audit and Risk Committee must be appointed by all councils under section 53 of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act). A Charter, adopted by Council on 14 December 2021, outlines (amongst other considerations), the Committee's membership, roles and responsibilities as defined by the Act.

The appointment of two Councillor representatives is in accordance with the requirements the Charter.

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.

One of the key objectives of the Audit and Risk Committee is to ensure public probity and transparency around Council operations in accordance with the Committee's Charter and the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Councillor members to the Audit and Risk Committee provide public feedback on their attendance at Audit and Risk Committee meetings via a report to the community during Ordinary Council meetings when Audit and Risk matters are formally considered.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

This report does not limit any human rights under the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and encourages participation in civic life by our community.

9.5.3 Councillor Audit and Risk Committee Representation – 2022/2023 (cont.)**CONCLUSION**

It is recommended that Council appoint Cr _____ and Cr _____ as Councillor members for the Audit and Risk Committee meeting to be held on Friday 3 March 2023. Councillor membership on the Audit and Risk Committee will be confirmed at the March or April 2023 Council meeting, pending any amendments to the 2022/23 review of the Audit and Risk Committee Charter. This representation will ensure the best outcomes are achieved for our community.

ATTACHMENTS

Nil

9.5.4 Monthly Performance Report

The February 2023 Monthly Performance Report includes reports as follows:-

- Building Department – December 2022 and January 2023 Statistics
- Planning Department – Planning Application Approvals – Development Cost (Capital Improved Value) – December 2022 and January 2023
- Customer Enquiry Analysis Report – Reports for December 2022 and January 2023
- Waste Management Reporting ~ Year to Date – December 2022 and January 2023
- Transfer Station Date - December 2022 and January 2023
- Actioning of Council Reports Resolutions – Council Meeting Tuesday December 13, 2022
- Outstanding Actions of Council Resolutions to 31 January 2023
- Review of Council Policies and Adoption of new Policies – December to February 2023
- Records of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings – 1 to 31 December 2022 (no meetings held in January 2023)

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.

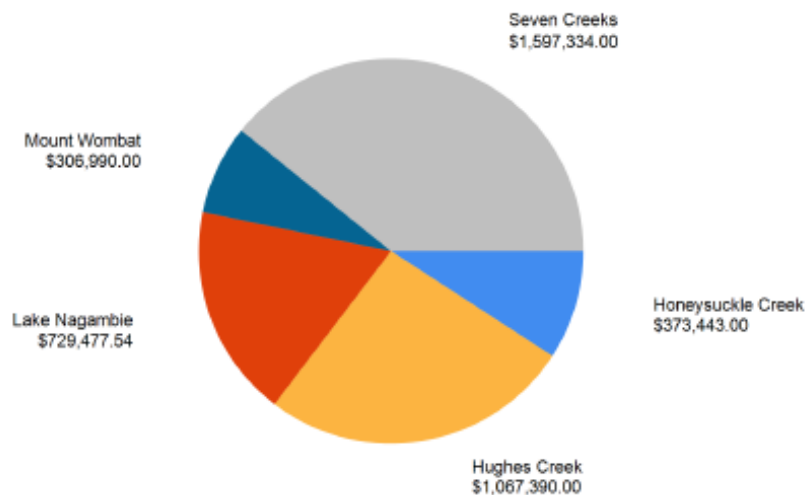
RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

BUILDING ACTIVITY**DECEMBER 2022****Building Activity**

A report on new building permits recorded in Council's building permit register in December 2022

Ward	Number of Lodgements	Cost Of Works
Honeysuckle Creek	2	\$373,443.00
Hughes Creek	4	\$1,067,390.00
Lake Nagambie	3	\$729,477.54
Mount Wombat	4	\$306,990.00
Seven Creeks	4	\$1,597,334.00
	17	\$4,074,634.54

**Honeysuckle Creek**

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
1449579069825	20/12/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Marraweeney	\$300,000.00
4952975533490	21/12/2022	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Violet Town	\$73,443.00
					\$373,443.00

Hughes Creek

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
7127361787954	05/12/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Longwood	\$317,881.00
6239131819577	05/12/2022	Additions to	Dwelling	Avenel	\$110,000.00
3249243738667	20/12/2022	Construction of	Dwelling	Avenel	\$380,000.00
1985575700112	21/12/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Avenel	\$259,509.00
					\$1,067,390.00

Lake Nagambie

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
2443940270987	07/12/2022	Construction of	Shed	Nagambie	\$300,000.00
7611444726781	16/12/2022	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Nagambie	\$78,584.54
6903178427376	16/12/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$350,893.00
					\$729,477.54

Mount Wombat

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
5782849614988	01/12/2022	Construction of	2x Farm Sheds	Gooram	\$233,090.00
5046404573420	15/12/2022	Demolition of	School building	Creek Junction	\$18,900.00
7747547059090	24/12/2022	Re-erection of	Dwelling	Creightons Creek	\$15,000.00
6275431261422	02/12/2022	Construction of	Farm Machinery Shed	Strathbogie	\$40,000.00
					\$306,990.00

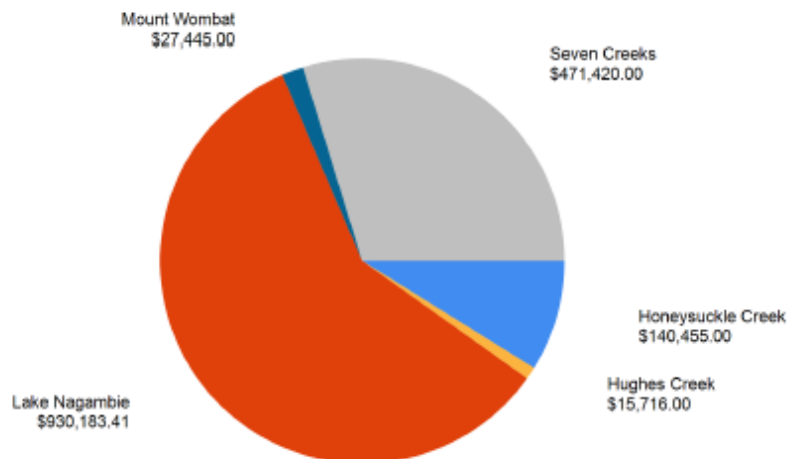
Seven Creeks

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
5998692464799	10/12/2022	Construction of	Farm Shed	Euroa	\$45,000.00
8603246834457	05/12/2022	Construction of	Shed, Dwelling & Garage	Euroa	\$1,184,650.00
5348574695815	16/12/2022	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Euroa	\$330,720.00
8194952050627	20/12/2022	Alteration to	Verandah	Euroa	\$36,964.00
					\$1,597,334.00

BUILDING ACTIVITY**JANUARY 2023****Building Activity**

A report on new building permits recorded in Council's building permit register in January 2023

Ward	Number of Lodgements	Cost Of Works
Honeysuckle Creek	3	\$140,455.00
Hughes Creek	1	\$15,716.00
Lake Nagambie	7	\$930,183.41
Mount Wombat	1	\$27,445.00
Seven Creeks	3	\$471,420.00
	15	\$1,585,219.41

**Honeysuckle Creek**

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
8434035672083	24/01/2023	Re-erection of	Dwelling	Violet Town	\$101,000.00
6079320862460	30/01/2023	Construction of	Shade Structure	Violet Town	\$27,455.00
8636486695868	31/01/2023	Demolition of	Dwelling	Violet Town	\$12,000.00
					\$140,455.00

Hughes Creek

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
5259373666470	13/01/2023	Restump of	Dwelling	Longwood	\$15,716.00
					\$15,716.00

Lake Nagambie

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
7949727308748	13/01/2023	Construction of	Shed	Nagambie	\$15,000.00
2517222005021	18/01/2023	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Nagambie	\$67,807.22
8810222946491	18/01/2023	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Nagambie	\$68,068.91
5067919551313	19/01/2023	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Nagambie	\$68,792.28
1650924992765	18/01/2023	Removal of	Dependant Persons Unit	Nagambie	\$9,998.00
2903699121097	19/01/2023	Construction of	Machinery Shed	Mangalore	\$417,560.00
3000048412529	30/01/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$282,957.00
					\$930,183.41

Mount Wombat

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
3648494006479	30/01/2023	Construction of	Shade Structure	Strathbogie	\$27,445.00
					\$27,445.00

Seven Creeks

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
9270470867874	13/01/2023	Construction of	Carport	Euroa	\$15,990.00
7590766790080	17/01/2023	Construction of	Carport	Euroa	\$14,563.00
5125755008532	24/01/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Riggs Creek	\$440,867.00
					\$471,420.00

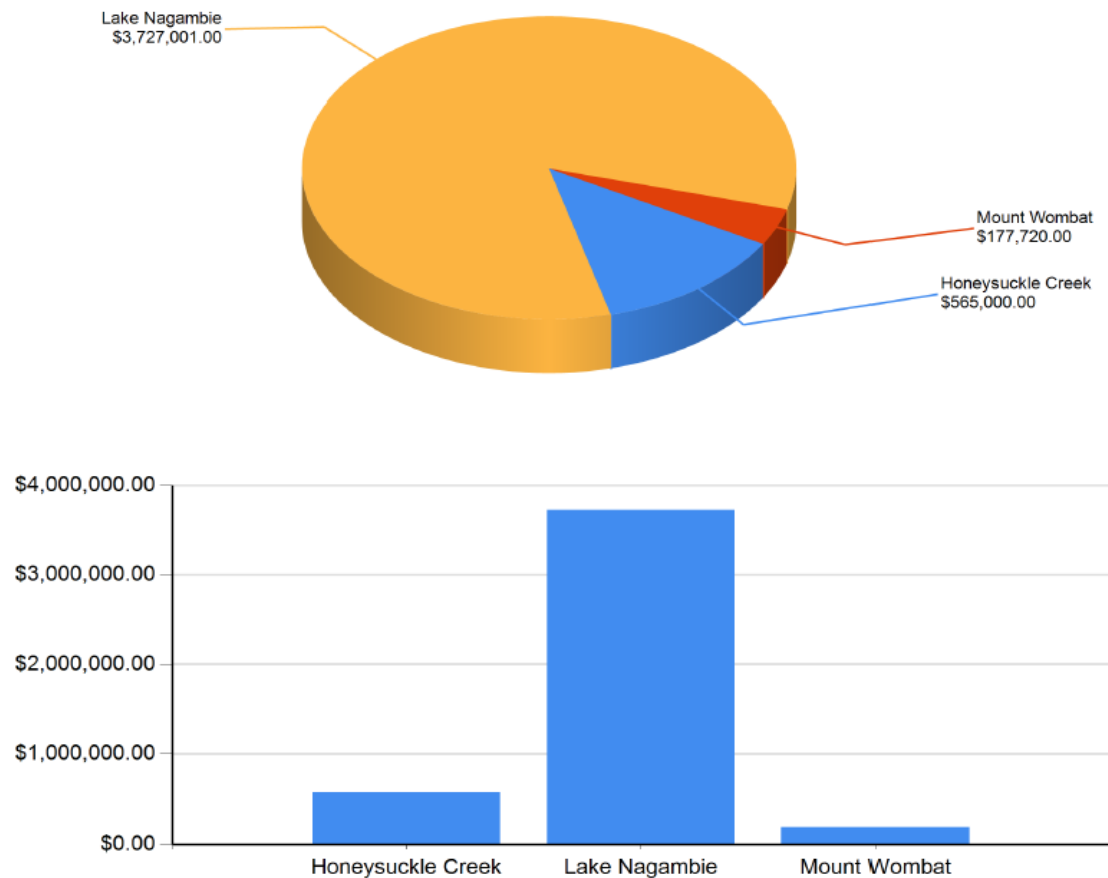
PLANNING APPLICATION APPROVALS – DEVELOPMENT COST (CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE)
DECEMBER 2022



Planning Applications Determined

December 2022

Honeysuckle Creek	\$565,000.00
Earlston	\$65,000.00
Violet Town	\$500,000.00
Lake Nagambie	\$3,727,001.00
Bailieston	\$3,000,000.00
Graytown	\$27,000.00
Nagambie	\$600,000.00
Whroo	\$100,001.00
Mount Wombat	\$177,720.00
Creek Junction	\$36,220.00
Strathbogie	\$61,500.00
Upton Hill	\$80,000.00
Total Value	\$4,469,721.00



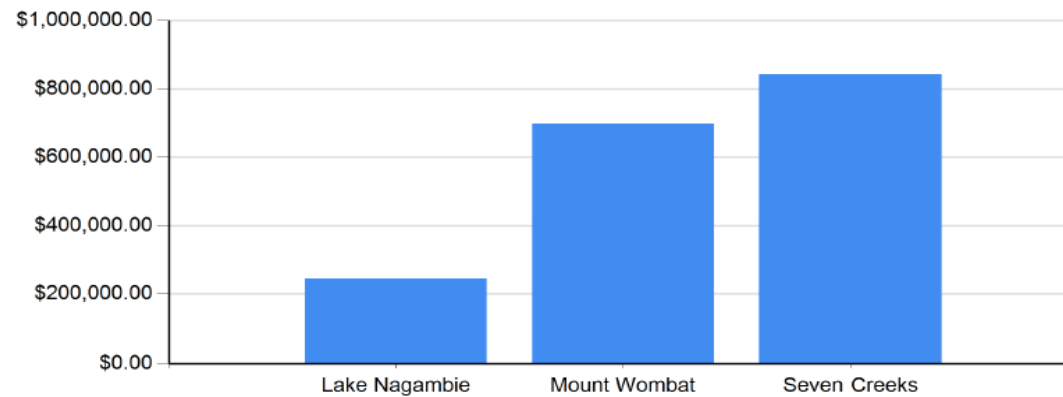
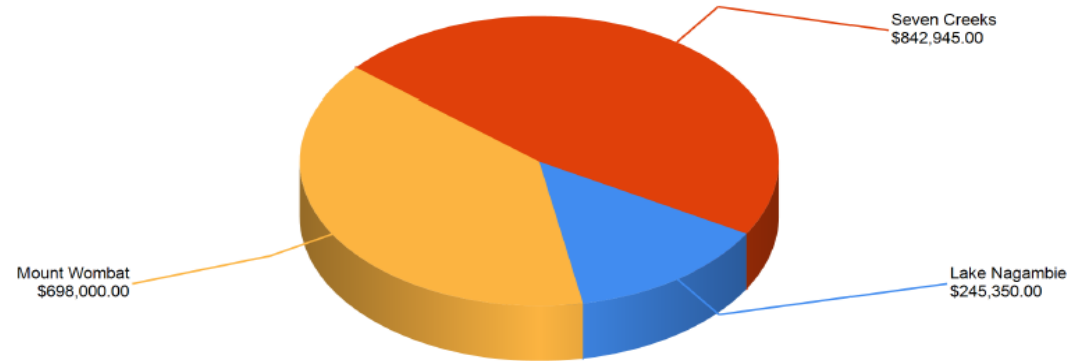
PLANNING APPLICATION APPROVALS – DEVELOPMENT COST (CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE)
JANUARY 2023



Planning Applications Determined

January 2023

Lake Nagambie	\$245,350.00
Kirwans Bridge	\$50,000.00
Kirwans Bridge	\$48,000.00
Tabilk	\$27,350.00
Whroo	\$120,000.00
Mount Wombat	\$698,000.00
Gooram	\$85,000.00
Kithbrook	\$380,000.00
Strathbogie	\$175,000.00
Strathbogie	\$58,000.00
Seven Creeks	\$842,945.00
Euroa	\$800,000.00
Euroa	\$42,945.00
Total Value	\$1,786,295.00



CUSTOMER ENQUIRY ANALYSIS REPORT - REPORT FOR DECEMBER 2022



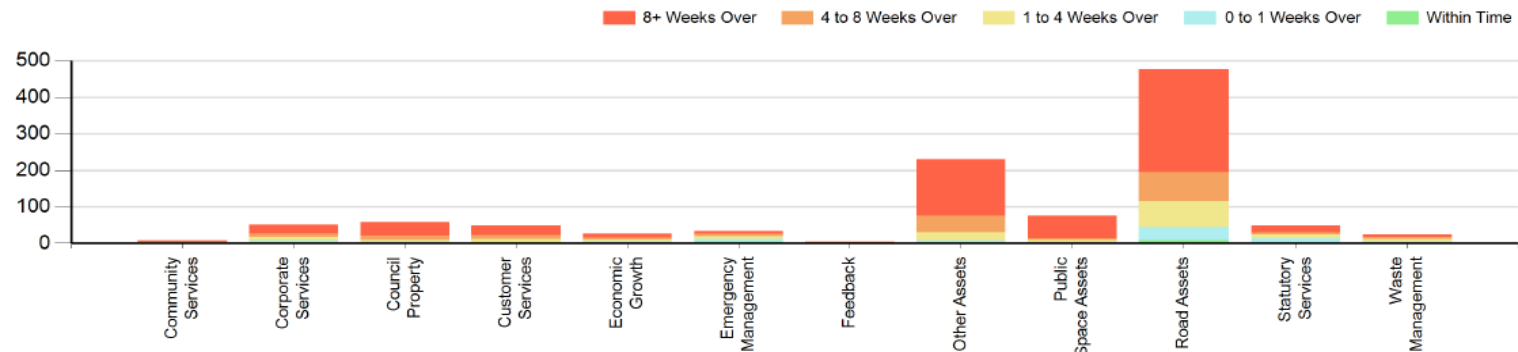
Request Throughput Analysis

01/12/2022 to 31/12/2022

Complete / New	> 80%	50-80%	< 50%
Overdue / Remaining	< 33%	34-70%	> 70%

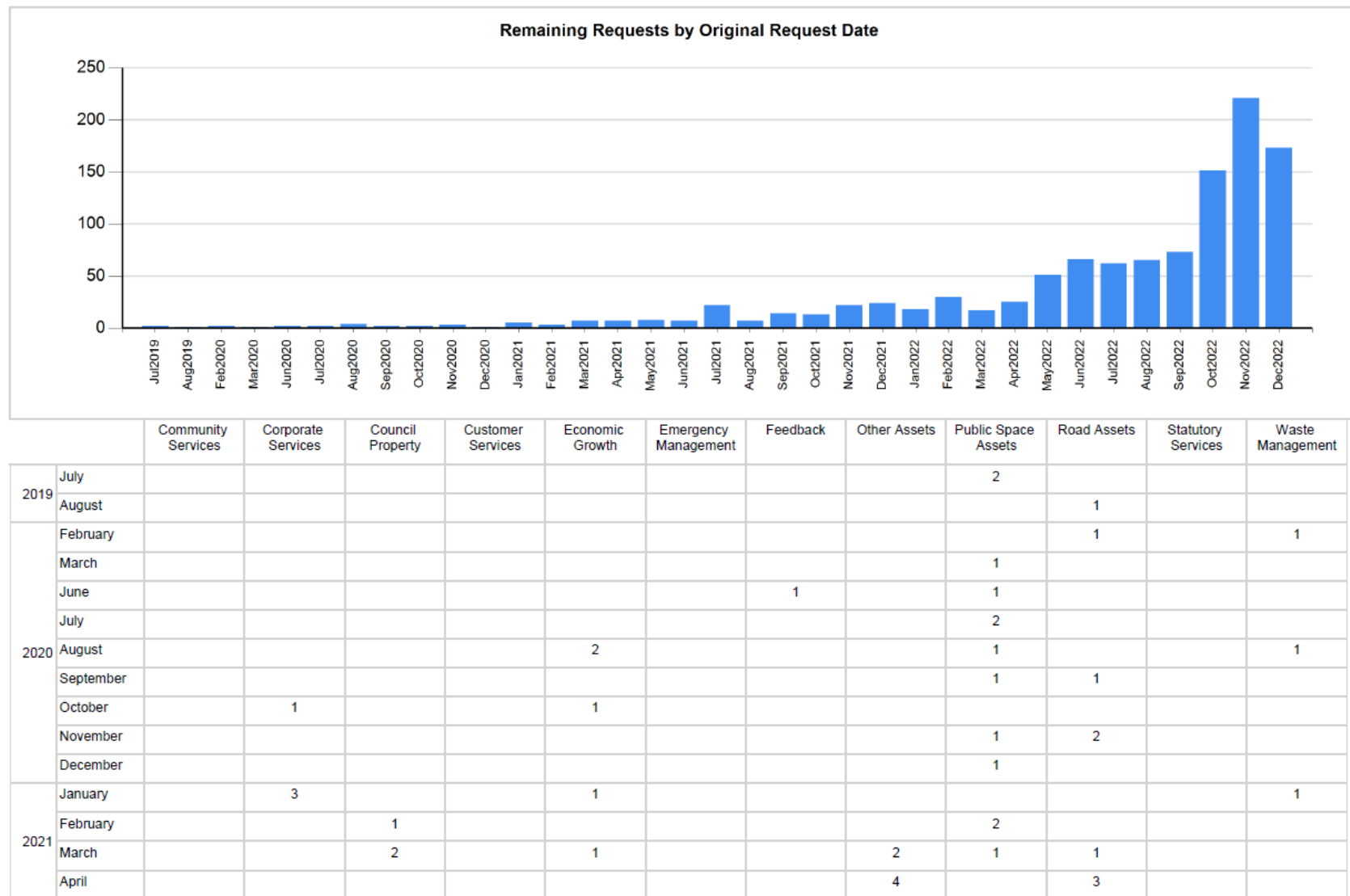
Service Area	Existing Requests	New Requests	Completed Requests	Remaining Requests	C/N	Within Time	Over Time	O/R	Pending Resources	Service Area Usage
Community Services	8	23	23	8	✓	0	8	✗	0	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>
Corporate Services	43	82	74	51	✓	0	51	✗	0	<div style="width: 40%;"></div>
Council Property	65	22	28	59	✓	1	58	✗	0	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>
Customer Services	59	36	47	48	✓	0	48	✗	0	<div style="width: 15%;"></div>
Economic Growth	32	92	97	27	✓	0	27	✗	0	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>
Emergency Management	48	48	61	34	✓	4	30	✗	1	<div style="width: 25%;"></div>
Feedback	6	2	4	4	✓	0	4	✗	0	<div style="width: 2%;"></div>
Other Assets	286	20	76	230	✓	1	229	✗	0	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>
Public Space Assets	112	33	45	76	✓	2	74	✗	24	<div style="width: 15%;"></div>
Road Assets	507	133	161	477	✓	9	468	✗	2	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Statutory Services	52	98	102	48	✓	0	48	✗	0	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>
Waste Management	26	47	49	24	✓	0	24	✗	0	<div style="width: 20%;"></div>
Total	1244	636	767	1086		17	1069		27	

Request Ageing



Service Usage





2021	May								3		5		
	June			1					3	2	1		
	July							1	11	1	9		
	August		2							1	4		
	September			1	1	1			2	5	4		
	October			2	1				1	4	5		
	November			1					4	4	12		1
	December			1			1	1	6	2	13		
2022	January		5	1					1	6	5		
	February			2					7	7	14		
	March			1			1		4	4	7		
	April			1					11	3	10		
	May		4	1					21	2	20	2	1
	June		1	2					14	5	42	2	
	July	1		8	2	1	1		4	2	41	1	1
	August			7	7	2	2		18	5	20	4	
	September	1	2	4	6	1		1	19	8	25	6	
	October	3	9	2	8	4	8		38	6	66	6	1
	November		9	14	15	6	3		46	13	100	7	8
	December	3	15	7	8	7	19		11	7	67	20	9
Total		8	51	59	48	27	35	4	230	100	479	48	24

CUSTOMER ENQUIRY ANALYSIS REPORT - REPORT FOR JANUARY 2023



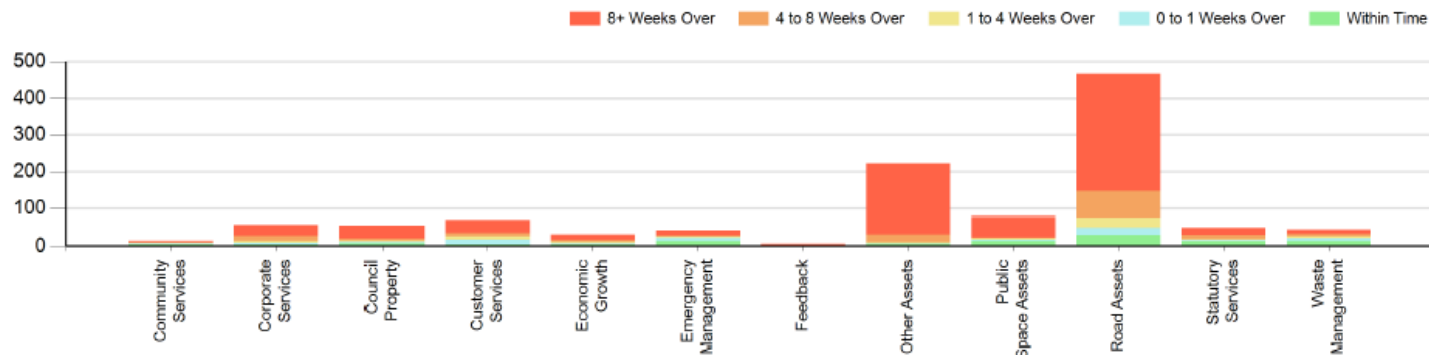
Request Throughput Analysis

01/01/2023 to 31/01/2023

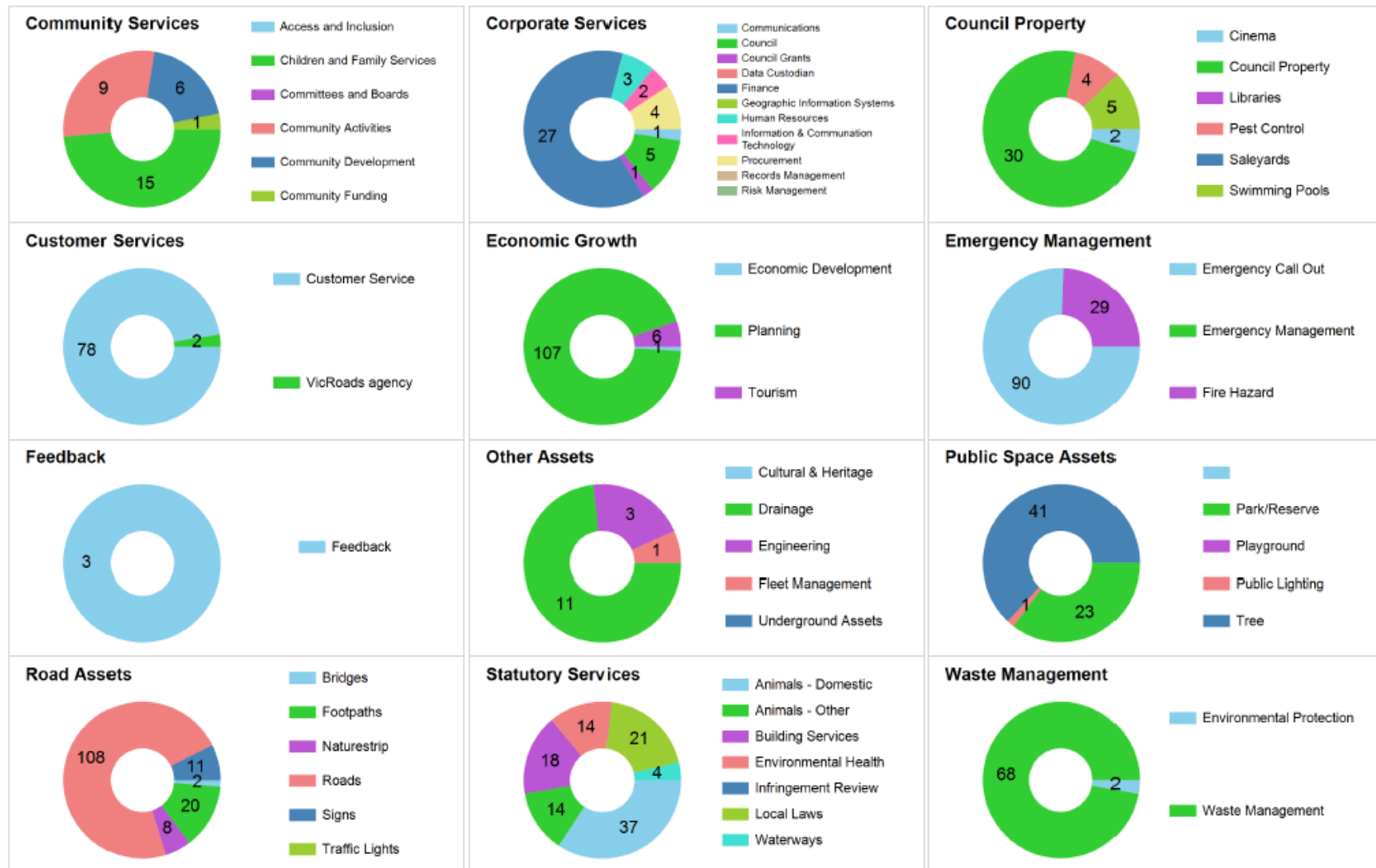
C N O R	Complete / New			
	Overdue / Remaining	> 80%	50-80%	< 50%
		< 33%	34-70%	> 70%

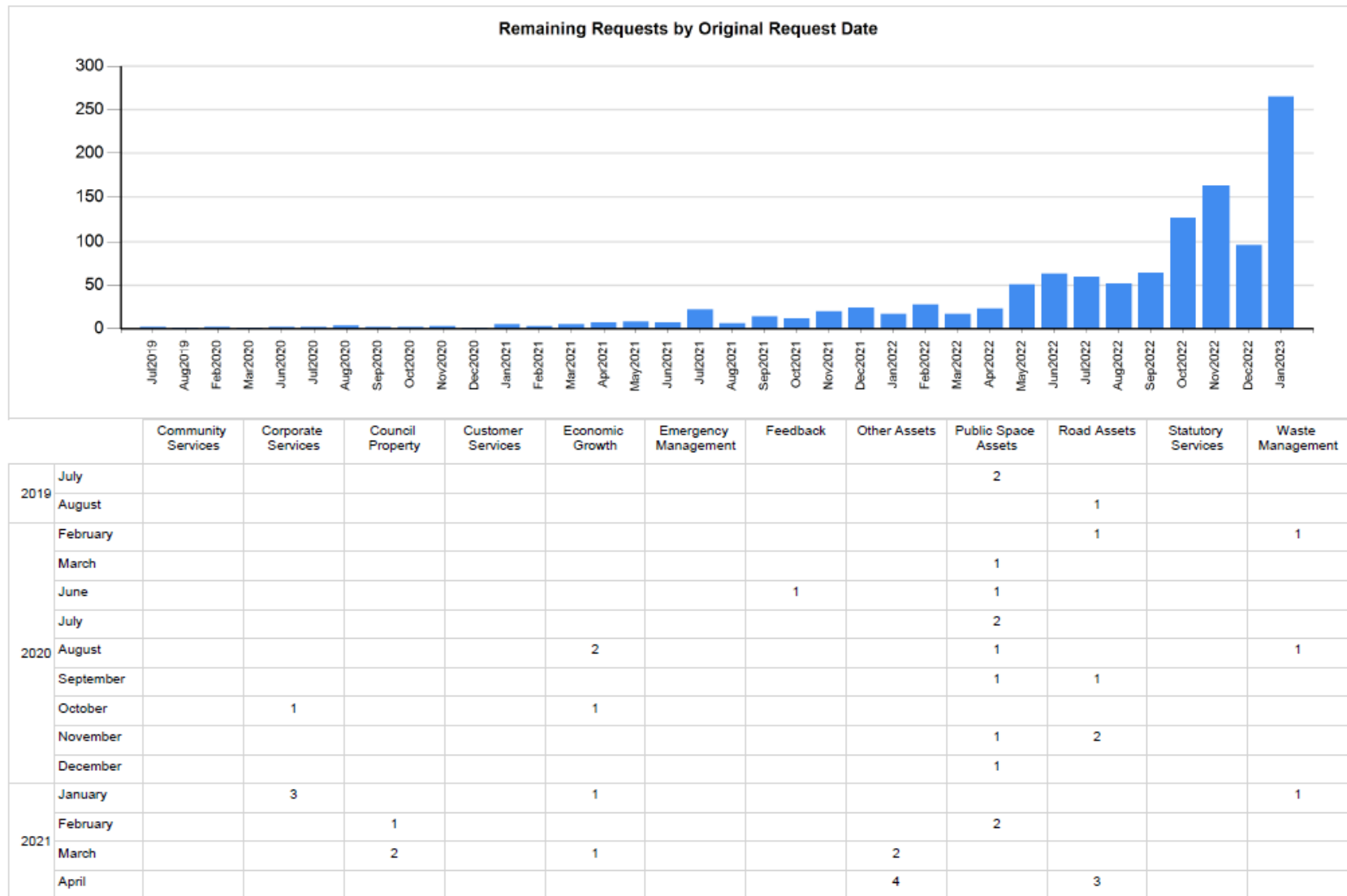
Service Area	Existing Requests	New Requests	Completed Requests	Remaining Requests	C N	Within Time	Over Time	O R	Pending Resources	Service Area Usage
Community Services	8	31	25	14		5	9		0	
Corporate Services	51	43	36	58		5	53		0	
Council Property	59	41	45	55		7	48		0	
Customer Services	48	80	52	76		5	71		0	
Economic Growth	27	114	108	33		4	29		0	
Emergency Management	35	119	112	42		14	28		0	
Feedback	4	3	1	6		1	5		0	
Other Assets	230	15	23	222		6	216		0	
Public Space Assets	99	65	57	79		14	65		28	
Road Assets	478	149	158	469		30	439		0	
Statutory Services	48	108	104	52		12	40		0	
Waste Management	24	70	48	46		13	32		0	
Total	1111	838	769	1152		116	1035		28	

Request Ageing



Service Usage





2021	May								3		5		
	June			1					3	2	1		
	July							1	11	1	9		
	August		2							1	3		
	September			1	1	1			2	5	4		
	October			2	1				1	4	4		
	November			1					4	3	11		1
	December			1			1	1	6	2	13		
2022	January		5	1					1	5	5		
	February			2					6	6	14		
	March			1			1		4	4	7		
	April			1					11	1	10		
	May		4	1					21	2	20	2	1
	June		1	1					14	4	41	2	
	July	1		7	2	1	1		4	2	40	1	1
	August			3	7	2	2		17	2	15	4	
	September	1	1	2	6	1		1	18	7	23	4	
	October	3	8	1	8	4	7		37	5	47	5	1
	November		7	7	11	5	2		35	8	75	5	8
	December	1	12	5	7	2	3		11	2	41	8	4
2023	January	8	14	14	33	12	25	2	7	29	73	21	27
Total		14	58	55	76	33	42	6	222	107	469	52	46

Definitions

Service Area Grouping of services by area of responsibility

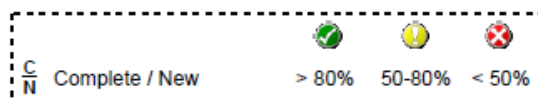
Existing Requests open prior to reporting period

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.

Complete
N
ew 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.



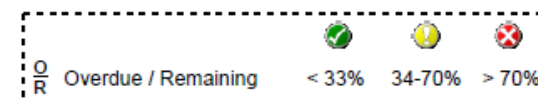
Service Activities that provide value to the customer

Remaining Requests incomplete at end of reporting period

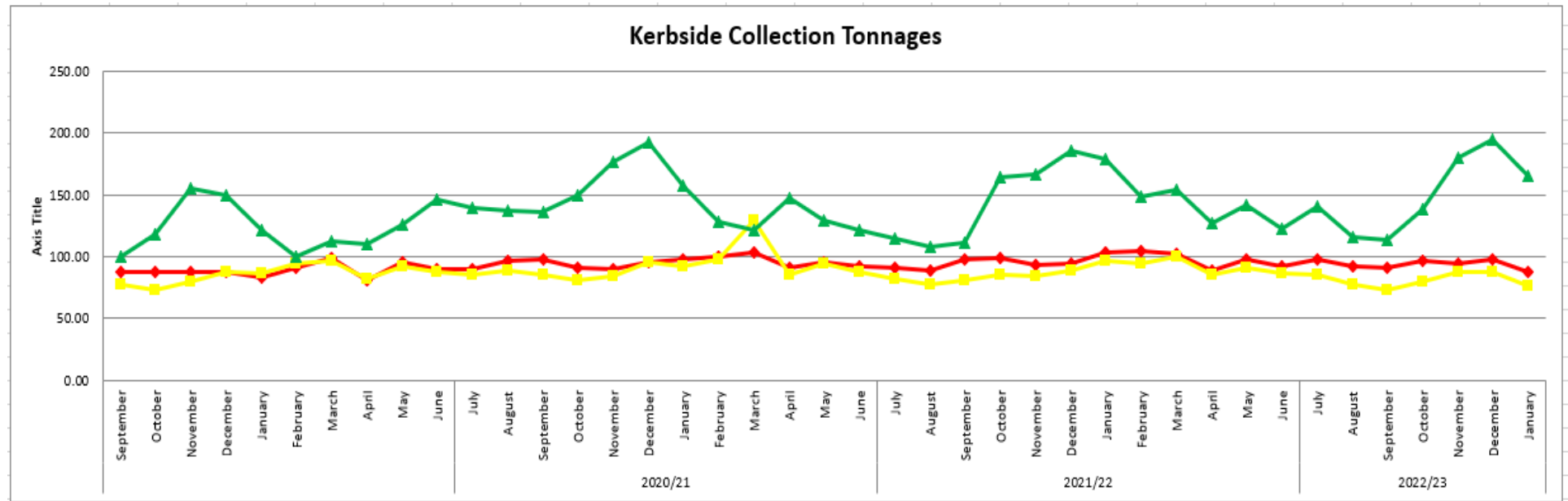
Completed Requests completed during reporting period

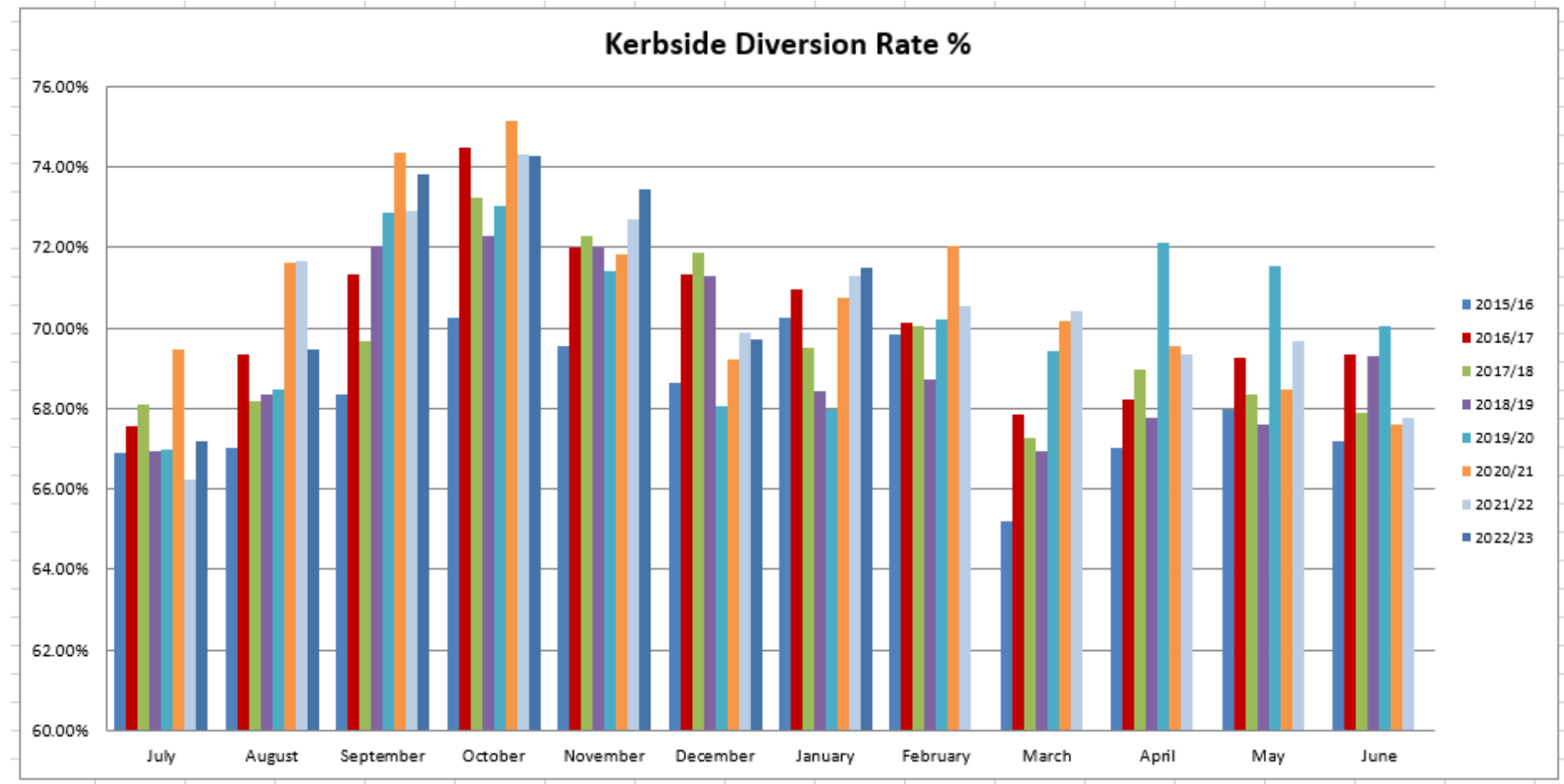
Over Time Remaining Requests where defined deadline is before the end of the reporting period

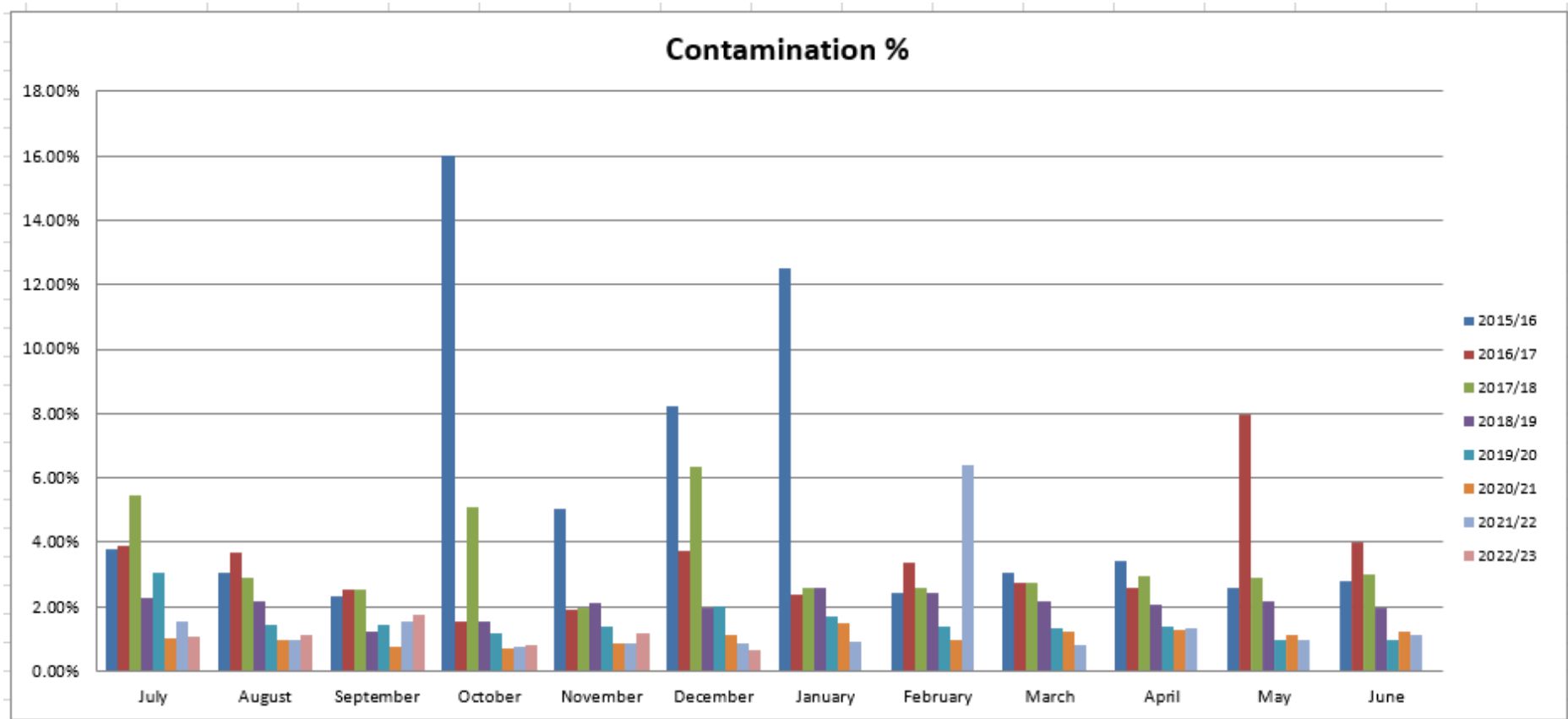
Overdue
R
emaining An indicator showing the ratio of Overdue requests and Remaining requests. Designed to represent how well we are keeping to the defined deadlines.



WASTE MANAGEMENT REPORTING
YEAR TO DATE - DECEMBER 2022 AND JANUARY 2023







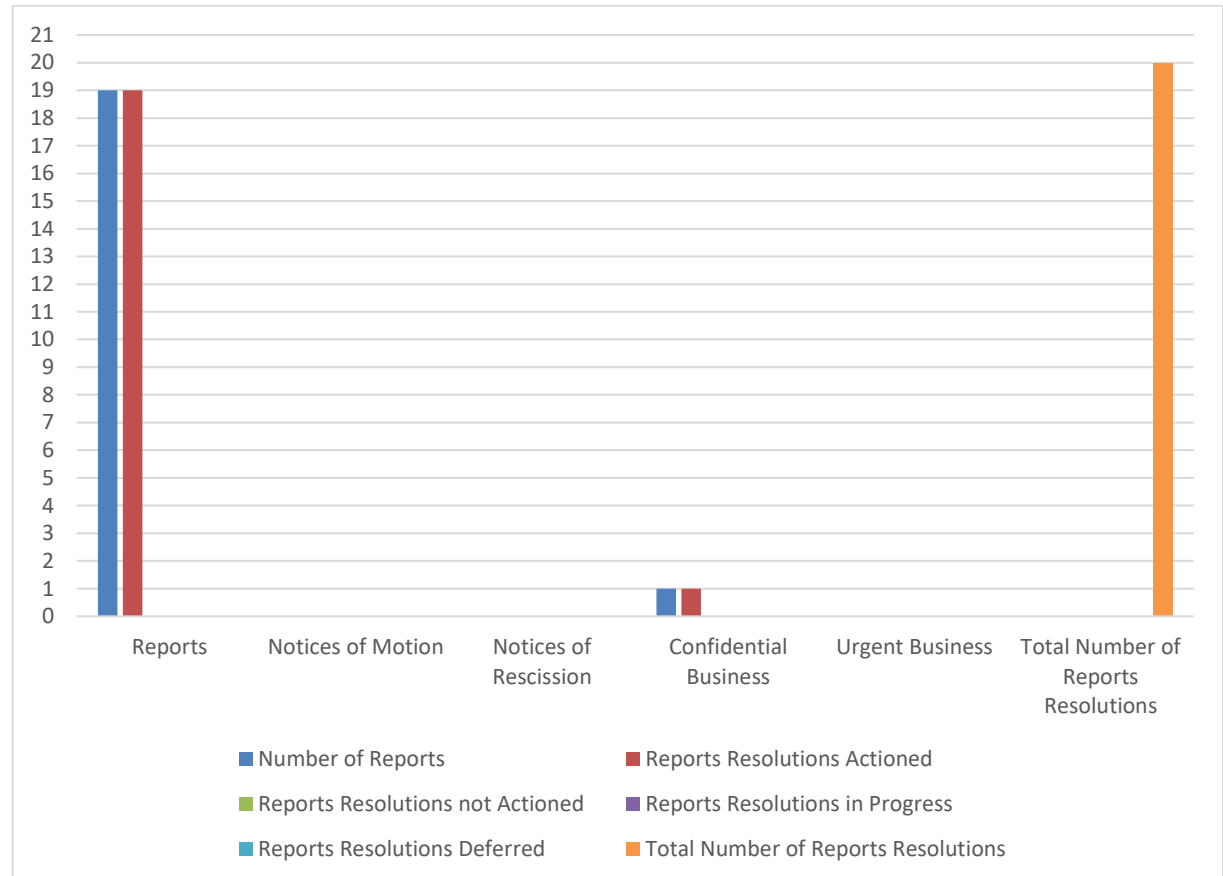
TRANSFER STATION DATA – DECEMBER 2022



TRANSFER STATION DATA – JANUARY 2023



ACTIONING OF COUNCIL REPORTS RESOLUTIONS
COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2022



OUTSTANDING ACTIONS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS TO
31 JANUARY 2023

This Report is to advise the Councillors, Executive Leadership Team and the community of the status of previous Council resolutions which are in progress but are yet to be finalised.

Council Meeting Date	Item No.	Description
15/11/2022	9.1.2	Part 1 C52strb Flood Mapping Amendment

REVIEW OF EXISTING COUNCIL POLICIES
AND ADOPTION OF NEW POLICIES

Review of Policy / New Policy	Policy Name	Details
Review	Social Media Policy 2023	Refer to Item 9.6.3

RECORDS OF INFORMAL COUNCIL BRIEFINGS / MEETINGS**FOR PERIOD 1 TO 31 DECEMBER. 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 6 December 2022

Time: 9.30 am – 4.00 pm

Attendees:Councillors

Cr Laura Binks (Mayor)
Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)
David Andrews
Reg Dickinson
Sally Hayes-Burke
Kristy Hourigan
Chris Raeburn

Officers

Amanda Tingay (Acting Chief Executive Officer)
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Performance)
Vlad Adamek (Director, Sustainable Infrastructure)
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)
Rachael Frampton (Acting Director Community and Planning)

Apologies

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)

1. Councillors Discussions
2. Governance Rules Workshop
3. Councillors / Acting CEO Discussions
4. Briefing / Review of the 2023 Australia Day Award nominations
5. Review of draft December 2022 Council Meeting Agenda

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 -

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
Item 4	127	Amanda Tingay	Yes (left at 1.30 pm / returned at 2.00 pm)

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 13 December 2022

Time: 1.30 pm – 8.20 pm

Attendees:

Councillors

Cr Laura Binks (Mayor)
Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)
Reg Dickinson
Sally Hayes-Burke
Kristy Hourigan
Chris Raeburn

Officers

Amanda Tingay (Acting Chief Executive Officer)
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Performance)
Vlad Adamek (Director, Sustainable Infrastructure)
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)
Rachael Frampton (Acting Director Community and Planning)
Bruce Rowley (Manager Project Delivery) (*Item 2*)
Molly Odgers (Environment and Waste Co-Ordinator) (*Item 3*)

Apologies

Cr David Andrews
Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)

1. Councillors Strategy Session
2. Capital Works Update
3. Kerbside Collaborative Procurement Tender
4. December 2022 Council Meeting Agenda

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 Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
4 / Item 9.2.1	127	Cr Dickinson	Yes (left at 6.29 pm / returned at 6.35 pm)

Officer/s -

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
Item 4 / 9.3.4	127	Amanda Tingay	Yes <i>(left at 6.59 pm / returned at 7.04 pm)</i>
Item 4 / C.B. 1	127	Amanda Tingay	Yes <i>(left at 8.01 pm / returned at 8.17 pm)</i>

9.6 EXECUTIVE

9.6.1 Municipal Monitor Final Report

Author: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Minister for Local Government, the Hon Melissa Horne MP, informed the Mayor on 11 January 2023 that the Municipal Monitor appointed to Strathbogie Shire Council, Ms Janet Dore has submitted her final report and provided Council with a copy (refer Attachment 1).

The Minister noted that the Council has made improvements with the expert assistance of the municipal monitor. Among other things, the report notes and acknowledges that there has been improvement in councillor conduct and councillor understanding of their responsibilities and the role of the Chief Executive Officer.

The monitor includes in her report the following observations and recommendations that indicate further action is needed at the Council:

- Councillors find it challenging to perform their roles as required under the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), focusing on their ward interests rather than those of the entire municipality
- Councillors involve themselves in operational matters that are the responsibility of the CEO, especially when these matters relate to the interests of their ward,
- Councillor preparedness for briefings and meetings varies considerably and there continues to be limited discussion and debate in public meetings, and
- There is poor uptake of training and development opportunities by councillors.

This report recommends that Council note the final report from the Municipal Monitor and authorise officers to upload this onto Council's website.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. *Note the final report from the Municipal Monitor, Ms Janet Dore provided to the Shire on 11 January 2023, and***
- 2. *Authorise officers to upload the report onto Council's website.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

This purpose of this report is for Council to note the final report from the Municipal Monitor appointed to Strathbogie Shire by the Minister for Local Government and authorise officers to upload this onto Council's website.

9.6.1 Municipal Monitor Final Report (cont.)

On 14 September 2021, the Acting Minister for Local Government, the Hon Mary-Anne Thomas MP, appointed Ms Janet Dore as Municipal Monitor for a period of six months, working 1 – 2 days per week.

The primary focus of the appointment was to:

- Monitor governance processes and practices around decision making, Council briefings and Council meetings,
- Councillors' understanding of their statutory roles and responsibilities,
- Internal policies and practices around Councillor interaction with the administration, and
- Council policies in relation to occupational health and safety of Councillors and officers.

The Ms Dore submitted a report to the Minister towards the end of the initial six (6) month term, concluding that whilst encouraging progress had been made by Council over the last few months, in the context of so many virtual meetings there was a hesitancy to adopt a team-based approach to governing the whole Shire. The Monitor recommended that the Minister consider appointing a Monitor to the Shire of Strathbogie for a period of no longer than six months on the basis of two days a month. The Minister reappointed Ms Dore for a further six (6) months as reported to the 19 April 2022 Council meeting. This report can be found at the following link: [Microsoft Word - Municipal monitor report - Strathbogie final with redactions.docx \(localgovernment.vic.gov.au\)](#) or via Attachment 2.

At the conclusion of her term with Strathbogie Shire, the Municipal Monitor submitted her final report to the Minister for Local Government in September 2022. On 11 January 2023, the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Melissa Horne MP, informed the Mayor that the municipal monitor appointed to Strathbogie Shire Council, Ms Janet Dore had submitted her final report and provided Council with a copy (refer Attachment 1).

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.

The final Municipal Monitor's report submitted to the Minister's office in September 2022 and received by Council on 11 January 2023 highlighted that the Council has made improvements. Among other things, the report notes and acknowledges that there has been improvement in councillor conduct and councillor understanding of their responsibilities and the role of the Chief Executive Officer.

Ms Dore includes in her report the following observations and recommendations that indicate further action is needed at the Council:

- Councillors find it challenging to perform their roles as required under the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), focusing on their ward interests rather than those of the entire municipality,

9.6.1 Municipal Monitor Final Report (cont.)

- Councillors involve themselves in operational matters that are the responsibility of the CEO, especially when these matters relate to the interests of their ward,
- Councillor preparedness for briefings and meetings varies considerably and there continues to be limited discussion and debate in public meetings, and
- There is poor uptake of training and development opportunities by councillors.

Minster Horne's expectation is for the Council to take the necessary steps to ensure councillors are well supported to perform their roles as required by the Local Government Act 2020. The Minister has requested that Council consider the monitor's report and provide her with advice by 28 February 2023 about what actions it will take to address the ongoing issues that have been identified by the monitor.

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 Minister for Local Government was not required to undertake consultation with either Council or the community in relation to the appointment of a Municipal Monitor nor on the reports.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

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 appointment of the municipal monitor is consistent with State policies and legislation around occupational health and safety and good governance practices across the State and Local government sectors. The appointment also ties in with the Local Government Culture Project released by the Minister for Local Government in 2022.

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.

Some sections of the final report have been redacted. These sections were redacted prior to the report being sent to Council. Council was advised by Minster Horne that this redaction was based on legal advice to ensure the report does not give rise to issues relating to natural justice, privacy and defamation.

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.

9.6.1 Municipal Monitor Final Report (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 supports Council's public transparency goals in that the matter is being discussed in a Council meeting open to the public and that the Municipal Monitor's report will be available on Council's website.

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 remuneration costs for the Municipal Monitor were met from within existing budget allocations for the 2021-22 and 22-23 financial years. The total remuneration and allowances paid to the Municipal Monitor totalled \$32,573.60.

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.

The appointment of the municipal monitor has assisted the elected Council in embedding sustainability principles in their decision making.

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 benefits and experiences of having a municipal monitor has been shared with Local Government Victoria and the local government sector in general.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The matters discussed in this report do not adversely impact on the Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

The appointment of the Municipal Monitor, Ms Janet Dore, has been considered to be beneficial for the elected Council, the Shire administration and the community given the positive contribution made by the Monitor to good governance and Council performing its role under the Local Government Act 2020. It is recommended that Council note the Monitor's final report and that it be made available for the community on Council's website.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Municipal Monitor's Final Report September 2022 (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 2: Municipal Monitor's Final Report (Initial 6-month appointment) (*separate attachment*)

9.6.2 Council Policy Review - Social Media Policy 2023

Author: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Social media, social networking and online forums are internet-based communications tools for publishing, sharing and discussing information. New technology has changed the way organisations communicate, and the range of social media sites are now part of a well-rounded communication plan, building on the traditional forms of communication.

Social media can be a powerful tool for consultation and engagement, seeking community, stakeholder and staff views, and gauging issues and complaints about an organisation. It requires different resourcing and different methods for any organisation to receive benefits from communicating via social media.

There are inherent risks for any organisation using social media or attracting comments from external sources via social media.

Using social media to communicate, and to respond to issues or concerns expressed online must be carefully considered in each individual situation.

This policy aims to inform and guide the way Strathbogie Shire Council and its employees and contractors use social media, and to allow a broader reach of information and direct comment which is quickly available.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Adopt the updated Social Media Policy 2023.***
- 2. Place the updated policy on Council's website, along with the publication of a notice in Council's weekly newspaper column and social media pages information the community about the adoption of the policy.***
- 3. Note the policy will be reviewed biennially and may change at any time, subject to a Council resolution.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Council adopted its current Social Media Policy in September 2013. This means the policy is overdue for review and has required a significant update.

Social media can be a powerful tool for consultation and engagement, seeking community, stakeholder and staff views, and gauging issues and complaints about an organisation. It requires different resourcing and different methods for any organisation to receive benefits from communicating via social media.

9.6.2 Council Policy Review - Social Media Policy 2023 (cont.)

Using social media to communicate, and to respond to issues or concerns expressed online must be carefully considered in each individual situation.

This policy aims to inform and guide the way Strathbogie Shire Council and its employees and contractors use social media, and to allow a broader reach of information and direct comment which is quickly available.

This policy provides a framework for social media use but does not replace assessment of individual situations and the appropriate way to respond or to not respond.

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.

Using social media to communicate, and to respond to issues or concerns expressed online must be carefully considered in each individual situation.

While social media is a powerful tool for informing the community, it can quickly create outrage, if content is not well managed or confusing.

This policy guides the way Council, its employees and contractors use social media.

It sets the guidelines for authorised use of Council's social media challenges and personal responsibilities for staff while using social media.

The policy and procedure are not intended to discourage or limit personal expression or online activities.

However, all officers and Councillors should recognise the potential for damage to be caused (either directly or indirectly) to Council in certain circumstances via personal use of social media when identified as a Council employee.

An important part of this policy is the moderation of Council's social media channels.

Council will delete social media posts on Strathbogie Shire 'owned sites' where posts are considered by Council to be questionable, misleading, defamatory, vexatious or inappropriate.

It also outlines the rules of engagement and states authorised Council representatives must not post or respond to material that is offensive, obscene, defamatory, threatening, harassing, bullying, discriminatory, hateful, racist, sexist, infringes copyright, constitutes a contempt of court, breaches a Court suppression order, or is otherwise unlawful.

Social media is an important tool in Council's communications and engagement toolkit. Council is seeing a strong following from the community on its social media channels, achieving a reach of almost 160,000 in the last financial year.

9.6.2 Council Policy Review - Social Media Policy 2023 (cont.)

Officers recognise social media is just one way of informing the community and include it as part of a well-rounded Communications and Engagement Plan that also uses other tools and methods to inform the 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.

This document is an internal policy that guides the use of Council's social media channels. Therefore, the author of this report does not recommend external consultation.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

This policy aligns to Strategic Focus Area 1: Engage. Create. Unite in the 2022/25 Council 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.

This policy is intended to support and align with other Acts, Legislation and Regulations, and relevant Council Policies and Procedures.

Relevant legislation includes:

- Australian Human Rights Commission Act 1986
- Age Discrimination Act 2004 Commonwealth
- Copyright Act 1968 Commonwealth
- Crimes Act 1958 Victoria
- Defamation Act 2005 Commonwealth
- Disability Discrimination Act 1991
- Commonwealth
- Equal Opportunity Act 2010 Victoria
- Fair Trading Act 1999 Victoria
- Fair Work Act 2009 Commonwealth
- Freedom of Information Act 1982 Victoria
- Information Privacy Act 2000
- Local Government Act 2020 Victoria
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2005 Victoria
- Racial and Religious Tolerance Act 2001 Victoria
- Racial Discrimination Act 1975 Victoria
- Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014 Victoria
- Public Records Act 1973 Victoria
- Spam Act 2003 Commonwealth
- Sex Discrimination Act 1984 Commonwealth
- Wrongs Act 1958 Victoria

9.6.2 Council Policy Review - Social Media Policy 2023 (cont.)

External sources and standards include:

- The Australian Press Council Standards of Practice
- Australian Local Government Association (ALGA)
- Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)
- Local Government Standards Panel 2007

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.

While there is no requirement under the Local Government Act 2020 for Council's to have a Social Media Policy, it is an important document to help Council support and align with the Acts outlined above.

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 revised Social Media Policy is being discussed in a Council meeting open to the public.

Officers use social media as an important way of informing the community. It is always included as part of a well-rounded Communications and Engagement Plan that also uses other tools and methods to inform 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.

Social media platforms and a free way of keeping the community up to date on Council information. Therefore, there are no financial implications arising from the adoption of this policy or additional work created by its implementation.

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 direct sustainability considerations arising from the adoption of the policy, however social media can be used as a tool to inform the community about sustainability and climate information. It is also important to note the increased use of social media reduces Council's reliance on printing.

9.6.2 Council Policy Review - Social Media Policy 2023 (cont.)

Economic

As outlined above an increased use of social media reduces Council's reliance on printing, providing cost benefits to Council.

Social

Social media helps Council communicate and share information. It's an important tool in not just informing people about our projects and current engagement opportunities, it draws people to find out more information and have their say.

Social media can drive participation and social cohesion, it can create education opportunities and it allows this information sharing and participation to be done at any time from any location.

Environmental and Climate Change

As outlined above there are no direct environmental benefits from the adoption of the policy, however social media can be used as a tool to inform the community about sustainability and climate change information. It is also important to note the increased use of social media reduces Council's reliance on printing.

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 policy includes regular reporting to the Executive Leadership Team and Councillors. This will ensure ongoing improvement and content management that meets the needs of the community.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The Social Media Policy is consistent with the Human Rights Charter, in particular freedom of expression. The policy seeks to ensure social media posts are inclusive, accurate and informative.

CONCLUSION

The adoption of the updated Social Media Policy 2023 will inform and guide the way Strathbogie Shire Council and its employees and contractors use social media, and to allow a broader reach of information and direct comment which is quickly available.

It will ensure this important communication tool is regularly reviewed to make sure it has a broad reach throughout the community sharing accurate information and driving participation.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Updated Social Media Policy 2023 (*separate attachment*)

Attachment 2: Policy Impact Assessment Tool - Social Media Policy 2023 (*separate attachment*)

9.6.3 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the Victorian Electoral Commission Costs associated with the Electoral Structure Review Process

Author: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Minister for Local Government, Melissa Horne, has appointed an Electoral Representation Advisory Panel to review the municipality's electoral structure. The purpose of the Panel is to provide the Minister with advice prior to the issue of an Order in Council in relation to the new representation model to be applied to our municipality.

Council was advised of this review foreshadowed to commence on 1 February 2023 and concluding by 17 May 2023 via letter on 13 October 2022. Whilst the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) requires councils to meet 'reasonable costs' of the review, the letter did not indicate the quantum of funding required.

Given that, at this time, Council was experiencing the impact of the October 2022 flood event and our focus on funding infrastructure and building repairs, Council considered the VEC Electoral Structure Review (the review) process, timing and cost at its 13 December 2022 Council meeting. Council recommended (amongst other considerations) that it request the Minister to defer the electoral representation review for Strathbogie Shire for a period of at least six months and also waive the requirement for Council to fund the review process. To date, Council has not received a response to this letter.

Council has since been advised that the cost of this review will be flat \$65,000. All 39 Councils, whether metropolitan, regional or small rural, are required to pay the same fee regardless of population (and rate) base or capacity to pay. It is important to note that this unbudgeted allocation will need to be included in the mid-year review to cover the costs of the Panel.

Small rural and regional Councils such as Strathbogie with a small population base do not have the capacity to fund the same amount as large regional or metropolitan city councils.

It is recommended that Council submit the attached Motion to the MAV May 2023 State Council Meeting seeking advocacy for the Minister of Local Government to waive or significantly reduce the requirement for small rural and regional Councils to fund the review process in light of the impacts of the October 2022 flood event and Council's focus on funding essential infrastructure and building repairs.

Whilst the Minister is aware of this issue and costs pressures for small rural Councils following previous correspondence in December 2022, and a recent online meeting on Thursday 2 February, a decision is yet to be made.

9.6.3 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the Victorian Electoral Commission Costs associated with the Electoral Structure Review Process (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. ***Endorse the Notice of Motion which calls for the Minister for Local Government to reconsider the costs associated with the Victorian Electoral Commission Electoral Structure Review for small rural and regional Councils, and***
2. ***Authorise officers to submit the Motion to Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) for consideration at the MAV State Council Meeting scheduled for 19 May 2023.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

This report provides seeks Council's endorsement of the Notice of Motion to the MAV May 2023 State Council Meeting seeking statewide advocacy to the Minister for Local Government to waive or reconsider the costs associated with the VEC Electoral Structure Review for small rural shires.

The next MAV State Council Meeting will be held on Friday 19 May 2023, the agenda will include consideration of motions from the membership.

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.

The MAV Rules 2022 require motions to be of strategic relevance to the MAV (aligned with their six Strategic Outcomes) or of such significance to local government that they ought to be considered at the State Council meeting.

Under the MAV Rules 2022, all motions must be submitted not less than 60 days before the meeting, with motion submissions closing at midnight on Monday 20 March 2023.

Council was advised of this review foreshadowed to commence on 1 February 2023 and concluding by 17 May 2023 via letter on 13 October 2022. Whilst the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) requires councils to meet 'reasonable costs' of the review, the letter did not indicate the quantum of funding required.

Given was advised of the municipality's VEC Electoral Structure Review at the time Council was experiencing the impact of the October 2022 flood event. Council considered the VEC Electoral Structure Review (the review) process, timing and cost at its 13 December 2022 Council meeting. Council recommended (amongst other considerations) that it request the Minister to defer the electoral representation review for Strathbogie Shire for a period of at least six months and also waive the requirement for Council to fund the review process. To date, Council has not received a response to this letter.

9.6.3 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the Victorian Electoral Commission Costs associated with the Electoral Structure Review Process (cont.)

Council has since been advised that the cost of this review will be flat \$65,000. All 39 Councils, whether metropolitan, regional or small rural, are required to pay the same fee regardless of population (and rate) base or capacity to pay. It is important to note that this unbudgeted allocation will need to be included in the mid-year review to cover the costs of the Panel.

Small rural and regional Councils with a small population base do not have the capacity to fund the same amount as large regional or metropolitan city councils.

It should be noted that the unbudgeted cost for the electoral structure review is set at \$65,000 for all metropolitan, regional and rural Councils regardless of the size of the municipality. This unbudgeted cost is significant for small rural and regional shires and this motion seeks advocacy to the Minister for Local Government to reconsider this flat structure and look to either waiver the fee in full or consider a population based fee structure in accord with other fee structures.

Whilst the Minister is aware of this issue and costs pressures for small rural Councils following previous correspondence in December 2022, and a recent online meeting on Thursday 2 February, a decision is yet to be made.

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.

Section 16 (10) of the Act states:

An electoral representation advisory panel must ensure that a process for community engagement is followed in conducting the review.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The Motion is consistent with the following strategies in the 2021-25 Council Plan:

Strategic Focus Area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible:

- *Be accountable for the decisions we make and the quality of service we deliver*
- *Maximise 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.*

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 electoral representation review is part of the State's broader council electoral structure program across Victoria; Strathbogie is one of 39 councils requiring such a review prior to the 2024 general election.

9.6.3 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the Victorian Electoral Commission Costs associated with the Electoral Structure Review Process (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.

Electoral representation reviews and the appointment of an Electoral Representation Advisory Panel are governed by sections 15 and 16 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. The Minister has set Terms of Reference for the Electoral Representation Advisory Panel, which forms Attachment 2 to this report.

There are no legal implications associated with the attached Motion.

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 aims to raise awareness of the costs burden for small rural and regional shires associated with the VEC Electoral Structure Review to the Minister for Local Government.

Furthermore, the report is being presented to an open Council meeting and a copy of the Motion will all be available on Councils website.

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 Act states that councils are responsible for paying the ‘reasonable costs’ of an Electoral Representation Advisory Panel.

Whilst there are no financial implications associated with this advocacy, it is hoped that the advocacy to the Minister of Local Government will realise a reduced fee for small rural and regional shires.

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.

Other councils within the Hume Region are also subject to the appointment of an Electoral Representation Advisory Panel and information sharing has already begun between councils to support each other through this process given the very limited resources we all operate with.

9.6.3 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the Victorian Electoral Commission Costs associated with the Electoral Structure Review Process (cont.)

The intent of submitting this Motion to the May 2023 MAV State Council meeting is to trigger further urgent talks with the Minister for Local Government which, it is hoped, will lead to a review of the current flat fee cost structure for the review.

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.

It is anticipated that this motion to MAV should open up discussions between the State and Local Government bodies.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

It is recommended that Council submit the Motion to the MAV May 2023 State Council meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Strathbogie Shire MAV May 2023 State Council Notice of Motion

9.6.4 Inquiry into the Implications of Severe Weather Events on the National Regional, Rural, and Remote Road Network

Author: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

Responsible Director: Chief Executive Officer

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In December 2022, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport launched an [inquiry into the implications of severe weather events on the national regional, rural, and remote road network](#).

The inquiry will look at road engineering and construction standards to strengthen road resiliency against natural disasters, including the critical role of climate change trends and data to inform infrastructure standards.

The Committee is concerned about the increasing deterioration of the nation's road network, particularly in regional, rural, and remote areas. It is seeking to understand how road planning and construction may be improved to enhance road climate resiliency and support our communities.

The Committee is seeking written submissions by 28 February 2023.

This enquiry presents an opportunity for Strathbogie Shire Council to continue its advocacy efforts for funding to repair our extensive road network.

Flood and ongoing wet weather have had a significant impact on our road network, to a point where some sections are difficult to navigate without significant reductions in speed.

Across our Shire we have 2210km of roads – 1465km unsealed and 748km sealed. On top of this there are 521 bridges and culverts to maintain. Maintenance of this extensive road network is a significant ask, even when conditions are good.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. Notes the submission to the Inquiry into the implications of severe weather events on the national regional, rural and remote road network; and**
- 2. Continues to advocate for State and Federal Government funding to repair and maintain our road network.**

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

Strathbogie Shire Council has been advocating strongly for State and Federal government funding to repair our extensive road network.

Ongoing wet weather and flooding has caused significant damage to our road network infrastructure.

9.6.4 Inquiry into the Implications of Severe Weather Events on the National Regional, Rural, and Remote Road Network (cont.)

Across our Shire we have 2210km of roads – 1465km unsealed and 748km sealed. On top of this there are 521 bridges and culverts to maintain.

Maintenance of this extensive road network is a significant ask, even when conditions are good.

With about 7500 ratepayers our ability to generate enough revenue to cover the actual costs to construct, maintain and upgrade roads and other assets is impossible without assistance from State and Federal governments.

We are a small rural shire and an asset-heavy level of government.

Council has been strong in its advocacy and has:

- moved a motion at the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to lead a state-wide advocacy campaign calling on the government to increase funding for road maintenance, which was supported unanimously, and
- welcomed State and Federal politicians to our Shire for a firsthand look at the road damage and advocate for funding. This has included Acting Minister for Emergency Management and Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Catherine King, Federal Member for Nicholls Sam Birrell, State Member for Euroa Steph Ryan (prior to the election), and State Shadow Minister for Emergency Services Brad Battin.

To continue our advocacy efforts we will now make a submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport's [inquiry into the implications of severe weather events on the national regional, rural, and remote road network](#).

ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION

Strathbogie Shire Council manages our road maintenance responsibility prudently, considering the combined impacts of climatic conditions, rate capping and reduced government grants.

However, the continued lack of government investment in roads, maintenance, and infrastructure renewal, will have long-term impacts on the quality and safety of local roads across Strathbogie Shire

Recent flooding and ongoing wet weather have deteriorated road surfaces to a point where some sections are difficult to navigate without significant reductions in speed.

This is not just frustrating for our community; it is a safety concern.

There has been a large increase in pavement failures due to the rain penetrating the sealed surface.

9.6.4 Inquiry into the Implications of Severe Weather Events on the National Regional, Rural, and Remote Road Network (cont.)

The current cost of sealed road major patching works in our area can be between \$85 - \$125 per square meter depending on depth of pavement.

The unsealed road infrastructure consists of roads which have a 150mm layer of manufactured material, typically a class 3 crush rock, and some instances Non-Descript Crushed Rock (NDCR) which is widely used for sheeting.

Heavy rain and flooding have deteriorated these roads, and, in some instances, the whole road base has been washed away.

The current cost to lay and compact the material to the original condition is about \$65 per lineal meter laid at a 4.5m pavement width.

Before the floods we had 227.68km of road that had been affected by ongoing wet weather requiring a re-sheet, equating to \$14,799,070 to restore it back to the condition it was three years ago.

Post flooding, we estimate the damage bill could be three times this amount - reaching as high as \$50 million.

Council officers are working around the clock, yet we are not keeping up.

We are constantly urging our community to drive safely, and we've been forced to enact the force majeure clauses in our Road Management and Tree Management plans.

We simply cannot provide the service levels outlined in these plans.

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.

Through our submission to this inquiry, we are calling for the committee to:

- investigate future funding opportunities for small rural shires to maintain and improve our road network, and
- assist Council to implement construction solutions that enhance the resilience of our road network, while ensuring we have the funding to do this.

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; however, Council has used all its communications channels to continually urge the community to drive to the conditions and inform them about our advocacy efforts.

9.6.4 Inquiry into the Implications of Severe Weather Events on the National Regional, Rural, and Remote Road Network (cont.)

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

This report is consistent with the Council Plan – Strategic Focus Area 2: Live. Access. Connect.

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.

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 submission has been discussed at a Council Meeting open to the public. We will also make the submission available on Council's website.

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.

This submission calls for the Committee to investigate funding opportunities for small rural shires to maintain and improve the road network.

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 submission calls for the Committee to investigate funding opportunities for small rural shires to maintain and improve the road network.

Social

This submission raises the issue of public safety due to our deteriorated road network. It calls on the Committee to investigate funding opportunities and help Council implement construction solutions that enhance the resilience of our road network.

9.6.4 Inquiry into the Implications of Severe Weather Events on the National Regional, Rural, and Remote Road Network (cont.)

Environmental and Climate change

Our submission states Council is keen to implement construction solutions that enhance the resilience of our road network. It states Council wants a safe, climate resilient road network for road users in our municipality.

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.

As previously discussed, Council is keen to implement construction solutions that enhance the resilience of our road network.

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.

In October, Council moved a motion at the Municipal Association of Victoria's State Council Meeting to lead a state-wide advocacy campaign calling on the government to increase funding for road maintenance.

Our motion was supported unanimously.

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

Small rural Councils like Strathbogie cannot afford to upkeep the road network, which has been destroyed by rain and flood.

Through our submission we ask the inquiry to:

- investigate future funding opportunities for small rural shires to maintain and improve our road network.
- assist Council implement construction solutions that enhance the resilience of our road network, but we need to ensure we have the funding to do this.

Council's aim is a safe, climate resilient road network for road users in our municipality.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Submission to the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Development, Infrastructure and Transport's [inquiry into the implications of severe weather events on the national regional, rural, and remote road network](#)

9.6.5 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the current National Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) Betterment Funding

Author: Director Sustainable Infrastructure

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Strathbogie Shire Council is committed to the safety of its people and has an obligation under the OHS Act 2014 and the Roads Act 2004 to provide a safe environment for the travelling public.

The ongoing impact of our variable climate has seen increasing levels of extreme weather which in turn creates a higher volume of maintenance activity on our roads and drainage network.

Strathbogie Shire has approximately 2,210km of roads – 1,465km unsealed and 748km sealed. Council also maintain and renew 521 bridges and major culverts. Maintenance and renewal of this extensive road network including culverts is a significant ask, even when conditions are good.

After the October 2022 flood event about 22km of unsealed roads, more than 3km of sealed road patches and 98 bridges and major culverts required flood restoration works beyond the capacity of Council's Operations unit.

To stem the rapid deterioration of our Shires rural road network, and to reduce the cost to the budget of future climate events, the current State Government Betterment Funding arrangements falls short of Council's requirements.

As a small rural Shire our ability to generate enough revenue to cover the actual costs of emergency events, to repair damage and recover our essential assets is impossible without assistance from State and Federal governments which in times of disaster including Natural Disaster Recovery Funding (NDRF).

The 2022 October event has highlighted the need for a betterment program that will enable the Strathbogie Shire to build on our existing infrastructure to a resilient level. The increased rain and flood event we've seen over the past three years are unprecedented. What Council is calling for is unprecedented funding – not just to repair our roads, but to strengthen them for future events. It just makes good business sense to build back better.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

- 1. *Endorse the Notice of Motion which calls for Victorian Government to consider the betterment component of the National Disaster Financial Assistance funding due to climate change;***
- 2. *Urge the State Government to recognise that current rural and local roads National Disaster Financial Assistance funding is not sustainable as it does not promote resilience; and***

9.6.5 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the current National Disaster Financial Assistance Betterment Funding (cont.)

RECOMMENDATION (cont.)

3. ***Authorise officers to submit the Motion to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) for consideration at the MAV State Council Meeting scheduled for 19 May 2023.***

PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND

This report provides seeks Council's endorsement of the Notice of Motion to the MAV May 2023 State Council Meeting seeking statewide advocacy to the Minister for Local Government to consider the betterment component of flood funding.

The next MAV State Council Meeting will be held on Friday 19 May 2023; the agenda will include consideration of motions from the membership.

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.

The MAV Rules 2022 require motions to be of strategic relevance to the MAV (aligned with their six Strategic Outcomes) or of such significance to local government that they ought to be considered at the State Council meeting.

Under the MAV Rules 2022, all motions must be submitted not less than 60 days before the meeting, with motion submissions closing at midnight on Monday 20 March 2023.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This report aims to raise awareness of the cost burden for small rural and regional shires associated with flood damage betterment funding. Whilst no direct community engagement has been undertaken the community is kept informed via Councils webpage and facebook page on our advocacy work.

POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Council Plans and Policies

The Motion is consistent with the following strategies in the 2021-25 Council Plan:

Strategic Focus Area 6: Accountable. Transparent. Responsible:

- *Be accountable for the decisions we make and the quality of service we deliver*
- *Maximise 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.*

9.6.5 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the current National Disaster Financial Assistance Betterment Funding (cont.)

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.

LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS

There are no legal implications associated with the attached Motion.

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 aims to raise awareness of the cost burden for small rural and regional shires associated with flood damage betterment funding.

Furthermore, the report is being presented to an open Council meeting and a copy of the Motion will all be available on Councils website.

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.

Change to the current betterment model to rebuild to current standards will minimise future flood damage claims.

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.

Other councils within the region would benefit from the changes to the betterment model.

The intent of submitting this Motion to the May 2023 MAV State Council meeting is to trigger further urgent talks with the Minister for Local Government which, it is hoped, will lead to a review of the current betterment model.

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.

It is anticipated that this motion to MAV should open up discussions between the State and Local Government bodies.

- 9.6.5 Municipal Association of Victoria May 2023 State Council Motion: Submission for review of the current National Disaster Financial Assistance Betterment Funding (cont.)

HUMAN RIGHTS CONSIDERATIONS

The recommendation does not limit any human rights under the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

CONCLUSION

To stem the rapid deterioration of our Shires rural road network, and to reduce the cost to the budget of future climate events, the current State Government Betterment Funding arrangements falls short of Council's requirements. This Motion to the MAV May 2023 State Council meeting calls for a fundamental shift in disaster funding arrangements to not just repair our roads infrastructure, but to strengthen them for future events. It just makes good business sense to build back better.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment 1: Strathbogie Shire MAV May 2023 State Council Notice of Motion

10. NOTICES OF MOTION**11. NOTICES OF RESCISSION****12. URGENT BUSINESS****13. CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS****Confidential Appendices**

These appendices have been classified as being confidential in accordance with section 66(2)(a) and Part 1, section 3 of the Local Government Act 2020 as they relate to:

- (g) *private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that –*
- (ii) *if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage*

- C.A. 1 (g) Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-33:
Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Sealed Road Works (patching) - with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions
- C.A. 2 (g) Tender Evaluation for Contact No. 22/23-34:
Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Un-Sealed Road Works with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions

NEXT MEETING

The next monthly meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, at 6pm.

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