

# Strathbogie Shire Council

# Council Meeting Agenda

April 18, 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, April 18, 2023, at 6pm**

**Meeting to be held at the Nagambie Lakes Regatta 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  
Tara Whitsed – Acting Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

## Index

1. Welcome
2. Acknowledgement of Country
3. Apologies / Leave of Absence
  - Kristin Favaloro – Acting Executive Manager Communications and Engagement
4. Disclosure of Conflicts of Interest
5. Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

### **RECOMMENDATION**

***That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 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**  
**April 14, 2023**

### **Next meeting**

The next monthly meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 16, 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, April 18, 2023, by emailing [info@strathbogie.vic.gov.au](mailto: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](http://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.

## Reports Index

<b>9.</b>	<b>OFFICER REPORTS</b>	
<b>9.1</b>	<b>Strategic and Statutory Planning</b>	
9.1.1	Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined - 1 to 31 March 2023	1
<b>9.2</b>	<b>Community</b>	
9.2.1	Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission	3
9.2.2	Grant Variations Received 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding	9
<b>9.3</b>	<b>Infrastructure</b>	
9.3.1	Tender for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option	16
9.3.2	Tender for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions	21
9.3.3	Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation	25
<b>9.4</b>	<b>Corporate</b>	
<b>9.5</b>	<b>Governance and Customer Service</b>	
9.5.1	Monthly Performance Report	29
<b>9.6</b>	<b>Executive</b>	
9.6.1	Request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 13-16 June, 2023 – Councillor Laura Binks	50
<b>10.</b>	<b>NOTICES OF MOTION</b>	55
<b>11.</b>	<b>NOTICES OF RESCISSION</b>	55
<b>12.</b>	<b>URGENT BUSINESS</b>	55

13.	<b>CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS</b>		55
	<b>CONFIDENTIAL APPENDICES</b>		
	<p><i>APPENDICES DEEMED CONFIDENTIAL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 66(2)(A) AND PART 1, CLAUSE 3 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020</i></p> <p>(g) <i>private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—</i></p> <p>(ii) <i>if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage</i></p>		
	Appendix 1:	Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option	
	Appendix 2:	Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions	

## 9. OFFICER REPORTS

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

#### 9.1.1 **Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined - 1 to 31 March 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 March 2023. The latest available Planning Permit Activity Performance (PPARS) Figures are also attached (Attachment 3). It should be noted that the latest PPARS Figures are for the month of February 2023. The March PPARS Figures were not available at the time of writing this report as the monthly figures are not updated until 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. The contents of this report are provided for information purposes only.

It is noted that there were fifteen (15) new planning applications received and thirteen (13) planning applications decided upon during the reporting period.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

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

1. ***Note that there were fifteen (15) new planning applications received, and thirteen (13) planning applications decided on during the period of 1 to 31 March 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.

9.1.1 Planning Applications Received and Planning Applications Determined  
- 1 to 31 March 2023 (cont.)

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.

**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

## **9.2 COMMUNITY**

### **9.2.1 Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission**

Author/Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

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

In October 2022, the vast majority of the state of Victoria was severely impacted by a major flood event. Specifically, Strathbogie Local Government Area, was impacted and left with significant damage and consequently a long road to recovery with our community. The Sevens Creek, Hughes Creek and Goulburn River all experienced major flooding. A number of homes were inundated with water above floor level, our road network surfaces severely compromised, community facilities unable to operate and many impacts to our agricultural and economic sectors. The full impacts of the flood are still coming to realisation.

In response to the October 2022 Floods, the Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee has been tasked with investigating how prepared the state was, and how it handled the flood event. The Environment and Planning Committee invites submissions from individuals and organisations addressing one or more of the issues identified in the terms of reference.

The inquiry will look at what caused or contributed to the flooding and the adequacy and effectiveness of early warning systems.

The committee is accepting written submissions up to 5pm Monday, 8 May, and intends to follow up submissions by holding public hearings in flood-affected areas.

Strathbogie Shire Council has developed a submission to the Inquiry (refer attachment 1), taking into consideration the feedback both internally and externally heard from our officers and community through the flood event. The inquiry also presents an opportunity for Strathbogie Shire Council to continue its advocacy and voice following the devastating October 2022 flood event.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That Council note the submission to the Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria.***

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

The purpose of this report is for Council to note the submission to the Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria.

In October 2022 Strathbogie Shire was impacted by flooding which, in some areas, peaked above major flood levels.

More than 40 homes were inundated, about 100 houses were impacted by flood water and 27 community facilities were affected.

The agricultural sector lost crops, feed, and stock. It is estimated 10,842ha of farmland was devastated and about 80 primary producers accessed flood recovery funding.

### 9.2.1 Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission (cont.)

Businesses across the region were shut down, some for the unforeseeable future. Council has worked with 20 businesses across our shire who have been adversely impacted.

More than 200 roads across our shire need repairs, with many of our roads unable to navigate safely without significant reductions in speed.

The impact was so damaging, Council was forced to enact the Force Majeure clause under the Road Management and Tree Management plans because we cannot keep the roads to the standards required.

Council received 262 calls to report water over road and trees down during the flood event, with Officers working around the clock responding to calls for help.

On top of this 136.42 tonnes, or 593 cubic metres, of flood waste was collected at our transfer stations and we expect this number to grow as waste will continue to be accepted until May 2, 2023.

During the October flood event Council officers provided updates almost hourly, through our website, social media channels, via text message and even letterbox drops.

This led to an increase in our social media reach of more than 175 per cent during October 2022.

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

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

Victoria's response to major floods in October 2022 is the focus of a wide-ranging parliamentary inquiry. The Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee has been tasked with investigating how prepared the state was, and how it handled the flood event. The inquiry will look at what caused or contributed to the flooding and the adequacy and effectiveness of early warning systems. Further, the inquiry will look into the adequacy of the response by emergency services and whether there is adequate resources to deal with future disasters.

In Council's response (see attached), the following issues have been highlighted:

- The VicEmergency warnings together with the "live" stream monitoring gauge information for the Sevens Creeks was helpful in predicting the flooding impacts particularly with reference to the Council's Flood Emergency Plan.
- Local knowledge provided countless benefits to Council and our community. Our volunteers' knowledge and experience through previous floods allowed Council to target sandbagging to most at risk sites.
- While both SES and CFA are facing the challenge of attracting volunteers to their organisations, the October 2022 flood event has highlighted the desperate need to boost SES volunteer numbers.

### 9.2.1 Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission (cont.)

- There needs to be reconsideration of the role of regional based ICC's and their capacity to equally support both small and large rural shires during both the response and recovery phase in a timely and responsive manner.
- The SES also take a lead role in the review and update of the Municipal Flood Management Plans which are a sub-plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP).
- These plans are reviewed every three years and supported by our local Catchment Management Authority (CMA) in undertaking flood study reviews. Both the CMA and the SES need to be adequately resource at this planning level for the successful roll out of these reviews.
- There is no allocated funding specifically provided for the ongoing maintenance of engineering structures in Strathbogie Shire (such as levees). In addition, ownership and responsibility for the levee in Avenel is yet to be clarified.
- Whilst we understand response and recovery funding models take time to design and implement well, our municipal community was ready to take action and clean up immediately as waters subsided very quickly in many of our townships. A timelier response to requests for information regarding funding particularly in regards to waste and immediate needs was required. Having to tell residents we don't know and that we are waiting for further advice from the funding bodies only heightened the existing stress community, and Council were under.
- Despite the best efforts of local SES Unit and the willingness of the CFA, there was a severe lack of intelligence received from the Incident Control Centre, in regard to what was happening in Strathbogie. A remote ICC model was spoken about, that was meant to be established, however this was not realised for Strathbogie. Strathbogie was formally invited to attend the ICC in Shepparton, seven days following the incident. This led to a fragmented response and recovery, as our communities' needs had moved from response to recovery.
- Our road network was severely damage in the flood event. In October, we 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.
- Small rural Councils like ours cannot afford to upkeep the road network, which has been destroyed by rain and flood.
- We ask this inquiry to please investigate future funding opportunities for small rural shires to maintain and improve our road network.

#### **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 submission has been developed using information collected throughout the response to the flood event.

### 9.2.1 Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission (cont.)

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### Council Plans and Policies

This report aligns to Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe in the 2021 – 2025 Council Plan.

More specifically, initiative item 5.8 *Monitor the compliance of Council's emergency management framework with changing legislative requirements.*

##### 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 Committee will investigate Victoria's preparedness for, and response to Victoria's major flooding event of October 2022. The inquiry will look into the flood event as a whole and the areas affected and consider factors such as what caused or contributed to the Flood Event; emergency services; government policy; flood mitigation strategies; the Flemington Racecourse flood wall; and the Victoria planning framework.

#### **LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS**

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

There are no negative legal considerations taken into effect when writing this submission. Submissions are currently being received from individuals and organisations.

##### 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 matter is to be presented at a Council meeting which is open to the public to attend and to view.

#### **FINANCIAL VIABILITY CONSIDERATIONS**

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

### 9.2.1 Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission (cont.)

The 2022 flood event has had a catastrophic impact on many individuals and their assets, businesses, agricultural sector and community assets and community groups. Public assets such as council's road network has also been severely impacted. Whilst it is too early to quantify the total dollar figure of damage that our local government area has experienced, the damage bill on Council's road network alone could be as high as \$50million.

#### ***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**

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.

#### **Social**

One of the terms for the committee includes the resourcing of the State Emergency Service, the adequacy of its response to the Flood Event and the adequacy of its resourcing to deal with increasing floods and natural disasters in the future.

#### **Environmental**

The Inquiry will investigate the implementation and effectiveness of the 2016 Victorian Floodplain Management Strategy in relation to the Flood Event and also the location, funding, maintenance and effectiveness of engineered structures, such as floodwalls, rural levees and culverts, as a flood mitigation strategy.

#### **Climate change**

The Bureau of Meteorology declared a La Niña event on 13 September 2022, the third consecutive year a La Niña event had been declared. A La Niña event dramatically affects our climate which brought more spring rain and cooler days. This meant that above-average rainfall in parts of Victoria in the second half of 2022.

#### ***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***

In response to the October 2022 flood event, the Legislative Council Environment and Planning Committee has been tasked with investigating how prepared the state was, and how it handled the flood event. The Environment and Planning Committee invites submissions from individuals and organisations addressing one or more of the issues identified in the terms of reference.

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9.2.1 Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria – Submission (cont.)

The inquiry will look at what caused or contributed to the flooding and the adequacy and effectiveness of early warning systems.

Strathbogie Shire Council has developed a submission to the Inquiry (refer attachment 1), taking into consideration the feedback both internally and externally heard from our community through the flood event.

***ATTACHMENTS***

**Attachment 1:** Strathbogie Shire Council Submission – Inquiry into the 2022 Flood Event in Victoria

### **9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding**

Author: Manager Community and Culture

Responsible Director: Director Community and Planning

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Council delivers several community funding programs throughout the course of the year to support the community to deliver important community projects and initiatives.

Council has received requests for three variations to projects which were previously funded: one under the Community Action Group Project Funding 2022/23, and two variations under the Community Grant Funding Program (round 1 and round 2 2022/23). For various reasons detailed in the background of this report, the following variations have been requested by the respective community organisations:

- Community Action Group Funding 2022/23: Avenel Active Incorporated are seeking a variation to utilise an underspend of \$893.93 towards the 'Get Me to the Shops' Community Transport Program following savings in one of their approved projects.
- Community Grants Round 1 2022/23: Euroa Farmers Market are requesting a new project. The project originally funded was for the installation of water Hydration Station in Rotary Park, which was completely paid for Goulburn Valley Water.  
The new project request is for the purchase of 'A frames' signage, new trestle tables and a marquee for the Farmers Market.
- Community Grants Round 2 2022/23: Friends of the Nagambie Pool are requesting a new project. The project originally funded was for the installation of a shared BBQ facility. This was required to be located outside the fenced area of the pool deeming it unsafe for patrons.  
The new project request is for marketing collateral including new additional signage to improve visibility of the pool to residents and visitors.

This report seeks Council consideration and approval to support variations to the abovementioned community organisations to enable the delivery of community projects.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

1. ***Approve the variation submitted by Avenel Active Inc. to reallocate the unspent funds to the value of \$893.93 from their portable ramp purchase to their 'Get Me To the Shops' initiative;***
2. ***Approve the variation submitted by the Euroa Farmer Market, to reallocate funds to the value of \$2,680 from the Hydration Station Project to the purchase of Euroa Farmers Market 'A Frames' to further promote the market, a marquee and trestle tables;***

### 9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding (cont.)

#### *RECOMMENDATION (cont.)*

3. ***Approve the variation submitted by Friends of the Nagambie Pool, to reallocate funds to the value of \$5,000 from the Nagambie Recreation Reserve Shared BBQ Facility to the Nagambie Pool Signage Project (excluding the printing of brochures), subject to the provision of a proposed signage map, approved (by Council's Communication and Marketing Department) design concepts consistent with Council's Brand Strategy and relevant quotes for the installation of signage by the 12 May 2023; and***
4. ***Authorise Officers to prepare new funding arrangements incorporating the details of these variations and any specific terms and conditions relevant to the project including permit requirements.***

#### **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

Community funding is an important mechanism enabling Council to financially contribute and support important community projects. Council delivers several community funding programs throughout the course of the year. Two (2) major funding programs are the Community Action Group Funding Program and the Community Grant Funding Program.

#### Community Action Group Funding Program

The Community Action Group Funding Program is designed to provide funds to Community Action Groups to deliver projects and priorities identified through the Community Planning process. The Grant program is delivered and assessed in line with the Community Action Group Funding Guidelines, as adopted at the 21 September 2021 Council Meeting.

At the 20 September 2022 Council meeting Council approved the Community Action Group Project Funding 2022/23 allocations. Avenel Active Inc. were successful in receiving funds for three projects that had been identified in their Community Plan. These three projects were:

Avenel Active Inc.	Avenel Community Hub - External Weatherboard Repair.	\$3,000
Avenel Active Inc	Avenel Community Portable All-Abilities Access Ramp	\$1750
Avenel Active Inc	Avenel 'Get Me to the Shops' Community Transport Program	\$2500

Council has received a variation from Avenel Active Inc requesting Council to consider a variation to reallocate the unspent funds (\$893.93) from the Avenel Community Portable All-Abilities Ramp to the Avenel 'Get Me To the Shops' Program.

### 9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding (cont.)

Avenel Active Inc were able to source a second-hand ramp meeting the same DDA requirements at a cheaper cost than originally budgeted. The two other projects have been implemented and all funds have been spent. Avenel Active Inc. continues to deliver the 'Get Me to the Shops Program', at a cost to Avenel Active Inc and these additional funds would support them to offset this expense.

#### Community Grant Funding

The Community Grant Funding Program is a competitive grant funding program that supports community groups to identify and deliver important community projects. There are five categories in the program that aim to improve a variety of outcomes for people and groups within Strathbogie Shire. Council can hold up to two rounds of grant funding per financial year dependent on demand and the funds available and the funding program is delivered and assessed in line with the Community Grant Guidelines, as adopted at the 19 April 2022 Council Meeting.

At the 16 August 2022 Council Meeting, Council approved the Round 1 Community Grant Funding 2022/23 allocations. Euroa Village Farmers Market were allocated \$2,680 for the installation of a hydration station at the Sevens Creek Parkland area where the Market is held.

Council has received a variation request from the Euroa Village Farmers Market to reallocate the funds (\$2,680) from the hydration station project to the purchase of promotional equipment and Market infrastructure. Following the floods, the funds for the purchase, installation and ongoing maintenance of the Hydration Station has been provided by Goulburn Valley Water, and Council funds are no longer required for the original project. The committee identified the need for new market infrastructure in the form of A frame signage and marquees and have requested that Council consider a variation to reallocate the funds to this new project.

At the 13 December 2022 Council Meeting, Council approved Round 2 Community Grant Funding 2022/23 allocations. Friends of the Nagambie Pool were allocated \$5,000 to deliver a shared BBQ facility at the Nagambie Recreation Reserve.

Friends of the Nagambie Pool have since identified some implementation concerns associated with the shared BBQ facility and have requested Council consider a project variation, to reallocate the funds (\$5,000) to a Nagambie Pool Signage project which has been identified as a high priority by the Committee. The exact locations of the signage would be subject to any relevant council permit approval processes.

#### ***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.

From time-to-time, projects do not go as planned and circumstances can change.

### 9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding (cont.)

In line with the funding guidelines, applicants are required to request any variations to existing projects or new projects in writing via the Manager Community of Culture. These variations need to be considered and assessed to ensure they are consistent with the objectives of the community funding program.

Council officers have reviewed the three variations and provide a summary table, is provided below. It is important to note that Council officers require more information from Friends of the Nagambie Pool for the pool signage project. Officers recommend that this requirement for a proposed signage map, concept and quotes is a condition of approval for this variation.

Council officers believe that the three variations will still result in a community benefit and that they are consistent with the objectives of the respective funding programs.

	<b>Euroa Farmers Market (EFM)</b>	<b>Avenel Active (AA)</b>	<b>Friends of Nagambie Pool</b>
Round	Community Grants Round 1 2022/23	Community Planning 2022/23	Community Grants Round 2 2022/23
Original Request	Install Water Hydration Station in Rotary Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Hub - external weatherboard repair \$3k</li> <li>Purchase a community Portable All-Abilities Access Ramp \$1,750</li> <li>'Get Me to the Shops' Community Transport Program \$2,500</li> </ul>	Shared BBQ facility to be located at the Recreation Reserve
Original \$	\$2,680 - approved	\$1,750 of \$7,250 - approved	\$5,000 - approved
Payment Status	Unpaid	Paid	Unpaid
Variation background	Due to the floods in October including Rotary Park, the installation was postponed. GV Water also indicated that they would assist communities affected by the floods and install the Water Hydration Station at no cost, and maintain the asset ongoing.	Access ramp ordered in Nov, notified of a delay until at least March 2023. Avenel Active found the same model 2nd hand for \$500. Total cost incl transport was \$856.07, an under-spend of \$893.93 resulted.	Implementation issues; Proposed location was outside the fenced area of the pool which was not safe/ undesirable for pool patrons.

### 9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding (cont.)

Variation Request	Use the funds to purchase equipment to support the promotions and operation of the Market: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• advertising sandwich boards x 8 @ \$1,840</li> <li>• new marquee canopy x 1 @ \$ 585</li> <li>• outdoor trestle tables x 4 @ \$ 276</li> </ul>	Redirect the unspent funds to the Avenel 'Get Me to the Shops' Community Transport Program	Installation of signage that would improve visibility of the pool to residents and visitors.
Variation requested \$	\$2,701 (\$21 excess will be covered by EFM)	\$893.93	Quotes not provided- these have been requested. They have requested the use of all funds previously approved (\$5,000)

#### **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.

There has been no broad community engagement on this matter. Requests have been proposed from the relevant community groups.

#### **POLICY CONSIDERATIONS**

##### Council Plans and Policies

The report is consistent with Council Policies, key strategic documents and the Council Plan, in particular, aligning with the adopted:

- Community Planning Program Guidelines
- Community Grant Program Guidelines

##### **2021-2025 Council Plan**

Strategic focus area 1: Engage. Create. Unite  
 Strategic focus area 4: Inclusive. Productive. Balanced  
 Strategic focus area 5: Strong. Healthy. Safe  
 Strategic focus area 6: Accountable. Transparent.

##### 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 relevant guidelines for both the Community Grant Program and the Community Grants Program set the criteria for each funding stream.

9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding (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.

There are no legal considerations associated with this report.

***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.

In the interests of transparency and open and honest communication with our community, this report is presented to a public Council meeting.

***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 report is in relation to funds already approved and committed within Council's annual operating budget for 2022/23 with no additional financial contribution required by Council.

***SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS***

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

***Economic***

Projects have the opportunity to utilise local contractors and services or involve the procurements of goods from local business.

***Social***

All of the projects recommended for funding will result in a significant social and community benefit. These projects once delivered support essential programs that support community to meet, gather and remain physically and mentally active.

***Environmental***

There is no significant environmental impact associated with this report.

***Climate change***

There is no significant climate change impact associated with this report.

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9.2.2 Grant Variations Requests 2022/2023: Community Grants Program Funding and Community Action Group Funding (cont.)

***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 delivers several community funding programs throughout the course of the year to support the community to deliver important community projects and initiatives.

Council has received three variations to projects which were previously funded: one under the Community Action Group Project Funding, and two variations under the Community Grant Funding Program.

From time-to-time projects do not go as planned and variations may be requested. This report presents three variations to Council for consideration and approval.

***ATTACHMENTS***

Nil

### **9.3 INFRASTRUCTURE**

#### **9.3.1 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option**

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 the culverts on our 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 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2023. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, two (2) submissions had been received.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

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

- 1. Awards the tender for Contract No 22/23-36 – Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Culvert Repairs including Debris Removal as a panel contract, awarding contracts to the following contractors for a combined maximum value of \$425,700 inclusive of GST, as follows:  
Cleave’s Earthmoving & Drainage Pty and  
Girdwood Contracting Pty Ltd;***
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer Award individual contracts to members of the panel to a maximum value of \$425,700, including GST, with the maximum value of all of the packages to be not greater than \$425,700, inclusive of GST; and***
- 3. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer to execute the Contract by signing and affixing with the Common Seal of Strathbogie Shire Council.***

9.3.1 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option (cont.)

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

This report seeks Council approval of the recommendations from the Asset Services on Contract Number **22/23-36 - Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Culvert Repairs including Debris Removal 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 27<sup>th</sup> of January 2023. The tender was advertised in Saturday's The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 28<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2023, two (2) submissions were received as detailed below.

**Table 1: Tender Submissions Received**

Tender Submissions Received at the close of Tender Period (in Alphabetical Order)	
Cleave's Earthmoving & Drainage Pty Ltd	
Girdwood Contracting Pty Ltd	

**Assessment Process**

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

1. Manager Asset Planning
2. Senior 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 based on providing the overall Best Value, offering the most benefit to the community and the greatest advantage to Council.

9.3.1 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option (cont.)

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

**Table 2: Evaluation Criteria**

Criteria	Weighting (%)
Price	50%
Business & Management Requirements	PASS
Capability, Methodology and Experience	30%
Regional Benefit	10%
Sustainability	10%

At the completion of the tender evaluation process, it was determined that both suppliers could deliver the flood rectification works in some capacity, as per the specifications. Both have significant experience in Culvert Repairs and Debris Removal.

Council Officers assessing the submissions were therefore satisfied that all submitted tenders represent 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.

### ***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.

9.3.1 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option (cont.)

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.

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.

9.3.1 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option (cont.)

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 \$425,700 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 \$425,700 incl. GST to any one contractor.

The cumulative value for all of the packages will not exceed \$425,700 inclusive of GST.

These works are part of the intermediate reconstruction works eligible for NDFA funding and, as such, earmarked to be covered by the received advanced payment of \$2.17M from the NDFA. A very low risk remains for a minor number of works within this contract package deemed not fully claimable at the final assessment post completion of works. Those unclaimable costs may need to be recovered from Council's flood fund of \$1.7M.

**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 22/23-36 - Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Culvert Repairs including Debris Removal 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 1:** Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-36: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Culvert Repairs including Debris Removal with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (CONFIDENTIAL)

### **9.3.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – 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 bridge 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 27th of January 2023. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2023, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 22 of February 2023, two (2) submissions had been received.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

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

- 1. Awards the tender for Contract No 22/23-37 – Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification as a lump sum breakdown contract to the value of \$180,598, inclusive of GST, to the preferred tender to Waratah Constructions, based in Benalla Victoria;***
- 2. Authorises the Chief Executive Officer Award the contract with a maximum value of \$180,598, including GST, to Waratah Constructions;***
- 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 22/23-37 – Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridges – Package 1 and to award the contract to the tenderer as provided in this report.

### 9.3.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

Whilst a Panel of Suppliers Contract was considered, after careful consideration of that benefit in comparison to best value for works, it was determined to choose a preferred tender based on value of the package. The outcome of this process ensures that 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 27th of January 2023. The tender was advertised in Saturday’s The Age newspaper (state-wide reach) on the 28<sup>th</sup> of January 2023, Shepparton News and Benalla Ensign, in the week following release. By the close of tenders at 4.00pm on 26<sup>th</sup> of February 2023, two (2) submissions had been received.

#### **Assessment Process**

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

1. Manager Asset Planning
2. Senior 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**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Weighting (%)</b>
<b>Price</b>	<b>50</b>
<b>Business &amp; Management Requirements</b>	<b>PASS/FAIL</b>
<b>Capability, Methodology and Experience</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Regional Benefit</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Sustainability</b>	<b>10</b>

At the completion of the tender evaluation process, it was determined that both suppliers could deliver the flood rectification works as per the specifications. Both have significant experience in Bridge Repairs. The tenders differed significantly on pricing of works, and to a lesser degree on the other requirements of business and management, capability, methodology, experience, regional benefit and sustainability, in favour of Waratah Constructions.

Council Officers assessing the submissions were therefore satisfied that all submitted tenders were conforming but only one tender, Waratah Constructions, representing the best value outcome for Council.

9.3.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – 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.

It is considered that all steps have been taken in line with Council's Procurement Policy which ensures transparency in the process.

### 9.3.2 Tender for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (cont.)

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 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 the preferred 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 \$180,598 including GST.

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

Once the contractor agrees to perform the scope of works, the contract will be executed by the Chief Executive Officer to a maximum value of \$180,598 incl. GST to any one contractor.

#### **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 22/23-37 - Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers. Council's Procurement Policy was followed when completing the formal Request for Tender process.

It is recommended that a lump sum breakdown contract be awarded to the preferred tenderer.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Nil.

#### **APPENDICES**

**Appendix 2:** Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-37: Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions (CONFIDENTIAL)

### **9.3.3 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 March 2023 to 31 March 2023. This report specifically relates to works that form part of Council's 2022/23 budget.

#### **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.

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

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 22/23-78
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Vaccination Services</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Awarded under Sole Supplier provisions of Strathbogie Shire Procurement Policy
<b>Value Including GST</b>	\$118,305.00
<b>Awarded to</b>	City of Wodonga
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	1 April 2023
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	31 March 2026

**Contracts Awarded Under Delegated Authority by Director/s**

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 21/22-27
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Weed and Pest Management – Panel of Suppliers</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Panel of Suppliers Contract awarded by Council resolution April 2022. Fire Prevention Annual Roadside Spraying component for 2022/23– email quotation process conducted.
<b>Value Including GST</b>	\$39,435.00
<b>Awarded to</b>	G&T Weed Management (Wangaratta)
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	1 August 2023
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	30 November 2023

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 22/23-69
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Consultant to Supply Goulburn Region Destination Management Plan</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Tender release 7 February 2023, close 3 March 2023. State Government Funded; collaborative Procurement between Mitchell, Shepparton and Strathbogie Shires. Time critical approval required.
<b>Value Including GST</b>	\$84,450.00
<b>Awarded to</b>	TRC Tourisms
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	9 April 2023
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	15 October 2023

9.3.3 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

<b>Contract No.</b>	CN 22/23-38
<b>Contract Name</b>	<b><i>Flood Damage Rectification– Bridge repairs, Package 2</i></b>
<b>Contract Details</b>	Tender release 27 January 2023, close 22 February 2023. Time critical approval required.
<b>Value Including GST</b>	\$132,099.00
<b>Awarded to</b>	Waratah Constructions
<b>Scheduled Commencement</b>	15 April 2023
<b>Scheduled Completion Date</b>	31 May 2023

**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.

**Consultation**

Where required, external stakeholders have been engaged providing input on relevant projects.

**Community Implications**

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

**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.

### 9.3.3 Contracts and Works Awarded Under Delegation (cont.)

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

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

#### **Economic**

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 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 March to 31 March 2023.

#### ***ATTACHMENTS***

Nil.

## **9.5 GOVERNANCE AND CUSTOMER SERVICE**

### **9.5.1 Monthly Performance Report**

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

- Building Department – March 2023 Statistics
- Planning Department – Planning Application Approvals – Development Cost (Capital Improved Value) – March. 2023
- Customer Enquiry Analysis Report – Report for March 2023
- Waste Management Reporting ~ Year to Date – March 2023
- Transfer Station Date - March 2023
- Actioning of Council Reports Resolutions – Council Meeting Tuesday March 21, 2023, and Extraordinary Council Meeting Tuesday April 11, 2023
- Outstanding Actions of Council Resolutions to March 31, 2023
- Review of Council Policies and Adoption of new Policies – March/April 2023
- Records of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings – 1 to 31 March 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.

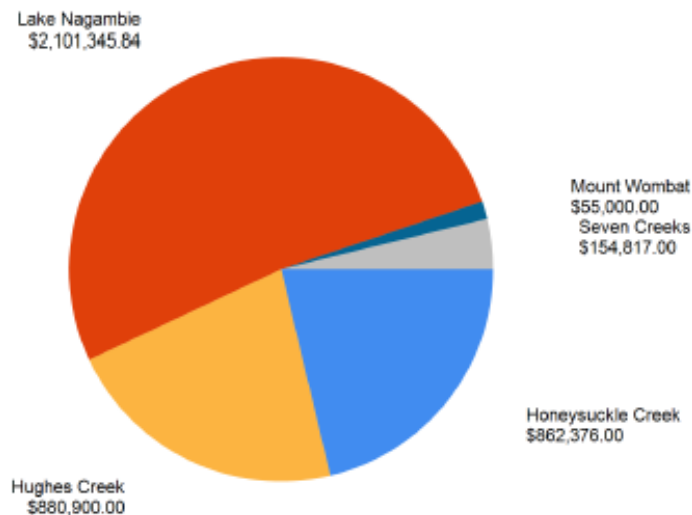
### ***RECOMMENDATION***

***That the report be accepted.***

**BUILDING ACTIVITY****MARCH 2023****Building Activity**

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

Ward	Number of Lodgements	Cost Of Works
Honeysuckle Creek	5	\$862,376.00
Hughes Creek	3	\$880,900.00
Lake Nagambie	10	\$2,101,345.84
Mount Wombat	1	\$55,000.00
Seven Creeks	4	\$154,817.00
	23	\$4,054,438.84

**Honeysuckle Creek**

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
8992430592917	09/03/2023	Construction of	Farm Shed	Boho	\$29,500.00
3828950326624	15/03/2023	Alteration to	Relocatable Dwelling, Shed x2	Earlston	\$350,000.00
6694246495367	16/03/2023	Construction of	Carport	Violet Town	\$13,154.00
8534577407623	17/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Violet Town	\$465,222.00
3975073526829	29/03/2023	Construction of	Verandah	Violet Town	\$4,500.00
					<b>\$862,376.00</b>

## Hughes Creek

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
4310221561947	09/03/2023	Completion of	Dwelling & Shed	Locksley	\$15,900.00
6898569701241	24/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Carport & Shed	Avenel	\$415,000.00
4891235330932	24/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling	Avenel	\$450,000.00
					<b>\$880,900.00</b>

## Lake Nagambie

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
8924515044886	01/03/2023	Construction of	Shed	Nagambie	\$37,548.00
2529713362654	02/03/2023	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Nagambie	\$73,852.84
6258170245527	03/03/2023	Construction of	Verandah	Nagambie	\$32,000.00
9245574004408	06/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$398,824.00
1589122692788	22/03/2023	Construction of	Garage	Kirwans Bridge	\$73,100.00
7907670895885	22/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$508,356.00
4527162254214	15/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$417,862.00
2146518425203	16/03/2023	Construction of	Farm Shed	Graytown	\$30,000.00
2685213652109	28/03/2023	Construction of	Farm Shed	Whroo	\$150,000.00
6836235414053	29/03/2023	Construction of	Dwelling & Garage	Nagambie	\$379,803.00
					<b>\$2,101,345.84</b>

## Mount Wombat

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
1222011135473	01/03/2023	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Euroa	\$55,000.00
					<b>\$55,000.00</b>

## Seven Creeks

Permit Number	Permit Date	Works	Building Use	Town	Cost Of Works
4253783781746	01/03/2023	Repairs to	Shed	Euroa	\$29,257.00
6621318213400	06/03/2023	Construction of	Verandah	Euroa	\$27,940.00
5155976339771	16/03/2023	Construction of	Swimming Pool and Fence	Euroa	\$54,675.00
8962864409343	22/03/2023	Construction of	Verandah	Euroa	\$42,945.00
					<b>\$154,817.00</b>

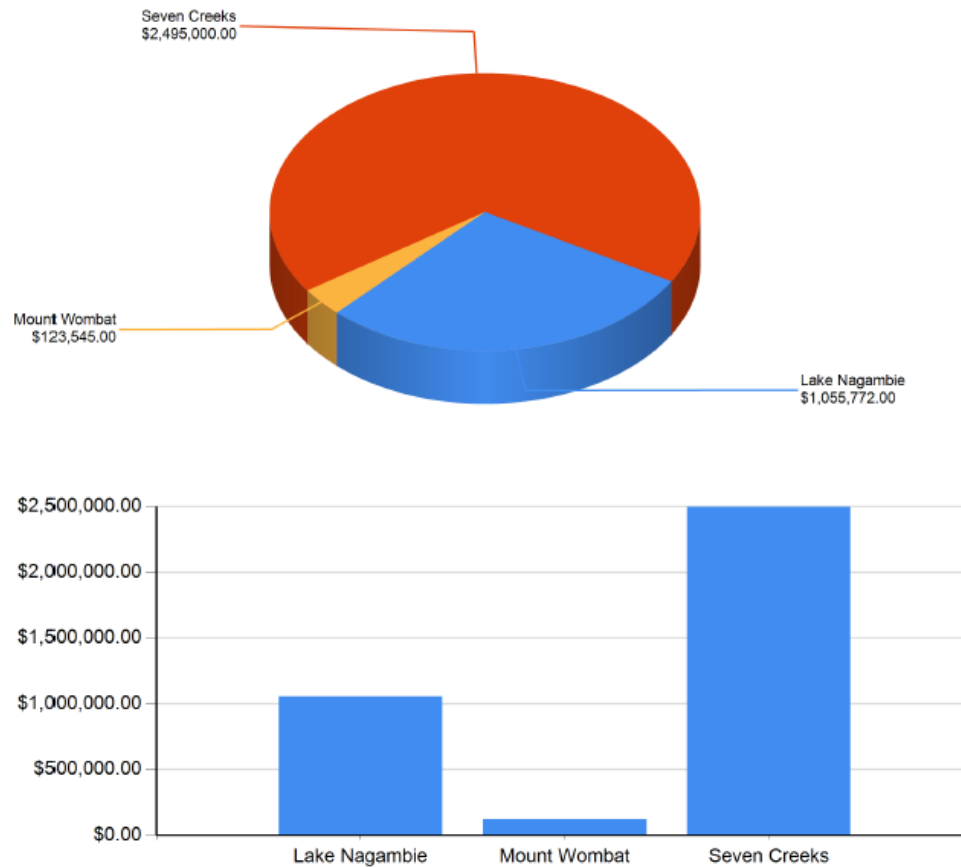
**PLANNING APPLICATION APPROVALS – DEVELOPMENT COST (CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE)**  
**MARCH 2023**



**Planning Applications Determined**

March 2023

<b>Lake Nagambie</b>	<b>\$1,055,772.00</b>
Mitchellstown	\$95,772.00
Nagambie	\$600,000.00
Tabilk	\$360,000.00
<b>Mount Wombat</b>	<b>\$123,545.00</b>
Kithbrook	\$80,000.00
Ruffy	\$43,545.00
<b>Seven Creeks</b>	<b>\$2,495,000.00</b>
Euroa	\$980,000.00
Euroa	\$1,500,000.00
Euroa	\$15,000.00
<b>Total Value</b>	<b>\$3,674,317.00</b>



## CUSTOMER ENQUIRY ANALYSIS REPORT - REPORT FOR MARCH 2023



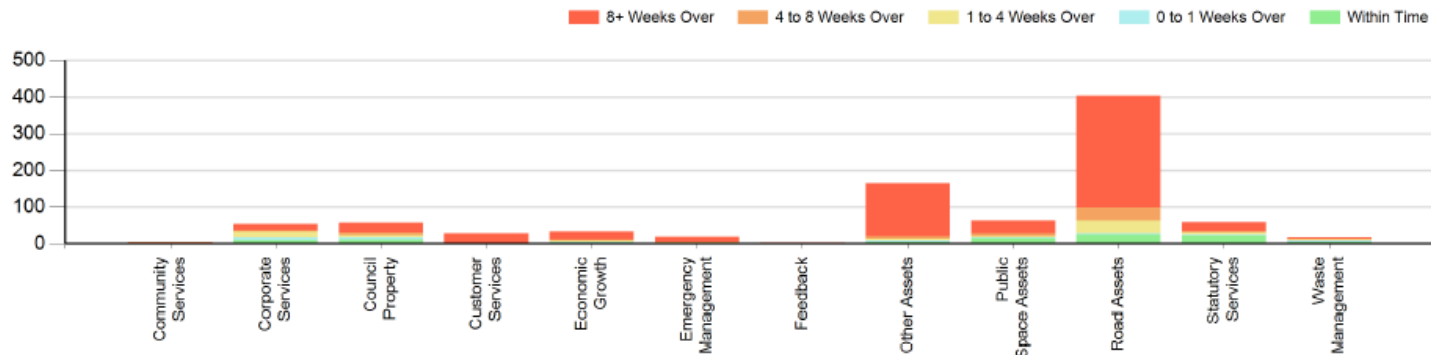
### Request Throughput Analysis

01/03/2023 to 31/03/2023

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

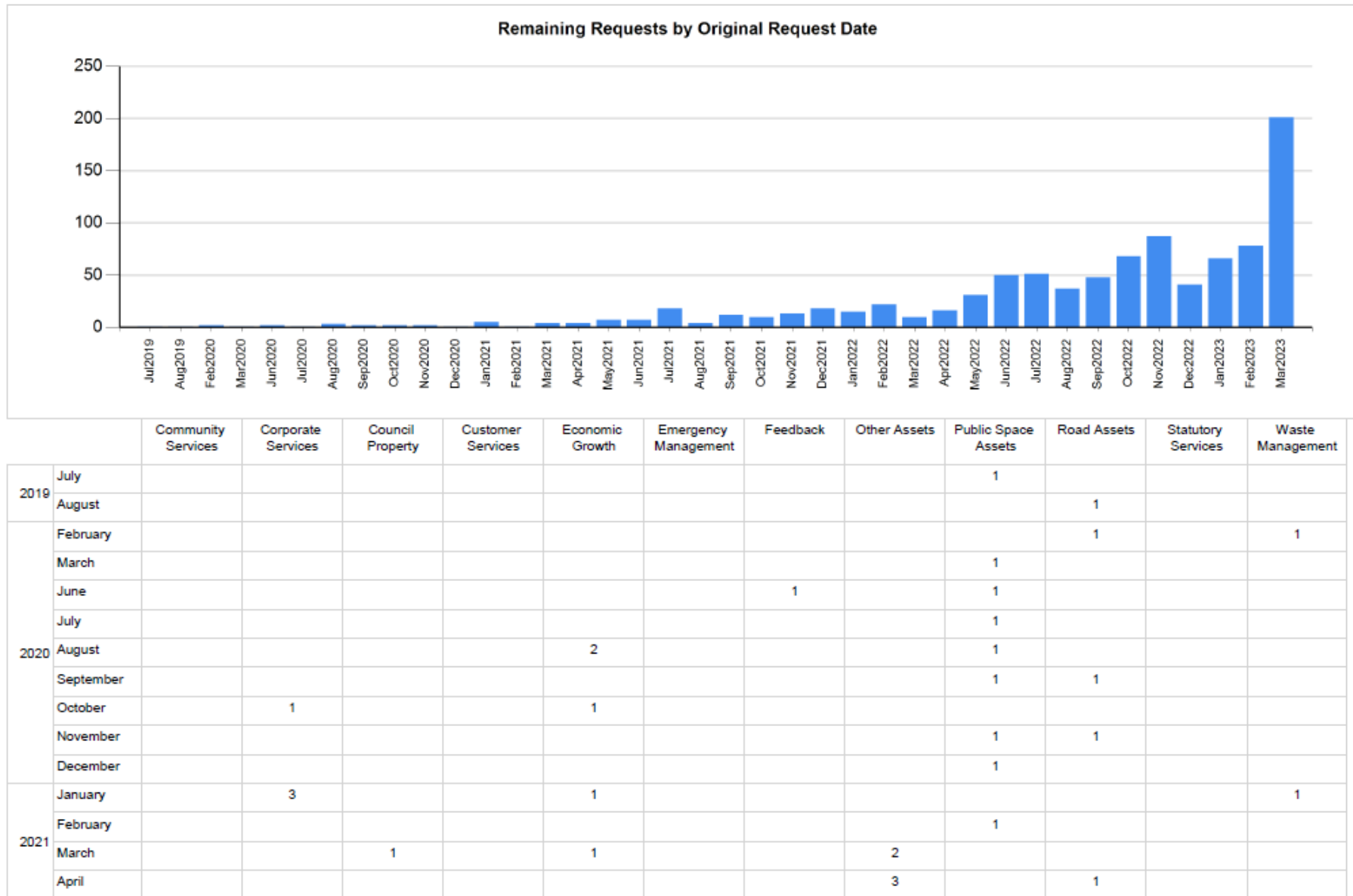
Service Area	Existing Requests	New Requests	Completed Requests	Remaining Requests	C N	Within Time	Over Time	O R	Pending Resources	Service Area Usage
Community Services	5	35	34	6	✓	1	5	✗	0	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>
Corporate Services	40	104	90	54	✓	9	45	✗	0	<div style="width: 45%;"></div>
Council Property	59	51	51	59	✓	11	48	✗	0	<div style="width: 11%;"></div>
Customer Services	37	6	15	28	✓	0	28	✗	0	<div style="width: 4%;"></div>
Economic Growth	33	136	136	33	✓	4	29	✗	0	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>
Emergency Management	25	24	30	19	✓	2	17	✗	0	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>
Feedback	2	4	3	3	✓	0	3	✗	0	<div style="width: 1%;"></div>
Other Assets	203	35	73	165	✓	4	161	✗	0	<div style="width: 10%;"></div>
Public Space Assets	107	46	66	63	✓	15	48	✗	24	<div style="width: 15%;"></div>
Road Assets	454	117	166	405	✓	24	381	✗	0	<div style="width: 60%;"></div>
Statutory Services	57	130	122	65	✓	21	40	⚠	0	<div style="width: 100%;"></div>
Waste Management	50	52	84	18	✓	5	13	✗	0	<div style="width: 15%;"></div>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1072</b>	<b>740</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>918</b>		<b>96</b>	<b>818</b>		<b>24</b>	

#### Request Ageing



### Service Usage








2021	May								2		5		
	June			1					3	2	1		
	July								10		8		
	August		1								3		
	September			1	1	1			1	4	4		
	October			2						4	4		
	November			1					1	2	9		
	December			1			1		4	1	11		
2022	January		5	1					1	5	3		
	February			1					4	4	13		
	March			1			1		1	2	5		
	April			1					7		8		
	May		1	1					9	2	15	2	1
	June		1	1					11	1	35	1	
	July	1		5	1	1	1		3	1	38	1	1
	August			3	2	2	2		13	2	9	4	
	September		1	1	3	1		1	15	4	19	3	
	October				2	3	4		27	1	27	4	
	November		1	3	6	5			21	4	42	5	
	December		1	3	2	2	1		6	1	20	5	
2023	January	1	2	3	10	2	6		3	6	31	1	1
	February		4	7		6	1		5	9	42	4	
	March	4	33	21	1	5	2	1	13	23	50	35	13
Total		6	54	59	28	33	19	3	165	87	405	65	18

## 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  
New




An indicator showing the ratio of Completed requests and New requests. Designed to represent how well we are keeping up with the demand for a service.

			
$\frac{C}{N}$ Complete / New	> 80%	50-80%	< 50%

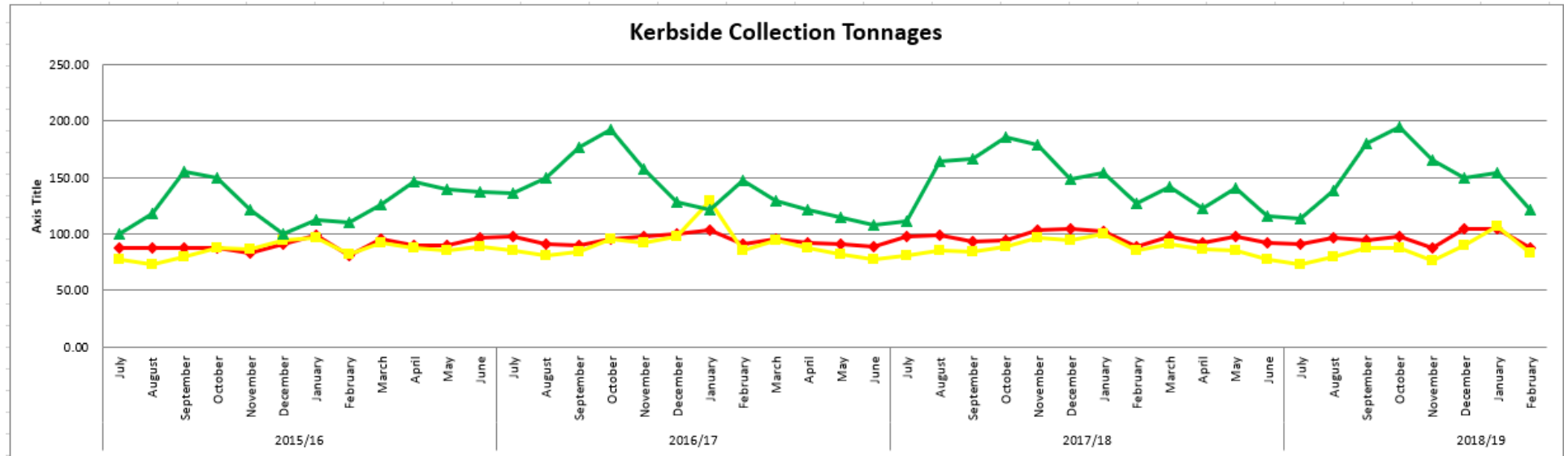
Service	Activities that provide value to the customer
Remaining	Requests incomplete at end of reporting period
Completed	Requests completed during reporting period
Over Time	Remaining Requests where defined deadline is before the end of the reporting period

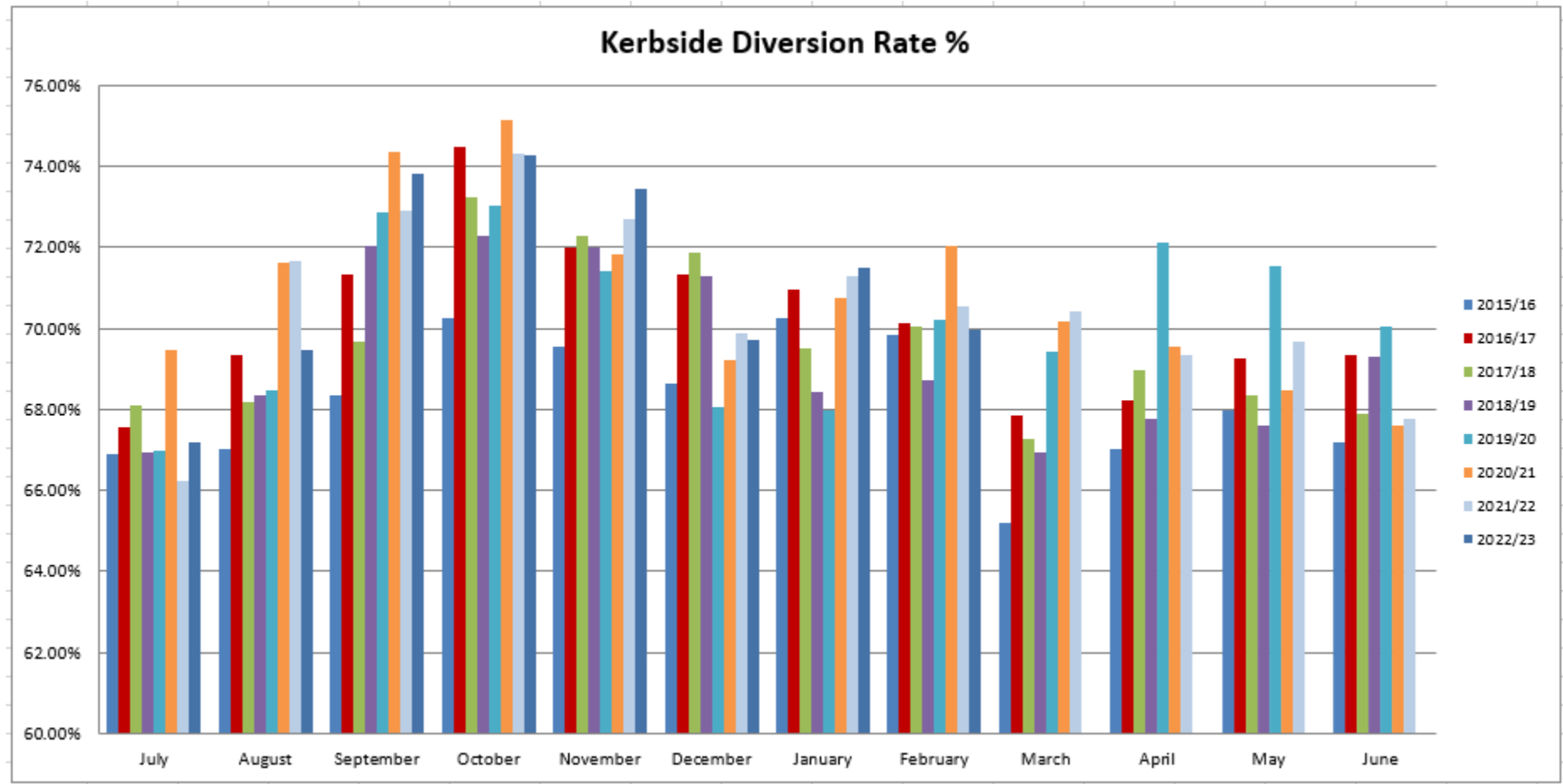
Overdue  
Remaining

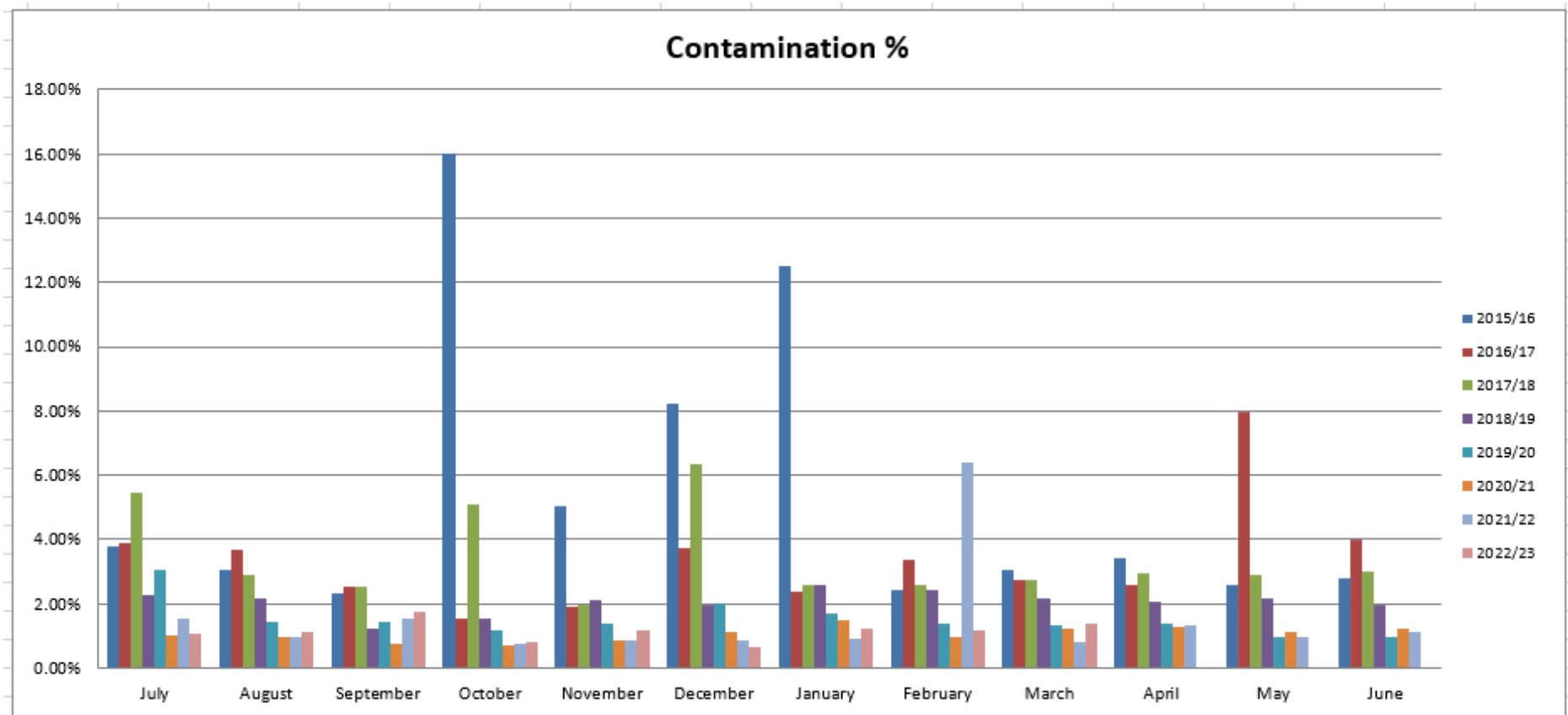
An indicator showing the ratio of Overdue requests and Remaining requests. Designed to represent how well we are keeping to the defined deadlines.

			
$\frac{O}{R}$ Overdue / Remaining	< 33%	34-70%	> 70%

# **WASTE MANAGEMENT REPORTING** **YEAR TO DATE - MARCH 2023**



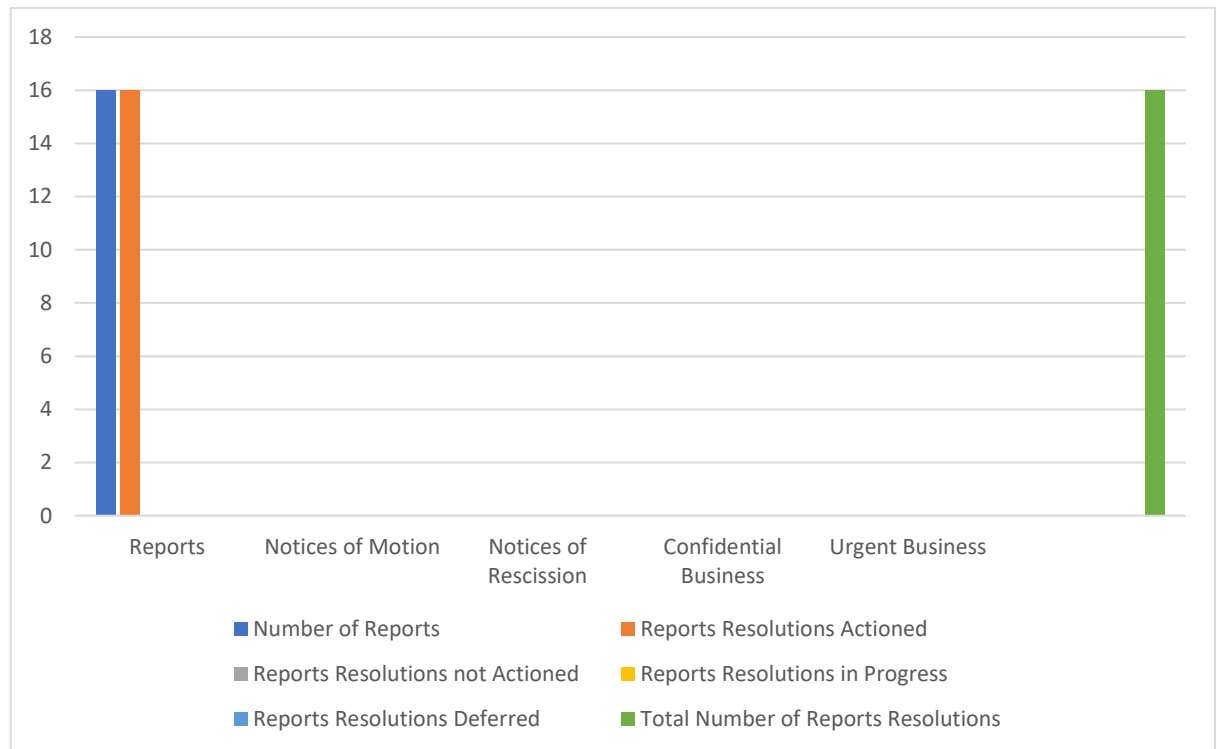




## TRANSFER STATION DATA – MARCH 2023



**ACTIONING OF COUNCIL REPORTS RESOLUTIONS**  
**COUNCIL MEETING – TUESDAY MARCH 21, 2023**



**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS OF COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS TO  
MARCH 31, 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.*

<b>Council Meeting Date</b>	<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
Nil		

**REVIEW OF EXISTING COUNCIL POLICIES  
AND ADOPTION OF NEW POLICIES**

<b>Review of Policy / New Policy</b>	<b>Policy Name</b>	<b>Details</b>
Nil		

**RECORDS OF INFORMAL COUNCIL BRIEFINGS / MEETINGS****FOR PERIOD 1 TO 31 MARCH 2023**

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 7 March 2023

**Time:** 9.00 am – 2.00 pm

**Attendees:**

Councillors

Cr Laura Binks (Mayor)

Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)

Officers

Dawn Bray (Acting Chief Executive Officer)

Amanda Tingay (Director, Community and Planning)

Vlad Adamek (Director, Sustainable Infrastructure)

Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)

Bow Souter (Climate Change Officer) & Molly Odgers (Environment and Waste Co-Ordinator [Item 2])

Jason McConkey (Manager Community Safety) [Items 3 & 4]

Braydon Aitken (Manager Planning and Investment) [Item 5]

Rachael Frampton (Manager Community and Culture) [Item 6]

**Apologies:**

Cr David Andrews

Cr Reg Dickinson

Cr Sally Hayes-Burke

Cr Kristy Hourigan

Cr Chris Raeburn

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)

1. Councillors / Acting Chief Executive Officer Discussions
2. Climate Change Action Plan
3. School Crossing Supervisor Program
4. Waterways Review
5. Briefing on Planning Application to March 2023 Council meeting
6. Violet Town Recreational Vehicles Park
7. Councillors only discussions

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s – NIL

Officer/s - NIL

## Record of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

Record in accordance with Council's Public Transparency Policy 2020

*Note: Details of matters discussed at the meeting that have been designated confidential under Rule 103 of the Governance Rules and sections 3 and 125 of the LG Act 2020 are described in a separate "confidential addendum" that will be reported to the next closed Council meeting*

**Name of Meeting:** Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 14 March 2023

**Time:** 9.00 am – 4.00 pm

### Attendees:

#### Councillors

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

#### Officers

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)  
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Governance)  
Amanda Tingay (Director, Community and Planning)  
Vlad Adamek (Director, Sustainable Infrastructure)  
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)  
Upul Sathurusinghe (Chief Financial Officer) [Item 2]

### Apologies:

Cr David Andrews  
Cr Reg Dickinson

1. Review of draft March 2023 Council Meeting Agenda
2. Budget Workshop No. 1
3. Councillor discussion time
4. Councillors/CEO/Director People and Governance

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s –

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Councillor/s who disclosed interest	Did the Councillor/s leave the meeting?
Item 1 / 9.2.2	127	Cr Hourigan	No
Item 1 / 9.2.4	127	Cr Hourigan	No
Item 1 / 9.2.6	128	Cr Hourigan	Yes (left meeting at 9.34 am / returned at 9.37 am)
Item 1 / 9.2.4	127	Cr Hayes-Burke	(left meeting at 9.22 am / returned at 9.27 am)

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Item 1 / 9.2.6	128	Cr Raeburn	Yes (left meeting at 9.34 am / returned at 9.37 am)
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## Officer/s –

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
Item 1 / 9.2.4	127	Director Community and Planning	No

## 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 21 March 2023

**Time:** 3.00 pm – 8.22 pm

### Attendees:

#### Councillors

Paul Murray (Deputy Mayor)

Cr David Andrews

Cr Sally Hayes-Burke

Cr Reg Dickinson

Cr Chris Raeburn

#### Officers

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)

Dawn Bray (Director, People and Governance)

Amanda Tingay (Director, Community and Planning)

Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)

Bruce Rowley (Acting Director Sustainable Infrastructure)

### Apologies:

Cr Laura Binks (Mayor)

Cr Kristy Hourigan

Vlad Adamek (Director, Sustainable Infrastructure)

1. Councillor only discussions - Capital Works
2. March 2023 Council Meeting

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s –

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Councillor/s who disclosed interest	Did the Councillor/s leave the meeting?
Item 2 / 9.2.4	127	Cr Hayes-Burke	Yes (left meeting at 6.53 pm / returned at 7.05 pm)
Item 2 / 9.2.6	128	Cr Raeburn	Yes (left meeting at 7.16 pm / returned at 7.25 pm)

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Officer/s –

Matter No.	LGA 2020 Interest Section	Names of Officer/s who disclosed interest	Did the Officer/s leave the meeting?
Item 1 / 9.2.4	127	Director Community and Planning	Yes <i>(left meeting at 6.53 pm / returned at 7.05 pm)</i>

## **Record of Informal Council Briefings / Meetings**

Record in accordance with Council's Public Transparency Policy 2020

*Note: Details of matters discussed at the meeting that have been designated confidential under Rule 103 of the Governance Rules and sections 3 and 125 of the LG Act 2020 are described in a separate "confidential addendum" that will be reported to the next closed Council meeting*

**Name of Meeting:** Informal Council Briefings / Meetings

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday 28 March 2023

**Time:** 9.15 am – 5.00 pm

### **Attendees:**

#### Councillors

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

#### Officers

Julie Salomon (Chief Executive Officer)  
Dawn Bray (Director, People and Governance)  
Amanda Tingay (Director, Community and Planning)  
Kristin Favaloro (Executive Manager, Communications and Engagement)  
Bruce Rowley (Acting Director Sustainable Infrastructure)

### **Apologies:**

Vlad Adamek (Director, Sustainable Infrastructure)

1. Goulburn Region Tourism Update
2. Electoral Representation Review
3. Budget Workshop No. 2
4. Review of draft Council report for Extraordinary Council meeting
5. Councillor discussion time
6. Annual Meeting: Councillors and Taungurung Land and Waters Council Board of Directors

Declaration of Interest/s under Local Government Act 2020 (General Conflict of Interest - Section 127 / Material Conflict of Interest – Section 128)

Councillor/s – NIL

Officer/s – NIL

## 9.6 **EXECUTIVE**

### 9.6.1 **Request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 13-16 June, 2023 – Councillor Laura Binks**

Author: Policy Research and Councillor Support Officer

Responsible Director: Executive Manager Communications and Engagement

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

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is hosting the 2023 National General Assembly at the National Convention Centre in Canberra from Tuesday 13 June until Thursday 16 June 2023. The event provides a unique opportunity for Local Government to engage directly with the Federal Government, to develop national policy, and to influence the future direction of our councils and our communities.

The 2023 NGA theme is '*Our Communities, Our Future*' and reflects the important role local government plays in building a stronger, more inclusive, and more sustainable Australia and its role in working with other governments to support community outcomes and the nations recovery post COVID.

The Mayor of Strathbogie Shire Council, Councillor Laura Binks has expressed interest to attend this national conference and represent interest of the Shire (see Attachment 1).

Given that this is an interstate conference that supports Councils advocacy as detailed in Councils recently released Advocacy Ask, all costs associated with attendance (registration, accommodation, travel and meals) will be sourced from the Councillors' expenses budget allocation. Under the Council Expenses Policy, a Council resolution is required for the approval of any interstate travel and costs exceeding \$1501 for any one Councillor.

#### ***RECOMMENDATION***

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

1. ***Note and endorse the request from the Mayor, Councillor Laura Binks to travel interstate to attend the 2023 National General Assembly (NGA23) in Canberra as part of Strathbogie Shire Council's advocacy strategy and campaign;***
2. ***Fund the cost of conference registration, transport, car parking, accommodation and meal expenses incurred through attendance to the NGA23 in Canberra, estimated at \$2,883.70 for the Mayor, Councillor Laura Binks; and***
3. ***Receive a conference and advocacy evaluation report outlining the learnings and municipal benefits received upon Mayor Laura Binks' return from the NGA23 in Canberra in accordance with the Council Expenses Policy.***

9.6.1 Request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 13-16 June, 2023 – Councillor Laura Binks (cont.)

**PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND**

As per the Victorian Local Government Act 2020, Part 2, Division 1, Section 8 -9 the role of a Council and overarching governance principles and supporting principles is to advocate on behalf of the community they represent and give priority to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations; and taking regional, state and national plans into account in strategic planning and decision making.

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) was founded in 1947 and today represents 537 councils across Australia as the national voice of local government. ALGA's policies and strategic priorities are to champion a strong local government sector focusing on:

- financial sustainability
- roads and infrastructure funding
- waste and recycling
- stronger community resilience
- addressing the risk of climate change.

The Mayor has expressed an interest to attend Canberra in June 2023 for the National General Assembly of Local Government on behalf of Strathbogie Shire Council, where she plans to secure advocacy meetings with Federal Government representatives to highlight Council's advocacy priorities.

**ISSUES, OPTIONS AND DISCUSSION**

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

It is important that councillors keep abreast of trends, issues and possible solutions to matters that impact on Strathbogie Shire and its community. Mayor Binks noted their interest to attend this conference for advocacy advancement.

The NGA23 provisional program (refer Attachment 2) is programmed from 13<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> June 2023 and will explore ideas for new federal programs and policies that would support councils to build stronger communities in the future.

This year's NGA is expected to be the biggest yet and the program will feature a wide range of high profile and engaging speakers, leaders and presenters, and will deliver the first Australian Council of Local Government in more than a decade.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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

Community engagement is not required for the purpose of this report and its subject matter. It is the role of the Mayor and Councillors to attend industry related conferences that will deliver benefit to the ratepayers.

9.6.1 Request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 13-16 June, 2023 – Councillor Laura Binks (cont.)

***POLICY CONSIDERATIONS***

**Council Plans and Policies**

The Strathbogie Shire Council 2021-2025 Council Plan highlights and identifies strategic focus areas and specific advocacy areas, projects and requirements that the region needs for future generations, which our budget and resources cannot accommodate without additional contribution. These 'Advocacy Asks' usually require multi-stakeholder approvals, contributions and funding that is beyond Council's service delivery role and requires Council representatives to call for action from those who can.

It is through activities such as advocacy correspondence, relationship building, meetings, industry publications, news updates, networking, conferences and community events that the Mayor and Councillors will make change, advance progress and realise opportunities to be secured, delivered and achieved.

***LEGAL CONSIDERATIONS***

One of the overarching governance principles in section 9 of the Local Government Act 2020 is that Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law. The Council Expenses Policy outlines the parameters for reasonable expenditure to support advocacy, learning and development. Provision for Conferences and Training is outlined in section 17 of the Policy and states:

*Conferences or seminars:*

- *held interstate or overseas; and/or*
  - *exceeding \$1501 in total cost (defined as including registration, travel and accommodation)*
- must be approved by way of Council resolution prior to any bookings being made. As a general guideline each councillor, other than the mayor, will be limited to one (1) interstate conference per year (pg 17).*

**Reporting of public benefit gained through conference/training attendance to Council**

*Following attendance at a conference or training that:*

- *was subject to a Council resolution to approve the travel; and/or*
- *must be recorded on the Travel Register (see section 14.1).*

*The Councillor must submit a written report to Council at the next Ordinary Meeting under the item 'Reports of Mayor and Councillors and Delegates'.*

*This report must identify the key issues discussed, issues of relevance to the Strathbogie Shire and the community benefit gained through the councillor's attendance. (pg 18)*

**Conflict of Interest Declaration**

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

9.6.1 Request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 13-16 June, 2023 – Councillor Laura Binks (cont.)

### **Transparency**

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

This report outlining Mayoral and Councillor expense requests relating to public funds achieves public transparency.

Itemised details of individual councillor and mayoral expenses are presented quarterly to Councils Audit and Risk (A&R) Committee and are available in the minutes from these meeting which are tabled at a Council meeting in the month following the A&R meeting. Furthermore, individual Councillor expenses are published in the Strathbogie Shire Council Annual Report, which is uploaded to the Council website annually, and made available to members of the public on request.

Expenses incurred as part of interstate, international travel and travel within Victoria for more than 3 days undertaken on behalf of Council will also be recorded in the travel register required under the Act, as per the template attached to this policy.

The travel register and councillor allowance and expense reports will be published concurrently.

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

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

The anticipated expenses for the Mayor, Councillor Laura Binks to attend the NGA23, are as follows:

Conference registration.....	\$895.00
Regional Delegate Forum.....	\$225.00
Accommodation for 5 x nights.....	\$1350.00
Meal expenses.....	\$320.00
Car parking.....	\$0.00
Hybrid fuel expenses.....	\$93.70
<b>Total estimate:.....</b>	<b><u>\$2,883.70</u></b>

It is important to note that unforeseen expenses may arise when travelling interstate that may vary this budget forecast.

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

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

The theme of this year's NGA23 is *Our Communities, Our Future* which encapsulates the current sector priorities and needs from the federal government on a national scale. The conference is designed to maximise knowledge sharing, networking and advocacy opportunities for all who attend.

9.6.1 Request to attend the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly of Local Government in Canberra, 13-16 June, 2023 – Councillor Laura Binks (cont.)

**COLLABORATION**

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

The conference provides opportunity for a Strathbogie Shire representative to meet with, hear from and exchange ideas with Mayors, Councillors and Executive Officers from other councils, levels of government and industry professionals across a broad sector of expertise as well as Federal politicians and policy makers.

**CONCLUSION**

The National General Assembly of Local Government 2023 is a highly reputable and industry recognised conference that many Australian Councils send representatives to attend on an annual basis. It provides a meaningful opportunity for the Mayor to lobby for the interests of the Strathbogie Shire community at the federal level in accordance with our 'Advocacy Ask' priorities and Advocacy Strategy.

**ATTACHMENTS**

**Attachment 1:** Mayor Laura Binks Conference and Training Request Form

**Attachment 2:** Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly 2023 Conference Program

**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. 22/23-36:  
Provision of Flood Damage Rectification – Culvert Repair including Debris Removal – Panel of Suppliers option
- C.A. 1 (g) Tender Evaluation for Contract No. 22/23-37:  
Provision of Flood Damaged Rectification Bridge Repairs – Package 1 – with optional Panel of Suppliers provisions

**NEXT MEETING**

The next monthly meeting of the Strathbogie Shire Council is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023, at the Euroa Community Conference Centre, at 6pm.

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

