



# Minutes

## Council Meeting

Monday 26 May 2025, 7:00 pm

Dandenong Civic Centre, 225 Lonsdale Street,  
Dandenong, Victoria 3175

[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](https://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)



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## COUNCIL OBLIGATIONS AND AGENDA REPORTS

Council has several obligations in relation to its Community Vision, Council Plan, Instruments of Legislation and Council policy. These are summarily considered in each Agenda report and further details are added as required. The obligations are as follows:

### Community Vision 2040 (Community Vision | Greater Dandenong Council)

After consultation with the Greater Dandenong community on what kind of future they wanted for themselves and our city, the Greater Dandenong People's Panel developed a new Community Vision for 2040:

*The City of Greater Dandenong is a home to all.  
It's a city where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity.  
We harmonise the community by valuing multiculturalism and the individual.  
Our community is healthy, vibrant, innovative and creative.  
Our growing city is committed to environmental sustainability.  
Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

### The Council Plan 2021-25 (Council Plan 2021-25 | Greater Dandenong Council)

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. The Council Plan has the following key strategic objectives:

- *A socially connected, safe and healthy city*
- *A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts*
- *A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods*
- *A green city committed to a sustainable future*
- *A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes*
- *A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

### The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. These are:

- a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- e) innovation and continuous improvement are to be pursued;
- f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Also, in giving effect to the overarching governance principles above, a Council must take into account the following supporting principles:

- a) the community engagement principles (section 56);
- b) the public transparency principles (section 58);
- c) the strategic planning principles (section 89);
- d) the financial management principles (section 101);
- e) the service performance principles (section 106).

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.





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## The Gender Equality Act 2020

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* came into operation on 31 March 2021 and requires councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality and to promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services. The objects of the Act are as follows:

- a) to promote, encourage and facilitate the achievement of gender equality and improvement in the status of women; and
- b) to support the identification and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs and delivery of services in workplaces and communities; and
- c) to recognise that gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience on the basis of Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and other attributes; and
- d) to redress disadvantage, address stigma, stereotyping, prejudice and violence, and accommodate persons of different genders by way of structural change; and
- e) to enhance economic and social participation by persons of different genders; and
- f) to further promote the right to equality set out in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Council is obligated to think about how its programs and services affect different people and different communities and how we can avoid reinforcing unintentional inequalities. Reports authors must consider the requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* and Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy when asking Council to consider or review any issues which have a direct or significant impact on members of the Greater Dandenong community.

## Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

Council, Councillors and members of Council staff are a public authority under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and, as such, are all responsible to act in accordance with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (the Charter). The Charter is founded on the following principles:

- human rights are essential in a democratic and inclusive society that respects the rule of law, human dignity, equality and freedom;
- human rights belong to all people without discrimination, and the diversity of the people of Victoria enhances our community;
- human rights come with responsibilities and must be exercised in a way that respects the human rights of others;
- human rights have a special importance for the Aboriginal people of Victoria, as descendants of Australia's first people, with their diverse spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationship with their traditional lands and waters.

Given this municipality's diversity and inclusiveness, when developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to ensure their report is consistent with the standards set by the Charter.



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## Consideration of Climate Change and Sustainability

One of the overarching governance principles 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.

In January 2020, this Council joined a growing number of cities around Australia and declared a “Climate and Ecological Emergency” and committed this Council to emergency action on climate change. Council has developed a Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 to help the City of Greater Dandenong become a resilient, net zero carbon emission city with an active community prepared for the challenges of changing climate.

When developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to consider what impacts their issue has on Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching principle on climate change and sustainability.

## Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

Report authors will consider how their report aligns with existing Council policies, strategies, frameworks or other documents, how they may affect the decision of this report or are relevant to this process.



## Supporting Documents

Attachments for reports included in these Minutes can be found within the corresponding Agenda document on Council's website <https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings>.

## Your Councillors

[Mayor Jim Memeti](#)

[Cr Bob Milkovic](#)

[Deputy Mayor Sophaneth \(Sophie\) Tan](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Cr Phillip Danh](#)

[Cr Loi Truong](#)

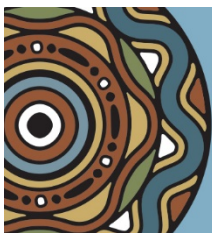
[Cr Isabella Do](#)

[Cr Melinda Yim](#)

[Cr Lana Formoso](#)

[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Alice Phuong Le](#)



We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters.



(03) 8571 1000



[council@cgd.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@cgd.vic.gov.au)



[greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au](http://greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au)



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Acknowledging  
Bunurong Country

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## 1 MEETING OPENING

### 1.1 OPENING OF MEETING BY CHAIR

Cr Jim Memeti opened the Meeting at 7.00 pm.

### 1.2 ATTENDANCE

#### **Apologies**

Cr Sean O'Reilly.

#### **Councillors Present**

Cr Jim Memeti, Mayor (Chair)  
Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor  
Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Isabella Do, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Alice Phuong Le,  
Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Loi Truong, Cr Melinda Yim.

#### **Officers Present**

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer; Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening; Yuri Guzman, Chief Information Officer; Michael Tonta, Governance Advisor; Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy; Michelle Hansen, Chief Financial Officer.



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### 1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

***Those who wish to stand for the acknowledgement to country are welcome to do so.***

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we also pay our respect and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey.

### 1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

All remained seated as Sr Wijeyavani “Vani” Wijeyakumar, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, read the following:

*"First, breathe in peace.....breathe out any tension.....and again..  
Now, relax the body.... feet....shoulders....neck....and your thinking... your mind  
Then, awaken a memory of your deepest feeling of peace & calm....  
remember....listen....allow calm feelings to flow into you and through you.  
Connect to this feeling of deep peace and calm.....absorb it....  
filling yourself with these feelings....gently return to your inner-most peaceful  
and calm place.....  
Finally, Feeling refreshed and empowered.....  
from the peaceful feeling of your calm centre....let this feeling of calm  
and peace flow out into your life and into the atmosphere of the meeting  
you are sharing this evening.  
Om shanti"*





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## 1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 12 May 2025.

### Recommendation

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 12 May 2025 be confirmed.**

### MINUTE No.123

**Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad**

**Seconded by: Cr Sophie Tan**

**That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 12 May 2025 be confirmed.**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**

## 1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.



## 2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

### 2.1 STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

#### 2.1.1 Town Planning Application – No. 445 Thompson Road BANGHOLME (Planning Application No. PLN24/0399)

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director City Futures

**Attachments:**

1. Assessed Plans Documents [2.1.1.1 - 13 pages]
2. Location of objectors [2.1.1.2 - 2 pages]

#### Officer Recommendation

That Council **RESOLVES** to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a planning permit in respect of the land known and described as 445 Thompson Road BANGHOLME VIC 3175, for the purpose of Buildings and Works (Shed) in accordance with the plans submitted with the application subject to the following conditions:

| Planning scheme clause | Matter for which the permit has been granted   |
|------------------------|--|
| Clause 35.04-5         | Buildings and works – A building which is within 100 metres from a dwelling not in the same ownership. |
| Clause 35.04-5         | Buildings and works – Associated with a use in Section 2 of Clause 35.04-1                             |
| Clause 42.01-2         | To construct a building or construct or carry out works  |

1. Before the development starts, amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The amended plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions. The amended plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted and assessed with the application but modified to show:
  - 1.1. Contour levels and Finished Floor Levels (FFLs) of the proposed shed to AHD, and the minimum finished floor level of the proposed shed set at least 150mm above the surrounding ground level.
  - 1.2. The provision of a plant schedule giving a description of botanical name, common name, mature height and spread, pot size, purchase height (if a tree) and individual plant quantities. The recommended vegetation should be in accordance with the Greater Dandenong Landscape Plan Guidelines May 2023.
  - 1.3. Any changes in accordance with Condition 2 and 3 requirements.

When approved, these plans will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.



2. Concurrent with the endorsement of Condition 1 plans, a Drainage Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The drainage drawings must direct all drainage (including surface drainage) to a suitable location on the land, and provide details of the connection to stormwater infrastructure, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The drainage drawings should show:

- 2.1. Location of the Legal Point of Discharge (LPD), and its connection to internal drainage infrastructure;
- 2.2. All wastes must be disposed of to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and no liquid waste or polluted waters shall be discharged into a sewer or stormwater drainage system;
- 2.3. Measures to ensure the discharge of water from the property is controlled around its limits to prevent any discharge onto any adjacent properties;
- 2.4. Any calculations and investigations necessary to demonstrate the performance of the drainage system;

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

3. Concurrent with the endorsement of Condition 1 plans, provide an Earthworks Plan that shows final levels, or other treatments to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, this includes details of the existing levels in the area. The earthworks plan should show:

- 3.1. The maximum levels of cut and fill associated with the approved works;
- 3.2. Measures to minimise soil erosion, and any exposed areas of soil must be stabilised to prevent soil erosion;
- 3.3. Measures to maintain soil erosion control, throughout the construction stage of the development, and must be controlled in accordance with the Environment Protection Authority Guideline TG208/90.
- 3.4. Measures to ensure no polluted or sediment laden run-off is to be discharged directly into drains or watercourses;

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

4. The development as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
5. Once the development has started, it must be continued and completed in accordance with the endorsed plans, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
6. The outbuilding hereby approved must only be used for storage purposes for goods associated with the use of the land as a place of worship, or for the general maintenance of the land, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority. The building must not be used for human habitation or occupation, or the holding of any events or functions.



7. All building finishes must be of a non-reflective nature; and cladding materials be of natural colours, muted tones and/or matte finishes that best immerse the built form within the rural landscape.
8. Goods, materials, equipment and the like associated with the use of the land must not be displayed or stored outside the building, without the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
9. The unused portion of the land must be kept drained, tidy, mown and clear of the storage of items at all times, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
10. Floor levels shown on the endorsed plan(s) must not be altered or modified without the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
11. The site shall be kept in a neat and tidy condition at all times, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

#### **Melbourne Water**

12. The shed must be constructed with finished floor levels set no lower than 150mm above the Natural Surface Level.
13. The layout of buildings and works as shown on the plans must not be altered without prior written consent from Melbourne Water.

#### **Permit Expiry:**

14. This permit will expire if;

14.1. The development does not start within two (2) years of the date of this permit,

14.2. The development is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit;

Before the permit expires or within six (6) months afterwards, the owner or occupier of the land may in writing request the Responsible Authority to extend the expiry date.

#### **Notes:**

- The property is identified to be subject to flooding in major rain events. An application for Report and Consent for Flooding is required. Asset Management Team is to be contacted to confirm the minimum finished floor level (FFL) of the proposed development.
- Any works undertaken within the road reservation and easements will require the developer to obtain a Civil Works Permit from Council.
- Prior to works commencing the developer will need to obtain an Asset Protection Permit from Council.
- A building approval may be required prior to the commencement of the approved works.
- The conditions of Planning Permit No. PLN01/0794 issued on 27/03/2002 continue to apply to the land and must be read as conditions under this permit.



- **This permit relates to the buildings and works (storage shed) only. Except where no planning permit is required under the provisions of the Planning Scheme, any other buildings and works may be subject to a separate application. Prior to the construction of any buildings and works, consultation should be made with the officers of the Town Planning Department to determine the relevant Planning Scheme controls.**
- **Prior to the final design being completed, the applicant should consult with Council's Infrastructure Planning Department in regard to the legal point of discharge for the site.**
- **A drainage plan approval fee is to be paid to Council prior to the issue of approved drainage plans. Please contact the Civil Development department for the current schedule of fees.**
- **No buildings or works shall be constructed over any easement without the written consent of the relevant authorities.**

## Application Summary

|            |   |
|------------|---|
| Applicant: | Steelcorp   |
| Proposal:  | Buildings and Works (Shed)  |
| Zone:      | Green Wedge Zone (Schedule 1)   |
| Overlay:   | Environmental Significance Overlay (Schedule 3)<br>Vegetation Protection Overlay (Schedule 1) |
| Ward:      | Keysborough South   |

1. This application has been brought before Council because it has received sixteen (16) objections.
2. The application proposes to construct a storage shed in association with an existing Place of Worship at the subject site. No vegetation is proposed to be removed.
3. The development of the land for a storage shed is ancillary to the Place of Worship. The site has historically been used as a Place of Worship and it is not proposed to change this use.
4. A permit is required pursuant to the following clauses of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme:
  - Clause 35.04-5 (Green Wedge Zone) – a permit is required to construct or carry out buildings and works associated with a use in Section 2 of Clause 35.04-1;
  - Clause 35.04-5 (Green Wedge Zone) – a permit is required to construct or carry out buildings and works associated with a building which is within 100 metres from a dwelling not in the same ownership;
  - Clause 42.01-2 (Environmental Significance Overlay) - a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works.
5. This report recommends to issue, a Notice of Decision to grant a permit for the purpose of Buildings and Works (Shed).





## Objectors Summary

6. The application was advertised to the surrounding area through the erection of a notice on-site and the mailing of notices to adjoining and surrounding owners and occupiers. Sixteen (16) objections were received to the application. Issues raised generally relate to matters of:
- Insufficient information submitted with application; and
  - Development is not compliant with green wedge policies;

## Recommendation Summary

7. As assessed, the proposal is consistent with and appropriately responds to the provisions of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. Council officers are of the view that on balance, the proposal's degree of compliance with the Planning Scheme and the net community benefit justifies that the application should be supported. Therefore, it is recommended that a permit be granted a Notice of Decision (which provides appeal rights to objectors) to grant a permit be issued containing the conditions as set out in the recommendation.
8. If the application was to be appealed to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) it is the officer's view that it is highly likely that VCAT would also issue a planning permit for this proposal. The cost to Council to defend the application if Council officers recommendation is not carried out would start at approximately \$20,000.

## Subject Site and Surrounds

### *Subject Site*

9. The subject site is located on the north side of Thompson Road.
10. The site is rectangular in shape and is approximately 423 metres west of Dandenong Frankston Road on the boundary of the City of Greater Dandenong municipality. The site has a frontage to Thompson Road of 91.47 metres, a depth of 201.16 metres and a total site area of 1.705 ha.
11. The site is occupied by an existing place of worship (Samoan Seventh Day Adventists) consisting of a single storey brick building with steel gable roof and an external portable building. The existing building is approximately 56 metres from the front boundary, 8 metres from the eastern (side) boundary, and 60 metres from the western (side) boundary and 97 metres from the northern (rear) boundary.
12. Car parking is located to the north-west and to the south-east corner of the existing building.
13. The site has an existing 5.03 metre easement along the northern boundary for the purposes of drainage in favour of lots on LP74557. No works are proposed over this easement.

### *Surrounding Area*

14. The subject site is located within a rural setting to the north, east and south.
15. Immediately to the north of the subject site is a poultry farm.
16. To the east of the subject are smaller rural residential lots containing single storey brick/render dwellings with steel hipped roofs.
17. Located 325 metres to the north and along the western boundary of the subject site is land used as the Bunurong Memorial Park.



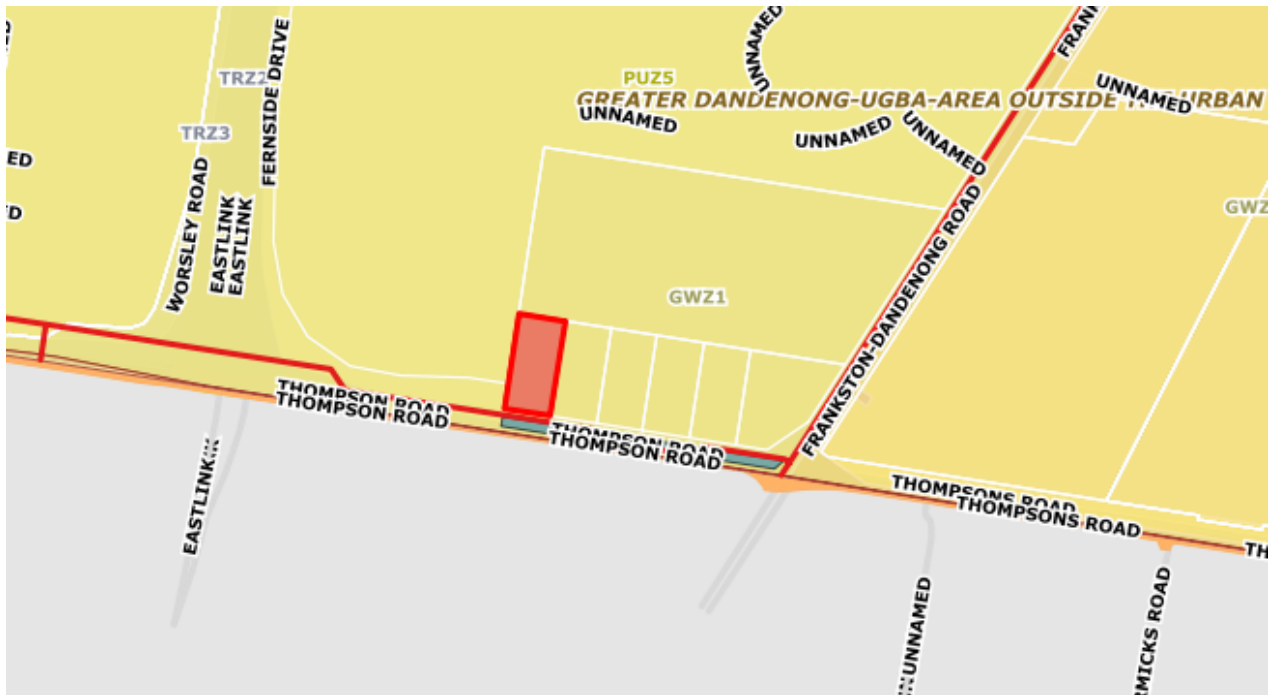
18. The site is in close proximity to Eastlink, approximately 430 metres to the west, and Frankston City Council immediately to the south.

#### *Locality Plan*

19. An image of the subject site is provided below (Google Street-view, August 2023):



20. A zoning map of the subject site and the surrounding area with the site highlighted in red, is located below (NearMap March 2025).





21. An aerial photograph of the subject site and the surrounding area, with the site highlighted in red, is located below (NearMap March 2025).



## Background

### Previous Applications

22. A search of Council records revealed that Council has previously considered the following planning applications for the site:

| Permit No.    | Permit Details   |
|---------------|--|
| No. 1999/0697 | <i>Issued on the 07/08/2000 to use and develop the site for the purpose of a Place of Assembly/Place of Worship, with reduced car parking under the Planning Scheme.</i> |
| PLN01/0794    | <i>Issued on the 27/03/2002 to construct buildings and works (extension to an existing Place of Assembly/Place of Worship), together with associated car parking.</i>    |
| PLN07/0552    | <i>Issued on the 14/03/2008 for the removal of one remnant native tree.</i>  |
| PLN09/0093    | <i>Issued on 02/10/2009 for Buildings &amp; Works (Administrative Building for existing place of worship)</i>  |
| PLN12/0109    | <i>Issued on 29/06/2012 for Building and Works (Raising of Roof)</i>   |
| PLN13/0244    | <i>Issued on 26/09/2013 for Building and Works (Shipping Containers)</i>   |



## Proposal

23. The application proposes to construct a storage shed in association with an existing Place of Worship at the subject site. The applicant has advised that the shed will be used for the storage of second-hand furniture for a charity entity associated with the Place of Worship to provide furniture to the community and families in need.
24. The shed is proposed to have the dimensions 40 metres in length, by 21 metres in width (840sqm) and will be located 10 metres from the rear boundary of the site, and 25 metres from the east and west boundaries of the site.
25. The proposed shed will be of steel construction with a maximum height of 7.31 metres, and will include a 4 metre awning and four (4) roller doors on the southern elevation. The total site coverage of the shed is 1000 sqm.
26. The walls and roof will be clad in corrugated colorbond steel sheeting, Woodland Grey in colour. Access to the shed is via a 10 metre wide concrete accessway connecting the existing car park to the shed.
27. No vegetation is proposed to be removed. Landscaping has been proposed along the north edge of the existing car park to provide visual screening of the shed from the public realm.
28. A copy of the submitted plans is provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

## Financial Implications

29. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## Planning Scheme and Policy Frameworks

30. Pursuant to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme, the following planning permit triggers apply:
  - Clause 35.04-5 (Green Wedge Zone) – a permit is required to construct or carry out buildings and works associated with a use in Section 2 of Clause 35.04-1;
  - Clause 35.04-5 (Green Wedge Zone) – a permit is required to construct or carry out buildings and works associated with a building which is within 100 metres from a dwelling not in the same ownership;
  - Clause 42.01-2 (Environmental Significance Overlay) - a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works.





### **Zoning Controls**

31. The subject site is located in a **Green Wedge Zone (Schedule 1)**, as is the surrounding area.

32. The purpose of the Green Wedge Zone outlined at Clause 35.04 is:

- *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and Planning Policy Framework.*
- *To recognise, protect and conserve green wedge land for its agricultural, environmental, historic, landscape, recreational and tourism opportunities, and mineral and stone resources.*
- *To encourage use and development that is consistent with sustainable land management practices.*
- *To encourage sustainable farming activities and provide opportunity for a variety of productive agricultural uses.*
- *To protect, conserve and enhance the cultural heritage significance and the character of open rural and scenic non-urban landscapes.*
- *To protect and enhance the biodiversity of the area.*

33. Pursuant to Clause 35.04-5 a permit is required to construct or vary any of the following:

- *A building which is within 100 metres from a dwelling not in the same ownership.*
- *A building or works associated with a use in Section 2 (Place of Worship) of Clause 35.04-1.*

34. Given that the proposed shed is in the Green Wedge Zone and the works are within 100 m of the neighbouring dwelling to the east, and the works are associated with the use of the site as a place of worship – which is a Section 2 use, a planning permit is required under the zone.

### **Overlay Controls**

35. The subject site is affected by **Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO3)**, the purpose of which is to:

- *To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and Planning Policy Framework.*
- *To identify areas where the development of land may be affected by environmental constraints.*
- *To ensure that development is compatible with identified environmental values.*

36. Pursuant to Clause 42.01-2, a permit is required to construct a building or construct or carry out works.

37. The subject site is also affected by **Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO1)**. However, given that it is not proposed to remove, destroy, or lop any vegetation, this overlay is not triggered and is therefore not required to be further considered.





### State Planning Policy Framework

38. The **Operation of the State Planning Policy Framework** outlined at Clause 10 seeks to ensure that the objectives of planning in Victoria are fostered through appropriate land use and development planning policies and practices which integrate relevant environmental, social and economic factors in the interests of net community benefit and sustainable development. The objectives of Planning in Victoria are noted as:
- *To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land.*
  - *To provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.*
  - *To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria.*
  - *To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.*
  - *To protect public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community.*
  - *To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives set out in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).*
  - *To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.*
39. In order to achieve those objectives, there are a number of more specific objectives contained within the State Planning Policy Framework that need to be considered under this application.
40. **Clause 11 (Settlement)** states that planning is to anticipate and respond to the needs of existing and future communities through provision of zoned and serviced land for housing, employment, recreation and open space, commercial and community facilities and infrastructure. The following sub-clauses are also applicable to this application:
- **Clause 11.01-1R (Green Wedges – Metropolitan Melbourne)** seeks to support development in the green wedge that provides for environmental, economic and social benefits.
41. **Clause 12 (Environmental and Landscape Values)** seeks to protect the health of ecological systems and the biodiversity they support (including ecosystems, habitats, species and genetic diversity) and conserve areas with identified environmental and landscape values.
42. **Clause 15.01 (Built Environment and Heritage)** states that planning should ensure that all land use and development appropriately responds to its surrounding landscape and character, valued built form and cultural context.
43. **Clause 19 (Infrastructure)** states that planning is to recognise social needs by providing land for a range of accessible community resources, such as education, cultural, health and community support (mental health, aged care, disability, youth and family services) facilities. The following sub-clauses are also applicable to this application:
- **Clause 19.02-3S (Cultural Facilities)** seeks to develop a strong cultural environment and increase access to arts, recreation and other cultural facilities
  - **Clause 19.02-3R (Social and Cultural Infrastructure)** seeks to provide fairer distribution of and access to, social and cultural infrastructure.



### **Local Planning Policy Framework**

44. The **Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF)** includes the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and Local Policies.

45. The **MSS** is contained within **Clause 21** of the Scheme. The MSS at **Clause 21.02** focuses on the Municipal Profile, within which the following is noted:

- **Green Wedge:** *The Greater Dandenong Green Wedge is located in the middle of the broader South East Green Wedge which extends from Clarinda in the City of Kingston to Cranbourne South in the City of Casey.*

*The majority of the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge is in private ownership. It includes many facilities and land uses of strategic importance to the surrounding region and to the wider metropolitan area, including:*

- *The Eastern Treatment Plant and related odour buffers.*
- *Areas of landscape and environmental significance.*
- *Areas with potential for waste-water recycling.*
- *Designated odour and safety buffers near the Dandenong South industrial area.*
- *Locations with productive agricultural potential.*

*Council's Green Wedge Management Plan (Revised, January, 2017) sets out the vision, objectives and actions for the future management of the green wedge.*

46. Greater Dandenong's vision is outlined at **Clause 21.03**. In particular, Clause 21.03 vision for the City of Greater Dandenong's Green Wedge Zones is:

- A city whose green wedge provides a green, spacious relief from the surrounding urban development and supports a range of activities including agriculture, water treatment, recreation, education, and rural living that are carefully located and designed to respect the important environmental, cultural heritage, water management, landscape, and amenity values and functions of the region.
- A healthy community that embraces a sense of pride and belonging and works together to achieve an economically, socially and environmentally sustainable future.

47. Outlined in **Clause 21.03-2**, the way to achieve this vision stipulated in the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme is by providing:

- Strategies that reduce air, water and noise pollution, strategies that promote ecologically sustainable development, strategies that allow for increased residential densities in appropriate locations and provide for diverse housing needs without compromising the valued characteristics of the area; strategies to protect and reinforce the rural landscape in Greater Dandenong's Green Wedge and strategies that reinforce the Green Wedge Zone as a 'Green Space' between urban growth corridors.
- Strategies that create health promoting environments that are welcoming, inclusive and make a positive contribution to the health and wellbeing of Greater Dandenong's diverse communities



48. **Clause 21.06-3 Open Space and natural environment (Municipal Strategic Statement)** is relevant to this application, with the following objectives for Green Wedge applicable to this application:
- *To protect and enhance the ecological values of the Green Wedge and improve connectivity.*
  - *To manage risks associated with potential soil and water contamination.*
  - *To improve flood and inundation management.*
  - *To enhance the role and function of the Greater Dandenong Green Wedge as a water management asset.*
49. **Clause 22.02 Green Wedge** is relevant to this application, given the location of the subject site within a Green Wedge Zone, Schedule 1. The subject site is located within the Eastern Treatment Plant (ETP) Precinct, which contains the following precinct objective:
- *To ensure that new uses are compatible with the operations of the ETP and nearby areas, recognise the constraints caused by flooding and provide for agricultural and other rural uses.*
50. **Clause 22.02 Green Wedge** also specifies the preferred land uses for subject sites within the ETP precinct as being:
- *Waste water treatment and provision of recycled water.*

#### **Particular Provisions**

51. **Clause 51.02 (Metropolitan Green Wedge Land)** seeks to protect metropolitan green wedge land from uses and development that would diminish its agricultural, environmental, cultural heritage, conservation, landscape natural resource or recreation values.
52. **Clause 52.06 (Car Parking)** needs to be considered to determine the appropriateness of the car parking provision of the development.

#### **General Provisions**

53. **Clause 65 – Decision Guidelines** need to be considered, as is the case with all applications. For this application the requirements of Clause 65.01 for the approval of an application or plan are of relevance. This Clause outlines the requirements that the responsible authority must consider when determining the application.

#### **Operational Provisions**

54. **Clause 71 – Operation of the Planning Policy Framework** is also applicable. Clause 71.02-1 states that the Planning Policy Framework must change as the needs of the community change. Furthermore, it is noted that the objectives of planning in Victoria are fostered through appropriate land use planning policies and practices that integrate relevant social and economic factors in the interests of net community benefit.



## Restrictive Covenants

55. A review of the submitted documents indicate that Covenant E902900 created on 17/07/1973 relate to the creation of an easement in favour of the Gas and Fuel Corporation of Victoria, for full and free liberty and right over the easement. The proposal will not affect this covenant.

## Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

56. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

- Not Applicable

57. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2021-25:

- Not Applicable

## Diversity, Access and Equity

58. It is not considered that the planning assessment of this application raises any diversity issues. The application itself does not have a direct and significant impact on the wider Greater Dandenong community.

## Community Safety

59. It is considered that there would be no adverse community safety implications in permitting the proposal subject to strict conditions on any planning permit issued.

## Safe Design Guidelines

60. Consideration of the relevant requirements of these Guidelines has been undertaken within the Assessment of this application.

## Referrals

61. The application was externally referred to:

| External Authority            | Response                             |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Melbourne Water (Determining) | No objections, subject to conditions |

62. The application was internally referred to the following Council Departments for their consideration (summarised):

| Internal Units | Response                              |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Asset          | No objections, subject to conditions. |
| Civil          | No objections, subject to conditions. |



## Advertising

63. The application has been advertised pursuant to section 52 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, by:
- sending notices to the owners and occupiers of adjoining land; and
  - placing two (2) signs on site facing Thompson Road.
64. The notification has been carried out correctly. Council has received sixteen (16) objections to date.
65. It should be noted that following the submission of the Section 57A amendment on 3rd April 2025, the application was not re-advertised as it is considered that the amendment only related to the provision of supplementary information and would not cause additional adverse impacts to surrounding residences.
66. The amendment provided additional details including:
- An amended Planning Report providing more details on the proposal and justifications for the size of the shed;
  - Amended plans showing the location of screen planting and concrete access from the existing car park to the proposed shed.

***The location of objectors/submitters is shown in Attachment 2 to this report.***

## Summary of Grounds of Submissions/Objections

67. The objections are summarised below (**bold**), followed by the Town Planner's Response (*italics*).
68. **Insufficient detail provided within application**
- *The application documents submitted were considered sufficient. The application was internally referred to Council's Asset and Civil Development Departments and Melbourne Water. No concerns were raised subject to conditions.*
69. **Use**
- *The site has historically been used as a Place of Worship and it is not proposed to change the use of the site. The shed is proposed to be used for storage only, ancillary to the Place of Worship. Conditions on the permit will ensure the orderly and general maintenance of the areas surrounding the shed and how the shed can be utilised.*
70. **Inconsistency with the character of the green wedge;**
- *The proposed shed in this location is considered appropriate as adjoining sites to the north and to the east all contain one or more sheds associated with the use on those sites. These surrounding sheds varying in size and scale and therefore this new building would not be at odds with other similar structures in the surrounding area.*
71. Fifteen (15) of the objections received also raised concerns relating to the use of the site for a 'truck park'. A site inspection was conducted on 19 March 2025, and a search through Council records did not reveal any active, or past compliance issues for the site in relation to a truck-trailer park for this location. It is not proposed to alter the existing use on-site, and it is not proposed to store trucks or trailers in the proposed shed.





## Assessment

72. The proposal has been assessed against the relevant provisions of the Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy Framework, the zoning of the land, the relevant particular provisions, and the decision guidelines of Clause 65.
73. Overall, the proposal is considered acceptable and would not result in any adverse impact to the amenity of adjoining or surrounding land.

## Use

74. The proposal will not alter the existing use of the land for a Place of Worship. The shed is proposed to be used for storage ancillary to the operations of the Place of Worship.
75. The proposal is considered to be consistent with the objectives of the Green Wedge Policy (Clause 22.02-1) as the new shed is to be used for storage only, in conjunction with an existing place of worship use, and will not increase the number of vehicles accessing the site and will provide a vital service to the community.

## Development

76. It is proposed to construct a shed with the dimensions 40 metres by 21 metres (840sqm), located 10 metres from the rear boundary of the site, and 25m from the east and west boundaries of the site.
77. The Green Wedge Policy states that built forms should incorporate appropriate building materials and finishes, setbacks and landscaping which complement the low scale open character of the green wedge. The colour 'woodland grey' has been nominated for the shed and this is considered an appropriate colour selection for its context.
78. An assessment against the siting and design guidelines as identified in the 'Built Form and Heritage' section of the 'Green Wedge Management Plan (Revised January 2017)' has been undertaken. The shed is sited behind the existing Place of Worship and associated car park. Screen planting is proposed between the existing car park and proposed shed. It is considered that the setbacks and siting will provide a sufficient opportunity to reduce visual impacts and will not impact any significant views or ridgelines. The existing low-density character of the area is maintained as the structure would be largely obscured from Thompson Road. In keeping with the broader strategic policy of the *Green Wedge Management Plan*.
79. The proposal will not require the removal of any vegetation from the land or have any major impact on the biodiversity of the flora and fauna on the site and its surroundings; hence it is not foreseen that there will be any impact on land degradation, salinity, or reduction in water quality.
80. The application was referred to Councils Civil Development and Asset Planning Department as well as Melbourne Water in relation to drainage and localised flooding. No concerns were raised by any Council department or Melbourne water in relation to drainage or flooding. Conditions are to be imposed to ensure the floor levels of the shed will be to the requirements of Council and Melbourne Water and that drainage of the site can be appropriately managed.
81. In summary, the shed is a typical built form associated with the storage of goods and/or equipment. It is considered that the proposed shed is suitable for the site and for the context of the area as it will not further prohibit the future expansion, use or development of rural activities on the site or surrounding land and will provide a net community benefit.



### ***Car-Parking and Access***

82. While Clause 52.06 - Car Parking needs to be considered, the proposal only seeks to provide a storage shed to be utilised in association with the existing use of the land for a Place of Worship. Additional car parking spaces would not be required as there will not be an increase in the patrons to the site. The original permit 99/697 contains a condition which does not permit more than 100 people on site and this condition would remain in place. As such no additional car parking is required.
83. The access to the proposed shed will be from the existing car park via a concrete access road. This access road will not impact on the car parking layout and will not remove any car parking from the associated Place of Worship use and is considered appropriate.

### ***Environmental Significance Overlay (Schedule 3)***

84. The site is located within the Environmental Significance Overlay 3 which is identified as being an 'Eastern Treatment Buffer Area'. The environmental objective of Schedule 3 relates to any use or development around the Eastern Treatment Plant to be compatible with its operation, the regulate odour-sensitives uses and to exclude uses that require the presence of a large number of people over a long period.
85. The application was referred to Melbourne Water under Section 55 who did not object to the proposal subject to conditions to be added to a permit, if issued.
86. The existing use of the site is not proposed to change, and the new shed would be utilised ancillary to the Place of Worship, for storage purposes only. It is considered that the proposed works are appropriate within the Eastern Treatment Buffer Area and would not negatively impact on the operation of the Treatment Plant subject to conditions.

## **Conclusion**

87. The application has been assessed against the relevant sections of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme, including the Planning Policy Framework, Local Planning Policy Framework, Municipal Strategic Statement, Zones, Overlays, Clause 51.02 and Clause 65.
88. Council officers consider that if the proposed storage shed were approved, it would provide a net community benefit via the provision of cultural and community focused uses, and services that cater to the needs of the community.
89. Overall, it is considered that the proposal is appropriate.



## **MOTION**

**Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad**

**Seconded by: Cr Isabella Do**

**That Council DEFERS this Item to a future Council Meeting.**

**LOST 3 / 7**

**For - Cr Isabella Do, Cr Rhonda Garad and Cr Bob Milkovic.**

**Against - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Jim Memeti,  
Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong and Cr Melinda Yim.**

## **MINUTE No.124**

**Moved by: Cr Lana Formoso**

**Seconded by: Cr Sophie Tan**

**That Council RESOLVES to issue a Notice of Decision to grant a planning permit in respect of the land known and described as 445 Thompson Road BANGHOLME VIC 3175, for the purpose of Buildings and Works (Shed) in accordance with the plans submitted with the application subject to the following conditions:**

| <b>Planning scheme clause</b> | <b>Matter for which the permit has been granted</b>  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Clause 35.04-5                | Buildings and works – A building which is within 100 metres from a dwelling not in the same ownership. |
| Clause 35.04-5                | Buildings and works – Associated with a use in Section 2 of Clause 35.04-1                             |
| Clause 42.01-2                | To construct a building or construct or carry out works  |

- 1. Before the development starts, amended plans to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The amended plans must be drawn to scale with dimensions. The amended plans must be generally in accordance with the plans submitted and assessed with the application but modified to show:**
  - 1.1. Contour levels and Finished Floor Levels (FFLs) of the proposed shed to AHD, and the minimum finished floor level of the proposed shed set at least 150mm above the surrounding ground level.**
  - 1.2. The provision of a plant schedule giving a description of botanical name, common name, mature height and spread, pot size, purchase height (if a tree) and individual plant quantities. The recommended vegetation should be in accordance with the Greater Dandenong Landscape Plan Guidelines May 2023.**
  - 1.3. Any changes in accordance with Condition 2 and 3 requirements.**

**When approved, these plans will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.**



2. Concurrent with the endorsement of Condition 1 plans, a Drainage Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The drainage drawings must direct all drainage (including surface drainage) to a suitable location on the land, and provide details of the connection to stormwater infrastructure, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. The drainage drawings should show:

- 2.1. Location of the Legal Point of Discharge (LPD), and its connection to internal drainage infrastructure;
- 2.2. All wastes must be disposed of to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and no liquid waste or polluted waters shall be discharged into a sewer or stormwater drainage system;
- 2.3. Measures to ensure the discharge of water from the property is controlled around its limits to prevent any discharge onto any adjacent properties;
- 2.4. Any calculations and investigations necessary to demonstrate the performance of the drainage system;

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

3. Concurrent with the endorsement of Condition 1 plans, provide an Earthworks Plan that shows final levels, or other treatments to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, this includes details of the existing levels in the area. The earthworks plan should show:

- 3.1. The maximum levels of cut and fill associated with the approved works;
- 3.2. Measures to minimise soil erosion, and any exposed areas of soil must be stabilised to prevent soil erosion;
- 3.3. Measures to maintain soil erosion control, throughout the construction stage of the development, and must be controlled in accordance with the Environment Protection Authority Guideline TG208/90.
- 3.4. Measures to ensure no polluted or sediment laden run-off is to be discharged directly into drains or watercourses;

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

4. The development as shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered without the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
5. Once the development has started, it must be continued and completed in accordance with the endorsed plans, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
6. The outbuilding hereby approved must only be used for storage purposes for goods associated with the use of the land as a place of worship, or for the general maintenance of the land, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority. The building must not be used for human habitation or occupation, or the holding of any events or functions.



7. All building finishes must be of a non-reflective nature; and cladding materials be of natural colours, muted tones and/or matte finishes that best immerse the built form within the rural landscape.
8. Goods, materials, equipment and the like associated with the use of the land must not be displayed or stored outside the building, without the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
9. The unused portion of the land must be kept drained, tidy, mown and clear of the storage of items at all times, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
10. Floor levels shown on the endorsed plan(s) must not be altered or modified without the further written consent of the Responsible Authority.
11. The site shall be kept in a neat and tidy condition at all times, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

#### **Melbourne Water**

12. The shed must be constructed with finished floor levels set no lower than 150mm above the Natural Surface Level.
13. The layout of buildings and works as shown on the plans must not be altered without prior written consent from Melbourne Water.

#### **Permit Expiry:**

14. This permit will expire if;

14.1. The development does not start within two (2) years of the date of this permit,

14.2. The development is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit;

Before the permit expires or within six (6) months afterwards, the owner or occupier of the land may in writing request the Responsible Authority to extend the expiry date.

#### **Notes:**

- The property is identified to be subject to flooding in major rain events. An application for Report and Consent for Flooding is required. Asset Management Team is to be contacted to confirm the minimum finished floor level (FFL) of the proposed development.
- Any works undertaken within the road reservation and easements will require the developer to obtain a Civil Works Permit from Council.
- Prior to works commencing the developer will need to obtain an Asset Protection Permit from Council.
- A building approval may be required prior to the commencement of the approved works.
- The conditions of Planning Permit No. PLN01/0794 issued on 27/03/2002 continue to apply to the land and must be read as conditions under this permit.





- **This permit relates to the buildings and works (storage shed) only. Except where no planning permit is required under the provisions of the Planning Scheme, any other buildings and works may be subject to a separate application. Prior to the construction of any buildings and works, consultation should be made with the officers of the Town Planning Department to determine the relevant Planning Scheme controls.**
- **Prior to the final design being completed, the applicant should consult with Council's Infrastructure Planning Department in regard to the legal point of discharge for the site.**
- **A drainage plan approval fee is to be paid to Council prior to the issue of approved drainage plans. Please contact the Civil Development department for the current schedule of fees.**
- **No buildings or works shall be constructed over any easement without the written consent of the relevant authorities.**

**CARRIED 8 / 2**

**For - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Jim Memeti,  
Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong and Cr Melinda Yim.**

**Against - Cr Isabella Do and Cr Rhonda Garad.**



## 2.1.2 Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – April 2025

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Director City Futures

**Attachments:** 1. Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – April 2025.pdf  
[2.1.2.1 - 9 pages]

### Officer Recommendation

**That the listed items in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.**

### Executive Summary

1. This report provides Council with an update on the exercise of delegation by Council officers.
2. It provides a listing of Town Planning applications that were either decided or closed under delegation or withdrawn by applicants in April 2025.
3. It should be noted that where permits and notices of decision to grant permits have been issued, these applications have been assessed as being generally consistent with the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme and Council's policies.
4. Application numbers with a PLA#, PLN#.01 or similar, are applications making amendments to previously approved planning permits.
5. The annotation 'SPEAR' (Streamlined Planning through Electronic Applications and Referrals) identifies where an application has been submitted electronically. SPEAR allows users to process planning permits and subdivision applications online.

#### **MINUTE No.125**

**Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic**

**Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh**

**That the listed items in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**



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### 3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

#### **Question**

##### **Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong**

Two weeks ago, Council was asked to rise the LGBTQIA+ flag at the community flagpole in Springvale. Many residents of Springvale could not make it to Dandenong to see the flag raising, so this was request was made for the Springvale location. The request followed Councils current Flag policy on requesting this and Council rejected this request claiming this location was not accessible to have a flag risen.

Can Council please answer the following questions separately.

When was the last time a flag request was approved and risen at this location?

Why did Council go against its own policy to refuse this flag being risen?

When and why was the last time the Council refused to raise a community flag at the community flagpole in Springvale?

#### **Response**

##### **Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

LGBTQIA+ Flag has never been flown at Multicultural Place. There is no record of a formal request having ever been received by Governance. Council currently flies the LGBTQIA+ flag in Harmony Square in support of its Inclusive Statement and not in response to a formal flag flying application from a community group.

In accordance with Council's Flag Flying Policy, applications from community groups to fly various flags at Council's Community flagpole sites must be made in writing, and community groups must supply their own flags. There is no record of Governance receiving a formal written application from a community group to fly the LGBTQIA+ Flag from Multicultural Place.

Council limits the use of the flagpole in Multicultural Place due to its location and the additional costs of having to engage a contractor to undertake the flag change over as Council does not have staff on site at this facility.

Council will only refuse a request to fly a community flag in Multicultural place where it does not meet the requirements set in Council's Flag Flying policy, or where a flag raising is likely to attract the attendance over 30 people, due to the limited space in Multicultural Place. Larger gatherings have previously interfered with Local Businesses, denying customer access to their shops, so Council directs the applicant to use Harmony Square.



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### **Question**

**Esmat Barakzai, Narre Warren**

If the United Nations officially recognises Afghanistan and its people as Afghan, and the Australian government and immigration department acknowledge individuals from that land as Afghan, it would be logical to consider the street's name in this context.

Many traders on this street have immigration or asylum cases with the government as Afghans.

A significant number of customers are also Afghans, which contributes to the local economy, how is the Council involving and consulting with us, the Afghan community, in their decision-making process?

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Council is considering a proposed engagement and consultation plan on this topic this evening.

Depending on Council's decision tonight, then further details and timing will need to be worked out. We will keep the community informed of the next steps.

### **Question**

**Barat Batoor, Pakenham**

How common is it for a broader community to be consulted in selecting branding for businesses on a street, while the traders have limited or no influence over the final branding name?

What mechanism will be used to select participants for the first stage of the consultation, and what criteria will determine who is included?

Given the historical trauma experienced by the Hazara community—including systemic persecution and acts of genocide by the Afghan rulers since 1880s—what measures will be put in place during the consultation process to prevent further harm, particularly with respect to the suggestion or discussion of potentially triggering names?

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

When there is strong and widespread community interest in a topic, that is when a consultation will ideally be broad and open to many voices.

Depending on Council's decision tonight, then further details and timing will be worked out.

We know that the topic is sensitive, and that is why we are very pleased to have the support a safe and, inclusive engagement process.

We will keep the community informed of the next steps.



### **Question**

**Mohammad Pashtoon, Cranbourne East**

What precedent does this renaming process set for other cultural groups in Dandenong who are in peruse of establishing cultural identity? Does the Council consider the consequences for those communities.

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

We always consider our whole multicultural community. The proposed approach Council will consider tonight includes intercultural dialogue. It is understood that this approach helps grow our community resilience and strengthens our community for the future.

### **Question**

**Massi Ahmadzay, Hallam**

Can Council provide more detail about the structure, content and timing of the intercultural dialogue and proposed naming process?

Will it commit to publicly releasing those details and deferring a vote on the motion until the community has been given an opportunity to understand the proposed process and engage meaningfully with the process?

What opportunities will be afforded to the community to share our values, lived experiences, and cultural perspectives to the Council?

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Council is considering a proposed engagement and consultation plan on this topic this evening.

Depending on Council's decision tonight, then further details and timing will need to be worked out.

The proposed approach, with intercultural dialogue, includes a commitment to storytelling, sharing values, experiences and diverse perspectives – not only with Council, but with each other.

We will keep the community informed of the next steps.

### **Question**

**Mohib Iqbal, Dingley Village**

Who will coordinate / facilitate the intercultural dialogue and naming process? What are their qualifications?

If Council is not prepared to provide these basic details how can the community have any confidence the process will be transparent, culturally safe, inclusive and effective?

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

If Council decides to adopt this approach and accept the resources, expertise and support offered by the Department of Home Affairs on intercultural dialogue, then these details will be worked out and shared. The naming process is separate from this.



### **Question**

**Parwez Akbar, Berwick**

The current consultation process appears to take a one-sided approach by focusing on the identity of the existing Afghan Bazaar precinct, without giving serious consideration to more balanced alternatives. This framing risks creating further division within the community instead of promoting unity. Afghan Bazaar has stood for over a decade as a cultural and economic symbol for the broader Afghan-Australian community, representing not just one group but a shared national identity that includes Pashtuns, Hazaras, Tajiks, Uzbeks and others. Rather than questioning its place, the conversation should focus on how to enhance inclusivity while respecting what already exists.

A practical and unifying solution could involve naming or allocating another precinct that reflects Hazara identity and cultural contributions, without disrupting the existing name and significance of Afghan Bazaar. This approach would recognise the diversity within the Afghan community while protecting a name that holds deep historical and emotional value. Before proceeding with a costly and potentially divisive consultation process, has Council explored this alternative as a constructive way forward?

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Following the significant division and strong feelings surrounding the current name, it has become clear that we must approach this sensitively and inclusively. To do so, we suggest not to start with a short list of the names, but a commitment to dialogue. Depending on Council's decision tonight, then further details and timing will need to be worked out. We will keep the community informed of the next steps.

### **Question**

**Parwez Akbar, Berwick**

While we acknowledge that the businesses on Thomas Street are important stakeholders, they are not the only ones. Without the support and presence of customers, these businesses could not exist. Will Council ensure that the broader community including Afghan shoppers, families, youth, and descendants of Afghan cameleers including those with First Nations heritage are equally consulted and recognised as essential voices in shaping the future of this precinct?

### **Response**

**Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Depending on Council's decision tonight, then further details and timing will need to be worked out.

The intention behind the proposal is to have wide, broad and inclusive engagement, where many voices can be heard. We will keep the community informed of the next steps.





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## Question

### **Parwez Akbar, Berwick**

The current consultation agenda appears to be built on a narrow and potentially biased foundation, with its stated objective focused on “reconsidering the trading name” of the Afghan Bazaar precinct. This framing suggests the name is a problem that needs to be fixed, rather than a long-standing cultural identity to be acknowledged and strengthened.

Afghan Bazaar has served not only as a trading name but as a unifying symbol for the Afghan-Australian community in Dandenong, encompassing a range of ethnic backgrounds under one national identity. By centring the agenda on reconsideration, the process risks alienating those who see the name as part of their heritage and contribution to the local economy and culture. A more balanced and respectful approach would begin with recognition of the precinct’s existing value and seek to enhance cohesion through inclusive dialogue, storytelling, and broader community engagement.

Why is the objective of the consultation framed as “reconsidering the trading name” rather than strengthening community cohesion through these more constructive and unifying methods?

## Response

### **Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

We are initiating a series of intercultural conversations, bringing together residents, traders, cultural leaders of the area, that includes a commitment to storytelling, sharing values, experiences and diverse perspectives – not only with Council, but with each other. Council is considering a proposed engagement and consultation plan on this topic this evening.

The proposed approach conceives of a first stage of intercultural dialogue and broad, open consultation to hear the stories, values and experiences of many people and groups. This would be prioritised before consideration of naming options.

Further design of the consultation process will depend on Council’s consideration this evening.

## Question

### **Barya Babakerkhail, Dandenong**

Does the Dandenong Council recognise the Constitution of Afghanistan which states in Article 4 " the term of Afghan represents everyone living in Afghanistan." And Afghan Bazaar reflects the historical presence and cultural contribution of wider Afghan community in Dandenong.

How does the Council plan to rebuild the trust among Afghan Australians if they feel that their identity and contributions to this country are being dismissed?

Can the Council provide an example of other ethnic or cultural precincts in the City of Dandenong that have had their names challenged or changed? Why should be Afghan Bazaar treated differently? If so, is the Council prepared to apply the same renaming standards to all multicultural precincts in Dandenong including India Precinct and China Town in Dandenong to maintain policy consistency?



## **Response**

### **Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

It is intended that a sincere, open consultation would take place. Council will be approaching this in good faith, with a commitment to a balanced and fair approach. Council has undertaken community consultation in the past where groups had different and apparently incompatible opinions, about cultural places, but also on the use of community resources and facilities.

Balancing competing community interests and finding solutions that everyone can live with is a very regular undertaking in local government. We will keep the community informed of the next steps.

## **Question**

### **Obaidullah Zazai, Dandenong**

What steps will the Council take to prevent any outcome that could harm the cultural identity or social cohesion of the Afghan community?

## **Response**

### **Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Depending on Council's decision tonight, then further details and timing will need to be worked out, especially if Council decides to partner with and accept resources and support from the Department of Home Affairs.

The objective will always be to strengthen our local communities, and promote safe and constructive dialogue and debate about contentious issues. We will keep the community informed of the next steps.

## **Question**

### **Lucy Cataldi, Springvale**

Alcohol availability is a key driver of alcohol related harm in the community. Incidents that have occurred in this area include bashings, physical and verbal abuse, burglary, attempted break ins in the homes and cars, smashed glass on footpaths, and roads, needles, drug activity, and homelessness. Why have a liquor bottle shop in this area?

It will increase crime in the area. Community safety is at serious risk. This liquor bottle shop will be in an outdoor environment just next door to residential properties along Springvale Road, and very close to Kemp Street, Stephens Avenue, Webb Avenue, and Princess Hwy in Springvale. Next door to the restaurants and shops in the area.

You cannot control people's behaviour, with alcohol. When the people have bottle/s in their hands they can do whatever they like. We don't need another bottle shop in this area. We have Dan Murphy's on Dandenong Road, just across the road. Dan Murphy's has been there a long time, and offers a wide range of alcohol options; beer, wines, and spirits.



Why don't you put another family friendly restaurant or shop in the area? Where both adults and children can enjoy. Families can enjoy a meal together, and relax after work. They can bring their family and friends. Celebrate, and eat out, get together, socialize, share stories and memories. Or a shop that people can either buy food, clothing items, that they need. Restaurants and shops provide a safer option environment for our community. And people are meeting in a friendly way. It brings people together in a good and positive manner, and helps the community.

### **Response**

#### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Council Planning officers are currently assessing a Planning Application for a packaged liquor license (Bottle Shop) at 7/27-31 Springvale Road, Springvale which is located within a Commercial 1 Zone.

The application has been advertised to surrounding owners and occupiers, and an advertising notice has been erected on the site to provide neighbours and residents with an opportunity to provide their comments on the liquor license application.

In addition, Council Planning Officers are awaiting referral responses from Victoria Police, The Victorian liquor Commission and Councils Community Services Department.

Any concerns that arise from the advertising of the application or from referral departments or authorities will be assessed as part of the application.

The application will be required to be sent to a Council meeting soon for a decision to be made.

### **Question**

#### **A resident in Dandenong**

Heart street, Dandenong is a street in central Dandenong and has been rezoned to medium commercial/resident in the past few years. This street has become a known area by police and Council of an area of dumped cars and unsavoury behaviour. This street has no streetlights, so at night it becomes a meeting place for illegal dealings creating an unsafe area for nearby residents.

Can Council please look at installing streetlights on this street to make it safer and a deterrent to illegal behaviour?

### **Response**

#### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

There are currently four street lights on Heart Street, however none covering the unsealed parking area near the creek, which we assume this question relates to.

This area does not experience significant volumes of pedestrian movement, and additional lighting is not required to comply with Australian Standards, which set the standards required for safe vehicular and pedestrian movement.



Council officers can discuss this location with the police if this issue is crime related and determine whether any action such as lighting or parking restrictions would assist with any enforcement activity at this location.

While the area has been rezoned, this has not resulted in land use change yet, meaning it currently largely remains as an industrial area. If and when future development does occur, lighting and changes to other components of the streetscapes will be required.

### **Question**

#### **A resident in Dandenong**

Over the years Palm Plaza has become unsafe with pavers rising and becoming a trip hazard. In the proposed Council budget it has a \$239,800 allocated to the Palm Plaza renewal.

Can Council please explain what this money is officially doing and how much of Palm Plaza will benefit from this?

### **Response**

#### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

The budget allocated to the renewal of Palm Plaza will be utilised to replace pavement at the locations where the greatest risk to pedestrians has been identified. This budget will only cover a few locations where trip hazards are present, with further funding likely to be required in future years.

Long term changes to Palm Plaza will be considered within the broader Dandenong Market Precinct Plan. We would encourage interested residents to keep an eye out for community consultation that is planned for later this year.

### **Question**

#### **A resident in Dandenong**

During the Webster Street railway crossing removal, there has been a temporary under bridge walkway created for the workers on the north side (near Thomas street).

Can Council look to see if this walkway could be created in a secure way after the works are completed or during so there is an under bridge walkway on both sides of the Dandenong creek?

### **Response**

#### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Council has been working closely with the Level Crossing Removal Project to ensure the Webster St level crossing removal project improves active transport and environmental outcomes. This includes a permanent walkway under the rail line on the south side of the creek.

The temporary walkway along the north side of the creek under the rail line will be removed by the Level Crossing Removal Project. Simply keeping a similar walkway to the temporary one is not possible due to the impact on the creek's capacity and performance once the path on the other side is also in place.



## Question

**Matthew Kirwan, Noble Park**

The Greater Dandenong Walking and Cycling strategies are respectively 2 and 1 years out of date. When are successor plans and strategies going to be developed and what will be the early consultation approach?

## Response

**Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

Council's current 'Make your Move (MYM) Greater Dandenong Physical Activity Strategy 2020-2030' supersedes previous Walking and Cycling strategies and is used to guide future provision and decision making in respect to walking and cycling activities. Council does not intend to renew the walking and cycling strategies, as they are covered within the current MYM Strategy or more widely through Council's transport and civil development strategies.

Within the Make your Move (MYM) Strategy, one of the key priorities is for Council to: 'Create environments that encourage and support our community to be physically active'. This is done by:

- Reducing barriers to participation, particularly in relation to the cost and affordability of programs, services, equipment and transport to access physical activity opportunities.
- Creating physical environments that support and encourage people to be physically active in their day-to-day lives. Walking and cycling paths that support active transport opportunities such as people walking to work or public transport connections, children and families walking to school or preschool, older members of the community walking to local shops or community facilities such as libraries.

Future planning of public infrastructure that supports these types of activities (walking paths and trails, bike networks etc) are captured through Masterplans, park design and the sports facility framework if within a park or reserve or through our 'transport and civil development strategies' if within the road corridor/ network.

Council activations such as the current 'laps and lattes' sessions at Tattersson Park, is part of the MYM activation and implementation plan to help increase physical activity levels within the community, achieving the outcomes of the MYM strategy.

## Question

**Matthew Kirwan, Noble Park**

There are two school crossings on Douglas Street between Chandler Road and Stuart Street are obscure and I fear an accident waiting to happen. Drivers only see the school crossings and the vulnerable crossing supervisor at last minute.

Could the road be surfaced with a colour coating like the new crossing on Railway Parade, Noble Park near Yarraman Railway Station? That crossing is very visible to drivers approaching it.



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## **Response**

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

The Railway Parade raised pedestrian crossing is in place at a set of traffic signals, that operates 24 hours a day.

Yellow surface treatment is now installed at these raised pedestrian crossings that operate 24 hours a day as matter of best practice.

As the school crossings at Douglas Street only operate during school zone periods, and only for limited time periods during the day, it is not considered suitable to install the yellow surface treatment, as it may create confusion for motorists by giving a misleading sense of priority to pedestrians outside of these school zone periods.

The crossings on Douglas Street are within 40km/h speeds zones at school time, and safety at all our school crossings is monitored regularly.

## **Question**

### **Isabelle Nash, Keysborough**

Last year the Greater Dandenong Environment Group received no feedback from Council on its very detailed submission on the draft Greater Dandenong Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan (CEMP).

When will the group receive a response to each of our feedback items?

Noting that this is now three years late in being completed, when is the Greater Dandenong Climate Change Engagement and Mobilisation Plan going to be amended based on feedback and then finalised?

## **Response**

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Council received a considerable number of submissions in response to the draft CEMP, which have been beneficial in further considering the format and content of this document.

In terms of the finalisation of the CEMP, Council is currently reviewing the content and structure of all policies and strategies. Once this broader review is completed, we will be able to provide an update on the CEMP possibly by the end of this year.





## 4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

### 4.1 OTHER

#### 4.1.1 Proposed Community Consultation Process - Thomas Street Precinct

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council APPROVES the proposed approach for the community consultation to reconsider the trading name for the Thomas Street area in Dandenong.**

#### Executive Summary

1. On 14 April, Council endorsed officers' recommendation to reconsider the trading name of "Afghan Bazaar" through community engagement. This would allow for broader consultation and a more inclusive approach to reflecting the identity of the area.
2. This report seeks Council's endorsement for the proposed approach for community consultation on the renaming of a precinct around Thomas Street area, Dandenong. The naming selection process will be in accordance with the principles of *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria (2022)*.

#### Background

3. Central Dandenong is home to a diverse and growing community from Afghanistan, representing a wide range of ethnic, cultural, and linguistic backgrounds. This diversity enriches the local area and contributes to the vibrancy of Central Dandenong. However, recent concerns and tensions surrounding the naming of the precinct around Thomas Street, commonly referred to as the "Afghan Precinct" or "Afghan Bazaar", have underscored the need for a structured and collaborative approach to fostering relationships, strengthening community cohesion, and promoting inclusivity.
4. The terms "Afghan Precinct" and "Afghan Bazaar" have never been formally registered with the Geographic Names Victoria, and the area remains officially designated as Thomas Street, Dandenong. The term was originally adopted for marketing and economic development purposes to attract visitors and tourists to the area.

#### Key Issues and Discussion

5. The [\*Naming rules for places in Victoria\* 2022](#)<sup>1</sup> issued by the State Government of Victoria, provide principles and procedures for the naming of roads, features, and localities under the *Geographic Place Names Act 1998*. These principles are designed to ensure naming practices are consistent, culturally appropriate, and community-centred.

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<sup>1</sup> Please see *Naming rules for places in Victoria*



6. The key principles include:

- **Ensuring Public Safety:** Names must not risk public safety by causing confusion, especially for emergency services (e.g., no similar sounding names nearby).
- **Recognising the Public Interest:** Names should reflect the needs and values of the broader community. They must serve the public good, not private or commercial interests.
- **Linking the Name to Place:** Names should be relevant and have a clear connection to the local area; historically, culturally, geographically, or socially.
- **Avoiding Name Duplication:** Names must be unique within a 15 km radius for roads and a 30 km radius for features and localities. This avoids confusion and supports effective emergency response.
- **Names Must Be Simple, Clear, and Easy to Communicate:** Names should be short, easy to spell and pronounce, and free from unnecessary punctuation. Avoid special characters, abbreviations, and hyphens unless historically significant.
- **Recognition and Use of Traditional Owner Languages:** Where possible, names from Aboriginal languages are encouraged, and councils must consult with *Registered Aboriginal Parties (RAPs)* for cultural accuracy and approval. Dual naming is also supported (e.g., Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal names used together).
- **Commemorative Naming:** Commemorative names must honour individuals or groups with significant local contributions. Naming after living persons is discouraged, unless the person has made an exceptional contribution and there's clear community support.
- **Avoiding Offensive or Discriminatory Names:** Names must not be derogatory, discriminatory, or offensive in any language or context, including social, cultural, racial, or political sensitivities.
- **Consultation and Engagement:** Community consultation is required for most naming proposals, especially those involving changes to existing names or commemorative/Aboriginal names. The process must be transparent and inclusive.
- **Compliance with Legislative and Procedural Requirements:** All naming proposals must follow the procedures set out in the *Naming Rules*, including submission to the Office of Geographic Names (OGN) and registration in the Vicnames database. (not applicable to this process, given the naming process is for marketing purposes).

7. To support reconsideration of the trading name "Afghan Bazaar", below engagement approach is proposed for Council's approval. The proposed approach is a broad, deliberative engagement process designed not only to explore alternative naming options, but also to reflect the area's identity and strengthen community connection and sense of belonging.



### ***Proposed Approach: Intercultural Dialogue and Naming – A Two-Stage Engagement Approach***

8. This engagement model is designed to enhance social connection, belonging, and democratic participation through a two-stage process based on intercultural dialogue <sup>2</sup>and community voice.

#### **Stage One: Intercultural Dialogue and Community Cohesion**

9. In partnership with Commonwealth and State governments (Department of Home Affairs and the Victorian Multicultural Commission), this stage will focus on:
- Building a shared understanding of the value of social cohesion and the roles individuals, communities, organisations, institutions and governments play in building it.
  - Identifying and fostering the connections between individuals, communities, governments and society required to strengthen togetherness, belonging and democratic values
10. This process will help to uncover shared values, lived experiences, and cultural perspectives that shape the identity of the area, laying the foundation for the naming process.

#### **Stage Two: Naming Process – led by Council**

11. Council will review the outcomes of Stage One and develop a shortlist of names. These names will:
- Be informed by the community dialogue and cultural narratives
  - Be assessed against criteria developed in accordance with principles of *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria (2022)*.
  - Be shared publicly for community feedback
  - Be finalised by Council following consideration of the feedback received

#### **Final Endorsement**

12. The final name recommendation will be formally presented to Council for endorsement.

### **Governance Compliance**

#### ***Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)***

13. 1 EFT engagement officer is required for over 6 months.

#### ***Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)***

#### ***Operating Budget Implications***

14. The Department of Home Affairs will fund an independent intercultural dialogue facilitator as part of Stage 1.

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<sup>2</sup> **Intercultural dialogue** is an open and respectful exchange of views between individuals and groups with different ethnic, cultural, religious and linguistic backgrounds and heritage, on the basis of mutual understanding and respect.

*Intercultural dialogue requires the freedom and ability to express oneself, as well as the willingness and capacity to listen to the views of others. It contributes to political, social, cultural and economic integration and the cohesion of culturally diverse societies, and fosters equality, human dignity and a sense of common purpose.*



### Asset Implications

15. This item does not affect any existing assets.

### Legal/Risk Implications

16. The deep community concerns about this issue contained within this report represent significant reputational risk to Council with associated loss of community trust. The proposed approach is designed to minimise these risks and proposes a high-quality community engagement and consultative approach, guided by *Naming Rules for Places in Victoria 2022* to achieve an outcome which is acceptable to various stakeholders.

### Environmental Implications

17. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.

## Community Consultation

|  |  |
|--|--|
| <b>Purpose</b>                                     | Reconsider the trading name of “Afghan Bazaar” through inclusive community engagement. |
| <b>Engagement period</b>                           | Commencing in July 2025  |
| <b>Level of Influence:</b>                         | Empower  |
| <b>Engagement Activities:</b>                      | Outlined in this report  |
| <b>Communication reach and engagement numbers:</b> | The details of community consultation will be developed once approach is endorsed.     |

## Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

18. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

- Safe and peaceful community.
- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.

19. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan

20. 2021-25:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
- A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
- A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.

## Legislative and Policy Obligations

21. This report has considered Council’s legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:

- Not Applicable



**MINUTE No.126**

**Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad**

**Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh**

**That Council APPROVES the proposed approach for the community consultation and reconsiders a trading name for the Thomas Street area in Dandenong.**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**

## 4.1.2 Council's Visual Identity

**Responsible Officer:** Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy  
**Attachments:** Nil

### Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **APPROVES** Option 1 for enhancing the Greater Dandenong City Council's visual identity through the logo enhancement; and
2. **NOTES** that the current and updated logos can sit harmoniously in market together and will ensure a smooth transition with minimal disruption or cost.

### Executive Summary

1. Council's logo and visual style guide were introduced in 2006.
2. A refreshed visual identity including slightly updated logo, a fresh approach to sub-brands, a refined colour palette and a new style guide will improve brand consistency and clarity. It will promote recognition of Council's work and enhance community trust in Council.
3. The proposed logo update allows for a gradual rollout. This approach means items can be progressively replaced only when stock is replaced, or assets are renewed. Current and updated logos can sit harmoniously in market together and will ensure a smooth transition with minimal disruption or cost. This means there is negligible cost to the update.

### Background

#### *Council Logo 2006*

4. Council's current logo was developed in 2006, when the red, yellow and green 'D' were introduced. The colours were to signify:
  - Red = Economy, business growth, industry
  - Yellow = Community enthusiasm, optimism and harmony
  - Green = Commitment to environmental best practice
5. The logo was to be used with two positioning statements:
  - City of Opportunity when community-facing;











- Melbourne's 2<sup>nd</sup> City when communicating with business partners and government.



- The current logo was introduced a year or two before the first iPhone was rolled out in Australia. Since then, the way marketing and promotional material is consumed has changed dramatically. Social media, web content and various digital applications have become dominant in many aspects of people's lives and business.
- A slight refresh of the current logo can give it a more contemporary look and better align it with the demands of the modern digital landscape.

## Key Issues and Discussion

- It is common for organisations to evolve their logos and make them more contemporary, in a gradual way over time. Often the changes are subtle, so that they're barely perceptible to the audience and no brand equity or recognition is lost along the way.
- For example, the Google logo has evolved to a rounder, more open and legible font. The font is in line with contemporary practice to be more readable and accessible for people with vision impairment, low literacy, dyslexia or other impairments.

| 1997  | 1997 - 1999  | 1999 - 2010   |
|---|--|---|
|  <p>Baskerville Bold Font<br/>Green 'G'</p>                                      |  <p>Exclamation mark added, more shadow, rounded letters, different letter hues.<br/>Blue 'G'</p> |  <p>Catull typeface<br/>Exclamation mark removed</p> |
| 2010 - 2013   | 2013 - 2015  | 2015 - Present  |
|  <p>Reduced shadow<br/>Yellow hue of 2nd 'o' changed<br/>Flattened lettering</p> |  <p>Shadow removed<br/>Flattened lettering</p>  |  <p>Product Sans typeface</p>                        |

- A similar evolution is proposed for Council's logo.
- The proposed changes are modest. The shape of the 'D' would be slightly adapted, the positioning statements would be removed from the logo and 'City of Opportunity' would be used more sparingly. The font and typography would be modernised to appear more contemporary and meet modern standards of accessibility.

## 12. Current Council Logo:



## 13. Proposed enhanced options (coloured and monochrome):

**Options One: Coloured Option**

Colour version with subtle adjustment to the primary shades of red, green, and yellow to enhance usability. Additionally, transition the primary background color from black to navy blue for a more polished and versatile appearance.

**Options Two: Monochrome Option**

A monochrome version that removes colors for broader and more consistent application, while maintaining visual appeal through a secondary colour palette for backgrounds and other elements.



14. Either of the proposed logos would harmonise alongside the current logo over a transitional period, allowing stock and assets to be updated gradually as they reach the end of their usual life and are replaced on an 'as-needed' basis.
15. Coloured option maintains the familiar red, green and yellow logo for 'hero' applications on white.
16. The use of the monochrome logo would be commonly used when other colours prevail. This example shows the current logo on the left, and the proposed logo (in monochrome) on the right. This demonstrates the significant improvement to readability and clarity.



17. With a new Council Plan soon to be endorsed, it is an opportunity to refresh Council's visual identity.
18. These would be supported by an extensive colour palette drawn from the Springvale Community Hub. It's understood that the many colours used at the hub represent the many flags of the nations people came from before they made Greater Dandenong their home.
19. This diverse and more muted palette reflects the diversity of our community and provides very practical and flexible options for diverse applications across Council, while still maintaining a cohesive appearance.



20. The adoption of this palette will enable Council to consolidate the logos and create a much more consistent application of Council's brand.



## Governance Compliance

### *Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)*

21. This item does not have an impact on existing human resources.

### *Operating Budget Implications*

22. There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### *Asset Implications*

23. This item does not affect any existing assets. Assets with a logo will only be replaced at their usual end of life.

### *Legal/Risk Implications*

24. There are no legal / risk implications relevant to this report.

### *Environmental Implications*

25. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report. The 'evolution' approach, with old and new logos able to harmonise together, means nothing is wasted or prematurely replaced.

## Community Consultation

|                             |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| <b>Summary of feedback:</b> | This brand and visual identity is a matter of expertise and highly operational. It is not appropriate to undertake community consultation. However, the choice of palette and the desire to increase readability and accessibility is responsive to our community's demographics and what's significant about Greater Dandenong. |
|-----------------------------|--|

## Links to Community Vision, Council Plan, Strategy, Notice of Motion

26. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:

- Not Applicable

27. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan

28. 2021-25:

- A Council that demonstrates leadership and a commitment to investing in the community.

## Legislative and Policy Obligations

29. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:

- Not Applicable



**MINUTE No.127**

**Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic**

**Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh**

**That Council:**

- 1. APPROVES Option 1 for enhancing the Greater Dandenong City Council's visual identity through the logo enhancement; and**
- 2. NOTES that the current and updated logos can sit harmoniously in market together and will ensure a smooth transition with minimal disruption or cost.**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**



### 4.1.3 Councillor Internal Resolution Procedure

This item was deferred at the 12 May 2025 Council Meeting to consider feedback from Councillors, the feedback has been considered and is now being tabled again for consideration.

**Responsible Officer:** Manager Governance, Legal & Risk

**Attachments:**

1. Procedure - Councillor Internal Resolution Procedures - Greater Dandenong - Option 1 [4.1.3.1 - 11 pages]
2. Procedure - Councillor Internal Resolution Procedures - Greater Dandenong - Option 2 [4.1.3.2 - 13 pages]

### Officer Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **APPROVES** Option 1 for Internal Resolution Procedure as per Attachment 1 to this report; and
2. **NOTES** that the Internal Resolution Procedure will be made available on Council's Website.

### Executive Summary

1. From 26 October 2024, the *Local Government Act 2020 (the Act)* requires all Councillors to observe the Model Councillor Code of Conduct (Model Code of Conduct). The Model Code of Conduct is prescribed in Schedule 1 of the *Local Government (Governance & Integrity) Regulations 2020*.
2. In accordance with section 140 of *the Act* and Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (Governance & Integrity) Regulations 2020*, Council must implement and adopt an Internal Resolution Procedure by 1 July 2025, to be observed when dealing with alleged breaches of the Model Code of Conduct.
3. Two 'Councillor Internal Resolution Procedure' options have been prepared for Council consideration and approval:
  - Option 1 (Attachment 1) is based on the Internal Resolution Procedure Template developed by Maddocks Lawyers. This is the officers' recommended option.
  - Option 2 (Attachment 2) includes additional steps in the procedure, incorporating external mediation and internal arbitration.

### Background

4. The Model Code of Conduct replaces the previous statutory requirements for councils to develop their own Councillor Code of Conduct. The Model Code of Conduct sets out individual standards of conduct expected to be observed by councillors when performing their roles as councillors.





5. Disputes between Councillors may arise in a variety of circumstances. In accordance with section 140 of *the Act* and Schedule 1A of the *Local Government (Governance & Integrity) Regulations 2020*, Council must implement and adopt an Internal Resolution Procedure by 1 July 2025, to be observed when dealing with alleged breaches of the Model Code of Conduct.
6. The Internal Resolution Procedure only applies to disputes in which a Councillor (the Complainant) alleges that another Councillor (the Respondent) has breached the Model Code of Conduct. The Internal Resolution Procedure does not relate to disputes between Council officers and Councillors.

## Key Issues and Discussion

7. The Governance, Legal and Risk Business Unit have utilised the Internal Resolution Procedure Template developed by Maddocks Lawyers in the proposed Internal Resolution Procedure – **option 1** (Attachment 1).
8. An Internal Resolution Procedure – **option 2** (Attachment 2) has also been provided for consideration by Council. Option 2 includes additional steps for external mediation and internal arbitration in accordance with *the Act* where a conciliation process has been performed and not been successful in resolving the dispute.
9. The proposed Internal Resolution Procedure – option 1 and option 2 for Greater Dandenong City Council have been created to ensure the process and procedures are lawful and based on best practice advice for the Victorian local government sector.
10. In accordance with section 150 of *the Act*, the Chief Executive Officer under an Instrument of Appointment and Authorised has appointed Nicole Rudden, Manager, Governance Legal and Risk as Councillor Conduct Officer to perform the relevant functions under *the Act*, should they arise.
11. The role of the Councillor Conduct Officer is to provide the Mayor with the administrative support necessary to arrange and conduct a conciliation between Councillors.

## Governance Compliance

### *Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)*

12. The information contained in this report and the processes contained in the Internal Resolution Procedure, are compatible with the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and do not raise any human rights issues.

### *Financial/Asset Resource Implications (consider Service Statements, Budget, Long Term Financial Strategy and Asset Plan)*

#### *Operating Budget Implications*

13. The financial implications of purchasing Maddocks template and preparing the Internal Dispute Resolution Procedure have been contained within Council's Operational Budget.
14. The maximum cost of \$3500 to engage an external mediator as provided for in option 2 section 5.3(b) has been contained within Council's Operational Budget.

#### *Asset Implications*

15. This item does not affect any existing assets.



### ***Legal/Risk Implications***

16. The Internal Resolution Procedure – option 1 has been prepared on a template acquired from Maddocks Lawyers.
17. The Internal Resolution Procedure – option 1 has been designed to minimise cost and disruption to Council and individual Councillors and, where possible, avoid disputes escalating and becoming the subject of formal or external arbitration.
18. It is acknowledged that the Internal Resolution Procedure will not be suitable for resolution of all disputes between Councillors.

### ***Environmental Implications***

19. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.

## **Community Consultation**

20. The Internal Resolution Procedure option 1 and option 2 relate solely to disputes between Councillors concerning an alleged breach of the Model Councillor Code of Conduct which has no direct impact on the Community, therefore no community consultation is required. Additionally, there is no legislative requirement for community consultation prior to the adoption of the Internal Resolution Procedure.

### **MINUTE No.128**

**Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad**

**Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso**

**That Council:**

- 1. APPROVES Option 1 for Internal Resolution Procedure as per Attachment 1 to this report; and**
- 2. NOTES that the Internal Resolution Procedure will be made available on Council's Website.**

**CARRIED 8 / 0**

**For - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Jim Memeti,  
Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong and Cr Melinda Yim.**

**Against - Nil.**

**Abstained - Cr Isabella Do and Cr Rhonda Garad.**



#### 4.1.4 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings

**Responsible Officer:** Manager Governance  
**Attachments:** Nil

#### Officer Recommendation

**That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the information contained in this report.**

#### Executive Summary

1. As part of Council's ongoing efforts to improve transparency in Council processes, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be of a confidential nature) are reported on at Council meetings.
2. The matters listed in this report were presented to Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings during the period 28 April – 19 May 2025.

#### Background

3. The Executive Team and associated staff at Greater Dandenong City Council host Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings on a regular basis (weekly) to inform Councillors about the work officers are undertaking, share information, obtain feedback and discuss strategies and options for current and future work.
4. To ensure transparency in this process, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be confidential under the *Local Government Act 2020*) are reported on at Council meetings. This report represents matters discussed at the Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council meetings during the period 28 April – 19 May 2025.

**Matters Presented for Discussion**

| <b>Item</b> |  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting</b> |
|-------------|--|--|
| <b>1</b>    | <b>General Discussion</b><br>Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Municipal Association of Victoria Housing Forum rescheduling;</li><li>b. Advice regarding a future Councillor Briefing item on rough sleeping;</li><li>c. Planned alteration to Council Meeting and Councillor Briefing Session schedule; and</li></ul> Agenda items for the Council meeting of 28 April 2025. | <b>Pre-Council Meeting (PCM) – 28 April 2025</b>       |
| <b>2</b>    | <b>Anti-Poverty Steering Committee</b><br>Members of the Anti-Poverty Steering Committee presented to Councillors on their strategy, objectives, highlights partnership projects.  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |
| <b>3</b>    | <b>Draft Council Plan and Annual Plan</b><br>Councillors were presented with the results of over 18 months of planning and community engagement activities to help develop the new Council Plan 2025-29 and Annual Plan.   | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |
| <b>4</b>    | <b>Integrated Planning Framework</b><br>Councillors were advised of the revised Integrated Planning Framework and updated on the Sustainability Team's intent to look at opportunities for consolidation of the multiple strategies and plans associated with climate change, environment and sustainability.  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |
| <b>5</b>    | <b>Net Zero Transition</b><br>Councillors were advised that Greater Dandenong City Council has reduced its CO2 emissions from 21,537 t-CO2 in 2019 to 3,978 t-CO2 in 2023, being an 82% reduction in emissions. Councillors were briefed on the further work and costs associated with becoming a net zero Council, and the options available to achieve this.   | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |
| <b>6</b>    | <b>Greater Dandenong Housing Strategy Action Plan</b><br>Councillor feedback and guidance was sought on the proposed draft Housing Strategy actions, including the Council owned sites proposed for a trial affordable/ social housing project, prior to officers finalising development of the strategy and action plan.  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |



| Item |  | Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting        |
|------|--|--|
| 7    | <b>Councillor Internal Resolution Procedure</b><br>Councillors were presented with the proposed Internal Resolution Procedure for Greater Dandenong City Council which has been created to ensure the process and procedures are lawful and based on best practice advice for the Victorian local government sector.   | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |
| 8    | <b>General Discussion</b><br>Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. The release of Council's Revenue and Rating Plan and Budget documents;</li><li>b. The release of Council's Asset plan; and</li></ul> Agenda items for the Council meeting of 12 May 2025.                                    | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 5 May 2025</b>  |
| 9    | <b>General Discussion</b><br>Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Dandenong Wellbeing Centre commencement of works;</li><li>d. Update on the demolition of the PEP building;</li><li>e. Recent event at Lois Twohig reserve; and</li></ul> Agenda items for the Council meeting of 12 May 2025 | <b>Pre-Council Meeting (PCM) – 12 May 2025</b>         |
| 10   | <b>Cultural Diversity Training</b><br>Councillors were presented with a training session on Cultural Diversity - this training forms part of Councillor ongoing Personal Development as required under the Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020.   | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 May 2025</b> |
| 11   | <b>Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong Contract Review 2025</b><br>Councillors were presented with a summary of the key findings and recommendations resulting from an end-of-service agreement review of agreed deliverables by the Interfaith Network of the City of Greater Dandenong.  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 May 2025</b> |
| 12   | <b>Council's Visual Identity</b><br>Councillors were updated on the proposed light evolution on Council logo as part of enhancing Council's visual identity.   | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 May 2025</b> |
| 13   | <b>Proposed Community Consultation Process – Thomas Street Precinct</b><br>Councillor feedback was sought on two proposed options for the community consultation approach regarding a potential marketing name for the Thomas Street area in Dandenong.  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 May 2025</b> |



| Item |   | Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting        |
|------|---|--|
| 14   | <b>Councillor Internal Resolution Procedure</b><br>Councillors further discussed the proposed internal resolution procedure. This report will be presented at a future Council Meeting for adoption.  | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 May 2025</b> |
| 15   | <b>General Discussion</b><br>Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. National Volunteers week celebrations;</li><li>b. Upcoming Planning reforms;</li><li>c. Emergency Services Levy; and</li></ul> Agenda items for the Council Meeting of 19 May 2025. | <b>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 May 2025</b> |

## Apologies

5. Councillors Lana Formoso, Rhonda Garad, Sean O'Reilly, Loi Troung, and Sophie Tan submitted apologies for the Pre-Council Meeting on 28 April 2025.
6. Councillor Lana Formoso submitted an apology for the Councillor Briefing Session on 5 May 2025.
7. Councillor Melinda Yim submitted an apology for the Pre-Council Meeting on 12 May 2025.
8. Councillor Phillip Danh submitted an apology for the Councillor Briefing Session on 19 May 2025.
9. Councillor Rhonda Garad was granted a leave of absence from 11 April 2025 until 5 May 2025 at the Council Meeting held 14 April 2025, Minute No. 99.

## Legislative and Policy Obligations

10. Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA2020) states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.
11. Reporting on matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings gives effect to the overarching governance principles (in particular, section 9(i) of the *Local Government Act 2020*) in that the transparency of Council actions and information is ensured.

### MINUTE No.129

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic

That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the information contained in this report.

CARRIED 10 / 0



#### 4.1.5 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

**Responsible Officer:** Manager Governance, Legal & Risk  
**Attachments:** 1. List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors [4.1.5.1 - 2 pages]

#### Officer Recommendation

**That the listed items for the period 5 May to 16 May 2025 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.**

#### Executive Summary

1. Subsequent to past Council resolutions in relation to the listing of registered incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 to this report provides a list of this correspondence for the period 5 May to 16 May 2025.

#### MINUTE No.130

**Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad**

**Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso**

**That the listed items for the period 5 May to 16 May 2025 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**





## 4.1.6 Draft Minutes of Advisory Committee Meetings

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Responsible Officer:</b> | Executive Director Community Strengthening  |
| <b>Attachments:</b>         | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Draft Minutes of Springvale Community Hub Committee Meeting 12 March 2025 [<b>4.1.6.1</b> - 3 pages]</li><li>2. Draft Minutes of Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting 20 March 2025 [<b>4.1.6.2</b> - 5 pages]</li><li>3. Draft Minutes of Disability Advisory Committee Meeting 7 April 2025 [<b>4.1.6.3</b> - 3 pages]</li><li>4. Draft Minutes of Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting 10 April 2025 [<b>4.1.6.4</b> - 3 pages]</li></ol> |

### Officer Recommendation

#### That Council NOTES:

- 1) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Springvale Community Hub Committee held on 12 March 2025 (Attachment 1);**
- 2) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee held on 20 March 2025 (Attachment 2);**
- 3) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Disability Advisory Committee held on 7 April 2025 (Attachment 3); and**
- 4) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Positive Ageing Advisory Committee held on 10 April 2025 (Attachment 4).**

### Executive Summary

1. At the Council meeting held 23 April 2018, Council resolved in part to *invite Advisory Committees and Reference Groups to submit meeting minutes for Council endorsement*. This resolution also allowed interested Councillors (and those that attend these Committees and Reference Groups) to speak to the meeting about items discussed at these meetings.
2. This report recommends that the Draft Minutes of the following Advisory Committees meetings be noted by Council:
  - a) Springvale Community Hub Committee held on 12 March 2025 (Attachment 1),
  - b) Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee held on 20 March 2025 (Attachment 2),
  - c) Disability Advisory Committee held on 7 April 2025 (Attachment 3), and
  - d) Positive Ageing Advisory Committee held on 10 April 2025 (Attachment 4).



## Background

3. Greater Dandenong Council is represented on a wide range of Committees, Reference Groups and Advisory Groups which frequently reflect the interests of individual Councillors in serving the broader community in their role. A full listing of these appointments is confirmed each November at Council's Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is available via Council's website.
4. The resolution of Council made on 23 April 2018 provides for Minutes of meetings held by Advisory Committees or Reference Groups to be submitted to Council for information purposes and for noting. To ensure they are provided to Council in a timely manner, Minutes of these Advisory Committees or Reference Groups are submitted to Council typically in a draft form (in that they have not yet been adopted by the relevant Committee). If significant material changes occur when they are adopted by the Advisory Committee or Reference Group, then those particular Minutes would then be resubmitted to Council for noting.
5. As such, Draft Minutes are provided as attachments to this report.
6. There are no financial implications associated with the development and submission of this report.

## Links to Community Vision and Council Plan

7. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
  - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
  - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
  - Mind, body and spirit.
  - Art and culture.
8. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan
9. 2021-25:
  - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
  - A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
  - A city of accessible, vibrant centres and neighbourhoods.
  - A city that supports entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes.

## Legislative and Policy Obligations

10. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
  - The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
  - *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities* 2006.
  - Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.



**MINUTE No.131**

**Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad**

**Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim**

**That Council NOTES:**

- 1) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Springvale Community Hub Committee held on 12 March 2025 (Attachment 1);**
- 2) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee held on 20 March 2025 (Attachment 2);**
- 3) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Disability Advisory Committee held on 7 April 2025 (Attachment 3); and**
- 4) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Positive Ageing Advisory Committee held on 10 April 2025 (Attachment 4).**

**CARRIED 10 / 0**



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## 5 NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.



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## 6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

### Question

**Cr Bob Milkovic**

At Tirhatuan Park, Dandenong North there is a bike trail around the creek. On that trail there is a tight corner that cannot be widened. The foliage interrupts the view of the cyclists and pedestrians. There are mothers with young children in prams walking around and it is dangerous at speed on a bike. I know the foliage can be cleared, but can we look at putting warning signs or mirrors for the cyclists? Some of them go at high speed.

### Response

**Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

We will investigate and explore options to improve the safety of that location.

### Question

**Cr Phillip Danh**

There is some cracked pavement outside the Noble Park Aquatic Centre. I will provide some images so that gets attended to.

**This question was noted for further action.**

### Question

**Cr Phillip Danh**

At the Ross Reserve Athletics track, over the past month and throughout June, there will be extended hours with the lights being on. What kind of processes are in place to capture the data? Have we noticed certain periods being busier than others? Will this be something that will be kept long-term, or is this just a one-off experiment?

### Response

**Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

We are four weeks into a two-month pilot period. So far, we have had mixed feedback, more positive than negative. The intention is that this is a pilot. We are capturing feedback and will do consultation in the surrounding area, specifically at the end of the pilot also. Then we will look at how and where we can potentially roll that out more broadly across the municipality.

As part of evaluating where else might be appropriate, we also need to evaluate the related processing costs in terms of the actual lights themselves and their mechanisms to be auto-turned on and off at certain times. We are going to run that pilot for another four weeks, obtain more specific feedback from users and local residents, and then look at how we can potentially roll it out more broadly.

### Comment

**Cr Loi Truong**

On Monday 26 May 2025, I attended the 17th anniversary of the Vietnamese Freedom Day Club.



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### **Comment**

#### **Cr Alice Phuong Le**

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Tuesday 20 May 2025, I attended the National Volunteer Week Celebration for Council volunteers.
- On Sunday 25 May 2025, I attended the SEMVAC Volunteer Week Celebration.
- I fundraised for Monash Children's Hospital at Crown Casino.
- On Monday 26 May 2025, I attended the 17th anniversary of the Vietnamese Freedom Day Club.

### **Comment**

#### **Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor**

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Thursday 15 May 2025, I attended the launch of Frank Street in Noble Park.
- On Friday 16 May 2025, I attended the Monash Children's Hospital Shine Gala 2025 with the Mayor and many Councillors.
- On Saturday 17 May 2025, I attended the flag-raising ceremony with the Vietnamese community in South Vietnam, celebrating their 50th anniversary in Australia.
- On the same day, I attended the Wellspring fundraising event. I want to congratulate Wellspring for their work supporting vulnerable women in Greater Dandenong.
- On Tuesday 20 May 2025, I attended the National Volunteer Week high tea. Thank you to our directors, staff, and volunteers for their dedication.
- On Wednesday 21 May 2025, I attended the Mayoral Task Force Supporting Asylum Seekers meeting online.
- On the same day, I attended the Citizenship ceremony, welcoming 150 new citizens to Greater Dandenong.

### **Question**

#### **Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor**

There have been issues regarding antisocial behaviour at Noble Park Activity Centre, especially in front of Coles. There have been regular incidents, and residents do not feel safe shopping there. Can the relevant officer work closely with VicPol to get regular patrols around that area to support the shop owners and residents?

### **Response**

#### **Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

I acknowledge this has been an ongoing challenge. We do have officers out in that area regularly, and we are in discussion with VicPol about it. It is difficult, as we do not have move-on powers to move people on. We will continue to work with VicPol, and I encourage residents to continue reporting incidents.



### Question

#### **Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor**

The President of the Noble Park Community Centre has done a great job raising \$20,000 to fix the kitchen. They help many people, especially the homeless, by cooking meals every Tuesday. However, they need more volunteers. Can Council help with getting volunteers to support them?

### Response

#### **Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening**

The Greater Dandenong Volunteer Resource Service, supported by Council, can help organisations understand their volunteer needs and find volunteers. Our internal volunteer team at Council would also be happy to assist.

### Comment

#### **Cr Lana Formoso**

Today is National Sorry Day, which is a deeply important day in Australia's journey towards healing and unity. It marks the anniversary of the *1997 Bringing Them Home Report*, which documented the forced removal of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children from their families, known as the Stolen Generation. This day is a time to acknowledge the immense pain and trauma caused by past government policies and to Honor the strength, resilience, and ongoing struggle of First Nations people. I would like to thank our team for lighting up the Drum Theatre this evening and this week for Reconciliation Week.

I attended the Annual Bendigo Bank Dingley Village grant evening. I want to say a heartfelt thank you to Bendigo Bank Dingley Village for their positive impact on our community.

I attended the South East Leisure May Board meeting, where City Future's Senior Project Manager presented the Wellbeing Centre video.

I attended the Monash Children's Hospital Shine Gala with many Councillors.

### Question

#### **Cr Lana Formoso**

I can finally announce that the Coolavin Road, Noble Park calming devices have been installed. Thank you to our team for getting that done. There has already been some damage done, which shows it is working. Can I get an update on when the repairs will occur?

### Response

#### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

The officers are aware of the damage and in the process of sourcing the material. The repairs could happen over the next couple of weeks.





## **Comment**

### **Cr Melinda Yim**

On Sunday 3 May 2025, I attended the 2025 commemoration of the United Nations Day of Vesak, also known as Buddha Day, commemorating the birth, enlightenment, and nirvana of the Buddha.

## **Question**

### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

Firstly, I would like to thank the Council for a great outcome. Last year, we talked about an elderly gentleman who found the nature strip tree had landed on his house, taking out his power and internet. It cost him \$900. He is an underinsured pensioner, and his excess was greater than that, so he could not claim it on his insurance. Because he could not do that, he could not claim it back from the Council because the Council's policy was that only the insurer could be reimbursed if fault was found. However, the Council has reimbursed this resident, and he is very grateful. I am curious to know how that happened. Have we changed our policy so that we are not discriminating against people who are underinsured?

## **Response**

### **Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Question taken on notice.

## **Question**

### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

I want to congratulate the Greater Dandenong Environment Group, who are currently undertaking a nature strip project where they are planting native plants on various nature strips to increase biodiversity and create butterfly, bee, and insect corridors throughout Dandenong. On the weekend, while we were doing that, we came across Elray Street, Dandenong. The residents informed us that water has been running down the middle of the street for up to twelve months. They have been repeatedly ringing South East Water. When I rang South East Water on the weekend, they told me they were waiting on the Council for authority. Can you clarify what they are waiting on, what the holdup is, and can we get this water turned off quickly?

## **Response**

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

I am surprised to hear that South East Water is waiting for our approval because under the *Utility Act 2000*, they have more powers than Council. They can do any works without Council permission. According to the South East Water Network interruptions, emergency works were undertaken following an issue raised on the 6 May 2025, and all those works are completed. We will follow up with South East Water, but we do not have any requests from them on this matter. We only got to know through your questions and a merit request from the resident this morning.

## **Question**

### **Cr Rhonda Garad**

My thoughts go out to the people in New South Wales who are struggling with the floods. I understand 11 Local Government Authorities have been greatly affected. Subsequently, the insurance sector has called on local governments to speed up their flood mapping work, with an average per Council of ten years to complete that work. I know we started our work last year. Can we get an update on when we can expect our flood maps to be updated?



## **Response**

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Council is closely working with Melbourne Water and the Department of Transport and Planning to fast-track that. I do not have the exact dates. The next stage which is the consultation process and planning scheme amendment would be later this year, around September to December. I will provide you with further clarification.

## **Comment**

### **Cr Isabella Do**

I attended the Wellsprings for Women fundraising event at my alma mater, Killester College.

I would like to remind residents that the Best Bidding Gardens in Dandenong West on Cadle Street, near Dandenong train station, is offering membership and gardening plots at an affordable price. I recommend residents who live nearby to take up this opportunity to participate.

## **Question**

### **Cr Isabella Do**

I recently attended our monthly Eastern Transport Coalition meeting. It reminded me that I have not yet been invited to any meetings for the Community Safety Advisory Committee and the Sustainability Advisory Committee. Can you please advise when we are planning to have these meetings?

## **Response**

### **Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Those advisory committees are currently under review. I will advise the dates and next steps.

## **Question**

### **Cr Isabella Do**

Can you please confirm if we have a policy requiring Councillors to document all contact with developers and planning applicants? I understand other Councils have a policy where all meetings with developers and proponents should have an officer present, but I do not believe we have this policy in place.

## **Response**

### **Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy**

Question taken on notice.



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## **Comment**

### **Cr Jim Memeti, Mayor**

I have attended the following events over the past few weeks:

- On Tuesday 13 May 2025, I attended the Mother's Day celebration hosted by the Mauritian Golden Age Club.
- On Wednesday 14 May 2025, I had a meeting regarding a philanthropic opportunity with Margo Hartley.
- On Thursday 15 May 2025, I attended the Frank Street Open Space Launch in Noble Park.
- On Friday 16 May 2025, I attended the Monash Children's Hospital Shine Gala Dinner.
- On Saturday 17 May 2025, I attended the flag raising ceremony hosted by the Vietnamese Community in Australia.
- On Sunday 18 May 2025, I attended the Grand Opening of Naan Garm Bakery in Dandenong, the Hazara World Culture Day in Harmony Square and the Hazara Culture Day 2025 in Dandenong South.
- On Tuesday 20 May 2025, I attended the National Volunteer Week celebration for Council volunteers.
- On Wednesday 21 May 2025, I presided over the Citizenship Ceremony.
- On Friday 23 May 2025, I attended a meeting with the Chinese Consulate General Fang Xinwen.
- On Monday 26 May 2025, I attended the Vietnamese Freedom Day Club celebration.

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**Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Acting Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.**

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### COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question  | Responsible Officer  | Date of Completion | Summary of Response  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|--|--------------------|--|
| 28/04/25<br>CQT1        | Cr Lana Formoso   | <b>Letter to Uncle Mark Brown</b><br>There was disrespectful booing of Uncle Mark Brown during the Welcome to Country at Anzac Day ceremony at the Shrine of Remembrance. Can Mayor Jim Memeti write a letter of support to Uncle Mark Brown on behalf of Council?       | Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy/ Mayors Office |                    | <b>Initial response provided 28/04/2025:</b><br>Yes, I can do that.<br><br><b>FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</b>  |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT2        | Cr Rhonda Garad   | <b>Missing trees on Grace Avenue</b><br>The next question regarding missing trees in Grace Avenue, Dandenong. We now have up to ten missing trees in Grace Avenue. Just wondering why that is the case, and if there is a remedy plan or action plan around this matter. | Executive Director City Futures                              | 21/05/2025         | <b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br>I am not aware of the background, but I am happy to follow it up with the teams and provide you an update.<br><br><b>Further response provided 21/05/2025:</b><br>Several street trees within Grace Avenue have been identified for removal through Council's two-year street tree inspection and pruning program. All vacant nature strips within Grace Avenue have been assessed for potential tree replacement and planting. Unfortunately, only five nature strips have been deemed suitable for tree planting due to constraints relating to the location of above and below ground services and surrounding infrastructure.<br><br>The five replacement street trees are scheduled to be planted across the 2025 and 2026 planting seasons. All new street tree plantings are maintained for a period of two years, which includes regular watering over the warmer months to ensure successful establishment.<br><br><b>COMPLETED</b> |



| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question   | Responsible Officer                           | Date of Completion | Summary of Response  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---|--------------------|--|
| 12/05/25<br>CQT4        | Cr Sean O'Reily   | <b>Lights failure at Springvale North Tennis Club</b><br>The Springvale North Tennis Club has reported that lighting on Courts 3 and 4 has failed, with an electrician identifying either an underground cabling fault or an issue at the top of the poles—both requiring a cherry picker for further investigation. Officers have advised the club that due to no remaining funds in this financial year's budget, no further action can be taken at this time. Given that this is a maintenance issue affecting a council facility and the courts are unusable during peak winter demand, can officers confirm: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whether maintenance funding—typically provided through the recurrent budget—should cover such works;</li> <li>Whether there are any immediate options to resolve the issue within current maintenance allocations, or through other sources such as reactive/emergency maintenance.</li> </ol> | Executive Director<br>Community Strengthening | 26/05/2025         | <b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br>I can confirm that we do have enough maintenance budget to cover all of our maintenance activities. However, my understanding with this matter is that it is beyond maintenance, as those lights are coming to the end of their life. We need to replace the entire light system for courts three and four, which falls into a capital works program. We understand it is necessary during winter, and we have asked our teams to work together to come up with a solution so we can replace the lights sooner rather than later.<br><br><b>Further response provided 26/05/2025:</b><br>Clarification has been sought and identified that there are faults with cabling for the lights and under the tennis court surface. Further investigation is required before a solution can be determined, which Council will continue to explore. Considering the age of the assets and that the condition is very poor, it is no longer seen as a maintenance response and instead a capital renewal. Detailed design documentation has been developed for the redevelopment of the tennis courts, across a two-year (two stage) program involving the replacement of the courts, lighting and supporting infrastructure. It is proposed, subject to Council budget approval, that one of the two stages could occur in 2026/27, with the remaining stage to be completed at some stage in the future.<br><br><b>COMPLETED</b> |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT5        | Cr Lana Formoso   | <b>Excess pigeons at a Noble Park North property</b><br>A Noble Park North resident has contacted me regarding an ongoing three-year issue with a neighbouring  | Executive Director<br>Community Strengthening | 26/05/2025         | <b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br>Thank you for bringing that to my attention. If you could send through the details including the Merit number for those complaints, I will follow up and arrange for the resident to be contacted.   |

Reports from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

2 / 7



| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question  | Responsible Officer                           | Date of Completion | Summary of Response  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--------------------|--|
|                         |                   | <p>property housing over one hundred pigeons, along with a barking dog, chickens, and a rooster. Despite multiple complaints, the situation continues to cause distress to that resident. The pigeons are creating significant problems including bird droppings on the resident's roof, backyard and laundry, plus an increase in rodents. This is particularly concerning as the resident's elderly mother has respiratory problems.</p> <p>Rangers have previously advised this resident that the neighbour has a permit which allows excess pigeons to be kept, and the neighbour maintains a clean cage. However, our policy states that animals must not cause a nuisance to neighbours. The resident and other neighbours are now considering a petition. Could the relevant officer please respond to this matter urgently and contact this distressed resident?</p> |   |                    | <p><b>Further response provided 26/05/2025:</b><br/>Details of the permit application process are available on Council's website. While neighbour feedback is sought as part of the assessment process, it is not a statutory requirement that all adjoining neighbours provide consent for a permit to be valid. Council officers assess each application on its merits, considering amenity impacts, compliance history, and site suitability. In terms of the permit for this location, your objection was certainly noted and considered, however amongst all of the factors taken into account, was not considered valid grounds to deny the permit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p> |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT6        | Cr Lana Formoso   | <p><b>Approval process of excess animal permit</b><br/>How does this permit system work? Do you not need to have a majority of your neighbours agreeing to having such an abundant number of pigeons in the area?</p>  | Executive Director<br>Community Strengthening | 26/05/2025         | <p><b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br/>We often find that with some of our residents, there are two sides to the story. I think it would be better to take this offline. We will investigate the property concerned and then have a discussion about it.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 26/05/2025:</b><br/>Details of the permit application process are available on Council's website. While neighbour feedback is sought as part of the assessment process, it is not a statutory requirement that all adjoining neighbours provide consent for a permit to be valid. Council officers assess each</p>   |

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| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question  | Responsible Officer             | Date of Completion | Summary of Response  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|
|                         |                   |  |                                 |                    | <p>application on its merits, considering amenity impacts, compliance history, and site suitability. In terms of the permit for this location, your objection was certainly noted and considered, however amongst all of the factors taken into account, was not considered valid grounds to deny the permit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p>   |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT7        | Cr Lana Formoso   | <p><b>Timeframe for the repair work for Coolavin Road playground</b></p> <p>The other matter I have is in relation to Coolavin Road playground, which I have just been informed by a resident has been severely damaged and burnt by hooligans. It has recently just been fenced off. I wish to know what the outcome of this is, and when the repairs will occur.</p> <p>Is Council aware of this incident that has occurred? I knew nothing about it as the ward Councillor.</p> | Executive Director City Futures | 21/05/2025         | <p><b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b></p> <p>Thank you for bringing that to my attention. If you could send through the details including the Merit number for those complaints, I will follow up and arrange for the resident to be contacted.</p> <p>We do not report on every insurance matter that happens in every ward, but I am not aware of it either. The teams will normally manage these issues. They will go through a process to replace the equipment.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 21/05/2025:</b></p> <p>A section of the playground combination unit was set on fire by vandals on 5 May 2025. The playground was immediately fenced off and signed to protect the community. Council Officers are currently working closely with the playground manufacturer for supply of the replacement parts. Unfortunately, there's a delay with the manufacturing and supply of the required parts. Sections of the damaged playground will be removed within the next two weeks in order to re-open the play space. We anticipate the play equipment will be supplied within the next four to eight weeks. Once received the equipment will be installed immediately.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p> |

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| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question  | Responsible Officer             | Date of Completion | Summary of Response   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|---|
| 12/05/25<br>CQT8        | Cr Lana Formoso   | <b>Update for the upgrade work targeting hooning on Coolavin Road</b><br>I have previously raised concerns about Coolvain Road regarding hooning. What is happening with the upgrades regarding the devices we planned to put in place in relation to the hooning? My understanding is that it was meant to occur in April.  | Executive Director City Futures | 21/05/2025         | <p><b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br/>I need to follow up with my team to understand that time frame for this specific project.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 21/05/2025:</b><br/>The traffic islands to deter high speeds and hooning on Coolavin Road were installed in February this year.</p> <p>We have not received significant feedback from the community regarding the installation. The only feedback received to date has been:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One neighbouring resident, who did not support the installation as they believed it was a waste of money, reiterated their opinion following installation</li> <li>The residents who requested the island provided footage of a Ventura bus taking the corner at too high a speed and damaging the signage on the island around one week post installation</li> </ul> <p>Coolavin Road is not a bus route, so we are unsure why the route bus was at this location or travelling at such speed. We do not anticipate that this will be an ongoing issue.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p> |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT9        | Cr Lana Formoso   | <b>Damage to concrete pillars on Browns Road and timeframe for replacement</b><br>In October 2024, a truck demolished concrete pillars on Browns Road that were installed with our \$400,000 federal Black Spot funding to prevent truck traffic issues. A resident followed the truck, identified the company, and reported this to Council. Have we contacted the company responsible to | Executive Director City Futures | 19/05/2025         | <p><b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br/>I need to follow it up with my team for the details, and I am happy to provide an update.</p> <p><b>Further response provided 19/05/2025:</b><br/>Councils traffic engineers met with the residents located at the affected property this week to discuss the matter and followed this up with an e-mail to confirm the next steps (attached for your reference).</p>   |

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| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question  | Responsible Officer                           | Date of Completion | Summary of Response   |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--|---|--------------------|---|
|                         |                   | seek reimbursement for the damage rather than having ratepayers bear the cost? When will these protective pillars be replaced? The residents are extremely distressed as this issue has been ongoing since October last year.  |   |                    | <p>Due to repeated damage to barriers and bollards in place at this location, Councils engineers are looking at some further design changes at the roundabout to improve this location going forward. We anticipate this design process to take two weeks and delivery of works to commence shortly after. The residents will be kept informed of and be provided further opportunity to comment on the changes.</p> <p>Once the direction has been confirmed and quotes for replacement bollards obtained, this will enable Council to progress its insurance claim for costs associated with the damage in October, utilising the information provided by residents.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><b>COMPLETED</b></p> |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT10       | Cr Lana Formoso   | <p><b>Letters to local MPs for congratulations and promised project delivery</b></p> <p>Following the recent landslide federal election results, have we begun the process of writing to our local MPs regarding their promised projects to ensure prompt implementation? Our community urgently needs these projects. Could we also potentially add additional requests, particularly for Noble Park North?</p> | Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy |                    | <p><b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b></p> <p>The draft letters are being prepared. We were waiting for the result of the Cabinet reshuffle. As we write the congratulations letter, we can also target the needs to the relevant MPs. We will finalise the letters with the Mayor. We will have the state budget and the state election next year, and we will prepare for that as well.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</b></p>  |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT11       | Cr Lana Formoso   | <p><b>Timeline on demolition of Hennessy Scout Hall</b></p> <p>Could I please have an update on the Hennessy Scout Hall demolition timeline? The building has become an eyesore with significant illegal dumping occurring in the area. When I contacted the Bakhtar Community several weeks</p>   | Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy |                    | <p><b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b></p> <p>This is an item that we are working on with the team, and we will update Councillors during the next few weeks on the next action on that property and the demolition.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED</b></p>   |

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| Date of Council Meeting | Question Asked By | Subject & Summary of Question   | Responsible Officer             | Date of Completion | Summary of Response  |
|-------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------------------------|--------------------|--|
|                         |                   | ago about residents wanting to donate goods, they informed me they are no longer accepting donations at that facility. Where are we in the process of demolishing this building?  |                                 |                    |  |
| 12/05/25<br>CQT13       | Cr Lana Formoso   | <b>Removal of a burnt tree in Easterleigh Court</b><br>I have reported several times through Snap Send Solve about a severely burnt tree in Easterleigh Court, Dandenong that appears to be dead and is causing concern for local residents. I noticed this tree is not included in our tree removal inventory despite its condition. Could I please have an update on this matter? | Executive Director City Futures | 21/05/2025         | <b>Initial response provided 12/05/2025:</b><br>We receive around 40,000 Merits every year and we work through them periodically. The tree planting season starts this May to October, and we might look at replacing that during this period. I will work with the teams to find that Merit.<br><br><b>Further response provided 21/05/2025:</b><br>The nature strip tree located in Easterleigh Court has been inspected on a number of occasion by a Council Arborist. The tree at present has been assed as poor health and fair structure due to the impact of the fire. The tree currently poses a low risk to the community. The tree is showing signs of recovery. We will continue to monitor the health and condition of the tree over the next 6 months.<br><br>The next inspection has been scheduled after Spring in the first week in December 2025.<br><br><b>COMPLETED</b> |



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## **7 URGENT BUSINESS**

No urgent business was considered.



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## 8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

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Signature