

A photograph of the Dandenong Civic Centre, a large, ornate, light-colored stone building with a prominent clock tower. The clock tower has two large clock faces and is topped with a decorative iron structure. A tall flagpole stands in front of the building, flying the Australian flag. To the left of the flagpole, there are two more flags: the Dandenong Shire flag and the Aboriginal flag. The building has a red-tiled roof and arched windows. The sky is blue with some clouds. A green diagonal banner is overlaid on the bottom left of the image.

Minutes

Council Meeting

Monday 11 August 2025, 7:00 pm

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

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



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 2025-29 (Council Plan 2025-29 | 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 places*
- *A green city committed to a sustainable future*
- *A city that supports business, entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes*
- *A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, 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.



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.



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.



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Acknowledging
Bunurong Country

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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 OPENING OF MEETING BY CHAIR

Cr Sophie Tan opened the Meeting at 7.00pm.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Jim Memeti (LoA).

Councillors Present

Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor (Chair)
Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Isabella Do, Cr Lana Formoso (remote), Cr Rhonda Garad,
Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Loi Truong, Cr Melinda Yim.

Officers Present

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer; Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures; 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.



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 standing as Cr Rhonda Garad read the following:

"We come together in the spirit of service, unity, and respect—committed to making decisions that honour our community, uphold fairness, and work toward a better future for all."

VALE LEON TREMBATH

Cr Sophie Tan read the following:

"On behalf of the City of Greater Dandenong Council, I would like to pay my tribute to Cr. Leon Trembath, a former Councillor and Mayor of Springvale Council. Leon passed away peacefully on the 31st of July 2025, at the aged of 83, after a long illness."

Leon's life was defined by service—to his family, his community, and the environment. As a professional firefighter, he protected lives. He served as a Springvale councillor from 1975-'87, including as mayor in 1979-'80, he shaped policies that protected nature and uplifted people."

He was a visionary well ahead of his time. In the 1960s, Leon wrote passionately about native plants in the Dandenong Journal, long before environmentalism became mainstream. He led the planting of native trees from every Australian state in Roth Hetherington Reserve, and fought to preserve bushland at Alex Wilkie Reserve—now a proud educational site for future generations."

Leon's legacy lives on in the Leon Trembath Reserve in Noble Park, in the thriving bushland he fought to protect, and in the countless lives he touched. His thoughtful presence, quiet strength, and unwavering care for the natural world will be deeply missed. I now invite you to join me in observing a minute's silence in his memory."



1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 28 July 2025.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 28 July 2025 be confirmed.

MINUTE No.177

Moved by: Cr Melinda Yim

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 28 July 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 10 / 0

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Bob Milkovic disclosed a direct material conflict of interest of a non-pecuniary nature (s 128 of the *Local Government Act 2020*) in 4.3.3 Leave of Absence - Cr Bob Milkovic as it is his own leave of absence request. Cr Bob Milkovic left the Chamber prior to discussion and voting on this item.



2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. Petitions & Joint Letters [2.1.1.1 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

Executive Summary

1. Council receives a number of petitions and joint letters on a regular basis that deal with a variety of issues which have an impact upon the City.
2. Issues raised by petitions and joint letters will be investigated and reported back to Council if required.
3. A table containing all details relevant to current petitions and joint letters is provided in Attachment 1. It includes:
 - a) the full text of any petitions or joint letters received;
 - b) petitions or joint letters still being considered for Council response as pending a final response along with the date they were received; and
 - c) the final complete response to any outstanding petition or joint letter previously tabled along with the full text of the original petition or joint letter and the date it was responded to.

Petitions and Joint Letters Tabled

4. Council received one (1) new petition and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 11 August 2025.
 - Council has received a Change.org petition signed by 390 residents requesting a pedestrian crossing in Keysborough. This petition has been referred to the appropriate Council Business unit for further action.

Note: Where relevant, a summary of the progress of ongoing change.org petitions and any other relevant petitions/joint letters/submissions will be provided in the attachment to this report.

MINUTE No.178

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

CARRIED 10 / 0



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question

Nika Sam, McKinnon

The recent conflict between Thailand and Cambodia has deeply affected me. The displacement of people along the border, the killings, and the detainment of Cambodian soldiers has been heartbreaking. They are rallying for peace, and as Cambodians around the world, we are appealing to governments—especially the Australian Government—to help bring peace and ensure that the Thai Government abides by international law, as outlined in the Court of Justice rulings of 1962 and again in 2011 and 2013.

What is going to happen to the 18 Cambodian soldiers currently detained in Thailand? To my understanding, they have not broken any laws. Why have they been detained, and what are the repercussions of the Thai military's actions, including the destruction of ancient Cambodian heritage sites? Will Thailand be held accountable for reconstruction?

What can be done to ensure Thailand adheres to the agreements in place? They continue to breach these agreements and encroach upon Cambodian territory. Lastly, with your support, what can I do to help Cambodia and the Cambodian people? If it means addressing Parliament or contacting the Prime Minister, I am ready to do so.

Response

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer

Council has heard your concerns and will be considering a Notice of Motion later this evening regarding the matters you have raised. I hope you will be satisfied with the outcome. Your advocacy tonight is already a significant contribution. After the meeting, I am confident that several Councillors—who are experienced in political advocacy—will be happy to speak with you and offer guidance on how you can continue your efforts.

Question

Youhorn Chea, Springvale

I would like to raise a few concerns on behalf of the Cambodian community, who are currently feeling distressed and frustrated due to the ongoing conflict at the Thai-Cambodian border. Many lives have been lost, and the situation remains dire. We have organised fundraising efforts to support those affected, but the funds raised are not sufficient. Therefore, I respectfully request that the City of Greater Dandenong write a letter to the Prime Minister, urging the Australian Government to provide aid to the Cambodian people who have fled the conflict. Over 10,000 individuals have escaped from the border region and are now displaced, living in towns without proper shelter.

Additionally, many Cambodian refugees have fled to Thailand. These individuals are recognised by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), but life in Thailand is extremely difficult for them. As someone who arrived in Australia as a refugee in 1982, I can attest to the hardships faced in refugee camps. The Thai military often mistreats refugees, and many live in fear. Currently, there are over 100 to 200 Cambodian refugees in Thailand. I urge the Australian Government to consider allowing these individuals to resettle in Australia, as was done in the past. If they remain in Thailand, I fear they will face further harm or even death.



Response

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer

Council has included six resolutions in the Notice of Motion under Item 5.1. Based on your request, Councillors may consider adding the Prime Minister to the list of recipients, alongside the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Your suggestion regarding the resettlement of Cambodian refugees will also be taken into account during the discussion of the Notice of Motion.

Question

Thaihorn Yim, Dandenong

Given the current situation, I respectfully request that Council:

1. Use the strongest possible terms to condemn the actions of the Thai military, particularly the violence and torture of Cambodian civilians and monks along the border.
2. Advocate for the protection of human rights and adherence to international law, especially in relation to the 18 Cambodian soldiers who were captured after a ceasefire agreement was signed. One soldier has reportedly been killed, and the others are allegedly being tortured.
3. Condemn the use of cluster bombs and the destruction of UNESCO heritage sites in Cambodia.
4. Write to the Prime Minister and all local Members of Parliament to raise these concerns and make a public statement of support for the Cambodian people.
5. Engage with local media to raise awareness and provide support services to the Cambodian community in Greater Dandenong, particularly for elderly residents who may be affected by these events.

Response

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer

Council has heard your concerns, and we acknowledge the sincerity and depth of your commitment. We have noted your request for Council to write to the Prime Minister and all Members of Parliament in the strongest possible terms. These matters will be considered during the discussion of the Notice of Motion shortly.

Question

Janalli Barty, Collingwood

With councils recent works on the Pillars of Freedom memorial in Dandenong, Council decided not to install a First Nations flag beside the Australian flag at this site.

As a proud First Nations person I feel attacked by Council for their continued view that it is still ok to be racist by not showing the same respect to First Nations people by not including their flag at this site beside the Australian flag. I ask Council as these actions is clearly an attack towards First Nations people in your area why after receiving funding that Council continued to not to install a First Nations flag at this site?

Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy

In 2024, Council received a \$9860.00 grant from the Victorian State Government to assess rejuvenation works required for the Pillars of Freedom, located on the corner of Lonsdale and Clow Street. This work was to assess required non-structural repairs, cleaning, and minor safety repairs.

In accordance with Council's Flag policy, the flag poles located at the Pillars of Freedom are maintained by the RSL. The flags did not form part of the rejuvenation works. Council is happy to pass this request to the RSL for consideration as part of their Flag Protocol.



Question

Janalli Barty, Collingwood

With the Webster Street level crossing removal, the Labor Government has decided to close off Webster Street 12 months before the new Cheltenham Road underpass is completed. This will redirect 10,000 cars a day onto Walker Street in central Dandenong causing traffic chaos in central Dandenong.

Can Council name what specific plans does Council have to combat this traffic nightmare in central Dandenong during these 12 months?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

The Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) is working with Council and the Department of Transport and Planning to manage the traffic impacts of the project.

This includes advance withing signage well before Dandenong to avoid congestion with the Dandenong CBD, and traffic signal changes at a number of locations.

We anticipate there may be a short period of increased congestion until motorists adapt to the changed conditions. LXRP will be responsible for monitoring and making changes if required in consultation with road managers.

Question

Janalli Barty, Collingwood

With the Webster Street level crossing removal, many advanced trees have been removed. Many new trees will be planted but these trees will take many decades to give native birds any habitat for homes. Other councils have installed bird houses in other trees to combat this issue.

Why has Greater Dandenong Council not done this?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Council is working with the Level Crossing Removal Project to ensure positive environmental outcomes from the project, including retaining trees wherever possible.

Council has assisted the project with new vegetation planting along the creek corridor. We will continue to work with them to explore further habitat impact mitigation options for wildlife along this corridor as the project progresses.



4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 PROCUREMENT

4.1.1 2425-23 Perry Rd Upgrade - Stage 3 - Atlantic Drive to Pillars Road, Keysborough

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - 2425-23 Perry Road Reconstructon - Stage 3 - Evaluation Matrix [4.1.1.1 - 1 page]2. CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Business Profile - All Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd [4.1.1.2 - 1 page]

Purpose

1. To seek approval to award Contract No. 2425-23 for the Perry Rd Reconstruction – Stage 3 to All-Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd trading as AWS Civil ABN: 48 079 889 142.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **AWARDS** Contract No. 2425-23 for the Perry Road Upgrade (Stage 3) to All-Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd trading as AWS Civil (ABN: 48 079 889 142) for a fixed lump sum price of Three Million, Six Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand, Five Hundred & One Dollars and Twenty Seven Cents (\$3,682,501.27) including GST of \$334,772.84 and including a Provisional sum of (\$476,355.82 including GST) for specific items detailed on the project Bill of Quantities lump sum price breakdown (Civil and Landscape works); and
2. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements and any associated documentation.

Executive Summary

3. This report recommends that Council awards Contract 2425-23 to All-Waste Pumping Solutions trading as a AWS Civil ABN: 48 079 889 142 for a fixed lump sum price of Three Million, Six Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand, Five Hundred & One Dollars and Twenty Seven Cents (\$3,682,501.27) including GST of \$334,772.84.
4. This is a lump sum contract and not subject to rise and fall.

Background

5. This Contract is for the construction of approximately a one (1) kilometre section of Perry Road between Atlantic Drive and Pillars Road Keysborough in accordance with the requirements of the Dandenong Industrial Area Extension Developer Contribution Plan (DCP). This includes road pavement reconstruction, widening, drainage, guard rail installation, streetlights, shared user paths and landscaping as per supplied design and specification.
6. Completing this project will create a safer road environment for motorists, pedestrians, residents and businesses. It will enhance the aesthetic appearance of the locality by implementing the landscaping component of the project.



Tender Process

7. This tender was advertised in The Age Newspaper and on Council's e-tendering platform on Saturday 10 May 2025 and at the close of tenders at 2.00PM Thursday 12 June 2025, seven (7) tender submissions were received as follows:
- All-Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd trading as AWS Civil – ABN 48 079 889 142
 - Bayport Civil Pty Ltd – ABN 82 128 854 124
 - The Trustee For Blue Peak Constructions Family Trust trading as Blue Peak Constructions – ABN 88 660 064 079
 - Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd – ABN 54 000 538 689
 - Parkinson Group (Vic) Pty Ltd – ABN 58 168 742 925
 - Unyte Southern Pty Ltd – ABN 94 626 334 745
 - Winslow Infrastructure Pty Ltd – ABN 72 119 092 385
8. Tenderers were requested to provide a lump sum price breakdown on the separate Schedule of Items form including a pricing breakdown for both Civil and Landscaping works and pricing for Provisional items.
9. Tenderers were also required to be registered with Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance) prior to the tender closing date at risk level one (1).

Tender Evaluation

10. The tender evaluation panel comprised Council's Coordinator Civil Projects, Senior Project Manager, Coordinator Transport and Procurement Officer.
11. Tenders were evaluated using Council's Weighted Attributed Value Selection Method. The advertised evaluation criteria and the allocated weightings for evaluation are as follows:

	Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
1	Price	35%
2	Demonstrated Experience in providing cost effective Engineering solutions for Civil Works	15%
3	Landscaping Experience – Similar Works	10%
4	Capability	10%
5	Quality of Management and Supervision	5%
6	Traffic Management	10%
7	Local Industry	5%
8	Social Procurement	5%
9	Environmental	5%
10	OH&S Systems (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail
11	Environmental System (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail

12. The Evaluation Criteria 1- 9 are given a point score between 0 (Not Acceptable) and 5 (Excellent) as detailed in the following table.
13. Evaluation Criteria 10 and 11 are given a Pass or Fail via Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance).



14. Tenders were ranked by panel members against each criterion. Points were awarded on a scale 0 to 5 based on the score parameters listed below.

Score	Description
5	Excellent
4	Very Good
3	Good, better than average
2	Acceptable
1	Marginally acceptable (Success not assured)
0	Not Acceptable

15. Seven (7) submissions were assessed and ranked against all evaluation criteria, to ensure that the tenderers met the standards required for Council contractors. A “Fail” in any criterion would automatically exclude a tenderer from further consideration for this contract. The weighted attribute points scores resulting from the assessment are shown in the following table:

Price Points	Price Points	Non-Price Points	Total Score	OH&S	EMS	Rapid Global
AWS Civil	1.66	2.49	4.15	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Unyte Southern	1.28	2.11	3.39	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	Registered Not Compliant
Fulton Hogan Industries	0.73	2.66	3.39	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Blue Peak Constructions	0.78	2.41	3.19	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Winslow Infrastructure	1.13	1.95	3.08	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Parkinson Group	0.87	1.36	2.23	PASS	PASS	Registered & Compliant in Rapid Global
Bayport Civil	0.88	1.05	1.93	Not Assessed	Not Assessed	Deactivated

16. At the completion of the tender evaluation process described above, the Evaluation Panel agreed that the tender submission from All-Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd trading as AWS Civil ABN: 48 079 889 142 would provide the best value for money outcome to Council for these works under contract.

Please Note: Rapid Global is a third-party pre-qualification and verification system used by Council and ten (10) other Victorian Councils enabling the sharing of OH&S data. It is a Risk and OH&S system where contractors can upload their Occupational Health & Safety, Risk and Environment Plans and Policies as well as up to date insurances.



The Company

17. All-Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd trading as AWS Civil (ABN: 48 079 889 142) was incorporated in August 1997 as a civil construction and pumping system installing contractor and they currently operate as a civil construction contractor providing, but not limited to, road construction, drainage, earthworks for local municipalities.
18. AWS is a family-owned company with a strong track record in construction. They own their own equipment, operate without an overhead structure, and have successfully delivered the Perry Road Upgrade Stages 1 and 2 at a highly competitive cost—approximately \$2 million less than other tenderers. Their deep understanding of the site conditions further reinforces their capability and reliability.
19. They have been a trusted contractor for Council, specialising in major drainage and civil works. They have successfully delivered multi-million-dollar civil works for Council and other regional and metropolitan councils. They have proven track record of successfully delivering the large and small projects in efficient and timely manner.

Relevant Experience/Track Record

20. AWS Civil are highly experienced in delivering similar sized projects with appropriately qualified and adequate staff resources and sub-contractor selection.
21. Experienced working with Victorian government authorities throughout the region including Greater Dandenong City Council.
22. Successfully completed the Perry Rd Upgrade - Stage 1 & 2, with the contract value exceeding \$6.5m for those two stages. Their workmanship, quality of work delivered, and implementation of Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) measures to date are creditable. In summary, their performance in all facets of Stage 1 & 2 of the Perry Road Upgrade Project has been very good.
23. As part of assessing safety, AWS Civil were noted to be registered and fully compliant with Rapid Global and demonstrated to have the appropriate safe working systems in place. They have received a Pass for their Occupational Health and Safety (OH&S) and Environmental Management Systems and are a triple certified company with Jas-Anz Certification (Joint Accreditation System of Australia and New Zealand, commonly known as JASANZ).
24. The evaluation matrix and other supporting documents have been placed on the relevant tender file.

Note:

The higher the price score – lower the tendered price.

The higher the non-price score – represents better capability and capacity to undertake the service.

Corporate Scorecard and Due Diligence

25. A report was run through our third-party corporate scorecard due diligence process. No major risk was identified and a ranking of 'sound' was noted on the scorecard with these recommendations:
26. During the evaluation, AWS was asked to confirm the accuracy of their submitted tender cost. They affirmed that the pricing was both correct and achievable.

Bank Guarantee

27. In view of the contract size consideration should be given to obtaining security in the form of an appropriate bank guarantee or unconditional performance bond for the duration of the contract and any warranty/defects liability period.
28. As a result of the above findings from the Corporate Scorecard, Council will be seeking an appropriate bank guarantee at 5% of the contract value.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

30. The resource requirements associated with this report are \$3,682,501.27 including GST (\$3,347,728.43 excluding GST) which is within the budget allocation of \$6,715,596.00 for Construction of Perry Road Upgrade Project - Stage 3 for the financial year 2025/26.

Asset Implications

31. This item relates to a current CIP project and does not change the scope/timeframe/budget for the project. Newley created assets and as-constructed data will be provided to relevant stakeholders at the end of the project.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

34. The required level of consultation was executed during the design phase of this project. Impacted residents and businesses will be informed about this construction project prior to commencement of the works on site.

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

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

Not Applicable

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

37. 2021-25:

Not Applicable

Legislative and Policy Obligations

38. 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



Social Procurement

AWS Civil

39. AWS Civil is an Australian owned company that allows equal opportunities for all employees in according with their Equal Opportunity Policy.
40. AWS Civil say that they will give preference to disadvantaged residents of the City of Greater Dandenong for employment if the opportunity arises.
41. AWS Civil's preference is to deal with local organisation who support social responsibility and who are involved with Social Enterprises.

Local Industry

AWS Civil

42. AWS Civil have provided the following estimates for local expenditure. AWS Civil has an office located in Tooradin Victoria, however they will establish a site office as part of the mobilisation works for this Contract. They do not currently employ any staff who reside within the Greater Dandenong boundary; however, many staff reside in an adjacent municipality.
43. AWS Civil has provided the following estimates for local expenditure in the table below.

	LOCAL CONTENT				
Contractor	Labour	Materials	Plant	Supervision	Other
AWS Civil	50% \$500K	80% \$1.0M	50% \$200K	50% \$150K	Total Local Estimated Expenditure \$1.850M

MINUTE No.179

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That Council:

1. **AWARDS** Contract No. 2425-23 for the Perry Road Upgrade (Stage 3) to All-Waste Pumping Solutions Pty Ltd trading as AWS Civil (ABN: 48 079 889 142) for a fixed lump sum price of Three Million, Six Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand, Five Hundred & One Dollars and Twenty Seven Cents (\$3,682,501.27) including GST of \$334,772.84 and including a Provisional sum of (\$476,355.82 including GST) for specific items detailed on the project Bill of Quantities lump sum price breakdown (Civil and Landscape works); and
2. **AUTHORISES** the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements and any associated documentation.

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.2 POLICY AND STRATEGY

4.2.1 End of Year Performance Report 2024-25

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy
Attachments: 1. Council Performance Report 2024-25 [4.2.1.1 - 52 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES the progress against the priorities outlined in the Council Plan 2021-25 and Annual Plan 2024-25 for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 (refer Attachment 1).

Executive Summary

1. This report details Council's progress against performance targets outlined in the Council Plan 2021-25 and Annual Plan 2024-25.
2. This report recommends that Council notes the achievements against the Council Plan indicators and the CEO's Reshaping Greater Dandenong report.

Background

3. Council formally adopted the Council Plan 2021-25, and Annual Plan 2024-25 on Monday 24 June 2024.
4. The Council Plan 2021-25 outlines the vision and objectives of the current Council over the four years of its term in office. This document guides service delivery, innovation and good governance, and provides the foundation for the corporate planning framework for all business activities. The Council Plan also guides the budget, service delivery priorities and the continuous improvement of our services.
5. The Council Plan 2021-25, Annual Plan 2024-25 and Budget 2024-25 are made available to residents through the Customer Service Centres, libraries and on Council's website at www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Key Issues and Discussion

6. The End of Year Performance Report provides a summary of key highlights for the 2024-25 financial year against the Council Plan, Reshaping Greater Dandenong and the Capital Works program.
7. Progress against the Council Plan priorities and Annual Plan actions is outlined in the attachment to this report and details the achievements for the Council Plan strategic objectives for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025.
8. This is the final year of reporting for the Council Plan 2021-25 before the implementation of the new Council Plan 2025-29. A summary document will be developed to highlight the key achievements of Council over the past four years and shared with the community through Council's regular communication channels.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

11. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

14. A gender impact assessment is not required.

Community Consultation

15. There Chief Executive Officer, Executive Team and staff responsible for reporting were consulted.

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

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

- Safe and peaceful community.
- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
- Sustainable environment.
- Mind, body and spirit.
- Art and culture.

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

18. 2025-29:

- 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 places.
- A green city committed to a sustainable future.
- A city that supports business, entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes.



- A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

19. 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*.
- The *Gender Equality Act 2020*.
- *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*.
- Climate Change and Sustainability.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.180

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That Council NOTES the progress against the priorities outlined in the Council Plan 2021-25 and Annual Plan 2024-25 for the period 1 July 2024 – 30 June 2025 (refer Attachment 1).

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.3 OTHER

4.3.1 Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum Interstate Delegation

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** interstate travel for Mayor Cr Jim Memeti to allow his participation in the Back Your Neighbour delegation meetings scheduled to be held in Canberra from 2 to 3 September 2025, as part of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum advocacy work; and
2. **APPROVES** interstate travel for Mayor Cr Jim Memeti to allow his participation in the Back Your Neighbour delegation meetings scheduled to be held in Sydney from 4 to 5 September 2025, as part of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum advocacy work.

Executive Summary

1. This report seeks approval of Mayor Cr Jim Memeti to attend the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum Interstate Delegations to be held in Canberra 2-3 September and in Sydney from 4-5 September 2025.

Background

2. The Council-led Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum has been advocating for the rights of people seeking asylum via the Back Your Neighbour (BYN) campaign since 2018.
3. The campaign has grown in support in recent years with new councils and community partners joining in the advocacy to the Federal Government for fair and compassionate policies for people seeking asylum.
4. Council has been proactively leading strategic, direct lobbying with a cross-section of stakeholders since the 2022 federal election, collaborating with the refugee sector and peak bodies, raising awareness of campaign priorities via public events and growing the membership of the Taskforce.
5. As part of the Taskforce's bipartisan political engagement strategy, the Taskforce holds annual delegations to Canberra to meet with ministers and other members of parliament about the Back Your Neighbour campaign. These usually coincide with Australia Local Government Association (ALGA) National General Assembly each year.
6. In 2023, the BYN delegation held seven Member of Parliament (MP) meetings, increasing to thirteen in 2024. As delegated Chair of the Taskforce, successive mayors of Greater Dandenong have played an active role in these delegations, helping to elevate the campaign's priorities at the federal level.



7. The Taskforce held an exhibition stand at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly in 24-27 June 2025 to expand its network and promote the Back Your Neighbour campaign. The campaign gained support from numerous interstate Councils including capital city councils and saw over 70 Councillors sign up as Friends of the Taskforce, with many expressing interest in becoming formal members.
8. The ALGA National General Assembly in 2025 did not coincide with a parliamentary sitting week and limited MP meetings were secured.

Key Issues and Discussion

9. The delegation member in this report have been approved by member council representatives of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum at the 9 July 2025 Taskforce meeting.
10. The purpose of the delegations will be to meet with Federal MPs in Canberra to discuss the Back Your Neighbour campaign's latest advocacy and explore opportunities to raise awareness and strengthen collaboration with the Federal Government.
11. Mayor Cr Jim Memeti will be attending meetings with a lived experience delegate and Council support officer. To date, meetings have been scheduled with Mary Doyle MP and Tom French MP. Other MP meeting invitations are underway.
12. As Chair and Executive Member of the Taskforce, Greater Dandenong Council plays a key leadership role in advancing the Back Your Neighbour campaign. Active representation in advocacy efforts by Mayor Cr Jim Memeti is essential.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

14. The financial implications associated with this report involve an estimated cost in the current financial year of \$2,200. These costs will be funded from revenue received from Taskforce membership fees, as the proposed delegations are part of Taskforce business and legitimate expenses under the Taskforce's Terms of Reference. There is no direct cost to Greater Dandenong City Council.
15. For 2 to 5 September delegation, the estimated cost per delegate is approximately \$2,200, consisting of:
 - a. Accommodation for 3 nights (4 star): \$1000
 - b. Flights (economy): \$500
 - c. Incidentals (ground transportation/meals): \$700

Asset Implications

16. This item does not affect any existing assets.



Legal/Risk Implications

17. There are no legal / risk implications relevant to this report. As Chair of the Taskforce there is a reputational risk if the Mayor cannot participate in these important delegation meetings.

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

19. A gender impact assessment is not required.

Community Consultation

20. There was no requirement for community consultation.

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

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

- Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.

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

23. 2025-29:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

24. 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:

- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.181

Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** interstate travel for Mayor Cr Jim Memeti to allow his participation in the Back Your Neighbour delegation meetings scheduled to be held in Canberra from 2 to 3 September 2025, as part of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum advocacy work; and
2. **APPROVES** interstate travel for Mayor Cr Jim Memeti to allow his participation in the Back Your Neighbour delegation meetings scheduled to be held in Sydney from 4 to 5 September 2025, as part of the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum advocacy work.

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.3.2 Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards Event

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Community Strengthening
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Australia Day Awards 2026 - Nomination Form [4.3.2.1 - 5 pages]2. Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards - Assessment Panel Guidelines 2026 [4.3.2.2 - 14 pages]3. Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards - Assessment Panel Guidelines 2027 [4.3.2.3 - 14 pages]4. CM Minutes 230814 - Minute 852 [4.3.2.4 - 1 page]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **NOTES the commencement of the 2026 Australia Day Awards Program; and**
2. **NOTES that the Awards Ceremony will take place on 26 January 2026 at Springvale City Hall and will be open for the public to attend.**

Executive Summary

1. In response to community feedback, the 2026 Australia Day Awards Ceremony will be open to the public, encouraging broader community engagement in celebrating local leadership and contributions.
2. Award categories will remain unchanged to ensure continuity and simplify planning.
3. A joint judging panel will be retained, for 2026 Award, it will comprise a maximum of five (5) Councillors (including the Mayor or delegate) and five (5) community members.
4. For 2027 Award, a joint judging panel will comprise at the most three (3) Councillors (including the Mayor or delegate) and three (3) community members, to streamline decision-making and scheduling.
5. Judging will commence before November 2025 to allow sufficient time for police and reference checks of the finalists ahead of the busy community event and holiday seasons. Police checks are conducted at no cost to finalists.

Background

6. The Australia Day Awards Ceremony is held alongside the Citizenship Ceremony, traditionally a private event for new citizens and their families.
7. Prior to 2020, Council hosted a festival on Australia Day in Dandenong Park which included the Awards Ceremony, however increased infrastructure and operational costs dictated that this model was no longer sustainable within current budget allocation.
8. Since then, the Awards Ceremony have been delivered at various venues:
 - In 2022, Council delivered the Awards Ceremony at Springvale City Hall.
 - In 2023, Council delivered the Awards Ceremony at Dandenong Park.
 - In 2024, Council delivered the Awards Ceremony in conjunction with the Citizenship Ceremony at the Drum Theatre.



- In 2025, Council delivered the Awards Ceremony in conjunction with the Citizenship Ceremony at the Springvale City Hall.

9. The Australia Day Award Categories and the number of nominations received per category are as follows:

Number of Nominations per Category	2025	2024	2023	2022
Community Leadership Award / Citizen of the Year (2022)	4	6	4	8
Living Treasure Award	5	4	7	10
Community Group of the Year Award	4	3	6	4
Volunteer of the Year Award	5	7	4	10
Young Leader of the Year Award	8	7	2	7
Sustainability Award	8	2	2	2
Sportsperson of the Year	2	2	3	2
Corporate Citizen of the Year	3	2	2	2
Outstanding Contributions to the Arts Award* (*This award commenced in 2024)	2	3		
Total Nominations	41	36	30	45

10. Overall Engagement: Nominations rebounded in 2025 (41), showing renewed community interest after a dip in 2023.
11. Young Leader and Sustainability awards saw strong growth, reflecting increased focus on youth and environmental leadership.
12. Living Treasure and Volunteer of the Year have dropped since 2022 - refreshed promotion targeting this category will be implemented in this year nomination period.
13. Sportsperson and Corporate Citizen categories remain consistently low.
14. Arts Award shows early engagement since its 2024 launch.
15. The Award process timeline of the Greater Dandenong Australia Day Awards process will be as follows:

Award Stage	Timeline
Nomination Period	Early August to Mid-September 2025
Assessment Period	October to Mid-November 2025
Police Checks and Reference Checks	Mid-November to December 2025
Ceremony	26 January 2026

16. A variety of marketing and promotion avenues with specific target audiences, such as: young people, CALD communities, sports clubs, will continue to be utilised to promote the nomination process to the community including postcard flyers mail drop and distribution to Council venues and other facilities; advertisement in Dandenong Star News; Council's TV's and Urban Screens; Social Media Campaign; Council News Magazine; and Council website.
17. The **Assessment Panel Guidelines** have been attached to this report. Criteria for each category have been reviewed and remain appropriate. As an example, Sportsperson of the Year criteria recognises excellence and leadership on and off the sports field and is open to any sportsperson or a member of a Greater Dandenong Sports Club that inspires, involves and contributes to the Greater Dandenong community. This does not require a nominee to be a member of a Dandenong Sports Club.



Key Issues and Discussion

18. Combining the Australia Day Awards with the Citizenship Ceremony enhances the prestige of the event, offering a dignified platform to honour individuals making outstanding contributions to the community. It also provides new citizens with a powerful example of local leadership and civic engagement.
19. Delivering both ceremonies together in an indoor setting ensures:
 - Cost-efficiency through reduced infrastructure, operational and labour expenses
 - Streamlined coordination of Councillor and VIP commitments
 - Greater community engagement by opening the Awards to the public.
 - Positioning the Awards as a formal, high-profile event reinforces its role in recognising excellence and leadership across Greater Dandenong.
 - Maintaining a ceremony format that reflects the significance of these contributions ensures the event remains inclusive, inspiring, and worthy of those it celebrates.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

21. This item does not have an impact on existing financial resource implications.

Asset Implications

22. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

23. There are legal / risk implications to financial sustainability if the recommendation was not to proceed.

Environmental Implications

24. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.
25. There was no requirement for community consultation.



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

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

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

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

28. 2025-29:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
- A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.

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:

- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- The *Gender Equality Act 2020*.
- *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006*.
- Climate Change and Sustainability.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.182

Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the commencement of the 2026 Australia Day Awards Program;
2. **NOTES** that the Awards Ceremony will take place on 26 January 2026 at Springvale City Hall and will be open for the public to attend; and
3. **INITIATES** a review of the Australia Day Awards nomination process and public-facing materials, aiming to simplify initial requirements, ensure accessibility for all community members, and align recognition with Greater Dandenong's diverse forms of contribution. This review shall:
 - Clarify communication regarding police and Working With Children Checks (WWCCs), ensuring they are presented as finalist requirements, not initial nominator burdens. These checks occur after the nomination and assessment periods, and Council covers their cost.
 - Streamline the initial "who/why" sections to encourage broader participation, highlighting the ease of providing foundational information on nominee contributions.
 - Provide nomination options that are accessible to residents from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds, including multilingual forms and non-written submission pathways.



- **Reframe assessment criteria to prioritise demonstrated impact and community benefit over duration of service or formal affiliation, ensuring recognition extends to informal leadership, collective contributions, and emerging forms of civic engagement.**
- **Thoroughly review all Australia Day Award categories to ensure they reflect the breadth of community roles and achievements in Greater Dandenong.**
- **Be completed for implementation of changes by the 2027 Australia Day Awards nomination period.**

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.3.3 Leave of Absence - Cr Bob Milkovic

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council grants a leave of absence to Cr Bob Milkovic for the period 18 August to 24 September 2025 (inclusive) which includes the scheduled Council Meetings of 25 August, 8 September and 22 September 2025 and notes Cr Milkovic's apology for each of those meetings.

Executive Summary

1. Councillor (Cr) Bob Milkovic requests a leave of absence from 18 August to 24 September 2025. This leave of absence is inclusive of the scheduled Council Meetings of 25 August, 8 September and 22 September 2025.

Background

2. This report is submitted in conjunction with Council's Governance Rules which state that any Councillor may request a leave of absence in writing submitted to the Chief Executive Officer or Mayor and state the dates they require the leave and the reason for which it is sought.
3. Further, under section 35(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must grant any reasonable request for leave.
4. The leave of absence will include the scheduled Council Meetings of 25 August, 8 September and 22 September 2025 and the Pre-Council Meetings before each of these;
 - scheduled Councillor Briefing Sessions of 18 August, 1 September and 15 September 2025; and
 - any further Councillor Briefing Sessions or meetings organised during the requested period of absence.
5. This leave of absence is requested for personal reasons.

Cr Bob Milkovic left the Chamber at 7.40pm.

MINUTE No.183

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong
Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council grants a leave of absence to Cr Bob Milkovic for the period 18 August to 24 September 2025 (inclusive) which includes the scheduled Council Meetings of 25 August, 8 September and 22 September 2025 and notes Cr Milkovic's apology for each of those meetings.

CARRIED 9 / 0



Cr Bob Milkovic returned to the Chamber at 7.41pm.



4.3.4 Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee member nominations

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy
Attachments: 1. MAPSAAC 2025-28 Nomination List [4.3.4.1 - 1 page]

Officer Recommendation

That Council APPROVES the recommended nominees, as detailed in Attachment 1 of this report, as members of the Multicultural and People Seeking Advisory Committee (MAPSAAC) until 30 June 2028.

Executive Summary

1. At the 23 June Council meeting Councillors endorsed the continuation of the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee until 30 June 2028.
2. A Membership Expression of Interest (EOI) and selection process was implemented according to the endorsed Terms of Reference (TOR) and the recommended nominees are presented for Council's endorsement. (Attachment 1).

Background

3. The Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee was first established in December 2018 and comprises of informed, engaged and qualified representatives from the community and organisations working in Greater Dandenong.
4. The Advisory Committee provides advice to Council on:
 - a. implementation of the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Thematic Plan;
 - b. development of strategic partnerships to enhance services in Greater Dandenong for its multicultural community;
 - c. supporting people seeking asylum and refugees; and
 - d. other Council plans, policies and strategies.
5. Positions on the Advisory Committee are voluntary, and meetings are held quarterly.

Key Issues and Discussion

6. The current TOR stipulates that the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee will consist of no more than 15 voting members and will include representatives from the following:
7. Up to five (5) community members
8. Up to ten (10) members from relevant community groups and organisations, including standing membership from the regional Refugee Health provider and Refugee Settlement organisations.



9. A total of thirteen (13) nominations were received dispersed over the following nomination categories:
10. Four (4) standing membership nominees from regional Health provider and Refugee Settlement organisations. All being past members of the committee.
11. Seven (7) membership nominees from community groups and organisations. Six being previous members of the committee.
12. Two (2) membership nominees, residents of the community. One being a previous member of the committee.
13. Notwithstanding the number of organisational nominees exceeds the TOR recommended by one person. The selection panel considers all nominees to have the relevant experience and availability to contribute meaningfully to the Committee's operation.
14. Given that there are still three outstanding community member vacancies it therefore recommends that all nominees be accepted as members of the Advisory Committee. Attachment 1 to this report details the names, organisation affiliation (if applicable), and previous membership status.
15. Current TOR provisions allow for an ongoing recruitment process if membership vacancies exist. Once Committee membership is endorsed by Council any additional nominees for Committee membership will be through a Committee recommendation to Council when the minutes of quarterly meetings are noted.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

18. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

21. A gender impact assessment is not required.

Community Consultation

22. There was no requirement for community consultation.



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

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

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

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

25. 2025-29:

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
- A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
- A city that supports business, entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes.
- A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

26. 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.184

Moved by: Cr Lana Formoso

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council APPROVES the recommended nominees, as detailed in Attachment 1 of this report, as members of the Multicultural and People Seeking Advisory Committee (MAPSAAC) until 30 June 2028.

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.3.5 Draft Minutes of Advisory Committee Meetings

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Community Strengthening
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Draft Minutes of Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting 15 May 2025 [4.3.5.1 - 4 pages]2. Draft Minutes of Arts Advisory Board Meeting 5 June 2025 [4.3.5.2 - 5 pages]3. Draft Minutes of Disability Advisory Committee Meeting 16 June 2025 [4.3.5.3 - 4 pages]4. Draft Minutes of Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting 3 July 2025 [4.3.5.4 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES:

- 1) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee held on 15 May 2025 (per Attachment 1);**
- 2) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Arts Advisory Board held on 5 June 2025 (per Attachment 2);**
- 3) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Disability Advisory Committee held on 16 June 2025 (per Attachment 3); and**
- 4) **Draft Minutes of the meeting for Positive Ageing Advisory Committee held on 3 July 2025 (per 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 Committee meetings be noted by Council:
 - a) Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee held on 15 May 2025 (Attachment 1),
 - b) Arts Advisory Board held on 5 June 2025 (Attachment 2),
 - c) Disability Advisory Committee held on 16 June 2025 (Attachment 3), and
 - d) Positive Ageing Advisory Committee held on 3 July 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 places.
 - A city that supports business, 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.185

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That Council NOTES:

- 1) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee held on 15 May 2025 (per Attachment 1);**
- 2) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Arts Advisory Board held on 5 June 2025 (per Attachment 2);**
- 3) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Disability Advisory Committee held on 16 June 2025 (per Attachment 3); and**
- 4) Draft Minutes of the meeting for Positive Ageing Advisory Committee held on 3 July 2025 (per Attachment 4).**

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.3.6 Cancellation of 8 September 2025 Council Meeting

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council APPROVES the cancellation of the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 8 September 2025 in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules.

Executive Summary

1. To seek Council's endorsement to cancel the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 8 September 2025, in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules.

Background

2. Council adopted its annual meeting schedule at its Annual Meeting on 18 November 2024. The Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 8 September 2025 is proposed to be cancelled due to insufficient agenda items.

Key Issues and Discussion

3. Section 61 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides that Council meetings must be conducted in accordance with the Governance Rules. Clause 4.2 of Council's Governance Rules allows for the cancellation or postponement of a meeting by resolution of Council or, in the case of an emergency, by the Chief Executive Officer
4. The cancellation of this meeting will not affect statutory timeframes or decision-making processes. Any urgent matters will be addressed at the next scheduled meeting or via a Special Council Meeting if required.
5. The cancellation of the scheduled Council Meeting on 8 September 2025 provides an important opportunity to prioritise Councillor professional development. By reallocating this date, Council can deliver mandatory training aligned with the *Local Government Act 2020*, ensuring Councillors are equipped with the knowledge and skills necessary to fulfil their roles effectively and ethically. This approach reflects Council's commitment to good governance, continuous improvement, and the responsible use of time and resources.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

8. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

11. A gender impact assessment is not required.

12. There was no requirement for community consultation however the meeting change will be conveyed to the public through the usual platforms.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

13. 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*.

MINUTE No.186

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council APPROVES the cancellation of the Ordinary Council Meeting scheduled for 8 September 2025 in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and Council's Governance Rules.

CARRIED 10 / 0



4.3.7 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors [4.3.7.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 21 July to 1 August 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 21 July to 1 August 2025.

MINUTE No.187

Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic

Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That the listed items for the period 21 July to 1 August 2025 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 10 / 0



5 NOTICES OF MOTION

5.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 09 - CAMBODIA THAILAND CONFLICT

Responsible Officer: Executive Manager Strategy Growth & Advocacy

Author: Cr Melinda Yim

Preamble

1. In light of recent international developments, including the ceasefire between Thailand and Cambodia, it is important that Council acknowledges the global events that resonate deeply with our diverse community.
2. As a City enriched by multiculturalism, Greater Dandenong recognises the emotional and cultural ties many residents hold to regions affected by conflict.
3. This motion seeks to affirm Council's commitment to community cohesion, cultural sensitivity, and international peace, while ensuring that the voices and wellbeing of our local Thai and Cambodian communities are heard and supported..

Motion

That Council:

1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the recent ceasefire between Thailand and Cambodia and recognises the significance of this development;
2. **RECOGNISES** the emotional and cultural impact that global events may have on members of our community, particularly those with close families, cultural or heritage ties to affected countries;
3. **NOTES** that some local residents have taken part in peaceful community protest, as an expression of connection and concern for the region;
4. **SUPPORTS** opportunities to connect with and listen to local Thai and Cambodian communities, including through existing multicultural engagement channels, to better understand how Council can be responsive to the experiences and needs of these residents; and
5. **REQUESTS** that the Mayor write to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and relevant diplomatic missions (including those of Thailand and Cambodia), acknowledging the recent ceasefire and expressing Council's support for a peaceful and lasting resolution to the conflict, while also highlighting the importance of community cohesion and the wellbeing of local residents with cultural ties to the region.



The Deputy Mayor read this Notice of Motion in Khmer.

MINUTE No.188

Moved by: Cr Melinda Yim

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

- 1. ACKNOWLEDGES the recent ceasefire between Thailand and Cambodia and recognises the significance of this development;**
- 2. RECOGNISES the emotional and cultural impact that global events may have on members of our community, particularly those with close families, cultural or heritage ties to affected countries;**
- 3. NOTES that some local residents have taken part in peaceful community protest, as an expression of connection and concern for the region;**
- 4. SUPPORTS opportunities to connect with and listen to local Thai and Cambodian communities, including through existing multicultural engagement channels, to better understand how Council can be responsive to the experiences and needs of these residents; and**
- 5. REQUESTS that the Mayor write to the Prime Minister, Minister of Foreign Affairs and relevant diplomatic missions (including those of Thailand and Cambodia), acknowledging the recent ceasefire and expressing Council's support for a peaceful and lasting resolution to the conflict, while also highlighting the importance of community cohesion and the wellbeing of local residents with cultural ties to the region.**

CARRIED 10 / 0



6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Question

Cr Phillip Danh

Last week marked Homelessness Week, a time for reflection on the urgent need to continue advocating for safe and secure housing for all. The issue is particularly pressing in Greater Dandenong. Housing is a complex policy area, but I am pleased that Greater Dandenong has taken steps locally, including allocating resources to a housing advocacy team and participating in the recent launch of the South East Homelessness and Housing Alliance. Could you please outline Council's role within the Alliance and how our contribution can help address homelessness across the region?

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

We were pleased to participate in the launch of the South East Homelessness and Housing Alliance last week. The Alliance advocates for the unique needs of communities in the South East, with a strong focus on prevention and intervention. It aims to ensure that available services meet the specific needs of our community. This includes increasing the diversity of housing stock and improving community understanding of the challenges faced by those experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity. The Alliance centres lived experience and seeks flexible solutions that prioritise early intervention. Three of our officers attended the launch, and we look forward to continuing our work with the Alliance to achieve positive outcomes for the community.

Comment

Cr Phillip Danh

I want to highlight an article by Sahar Foladi in the Dandenong Star Journal last week, which powerfully illustrated the human side of homelessness through the work of the Vinnies South Eastern Group. Their soup van operates every Tuesday night at Dandenong Plaza, on the corner of Clow and Foster Street, from 6.15pm to 7.15pm.

I would like to congratulate Jayden Nguyen on making his debut for the Essendon Football Club in the AFL last week. He is the first footballer of Vietnamese heritage to play at the highest level.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

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

- The opening of Stage Two of their new Technology Centre at Emerson School. The facility is state-of-the-art and very impressive.
- The Palestine March on Sunday 3 August 2025, alongside many Dandenong residents. Approximately 30,000 people marched in Melbourne, calling for an end to the genocide in Gaza.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

My question tonight relates to an incident in the City of Casey, where a resident discovered she had been placed on a Council list titled "Persistent Complainant" without her knowledge. This resulted in restrictions on her access to staff and services. Her only action was sending five emails, which were neither aggressive nor inappropriate. She was not given an opportunity to challenge the decision, nor was she informed of any process for removal from the list or external oversight. Do we operate a similar system of categorising residents, such as labelling them "Persistent Complainants"? If so, what kind of oversight exists for this system?



Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy

I can confirm that we do not currently maintain any register or list of residents categorised as “Persistent Complainants”. However, our Complaints Policy does include a section on “Unreasonable Conduct”. This section outlines how we may respond in rare situations where complaints are inappropriate, unacceptable, or aggressive towards staff or Councillors. There is a defined process under this section of the policy, but I reiterate that we do not currently have anyone listed under this category. We are proud of our staff and their commitment to working with the community in a patient and respectful manner. It is timely that you have raised this issue, as the Complaints Policy is due for renewal at the end of this year. A revised or updated policy will be in place from January 2026. We welcome input from yourself and other Councillors as we undertake this update.

Further response

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer

I cannot comment on the City of Casey’s approach, I can say that the City of Greater Dandenong, as the most multicultural municipality in Australia, works very hard to understand and respond to residents’ concerns. We encourage residents with repeated concerns to engage with the Victorian Ombudsman. Our team has done an excellent job in managing complaints, and we have not had to impose any restrictions on any individual. Our officers work diligently to avoid such outcomes.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

It is reassuring to know that we do not operate a secretive system. However, I believe it is important that any system we do have is transparent and clearly communicated to the public. Aggressive behaviour in any form is a health and safety issue, and we all understand the need for provisions around that. Nevertheless, transparency and oversight are essential. Referring people to the Ombudsman is appropriate, but it requires a certain level of skill to navigate that process. Congratulations to staff for managing the system well.

Comment

Cr Melinda Yim

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

- On Saturday 2 August 2025, I attended the flower ceremony marking the 40th anniversary of the Cambodian Association of Victoria.
- On Sunday 3 August 2025, I attended the cremation ceremony of Dr Thel Thong, a respected figure in the Cambodian community.

Comment

Cr Sean O'Reilly

On Saturday 2 August 2025, I attended the 40th anniversary celebration of the Cambodian Association of Victoria. Later that day, I attended the South Sudanese Gala at Menzies Hall in Dandenong, hosted by the South Sudanese Community Association.

Question

Cr Sean O'Reilly

My question is regarding potholes on Heatherton Road, Dandenong particularly near the roundabout intersection with Douglas Street. This area has several substantial potholes, and given the high traffic volume, they pose a risk to vehicle suspension and increase the likelihood of accidents. Drivers are forced to swerve around the potholes, which is dangerous. Does Council receive a forward schedule from VicRoads for resurfacing works and pothole patching? If so, could this schedule be provided to all Councillors? Additionally, do VicRoads have performance indicators for pothole maintenance?



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Heatherton Road is managed by VicRoads, and unfortunately, we do not receive forward schedules for maintenance works unless they are major roadworks. VicRoads do not typically notify us about pothole patching. However, we work closely with VicRoads and are happy to report the issue for their attention. In terms of performance indicators, all road managers are required to have a Road Management Plan under the *Road Management Act*. Council has its own plan with key performance indicators for response times, and VicRoads would also have similar requirements. We will follow up and report the issue accordingly.

Comment

Cr Alice Phuong Le

On Saturday 2 August 2025, I was honoured to deliver a speech at the 40th anniversary celebration of the Cambodian Association of Victoria.

Question

Cr Bob Milkovic

My question is regarding the roadworks that have commenced at the intersection of Stud and McFees Road, Dandenong North. This intersection has long required upgrades. However, I have received several calls from residents concerned about increased traffic volumes and speeding in nearby residential streets due to the road closure. Drivers unfamiliar with the area are using narrow streets as detours, which poses safety risks. Could Council please liaise with the project team to ensure that appropriate traffic management measures are in place to protect residents and road users during the construction period?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

We will work with the project team to ensure that the intersection remains safe for community use during the construction period. We will also monitor traffic conditions and implement any necessary measures to address safety concerns.

Comment

Cr Isabella Do

It is important that we continue to speak out and act in ways that promote understanding and compassion. Our City is home to many who have fled conflict and persecution, and our diversity is a testament to resilience and heart.

Recently, I attended the Greater Dandenong Scouts Amazing Race. Events like this highlight the vibrancy of our community and the value of scouting in building resilience, leadership, and connection.

I am pleased to share that the long-awaited Keysborough Community Hub has now opened in a soft launch. Thank you to our dedicated team, especially Natasha Petkovic Jeremic (Manager Creative & Engaged City) and Sarah Hill (Coordinator Cultural & Community Hubs), for making the soft opening a success. Since opening, over 2,200 people have visited the hub, and library usage has already reached 25 percent. Our official opening and community celebration will be held on 6 September 2025.

I would like to acknowledge former Councillor and Mayor Leon Trembath.



Question

Cr Lana Formoso

I have received concerns from residents regarding Heatherton Road, Dandenong particularly at the intersection with Stud Road as you travel north towards Noble Park. The road is two lanes but narrows significantly just after Red Rooster, causing traffic congestion and near-miss accidents. Drivers often assume the road remains two lanes, which leads to confusion and unsafe merging. This issue is likely to worsen with the construction of the new Wellbeing Centre. Could Council please write to VicRoads to request line marking or another solution to improve safety in this area?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

We are happy to advocate to VicRoads regarding the concerns raised about Heatherton Road. It is a state-managed road, and we understand the confusion and congestion caused by the narrowing section.

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso

I would like to acknowledge and thank Mr John Clark, Chief Executive Officer of South East Leisure, who will be concluding his four-year tenure at the end of this month.

Comment

Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor

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

- On Wednesday 30 July 2025, I attended the Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) Chairs and Mayors meeting at Parliament House.
- On Friday 1 August 2025, I attended the official opening of Stage Two of the Emerson Technology Centre at Emerson School in Dandenong.
- On Wednesday 6 August 2025, I attended the Youth Summit 2025: Your Voice, Your Future, with students from nine local schools and our 2025 Young Leaders.
- On Thursday 7 August 2025, I met with Ms Eden Foster MP, State Member for Mulgrave, along with the CEO and Executive Manager, to discuss advocacy priorities for the 2026 State Election.

Finally, I congratulate the Cambodian Association of Victoria on their 40th anniversary. My apologies for not being able to attend the celebration. The association has done remarkable work supporting new arrivals to Australia, largely through volunteer efforts.

Jacqui Weatherill, 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 below.



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 CQT1	Cr Lana Formoso	Letter to Uncle Mark Brown 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		Initial response provided 28/04/2025: Yes, I can do that. FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED
12/05/25 CQT11	Cr Lana Formoso	Timeline on demolition of Hennessy Scout Hall 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 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?	Executive Manager Strategic Growth & Advocacy		Initial response provided 12/05/2025: 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. FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED
28/07/25 CQT1	Cr Isabella Do	Parking and nuisance pets I have provided details regarding truck parking on local streets, as well as nuisance behaviour from pets. Can you please provide an update on those?	Executive Director Community Strengthening	7/08/2025	Initial response provided 28/07/2025: Our officers have been out working on the issue with the truck parking, based on your feedback we will attend and have further discussions with those residents. Officers have also been speaking with the resident regarding the nuisance complaint that you have submitted. Further response provided 7/08/2025: Council's Local Law 51 addresses animal litter directly: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Animal litter must be collected.

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (2) A person in charge of an animal must carry a bag or device for collecting animal litter. <p>Our Animal Management Rangers monitor compliance with this law while out on patrol. While enforcement can be challenging in practice, we continue to educate the community about the importance of picking up after their pets and ensuring they're equipped to do so when out and about.</p> <p>With the Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) currently out for community consultation, this is a timely opportunity for residents to share their concerns and ideas. If the community has suggestions for how we can better deter this behaviour, we're absolutely open to listening. Here is the link on Council's website where the community can provide their feedback until 28 July 2025 Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) 2025-29 Have Your Say</p> <p>We'll continue to monitor, educate, and communicate the importance of responsible pet ownership — and we appreciate the support of Councillor's like yourself in reinforcing this message.</p> <p>Our Parking Enforcement team has an active file for the area surrounding Norine Cox Reserve, and officers attend regularly. Over the past six months, we've issued five infringements in this area alone, targeting all vehicles parked in breach of regulations.</p> <p>We acknowledge that this location presents ongoing challenges, particularly</p>

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>regarding driver behaviour and community interactions. It's also an area where our officers have unfortunately experienced verbal abuse, which we take very seriously. As such, we are mindful of how we allocate resources and ensure that any enforcement action prioritises the safety and wellbeing of our staff.</p> <p>We will continue to monitor the area closely and explore additional measures that may help address both the parking and safety concerns raised by residents.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
28/07/25 CQT2	Cr Isabella Do	Lost pets A resident has advised that there has been an increase in lost pets recently, is this something that Council is aware of?	Executive Director Community Strengthening	11/08/2025	<p>Initial response provided 28/07/2025: Question taken on notice.</p> <p>Further response provided 11/08/2025: Council's Animal Management team has not observed an abnormal spike in lost animal reports or pickups over the past few months. Our animal rangers continue to monitor and respond to incidents as part of their regular patrols, and current activity levels remain consistent with previous periods.</p> <p>We will continue to keep an eye on any emerging trends and ensure our community is supported through responsible pet ownership initiatives.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
28/07/25 CQT3	Cr Alice Phuong Le	Springvale Snow Fest I would like to acknowledge the organisers of the Springvale Snow Fest. Despite the rain, the event was well attended and brought the community together. I spoke with several stallholders who expressed	Executive Director Community Strengthening	6/08/2025	<p>Initial response provided 28/07/2025: We have received positive feedback about Snow Fest and will take your comments on notice. Officers will consider the request and provide a response once reviewed.</p> <p>Further response provided 6/08/2025:</p>

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		concerns about financial losses due to the weather. They asked whether Council could consider offering credits or refunds for future events to help mitigate these risks?			<p>Thank you for your acknowledgement and support of Springvale Snow Fest 2025. We're pleased the event was well attended and appreciated by the community, despite the rainy conditions.</p> <p>As a winter-themed festival, weather is an expected element of the experience. Stallholder participation is entirely voluntary, and they are free to withdraw if they feel conditions may impact their operations—several vendors chose to do so this year. Council does not operate on a profit-sharing or commission basis with stallholders, meaning that while some may face challenges in poor weather, they also retain full benefit during high-performing years, such as the past two.</p> <p>Each year, vendor's costs, eligibility and requirements are reviewed through a formal process. Offering credits or refunds is not currently feasible within this framework, but we remain committed to working with stallholders to support their participation and success in future events.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>
28/07/25 CQT4	Cr Lana Formoso	Young Leaders Forum I have a concern regarding the upcoming Young Leaders Forum on 6 August 2025 at Springvale City Hall. Only six or seven schools out of the 99 in our municipality are attending. This is disappointing, as we need to hear from our future generation. Is Council doing everything possible to encourage school participation? We need to address this gap and ensure more students are involved.	Executive Director Community Strengthening	4/08/2025	<p>Initial response provided 28/07/2025: I agree that the forum is important and that greater participation is needed. I will follow up with Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening and report back to Councillors with strategies to better promote the event and engage schools that have not participated.</p> <p>Further response provided 4/08/2025: The Youth Summit and School Engagement event is scheduled on Wednesday 6 August at the Springvale Town Hall. Greater Dandenong</p>

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>Youth and Family Services supports young people aged 12–25, with a focus on engaging the municipality's nineteen secondary schools (list provided below). These include government, Catholic, independent, English language, special development, and alternative education settings.</p> <p>The Youth Summit is scheduled every two to three years, not annually.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The last summit in 2022 explored the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on young people. The summit welcomed 120 students from six schools. The 2020 summit was cancelled due to the pandemic. Prior to this attendance averaged 160 participants. <p>For the upcoming 2025 summit, fifteen* schools were invited, with eight schools registering, collectively signing up 130 students to attend.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dandenong High School Keysborough Secondary College Acacia Keysborough Secondary College Banksia Killester College Lighthouse Christian College Lyndale Secondary College Minaret College Mt Hira College <p>Schools that declined cited barriers such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-scheduled curriculum days Conflicting commitments Limited staffing and resources for off-site coordination Key school personnel following up with the Principal team without commitment

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

5 / 10

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A reliance on CRTs and ongoing staff shortages <p><i>* Special Developmental Schools, and Alternative schools are being offered alternative consultation activities, due to feedback from staff from previous years, that students require a nuanced approach.</i></p> <p>Process of engagement with Secondary Schools Youth Services has a deliberate assertive engagement approach with the community, including schools.</p> <p>Youth Services sends out the School Program Overview at the start of the school year to all Secondary Schools which outlines the range of school-based programs offered as well as the breadth of programs offered to students outside of school hours. This is then followed up with a request to meet schools individually to discuss their respective priorities, needs, and interests – this is where school flag their priority interests.</p> <p>Promotion for the 2025 Youth Summit:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summit flagged in the School Program Overview, sent out 18/02/2025 Summit discussed in individual school meetings Save the dates sent out 16/05/25 to secondary schools Specific school staff contacted included wellbeing staff, Year 9 and 10 coordinators and staff involved in community partnerships/student voice Follow up sent three times, mixture of emails and phone calls Eight schools registered as cited

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>previously</p> <p>Further to offering and promoting the Youth Summit, we have directly delivered programs or initiatives in fifteen local secondary schools, so far in 2025, including Party Safe, VAPE, Cybersafety workshops, LGBTQIA+ workshops, Careers Expos, lunch time sports activities including badminton and soccer. As well as met directly with school wellbeing teams at nine secondary schools.</p> <p>Ongoing improvement We appreciate your support of this program and are committed to continually improving. We do acknowledge that ongoing teacher shortages and costs for CRTs are a barrier for schools. Specifically, with the summit being held in Winter we are questioning whether that further impacts capacity. We will certainly review timing, and any other feedback received for consideration prior to the next summit.</p> <p>For noting, Greater Dandenong has 19 Secondary Schools encompassing the following: Government <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carwatha College • Cornish College • Dandenong High School • Keysborough Secondary College Acacia Campus Keysborough Secondary College Banksia Campus • Lyndale Secondary College • Noble Park Secondary College Catholic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • St John's Regional College • Killester College </p>

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nazareth College <p>Independent</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Haileybury College • Sirius College • Minaret College • Mt Hira College • Lighthouse Christian College <p>SDS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Springvale Park Special Development School • Emerson School <p>Alternative Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oakwood School <p>English Language School</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Noble Park English Language School <p>COMPLETED</p>
28/07/25 CQT7	Cr Melinda Yim	<p>International affairs I understand that international affairs are outside Council's direct responsibilities, but I would like to raise concerns about the recent escalation in tensions between Thailand and Cambodia. This conflict is affecting some of our residents, particularly those with close family or cultural ties to the region. Some members of our community participated in a peaceful protest yesterday in response to the conflict, and some are present in the gallery tonight. The protest reflects how deeply this issue is being felt locally. I ask whether Council has considered how global events may be impacting our community's emotional wellbeing.</p>	Chief Executive Officer/ Manager Communications & Customer Experience		<p>Initial response provided 28/07/2025: This is an important question. We understand that many residents from Cambodia and Thailand are being triggered by recent events. Council staff are currently exploring ways to provide access to counselling services and support groups, including culturally appropriate services for Cambodian and Thai communities. We will update our website with relevant information and reach out to community groups to share these resources.</p> <p>Regarding your suggestion for a gesture of solidarity, that is a matter for Council to consider. If you are interested in proposing a Notice of Motion, officers would be happy to assist you in drafting it for the next Council Meeting.</p>

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		Are there any formal or informal supports available to help affected residents feel seen and supported? Additionally, could Council consider a small gesture of solidarity to help ease fears and anxiety among residents during this time?			FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED
28/07/25 CQT8	Cr Rhonda Garad	<p>Rates notices Residents who have opted out of receiving paper rate notices and are using the online portal have reported that only a global figure is shown. There is no breakdown of the Emergency Services Levy or quarterly rates. How can these residents access a detailed breakdown?</p> <p>Additionally, while Council offers hardship provisions for rates, does this apply to the Emergency Services Levy, which has increased significantly? Finally, why are residents unable to pay the levy directly to the State Government, given that other State charges can be paid directly?</p>	Chief Financial Officer/ Chief Information Officer	8/08/2025	<p>Initial response provided 28/07/2025: Regarding the online portal, I will take that question on notice and consult with the Chief Information Officer, as it relates to our property and rating system. Under legislation, residents must receive an annual rate and valuation notice, even if they opt out of paper bills. Those who opt out should receive a digital bill, but I will confirm this.</p> <p>In terms of hardship provisions, the legislation mandates that payments are apportioned across all charges, including Council rates and the Emergency Services Levy. Council can apply hardship provisions only to Council rates and charges, such as the waste charge, but not to the Emergency Services Levy.</p> <p>As for the collection process, it is mandated by State Government policy. Councils are designated as the collecting agency under the relevant legislation. We continue to advocate for changes to this arrangement, along with other Councils.</p> <p>Further response provided 8/08/2025: Those ratepayers who have signed up electronically will start receiving their e-rate notice from today (Friday 8 August). All other rate notices (hard copy) will be posted on Monday 11 August.</p>

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

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Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
					<p>The State Revenue Office has a dedicated email, website and hotline for any customer queries about the Emergency Services & Volunteers Fund levy which can be found here: Emergency services and volunteers fund State Revenue Office. It explains the levy, how its calculated and rebates, exemptions and concessions etc.</p> <p>COMPLETED</p>

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

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7 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was considered.



8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.19pm.

Signature