



Minutes

Council Meeting

Monday 27 October 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](#)

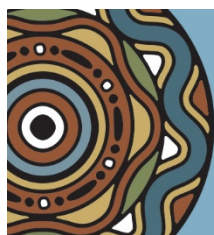
[Cr Isabella Do](#)

[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 Jim Memeti opened the Meeting at 7.00 pm.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Isabella Do, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Loi Truong,

Councillors Present

Cr Jim Memeti, Mayor (Chair)
Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor
Cr Phillip Danh,, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Alice Phuong Le,
Cr Bob Milkovic, 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; Dani Trimble, Governance Officer; Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services; 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 Anita Davine, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, read the following:

“As Pilgrims of Hope, we are called to walk with open hearts and journey with faith, trusting that the path before us is guided by divine love. We are called to be bearers of love—lifting the weary, embracing the broken, and creating spaces where all may belong. We are called to be voices of compassion, speaking truth in love, advocating for the vulnerable, and defending the dignity of every person. We are called to uphold justice, walking alongside the forgotten, offering mercy where there is pain, and courage where there is fear. We are called to be light in the darkness—healing where there is suffering, advocating for peace where there is division, and igniting hope where despair lingers. We are called to teach with wisdom and patience, nurturing minds, awakening hearts, and inspiring curiosity and wonder for the gift of knowledge and truth. We are called to serve with humility, knowing that in giving, we receive; in offering, we are blessed; and in caring, we are also held. Amen.”



1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 13 October 2025.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 13 October 2025 be confirmed.

MINUTE No.228

Moved by: Cr Sophie Tan

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 13 October 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 8 / 0

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.



2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

2.1.1 Documents for Sealing

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

Officer Recommendation

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

Executive Summary

1. Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, each Council is a body corporate and a legal entity in its own right. Each Council must therefore have a common seal (like any corporate entity) that is an official sanction of that Council. Sealing a document makes it an official document of Council as a corporate body. Documents that require sealing include agreements, contracts, leases or any other contractual or legally binding document that binds Council to another party.

Item Summary

2. There is one item being presented to Council's meeting of 27 October 2025 for signing and sealing as follows:
 - A letter of recognition to Cr Jim Memeti for 20 years of service to the Greater Dandenong City Council and its community.

MINUTE No.229

Moved by: Cr Sophie Tan

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

CARRIED 8 / 0



2.2 PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

2.2.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. Petitions & Joint Letters [2.2.1.1 - 2 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 no new petitions and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 27 October 2025.

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.230

Moved by: Cr Sophie Tan

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That this report and its attachment be received and noted.

CARRIED 8 / 0



2.3 STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2.3.1 Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – September 2025

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments: 1. Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – September 2025.pdf [2.3.1.1 - 12 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the listed items pertaining to the exercise of delegation by Council officers as outlined in Attachment 1 to this report.

Executive Summary

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

MINUTE No.231

Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic

Seconded by: Cr Sophie Tan

That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the listed items pertaining to the exercise of delegation by Council officers as outlined in Attachment 1 to this report.

CARRIED 8 / 0



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question

Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong

In August, the Greater Dandenong LGBTQIA+ advisory committee endorsed a recommendation to install RAINBOW STICKERS on several council venues. These minutes were recorded without objection during the council meeting on the 13th of October.

Given the strong community, advisory committee and councillor support for this action, could the Council please provide a date for the installation?

Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services

We are working with the relevant facility officers to ascertain the final positioning of the stickers and implementation should be finalised before the next LGBTQIA+ advisory committee meeting on 11 November 2025.

Question

Phillip Lamaro, Dandenong

For a council that claims to be the most inclusive council in Melbourne, it currently does not have a unisex toilet in these facilities.

This is not compliant with WorkSafe that recommends the installation of a unisex facility here.

As this facility is not compliant, can the Council please look at the signage and change the disability facility signage to include unisex?

Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services

Council will update the signage for the Unisex Ambulant toilet to include the recommended all gender signage. This will occur in the next couple of months.

Question

Jannali Barty, Collingwood

I received an email this week including a discussion from the Head of Communications and Customer Experience at the City of Greater Dandenong about the removal of the aboriginal flag on council buildings.

This statement by council claimed the aboriginal flag on council facilities was “noisy”. To claim the representation of the First Nation flag as “noisy” is beyond scope.

I am happy to provide evidence to show that this is councils current view of the First Nations flag at council venues. Can council please explain why this attack on First Nations people and its flag is happening at Council?



Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services

There is no attack on the Aboriginal flag. There is no proposal to remove flags or any other First Nations symbols from our facilities.

No one has claimed the Aboriginal flag is 'noisy.' Council Policy remains the same and we always have our Aboriginal flags on Council buildings. I request that you please share the information you have with me that is contradictory to my response.

Question

Maria Sampey, Keysborough

On the 13 October Council Meeting Mr.Sanjay [sic] did not answer my question properly that I asked.

What is the breakdown of the \$6,736,000.00 of expenses spent by Dandenong Market Pty Ltd as I would like it set out in writing rather than telling me where to find it as it is ratepayers money and needs to be explained and written more concise.

Is Springvale Shopping Centre being included in setting up parking meters or will the revenue be continually subsidised by the residents of Dandenong as Springvale does not have any parking meters.

If parking meters are installed in Springvale will they be coin operated or tap and go?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

The \$6.736 million in Dandenong Market Pty Ltd expenditure in 2023-24 is broken down as follows:

- \$1.72 million in employee costs,
- \$4.42 million in materials and services (including cleaning, utilities, marketing, repairs and maintenance, administration and property expenses) and
- \$562,000 in other expenses.

The report on expansion of paid parking includes a proposal for paid parking on street in Springvale Activity Centre. The shopping centres within Springvale already have paid parking in place, though these car parks are not managed by Council.

For any expansion areas for paid parking, we will be able to accept payments by cash, card, or utilising payment apps such as EasyPark and PayStay, which will also be available in Dandenong shortly.



Question

Scott Peters, Dandenong

My car was hit by a drive by car while parked on Hammond Road this week. Council have been asked my multiple residents over many years to address the safety on this strip of road. Council has refused to lower the speed limit. install speed bumps or address this issue other than continue to say they are monitoring the situation.

Residents are angry at Council, which continues to ignore the residents calls on their safety and demand their safety issues are addressed instead of being ignored. We are tired of council telling us they are monitoring the situation but physically doing nothing to ensure our safety.

When will Council address this matter by listening to the residents and physically doing something for our safety?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

At this time, due to the lower number of and type of accidents occurring on Hammond Road, it is not eligible for funding under the Federal Blackspot Program or other streams of funding for road safety infrastructure.

Council officers are regularly monitoring the road. Traffic volumes on Hammond Road have significantly increased since the closure of Webster Street, however traffic speeds have remained consistent.

Question

Scott Peters, Dandenong

As the Dandenong market and the management is owned by council Why does the Dandenong market does not have an advisory committee?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Dandenong Market Private limited is established under the company's act with an independent board and management to oversee the operation independently of council.

If you have any specific concerns, please contact the Market directly.

Question

Scott Peters, Dandenong

Could the community please receive an update on the new Dandenong art gallery's opening date? We residents have been waiting for years for this.



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Thank you for your question and for your continued interest in the Dandenong New Art (DNA) gallery. Council acknowledges the community's patience and enthusiasm for this important cultural facility.

Council is currently progressing the procurement process for the appointment of a head contractor, with construction anticipated to commence by mid-2026 and completion forecast by the end of 2027.

Question

Jacob Dudman-Doyle, Keysborough

I wanted to touch base about the pothole repairs. I have noticed that while you are making great progress in fixing many of them, some areas are experiencing issues after the repairs. Specifically, water seems to be accumulating underneath and causing further damage.

I would like to bring the following locations to your attention:

- Heatherton Road, near the petrol station (multiple potholes)
- Cheltenham Road, close to Keysborough Bar and Grill (one particularly bumpy spot)

Could you please let me know how to report these issues, especially if they fall under Vic Roads'. I appreciate any guidance on how to ensure these get fixed.

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Thank you for identifying these locations. Both are on arterial roads managed by the Victorian Government. You can report these locations using the "Report an issue" form on the VicRoads website. Urgent locations can also be reported by calling 13 11 70.

Officers will also report these locations to the Victorian Government on your behalf.

Question

Eng Sieu Ung, Springvale

As a commercial property owner in central Springvale, I wish to raise an ongoing concern about persistent illegal dumping—particularly of mattresses and household furniture—at the car park located at 241–253 Springvale Road, near Kelvin Grove.

This site has long been a dumping hotspot, primarily affected by residents from nearby high-density apartments, placing an unfair financial burden on a small group of local business owners who must repeatedly pay for waste removal despite not being the source. Despite efforts to deter dumping, including gates and surveillance cameras, these measures have proven ineffective or financially unsustainable.

What makes the issue particularly frustrating is that the rubbish is often dumped just centimetres from public land, yet Council declines to assist due to a technicality that the waste falls on private property. This rigid approach feels unreasonable given the site's ongoing history as a dumping hotspot.

Local business owners continue to receive enforcement notices and threats of fines instead of support. This situation is financially and emotionally draining for those trying to do the right thing.



We urge Council to acknowledge the hardship faced by affected businesses and to work toward a fair, practical, and sustainable solution to this persistent problem.

We respectfully ask:

Will Council commit to reviewing its approach to illegal dumping in known hotspot areas—particularly where private commercial properties are repeatedly affected through no fault of their own—and consider policy changes to provide reasonable support for rubbish removal in these circumstances?

Will Council also implement regular education and outreach to nearby Kelvin Grove apartment residents, especially during high tenant turnover periods, to promote awareness of Council hard rubbish collection services and reduce illegal dumping?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Thank you for raising your concerns regarding ongoing illegal dumping at the car park located at 241–253 Springvale Road, Springvale. We understand the frustration and financial burden this issue places on local business owners, and we appreciate your commitment to maintaining a clean and safe environment.

Council acknowledges the challenges faced by commercial property owners in known dumping hotspots. However, Council does not remove waste from private property. This responsibility remains with the landowner or occupier, as intervening would set a precedent that is not sustainable across the municipality. We understand this can be frustrating, particularly when the dumping occurs just metres from public land.

Council currently operates a range of education programs aimed at reducing illegal dumping and promoting awareness of hard rubbish collection services. We regularly distribute information to properties across the municipality and tailored to the identified issues. In response to your request, we will work with the management of Kelvin Grove apartments to provide targeted education and collateral materials to residents. This will include information on how to correctly dispose of waste items and access Council's hard rubbish collection services. We hope this proactive engagement will help reduce the incidence of illegal dumping in the area.

Thank you again for bringing this matter to our attention. We remain committed to working with the community to find sustainable solutions and improve waste management outcomes across City of Greater Dandenong.



Question

Terry Wilkinson, Keysborough

I am writing to ask questions concerning the proposed demolition of the squash courts at the Dandenong Oasis leisure centre. These courts have been a valuable community facility, used regularly by residents of all ages for recreation, fitness and social connection.

Could the Dandenong Council please explain:

What consultation or community engagement has been carried out regarding the future of the squash courts?

What alternative options have been considered to retain or repurpose the facility rather than demolish it?

Whether the Dandenong Council will commit to meeting with community representatives to explore preservation or refurbishment options?

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

Squash courts have been a part of the Dandenong Oasis since the centre opened 40 years ago and have seen a steady decline over many years. Squash now represents a very small portion of overall visitation to Dandenong Oasis (0.7 per cent in 2023-24 dropping to 0.66 per cent in the 2024-25 year). Participation rates continued to decline by 32% in the 2025 FY.

The new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre project has involved over 2,400 engagements over four (4) separate rounds of consultation. The decision to not include squash courts at the new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre was made some years ago and was shared with the squash community at the time.

The three squash courts at Dandenong Oasis will remain in place until 2027 when the new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre opens.

For those looking to continue playing squash in the region we encourage alternatives including the nearby Carrington Park Squash Club in Knoxfield.



4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 POLICY AND STRATEGY

4.1.1 Glass Bin Implementation Overview

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures
Attachments:	1. Kerbside Reform Planning Glass Service Implementation Plan CBS Report [4.1.1.1 - 11 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council APPROVES the proposed plan to implement the kerbside glass bin service in Greater Dandenong, including the following:

- a. The project plan timeframes;
- b. The recommended option for servicing multi-unit developments (MUDs);
- c. The collection frequency and bin size;
- d. The use of a Council led procurement process for the supply and delivery of the glass bins, the potential consolidation of all of Council's kerbside collection and processing contracts, and procurement timeframes;
- e. The use of the waste charge to fund the program; and
- f. The principles of the communications and engagement plan.

Executive Summary

1. The Victorian Government's Circular Economy Policy 2020 under the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 has legislated that a glass service needs to be provided by all Councils by 1 July 2027.
2. Greater Dandenong does not currently provide a separate glass service and therefore a planned approach for the introduction of the glass bin service by this timeframe has been prepared.
3. This report outlines a proposed project plan to implement the kerbside glass bin service. The key considerations for the plan include the number of households to receive the glass bin, bin collection frequency, service delivery options for single unit dwellings (SUDs) and multi-unit dwellings (MUDs), the procurement process, financial implications regarding the annual household waste charge, and communications and engagement.
4. This report presents options for consideration by Council for the procurement of the glass bin service and Council's waste contracts, the glass service provision options for MUDs, and the financial implications.



Background

5. In 2020 the Victorian Government released the “Recycling Victoria: a new economy” policy also called the Circular Economy Policy (CE Policy) which outlines the ten-year action plan to establish a circular economy in Victoria.
6. Kerbside reform is a key action of the CE Policy, requiring all Victorian Councils to provide a glass service by 1 July 2027.
7. Greater Dandenong does not provide a separate glass service and therefore needs to develop a planned approach for the introduction of the glass bin service by 1 July 2027.
8. The CE Policy’s kerbside reforms are legislated and will be regulated by Recycling Victoria (RV) via regulations and a service standard made under Part 5, Division 1 of the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 (the CE Act).
9. More broadly, the kerbside reform is part of the CE Policy’s ten-year action plan which requires Councils to:
 - Standardise bin lid colours (red - garbage, yellow – co-mingled recycling, lime green - food and garden organics and purple - glass recycling).
 - Standardise bin content e.g., what material goes into which bin across Victoria.
 - Provide all households access to a glass service by 1 July 2027.
 - Provide all households access to a food and garden waste service by 2030.
10. The three (3) key reasons for the separation of glass from the existing co-mingled recycling bin service are:
 - to improve recycling outcomes;
 - reduce landfill disposal costs; and
 - increase the value of recyclables.
11. When glass is placed in co-mingled recycling bins, it often breaks and contaminates other materials like paper and cardboard, reducing the quality and value of all the materials. Poor quality recycling materials results in materials being sent to landfill which attracts higher disposal fees, as well as adverse environmental impacts. Removing glass from co-mingled recycling also allows for a greater compaction rate in the recycling trucks, allowing the trucks to fit more materials into their collection loads and improving recycling collection efficiencies.
12. In Greater Dandenong, glass containers account for approximately thirty percent (30%) of kerbside recycling bin content. By removing glass from the co-mingled recycling service, it is anticipated that Council will reduce its recycling processing fees.
13. One of the key actions of CE Policy’s ten-year action plan was the introduction of the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) which was introduced in 2023. The CDS offers a 10-cent refund for every eligible drink container returned, including cans, bottles, and cartons. The primary purpose of the scheme is to reduce litter, increase recycling, and lower litter clean-up costs for Councils.



14. The CDS helps recover and recycle beverage containers often consumed away from home or littered. However, a constraint of the CDS is that only certain glass containers are eligible to be collected through this scheme.
15. Implementing the separate glass household kerbside collection in conjunction with the CDS will deliver combined benefits, as both schemes aim to achieve better recycling outcomes.
16. The co-benefit of collecting glass separately through the glass household kerbside bin is the convenience of separating the glass jars and bottles at home and transforming the recycled glass into better quality products.
17. To comply with the kerbside reform requirements, Council is required to provide a glass bin to all residential properties that currently receive Council's kerbside waste services, including, Single-Unit Dwellings (SUDs) and Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs).
18. Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) often face challenges with bin storage and presentation, therefore the proposed service standards under the CE policy also supports the option of a shared bin arrangement or drop off service for MUDs.
19. In developing a planned approach for the introduction of the glass bin service, Council officers have attended information sessions run by DEECA and RV and corresponded with other Councils who are in the process of planning and delivering the service. Officers have discussed bin sizes, frequency, service model options for the MUDs, and procurement options with Frankston, Hobsons Bay, Merri-Bek, Casey, and Melton City Councils to gain an understanding of their glass service implementation plan and associated learning. Key findings from these discussions are in the attached report (Attachment 1).
20. Based on the policy framework and research, a proposed plan has been prepared which is outlined in the Key Issues and Discussion section below.

Key Issues and Discussion

21. To achieve the State Government's legislated requirement to plan, procure and deliver a separate glass service for Greater Dandenong by 1 July 2027, a planned approach has been prepared for endorsement.
22. There are nine (9) key considerations that are informing the glass service project, which are discussed further below.
 - Project Plan
 - Number of households to receive the Glass Bin Service
 - Proposed service delivery options for Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs)
 - Bin collection frequency & bin size
 - Procurement – Glass Bin Service
 - Procurement - Potential option of aligning CGD's waste contracts with the glass service
 - Procurement – Proposed timeline
 - Financial Implications – Annual glass service delivery cost, and
 - Communications and Engagement.



Project Plan

23. Based on the research, information and discussions with relevant stakeholders, a detailed project plan for the glass service has been developed.
24. To comply with the July 2027 timeframe, Table 1 below provides a high-level overview of the project plan to implement the glass service. While the timelines below are indicative, there is flexibility built in should one milestone run over the target date. A detailed project plan is included in the Attachment 1 report.

Table 1: Proposed glass service project plan

Item	Milestone	Target Date
Phase 1- Preparation Phase		
1.	Plan presented to Councillor Briefing Session	15 September 2025
2.	Plan presented to Council meeting for adoption	27 October 2025
Phase 2- Procurement Phase		
3.	Procurement of bins (supply and delivery)	November 2025 - April 2026
4.	Procurement for glass collection service	November 2025 - April 2026
5.	Procurement for glass processing service	April - August 2026
Phase 3- Implementation Phase		
6.	Glass bin supply and deliver	January - March 2027
7.	Rollout of bins to all households	April - May 2027
8.	Commencement of glass collection	1 July 2027
9.	Communications and Engagement A comprehensive glass bin education campaign will run in conjunction with Phase 3.	January – July 2027
	As the glass service becomes operational after July 2027, council officers will assess the service performance and tailor a glass education campaign to suit the community's requirements.	July 2027 onwards

Number of households to receive the glass bin service

25. To comply with the kerbside reform requirements, all households currently receiving Council's kerbside waste services will be provided with a glass collection service, which will be via the provision of a 120L glass bin. Dwellings currently serviced by a private waste collection are not required to be provided with a glass bin service from Council. As per Table 2 below, an approximate tenement number of 56,000 dwellings will receive the service, which includes Single-Unit Dwellings (SUDs) and Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs).

**Table 2: Number of households to receive a glass bin service**

Greater Dandenong household information	Approximate tenement numbers
Total number of households within the municipality (all households including those serviced by a private waste collection service)	58,000
Households to receive a glass bin service <i>(Household waste and recycling services provided by a private waste service are outside the scope of the proposed kerbside reforms regulations)</i>	56,000
Glass Bin Size (volume)	Standard 120L, Purple-lidded bin

26. Single-Unit Dwellings (SUDs) will receive individual bins.

27. Due to the complexity of servicing Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs) with additional bins, the number of bins provided to service the MUDs is discussed below.

Proposed Glass Service Delivery Options for MUDs

28. For Multi-Unit Dwellings (MUDs), three service options as outlined in Table 3 below have been assessed to address access, logistical and storage challenges.

29. For the MUDs, Option C is the officers' preferred approach for the reasons summarised in and below Table 3.

30. Council Officers will work directly with Owners Corporations to assess site-specific needs.

Table 3: Glass service provision options for MUDs

Option A	Option B	Option C (Preferred)
Standard Service	Shared Service	Combination Service (Standard/ Shared Service)
Number of glass bins One 120L glass bin provided to every unit.	Number of glass bins Owners' corporations to advise on appropriate number of shared bins for each multi-unit dwelling site.	Number of glass bins Owner's corporations to advise: • If individual bins are practical. • If not, shared bin arrangements need to be implemented.
Storage Bins will be stored at each property. For sites with limited space for bin storage and presentation, this option may not be suitable.	Storage Shared glass recycling bins are to be stored in a common area accessible to all residents.	Storage Standard service- bins stored at the property. Shared service- bins stored in common areas.



31. There are potential advantages and disadvantages of all three options.

- Option A (Standard Service) ensures each household is provided with a separate glass bin service. This approach provides a consistent approach with SUDs kerbside services. However, it may not be suitable for MUDs with limited space for bin storage and presentation.
- Option B (Shared Service) allows owners corporations to determine the appropriate number of shared bins for each MUD site. This option will ensure sites with limited storage and presentation space can get access to a glass bin service. However, shared bins can lead to bin contamination and misuse of bins, and confusion over who is responsible for placing the bins out for collection.
- Option C (Combination Service) is the preferred option due to its flexible approach by combining individual and shared bin arrangements. MUDs with sufficient bin storage space will be provided with an individual bin. MUDs with limited storage and presentation space will be on a shared bin arrangement. This option allows the service to be tailored to site-specific needs.

Bin Collection Frequency & Bin Size

32. Based on research and discussions with Councils which have implemented a glass bin service, a collection cycle of every four (4) weeks is an optimal frequency for the glass bin service.
33. Glass bins are manufactured in two sizes, 80L and 120L, with no price difference between the two volumes. Recognising that glass generation rates may vary across households, Council will provide a standard 120L glass bin to all residents receiving a Council waste service to ensure the service meets diverse household needs.
34. Officers are investigating options to ensure that no more than two (2) bins are presented per household each week for kerbside collection.

Procurement – Glass Bin Service

35. To implement the glass kerbside reform, Council will need to enter various contracts to allow for the following three glass services:
- Glass Bin Procurement (Supply and Delivery)
 - Glass Collection Services
 - Glass Processing Services
36. Table 4 below outlines the two options for the procurement of glass bins (supply & delivery).

**Table 4: Options for Glass Bin Procurement (Supply and Delivery)**

Service Type	Option A	Option B (Preferred)
Bin Procurement (Supply and Delivery)	Procurement Panel Existing vendor panels through: Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Procurement Australia	Tender via council's own procurement process This tender approach has been undertaken by other councils, including Hobsons Bay, Frankston, Casey, Merri-Bek and Melton City Council.

37. **Option B** is Council officers' preferred approach to procure the glass bin service. Tendering via Council's own procurement process allows for the following:

- greater control and flexibility of the tender process
- ability to tailor the contracts and specifications
- opportunity to encourage suppliers not listed on the procurement panels to submit a response
- public tender to allow for competition and a panel evaluation on the preferred contractor.

38. Table 5 below outlines the glass collection and processing services procurement approach.

Table 5: Glass bin collection and processing services procurement arrangements

Service Type	Procurement Method
Glass Collection Service	Tender via Council's own procurement process
Glass Processing Service	Tender via Council's own procurement process

Procurement - Potential Option of Aligning CGD's Waste Contracts with the Glass Service

39. Council currently has two separate waste contracts, both of which are due for renewal in 2026 and 2027. These are:

- kerbside waste collection contract: JJ Richards (September 2027); and
- recycling processing contract: Re.Group Dandenong South (February 2026). This contract includes a variation clause for 2 x 12-month possible extension options.

40. As such, there is a potential procurement option for Council to go out to public tender to consolidate its kerbside waste collection and recycling processing contracts, which include glass, in 2026 and enter into new contract agreements with waste service providers.

41. The benefit of this potential option is the renewal and consolidation of these major waste services into new contracts with competitive market prices and new terms of agreement. This would also ensure there are no variations to current contracts, thus allowing a transparent and open tender process to occur.

42. Officers recommend that Council investigate the opportunities to consolidate these contracts through this procurement process.



Procurement – Proposed Timeline

43. To meet the July 2027 timeframe, Table 6 below outlines the proposed procurement process and timelines.
44. There is anticipated to be a long lead in time for the manufacturing and delivery of the bins, hence this procurement process has built in an extended time for this consideration.

Table 6: Procurement Timeline

Item	Milestone	Target Date
1	Contract initiation and development of Request for Tender (RFT) documents- 1. Glass Bin Supply and Delivery 2. Kerbside Waste Services Collection Contract	November- December 2025
2	Finalise RFT documents with Procurement Team- 1. Glass Bin Supply and Delivery 2. Kerbside Waste Services Collection Contract	January 2026
3	Public Tender open to market for four weeks- 1. Glass Bin Supply and Delivery 2. Kerbside Waste Services Collection Contract	February- March 2026
4	Award of Contract: 1. Glass Bin Supply and Delivery 2. Kerbside Waste Collection Contract	March- April 2026
5	Develop RFT documents with Procurement Team- • Glass & Recycling Processing Service	April- May 2026
6	Public Tender open to market for four weeks- • Glass & Recycling Processing Service	June- July 2026
7	Award of Contract: • Glass & Recycling Processing Service	July- August 2026

Financial Implications – Annual Glass Service Delivery Cost

45. It is anticipated that implementing the glass bin service will cost approximately estimated cost of \$13 million over the first seven (7) years of service. This estimate includes the costs associated with bin supply and delivery, collection of glass bin, and processing of glass. To account for potential cost increases, particularly in bin manufacturing and delivery, a contingency has been applied to the annual service delivery costs.
46. The anticipated cost of service over seven (7) year period is based on currently available information and may be subject to change following the completion of the procurement process.
47. There may be future savings to Council such as reduced gate fees and contamination charges etc. However, it is not currently possible to confirm if this will be the case, so no potential savings have been included to estimate cost of service.



48. The cost of providing the glass service can be, and is recommended to be, funded through the waste charge. This would result in an additional amount added to the waste charge paid by rate payers each year. It is currently anticipated that this would equate to an average estimated increase of approximately \$13 per household per year. It is recommended that the preferred distribution option be identified and agreed following the procurement process.
49. Officers understand that all other Council's that have implemented this service, or in the process of doing so, have utilised the waste charge to fund this.

Communications and Engagement

50. Officers are working to develop a detailed education campaign related to the glass bin service. The Communications and Engagement Plan will focus on building community understanding of kerbside service changes, collection frequency schedules, and changes in their recycling bin systems through clear and regular communication.
51. A comprehensive glass bin education campaign will be undertaken prior to the delivery of the glass bins. Council officers aim to run an intensive community education campaign between January 2027- July 2027.
52. Prior to the commencement of the intensive campaign, it is intended that a 'soft launch' will occur in 2026 with information regarding the program being promoted in a digital form, and Council News etc.
53. As the glass service becomes operational after July 2027, Council officers will assess the service performance and tailor a glass education campaign to suit the community's requirements.
54. Table 7 below provides a high-level outline of the initial communications and engagement plan and indicative budget.
55. A high-level communications plan is also included in the attached report (Attachment 1).

Table 7: Communications Plan

Communications Method	Potential Activities	Indicative budget
Digital	social media posts, website content, media release etc	\$0
Print media	Information Flyers for all households receiving the glass service – e.g. what goes in the glass bin and collection frequency	\$50,000
Face-to-Face Engagement	pop-up stalls, community presentations, events etc	\$20,000
Miscellaneous	e.g. printing posters, generating videos etc.	\$10,000
Indicative campaign budget		\$80,000



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications

56. A two (2) year contract role - Project Officer Kerbside Waste Reform has been included in the 2025/26 and 2026/27 budget to assist with the delivery and community engagement on the new glass service.

Financial/Asset Resource Implications

Operating Budget Implications

57. The financial implications associated with this report include an anticipated estimated cost of approximately \$13,000,000.00 over seven (7) years to deliver the glass service. The annual household waste charge can be used to fund the delivery of the glass service. This figure may change subject to the outcome of the procurement processes.

Asset Implications

58. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

59. The CE Policy's kerbside reforms are legislated and will be regulated by Recycling Victoria (RV) via regulations and a service standard made under the Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 (the CE Act).

60. Recycling Victoria has advised Council officers that there are penalties under the CE Act for non-compliance with the legislated kerbside reforms. The penalty unit for non-compliance will vary against the CE Act as well as the provisions of other legislation under the Local Government Act 2020.

61. There are legal and reputational risks with non-compliance.

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

63. Community engagement and education will be an important part of the kerbside glass bin service. This will be undertaken in conjunction with the delivery of the glass bin service. Refer to the Table 8 Communications and Engagement Plan in this report.

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

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

- Sustainable environment.

65. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:

- A green city committed to a sustainable future.



Legislative and Policy Obligations

66. 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*.
- Climate Change and Sustainability.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.232

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Council **APPROVES** the proposed plan to implement the kerbside glass bin service in Greater Dandenong, including the following:

- a. The project plan timeframes;
- b. The recommended option for servicing multi-unit developments (MUDs);
- c. The collection frequency and bin size;
- d. The use of a Council led procurement process for the supply and delivery of the glass bins, the potential consolidation of all of Council's kerbside collection and processing contracts, and procurement timeframes;
- e. The use of the waste charge to fund the program; and
- f. The principles of the communications and engagement plan.

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.1.2 Sustainability Advisory Committee - Revised Terms of Reference

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures
Attachments:	1. Draft Sustainability Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference August 2025 [4.1.2.1 - 19 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **ADOPTS** the revised Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) Terms of Reference, per Attachment 1; and
2. **NOTES** the subsequent undertaking of an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to appoint committee members.

Executive Summary

1. The SAC will provide a formal mechanism to engage with members of the community interested in sustainability issues, initiatives, policies, and strategies. The SAC has been inactive since all member terms expired in November 2023. This provided officers time to review the Terms of Reference and ensure the committee aligns with Council objectives.
2. The key change proposed to the SAC via the Terms of Reference is to alter the number and purpose of the committee meetings.
3. If adopted, a request for EOI will be undertaken for new committee members in late 2025.

Background

4. The SAC was established in 2017 following Council's adoption of the Greater Dandenong Sustainability Strategy 2016-30. The purpose of the SAC was to assist Council's efforts to deliver the Sustainability Strategy and demonstrate how community participation can help individuals mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.
5. The SAC actively engaged community members with an interest in sustainability and Council decision making. The SAC has previously provided advice on a variety of climate, environment and sustainability strategies and policies, and acted as a knowledge sharing space to inform members of latest trends and technologies.
6. The SAC ran for seven (7) years, before all member terms expired in November 2023. This gave Council officers an opportunity to review the Terms of Reference and functions of the SAC to reflect on its contribution and relevance for Council in the future. As such the SAC is proposed to be established with a renewed focus and objective.
7. The review of the Terms of Reference has been informed by feedback from previous members, the Council Plan 2025-29 objectives, the various sustainability, and climate objectives of Council, and other existing Council committees.



8. The SAC provides a formal mechanism for Council to consult with key stakeholders and passionate community members, seek specialist advice and enable community participation in targeted sustainability issues, initiatives, policies, and strategies.
9. The objectives of the SAC align with the Council Plan 2025-29 of a *green city committed to a sustainable future* by seeking to champion, advocate and promote sustainability throughout the City of Greater Dandenong, as well as the sustainability achievements of Council and the broader community.
10. The proposed format of the SAC will enable Council officers to build a positive rapport with interested community members and proactively engage on topics of sustainability. It is also intended the SAC will seek opportunities to champion sustainability in the community and promote Council's achievements.
11. The report seeks support for the revised Terms of Reference and subsequent undertaking of an EOI process to appoint new committee members.

Key Issues and Discussion

12. Two key changes are proposed for the SAC via the Terms of Reference, being the focus and number of committee meetings. Previously the SAC met 'up to five (5) times per year' to discuss sustainability topics generally. Working groups were also formed on occasion for specific projects or consultations (noting that limited outcomes were achieved from these working groups).
13. The first change proposed is to shift to a targeted, issues-based approach for each meeting. The intent of this is to have a particular project/ policy/ activity etc. that the committee will provide feedback on to assist in advancing a specific Council matter.
14. The second change proposed is to meet 'a minimum of two times each year'. These two meetings will align with Council budget and reporting cycles in May and October and better enable a targeted discussion on specific issues. Additional meetings may then be scheduled as required to seek feedback on specific projects or consultations.
15. These changes enable the SAC to have greater focus, with more meaningful engagement and discussion at each meeting. This is achieved by ensuring additional meetings are scheduled to align with specific projects or consultations of relevance to the SAC.
16. The make-up of the SAC is proposed to reflect the previous structure and if supported would be made up of:
 - 1 (one) Councillor Representative – appointed at Council's Annual Statutory Meeting.
 - Up to 2 (two) Council Officers – from the City Futures Directorate appointed by the Executive Director – City Futures.
 - Up to 6 (six) Community Representatives – appointed by resolution of Council.
17. Community representatives are required to have skills and knowledge and/or community experience relevant to sustainability and climate change. Membership to the SAC is voluntary and subject to a selection process.
18. It is anticipated that members will be required to commit a minimum of one (1) hour per month to the activities of the SAC on average, and that each member will attend at least two (2) of the scheduled meetings each year.
19. The EOI process for new members will begin in November 2025 and will involve promotion by way of social media, Council News and directly through community groups. The application review process, including interviews will take place in December. The new members would then be inducted in preparation of the SAC's first meeting in early 2026.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

- 20. This item affects 2x EFT approximately 4 (four) hours per month while the SAC is active.
- 21. Resources required for this item can be absorbed within the current arrangement of the Sustainability Planning unit.

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

Operating Budget Implications

- 22. It is expected the SAC will incur a cost of approximately \$2,000 to advertise EOI in the 2025-26 financial year. This cost can be absorbed by the Strategic and Environmental Planning budget.

Asset Implications

- 23. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

- 24. There is a risk that confidential information shared during these committee meetings could be shared with external parties including media sources.
- 25. The Terms of Reference (ToR) includes a clause prohibiting the sharing of confidential information with external parties, including media sources unless specifically authorised by a Council Representative.
- 26. The ToR enables Council to cease the membership of any committee member found in breach of this clause.

Environmental Implications

- 27. There are no environmental implications relevant to this report.
- 28. The SAC will enable active and passionate community members an opportunity to engage with Council on sustainability matters. It will also enable Council an opportunity to hear and learn from our community with an active interest in sustainability.

Gender Impact Assessment

- 29. The SAC will be open to all genders, ages, and backgrounds. The EOI process will provide equal opportunity to all genders to apply by promoting the opportunity to a variety of networks across Greater Dandenong.
- 30. Promotional materials will be presented in clear, gender inclusive language that is accessible for all.
- 31. The recruitment process will aim to be representative of the Greater Dandenong community.
- 32. In action, the committee members will create a safe space for all by creating an inclusive environment where everyone feels valued, safe, and comfortable to share and engage.



Links to Integrated Planning Framework

33. This report is consistent with the following tier of the Integrated Planning Framework:

- ☐ Tier 1 – Council Plan and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- ☐ Tier 2 – Annual Plan, Long Term Financial Plan, Asset Plan, Workforce Plan
- ☐ Tier 3 – Priority Strategies, Mandated Documents, Strategic Land Use Plans, Asset and Infrastructure Documents
- ☒ Tier 4 – Supporting Plans, Discretionary Policies, Procedures and other Guidelines

Links to Community Vision and Council Plan

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

- Sustainable environment.

35. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:

- A green city committed to a sustainable future.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

36. 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:
 - Climate Emergency Strategy 2020-30
 - Sustainability Strategy 2016-30 (Refresh 2022)

MINUTE No.233

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Council:

1. **ADOPTS** the revised Sustainability Advisory Committee (SAC) Terms of Reference, per Attachment 1; and
2. **NOTES** the subsequent undertaking of an Expression of Interest (EOI) process to appoint committee members.

CARRIED 7 / 0

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

Abstained - Cr Rhonda Garad.



4.2 OTHER

4.2.1 Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme Planning Policy Framework Translation

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments:

1. Existing and Proposed Planning Policy Framework Structure [4.2.1.1 - 1 page]
2. Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme Planning Policy Framework [4.2.1.2 - 195 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council **SUPPORTS** the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) provided as Attachment 2, subject to the following changes:

- the expiry clause removed from Clause 15.01-1L 'Urban Design in commercial and industrial areas', and
- the built form controls of Clause 15.01-1L converted into a Design & Development Overlay (DDO) through the PPF project.

Executive Summary

1. On 31 July 2018, Amendment VC148 introduced a new integrated Planning Policy Framework (PPF) to the Victorian Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. The PPF changes the appearance of the planning scheme, making it more user friendly through the relocation of local clauses to be grouped with relevant state and regional policy. This change does not amend any statutory powers or the planning scheme strategic direction or intent.
2. Following the gazettal of Amendment VC148 the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme has now been translated into the new integrated draft PPF. Council officers have worked in partnership with the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP) to undertake this work.
3. The PPF Translation project was initiated and led by DTP. It is a policy neutral translation, and Planning Scheme Amendment C230gdan will be undertaken and determined by the Minister for Planning via Section 20 (4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 to introduce this into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme.
4. In summary the majority of the existing Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and local policies of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme have been translated into the new draft PPF. Council officers recommend any outstanding issues are reconsidered further by DTP before finalising Planning Scheme Amendment C230gdan.



Background

5. On 31 July 2018, Amendment VC148 introduced a new integrated Planning Policy Framework (PPF) to the Victorian Planning Provisions and all planning schemes in Victoria. The PPF was introduced to:
 - Strengthen planning policy.
 - Better align and integrate state and local planning policy.
 - Make policy easier to navigate and use.
 - Ensure that policy is consistent and concise.
 - Simplify the review and update of policy.
6. The translation is a state government project managed by DTP.
7. Attachment 1 outlines the existing structure of the policy framework within the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme and provides an overview of the proposed PPF structure.

Existing structure of the planning scheme

8. The State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) contains statewide policies that address strategic issues of state importance. This section has been renamed to the Planning Policy Framework.
 - The Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) contains the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) and local planning policies. This framework presents a vision for its community and other stakeholders and identifies long term directions for land use and development in the municipality.

Proposed structure

- The translation renames the Municipal Strategic Statement (MSS) to the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS).
 - The state planning policies and local planning policies have then been grouped together into Planning Policy Framework (PPF). The PPF is set out in the following themes: settlement, environment and landscape values, environmental risks and amenity, natural resource management, built environment and heritage, housing, economic development, transport and infrastructure.
 - Under each of these themes there are state, regional and local policies related to the theme.
9. The translation started with the replacement of the State Planning Policy Framework (SPPF) and continued to replace Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF) in each planning scheme in Victoria.
 10. The LPPF of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme has been translated by DTP via a policy neutral translation. This means that all existing policy within the existing LPPF (including the MSS) that meets the planning scheme rules for the PPF translation project has been translated into the new PPF format. As the translation is policy neutral no new policy content can be introduced.
 11. An initial meeting was held between DTP and Council officers in March 2020 however a first draft of the Greater Dandenong PPF wasn't provided until February 2021.
 12. Council officers have been working with state government representatives since February 2021 to integrate the Greater Dandenong LPPF with the PPF. It has been a protracted, comprehensive and thorough process.
 13. A comprehensive process was developed to ensure a policy neutral and positive translation of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme LPPF.



14. A vision was developed to support the project, as follows:
 - *The project will result in a thorough, integrated and defensible PPF within the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. It will facilitate good planning outcomes that achieve the values and relevant policy outcomes that are important to Council and expected by the community.*
15. The following objectives were developed to support the project:
 - To integrate the LPPF with the PPF.
 - To identify and carry forward all valued parts of the existing LPPF (including MSS) into the new Municipal Planning Scheme (MPS) and PPF Structure.
 - To ensure that the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme facilitates good and proper planning decisions and outcomes.
 - To ensure a policy neutral translation whereby no relevant policy important to Council and expected by the community is lost in the translation process.
16. All documentation and versions received from DTP over the past four years have been thoroughly reviewed and tested by the project team and other relevant Council officers.
17. Internal consultation has been fundamental and ongoing with a range of departments including Statutory Planning, Transport and Civil Development, Business Development and Investment (Place Making and Revitalisation) and Sustainability Planning.
18. An important and key element of the process has been working closely with Statutory Planning. Representatives from the Statutory Planning team have reviewed all the documentation and tested the proposed PPF with a range of relevant planning applications.
19. Other key inputs to the process have included:
 - Working with DTP and other stakeholders to ensure Clause 22.09 – 'Residential Development & Neighbourhood Character' is appropriately retained in the PPF.
 - Working with representatives from Kingston City Council on Clause 22.01 - 'Chain of Parks'.
 - Working with representatives from City of Maroondah and ConnectEast on Clause 22.12- 'Eastlink – Buildings, Works and Signage'.
20. All existing maps in the MSS and local policies have been reviewed as part of the process. The majority of the local policy maps have been updated to colour (previously maps within planning scheme had limited colour use) and with updated references to ensure all mapping is clear and up to date.
21. As part of the PPF Translation process consequential changes have been made to clauses as required to ensure all clauses within the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme are up to date and refer to the latest policy references. This has included:
 - Updates to schedules in Clauses 30 - Zones and 40 - Overlays to ensure references to clause numbers and titles are accurate and remove any references to outdated clause numbers.
 - Updates to Clauses within 70 - Operational Provision including 72.04, 72.08, 74.01 and 74.02 to reflect the new format requirements and ensure all policy references are up to date.
22. DTP have now provided the final version of the new integrated draft Greater Dandenong PPF. This version provided as Attachment 2, will be included into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme by DTP via Planning Scheme Amendment C230gdan.
23. Whilst the majority of officer recommendations have been incorporated there is one issue that remains outstanding and is discussed in the Key Issues and Discussion section below.



Key Issues and Discussion

24. As a result of the extensive work undertaken by officers at Council and DTP, the majority of issues have been successfully resolved, and officers are of the view that the existing policies in the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme have been retained in the appropriate form.
25. However, the key issue that remains is the expiry clauses for Clause 15.01-1L 'Urban design in commercial and industrial areas'.
26. In addition, a key consideration of this project is to ensure that it is a policy neutral translation. These matters are discussed in detail below.

Policy neutral translation

27. The PPF Translation project is a policy neutral translation of the planning scheme. No new policy can be included into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme as part of this process.
28. The PPF Translation project has strict rules around what can be translated, where it's translated to and how it is written. For example, content that is incompatible with or duplicates State policy, content that is outdated, ambiguous, matters that are not planning or changed effect cannot be included.
29. Having regard to the rules, Council officers have worked closely with DTP to identify and carry forward all valued parts of the existing LPPF into the new PPF structure and to ensure a policy neutral translation whereby no relevant policy important to Council is lost in the translation process.
30. This has meant that some policy wording has not been translated exactly for example where it repeats state planning policy. Another example is the use of the word strongly. The word "strongly" has been used to promote or discourage preferred outcomes which address significant issues for a municipality. Through the translation process, "strongly" has been removed.
31. These rules have been applied to all planning schemes in Victoria.

Expiry Clauses

32. DTP had originally proposed to apply an expiry clause on five additional policies whereby they would expire within three years following the gazettal date of the PPF translation. Council officers have worked closely with DTP to have these expiry clauses removed. The final draft PPF received from DTP includes an expiry clause on one policy:
33. Clause 15.01-1L 'Urban design in commercial and industrial areas'.
34. An expiry has been included on Clause 15.01-1L 'Urban design in commercial and industrial areas' (currently Clause 22.03 'Urban design in commercial and industrial areas') as DTP have outlined that the built form controls within the policy guidelines cannot be included in the PPF and are better placed in a Design and Development Overlay (DDO).



35. Whilst this policy is an older policy it still provides relevant and important guidance. By including a three year expiry clause, it will require Council to review this policy and prepare a future planning scheme amendment. Officers acknowledge DTP's comments and will work to translate this into a DDO, however are of the view that this work should have been done via consequential changes of the PPF project as it is a policy neutral translation. By including an expiry clause rather than undertaking the work as part of this project, it will result in a resourcing and financial impost on Council.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

36. This item has impacted on human resources within the Strategic Planning team, and other teams across Council however, has been able to be managed within existing resources.

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

38. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

41. The PPF Translation project was initiated and led by DTP. As it is a policy neutral translation, and the Planning Scheme Amendment C230gdan will be undertaken and determined by the Minister for Planning via Section 20 (4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 there was no requirement or opportunity for community consultation.

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

42. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
- Sustainable environment.
43. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 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.



Legislative and Policy Obligations

44. 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.234

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council SUPPORTS the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) provided as Attachment 2, subject to the following changes:

- **the expiry clause removed from Clause 15.01-1L 'Urban Design in commercial and industrial areas', and**
- **the built form controls of Clause 15.01-1L converted into a Design & Development Overlay (DDO) through the PPF project.**

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.2.2 Parking Fees and Charges - Paid Parking Expansion

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- 1 ENDORSES progression with a project to roll out paid parking to improve the parking experience in locations where this is anticipated to improve parking experience;**
- 2 ENDORSES community engagement in early 2026 to seek business and community input on the process and methodology for implementation;**
- 3 CONSIDERS as part of the 2026-27 Budget / Fees and Charges process, the inclusion of:**
 - 3.1 Introductory parking rates in areas where new paid parking is proposed ; and**
 - 3.2 Dynamic” parking rates for off street car parks so that parking fees within underperforming car parks can be lowered / to encourage utilisation.**
- 4 CONSIDERS, each year, data provided prior to budget processes summarising parking revenue from each area to enable reinvestment locally or allocation of income to reserves for future investment locally;**
- 5 NOTES, each year, that data will be provided monitoring potential additional areas where paid parking could further enhance the parking experience, but that other locations are not suitable at this time;**
- 6 To facilitate the above, APPROVES, the introduction of paid parking schemes in the following locations:**
 - 6.1 Springvale Activity Centre (with reinvestment of revenue locally to the delivery of the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan);**
 - 6.2 A section of Princes Highway Service Lane between Foster Street and Webster Street, Dandenong (only following conclusion of Webster Street Level Crossing Removal works);**
 - 6.3 A section of Cleeland Street, Stuart Street and the Stuart Street East Car Park near Dandenong Market, Dandenong; and**
 - 6.4 David Street Dandenong (from Cleeland Street to Stud Road), near Dandenong Hospital.**



Executive Summary

1. Paid parking schemes are primarily utilised to improve parking experience and performance in busy areas. These schemes improve parking through increasing turnover, improving parking availability and making it easier and more convenient for customers to visit. Paid parking schemes are rarely utilised as primarily a source of revenue. Indeed, Councils Municipal Parking Strategy and associated policies highlight that within Greater Dandenong, such schemes should only be considered for the purpose of improving parking experience and not for financial gain.
2. Following Councils adoption of its Long Term Financial Plan, a review of a number of core income streams for Council was requested as an exercise to aid financial sustainability and enable ongoing investment by Council in its community. Parking fees and charges and the locations where paid parking is utilised within the municipality have been considered as part of this review.
3. For several years, the City of Greater Dandenong has made minimal changes to parking fees, charges and payment technology. In part this was due to post pandemic recovery and changes in parking demand patterns within the municipality, and in part due to organisational capacity to deliver a high-quality parking payment experience without modernisation of Councils parking meters and payment options (digital payment etc.). The roll out of modern parking meters within Dandenong and introduction of new payment options such as digital payment is occurring in late 2025 and provides a platform from which further improvements to parking experience can be made.
4. A review has been undertaken examining which locations within the municipality meet the parameters typically warranting consideration of paid parking. This looks at metrics such as land use, parking occupancy and turnover, and where users of the area come from.
5. A number of locations reviewed meet the parameters where the installation of paid parking schemes would be anticipated to significantly improve the parking experience for customers and visitors. These locations are:
 - A section of Cleeland Street, Stuart Street and the Stuart Street East Car Park near Dandenong Market
 - A section of Princes Highway Service Lane between Foster Street and Webster Street, Dandenong (only following conclusion of Webster Street Level Crossing Removal works)
 - David Street (from Cleeland Street to Stud Road), near Dandenong Hospital
 - Springvale Activity Centre
6. A number of other locations including Noble Park Activity Centre have also been assessed against these parameters and such schemes are not recommended in these areas due to the risk of detrimental impact on these areas.
7. The methodology for roll out of paid parking schemes can be significantly enhanced through input from local businesses. This can include guidance and suggestions on matters such as the time of year for implementation, incentives / transitional arrangements, and the methodologies used to communicate changes with customers and visitors using Council parking areas. As such, a business focussed community engagement exercise is proposed following any decision to expand paid parking to new areas.
8. While methodology would be guided by the above consultation, an approximate timeframe for implementation of a new paid parking scheme would be 6-9 months. This would provide sufficient time for community engagement and procurement. 1 July 2026 would be a realistic target for introduction of a scheme.



9. While precise fees and charges for any parking areas are set through Councils Budget process, early commitment to managing fees and charges with a focus on improving parking experience and sustainably investing in the community are proposed as part of the decision to expand paid parking to new areas.

Background

Paid parking schemes

10. Paid parking is a tool utilised by parking providers (government and private) to manage parking areas. This tool provides a range of benefits:
- Influence travel behaviour (encourage people to parking in the most suitable locations, not just the most convenient for the individual user),
 - Increase parking turnover (encourage people to only park for the duration they need and not longer, freeing up space for other customers and visitors),
 - Encourage uptake of alternative modes of transport (less relevant out with inner Melbourne currently), and
 - Revenue generation (a secondary consideration as per Council policy).
11. Extensive global and Australian research into the suitability of, and success of, paid parking schemes is available. In appropriate locations, such schemes can significantly boost the local economy, improve places and user experience. Where inappropriately introduced, schemes can drive customers away and harm activity centres.
12. Broadly speaking, the following parameters are those which, if met, result in a successful paid parking scheme:
- Surrounding land use is predominately commercial, retail or services (with little or no residential parking demand);
 - Parking occupancy is high (85%+ for least 4 or more hours in a day);
 - Parking turnover is already promoted through parking restrictions (short term parking areas – 1P and 2P);
 - A significant proportion of parking users are not from the local area (indicating that the location is accessed for the product / experience and not just for convenience);
 - Fees can be introduced in a manner which is understandable and comparable (including in cost) to similar locations (as user expectations are typically more realistic).



Key Issues and Discussion

13. A short discussion on each proposed area for expansion is below.

Dandenong Market Area

14. On Market days, parking occupancy on Cleeland Street and Stuart Street, and the Stuart Street East off Street Car Park is consistently busy enough to warrant ticket parking. While parking restrictions are in place, the availability of parking can be a challenge for customers, despite available parking being present within the area in less popular locations.
15. Surveys and data collected identify more than 85% of patrons are not local residents, indicating that the Dandenong Market is primarily accessed due to the quality of the produce/experience it provides, and not due to convenience only.
16. The expansion of the paid parking scheme around the Dandenong Market would be anticipated to improve customer experience by allowing further influence on parking behaviour (encouraging parking in some spots) and increasing turnover in some locations and therefore the likelihood of finding a parking space.

Dandenong Activity Centre Area – Princes Highway Service Lane south of Foster Street

17. Most of the suitable locations for paid parking in central Dandenong already have paid parking, and this operates effectively – improving turnover. There is one small section of unpaid on street parking where occupancy is consistently high enough to warrant expansion of paid parking. This is the Princes Highway Service Lane, South of Foster Street.
18. Surveys and data collected identify around 80% of users of this parking area are not local residents.
19. The introduction of paid parking in this location would be anticipated to provide similar benefits to the rest of Dandenong Activity Centre.
20. It is noted that due to the Level Crossing Removal Project underway nearby, changes in this location would not be suitable until works had been fully completed.

David Street, Dandenong Hospital

21. Dandenong Hospital currently charges \$11 for an hour parking on site, \$19 for 2 hours. These high costs push parking to surrounding streets. No properties on the section of David Street directly outside the hospital are still residential, with all properties now operating as medical practices etc. supporting the hospital. Data suggests that around 85% of visitors to the hospital precinct come from other municipalities. David Street is busy for long periods of time 7 days per week.
22. David Street includes a large number of disabled parking spaces (due to customer requests as disabled parking is charged within the hospital). Council does not nor intend to charge for parking in disabled parking spaces on street.
23. The introduction of a paid parking scheme on David Street would be anticipated to significantly boost the parking experience in this area through increasing turnover. The ability for visitors to find a parking space would be significantly improved.
24. There would be little scope to extend paid parking into additional streets in this area due to the presence of residential properties.



Springvale Activity Centre

25. Springvale Activity Centre experiences extremely high parking demand during the middle of the day, 7 days per week. The larger private car parks in the area also experience very high demand and charge either \$2 or \$2.50 per hour.
26. An estimated 80% of trips to park in central Springvale are made by people who are not residents of Greater Dandenong but come from further afield. Springvale attracts people from an extremely large catchment (and is genuinely unique in this regard).
27. The parking experience within Springvale generates a significant amount of negative attention from the community, with the ability to find a parking space a major concern for users, and detractor for potential users.
28. The introduction of a paid parking scheme within Springvale Activity Centre would be anticipated to significantly boost the parking experience in this area through increasing turnover, and encouraging longer term users to parking in more suitable locations as opposed to clogging up high turnover locations. The ability for visitors to find a parking space would be significantly improved. In turn, it would be anticipated that within a short time period, the number of customers and visitors accessing the activity centre would increase.
29. While the benefits of paid parking are primarily focussed on the parking experience, it is noted that an initiative in this area, the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan - a proposed investment plan for improvements to Springvale Activity Centre, is threatened by Councils financial position as outlined in Councils Long Term Financial Plan. Allocating revenue to the implementation of this Plan at around \$1m per year would enable delivery of the plan.

Other Areas

30. Other areas assessed did not meet the necessary parameters to suggest successful implementation of a scheme. For example, Noble Park Activity Centre is primarily visited by locals (90%). This suggests Noble Park is accessed because it is convenient as well as for the product provided. Paid parking in such an area could potentially drive away some customers in this location. As a result, no other areas are recommended for new paid parking schemes at this time.

Introductory Fees

31. In order to realise the full benefit of paid parking schemes, parking fees should be based on benchmarking and surrounding paid parking areas. For instance, this may include setting on street parking fees at rates higher than off street car parks to encourage the use of those car parks. However, introducing new paid parking schemes at higher parking rates can be a more uncomfortable transition.
32. During the early stages of paid parking schemes the primary objectives are to familiarise users with parking options and payment options, ensuring a high quality parking experience. The use of low / introductory parking rates during these periods is recommended.

Dynamic Parking Fees

33. Paid parking schemes in general enable Councils to have far greater control of parking behaviour and to realise significant benefits associated with this. Use of variable / dynamic fees are recommended to realise these benefits. Examples of type of fee structure would be to quickly alter the fees within any off street car parking areas with very low utilisation. This could be half price, or 1st hour free.
34. Such fee mechanisms can be introduced through Councils Budget processes.



Impact on Residential Areas

35. Changes to parking restrictions within Activity Centres and commercial areas can lead to some increased levels of parking within surrounding residential streets. The most commonly displaced parking demand is longer term demand (staff, commuters etc.) as customers and visitors are generally less impacted by short term restrictions or paid parking schemes.
36. Within affected residential streets, Council prioritises parking for residents. This is clearly articulated within Councils Municipal Parking Strategy 2017-2027. Common tools used to protect residents from the impacts of such demands (which could be lack of available parking space for visitors, or increased frequency of illegal parking over driveways) include:
- the installation of timed parking restrictions during the day meaning residents can park overnight and on weekends, but commuters cannot leave cars all day on street
 - the installation of line marked parking areas so parking over and close to driveways is reduced
37. Such tools are frequently used in residential streets within the municipality, and Council officers' welcome approaches from our residents to discuss such issues.

Community Engagement

38. Community engagement on the suitability of locations for paid parking has generally provided limited beneficial input to car park / parking operators considering such schemes (such as Council). Feedback typically suggests large volumes of available free parking is a desired outcome without meaningful input on the methodology to achieve this or how it aligns with a common desired vision for a positive parking experience.
39. However, the methodology for roll out of paid parking schemes can be significantly enhanced through input from local businesses. This can include guidance and suggestions on matters such as the time of year for implementation, incentives / transitional arrangements, and the methodologies used to communicate changes with customers and visitors using Council parking areas. As such, a business focussed community engagement exercise is proposed following any decision to expand paid parking to new areas.
40. The community / business feedback received in relation to other transformative parking projects, such as alterations to parking meters and payment options in Dandenong was invaluable in assisting with the ongoing roll out of that project. A suite of engagement and feedback options including postcard drops, website feedback forms and drop in sessions were utilised for this project and a similar methodology is recommended relating to any expansion of / new paid parking schemes.

Reinvesting revenue locally

41. The benefits of introducing paid parking schemes in appropriate areas are improvements to the parking experience, such as improved parking turnover (more customers), greater ability to find a parking space and greater range of parking options potentially attracting new people to the area. A secondary benefit of such schemes is the generation of some extra revenue.
42. The recommendation of this report is that first and foremost parking fees are set based on achieving the greatest improvements to the parking experience. This generally means low enough to not act as a deterrent to prospective customers, but high enough to facilitate behaviour change and turnover benefits (often in response to behaviour trends or the fees charged by private parking operators in the area). Setting higher fees for the purpose of revenue generation is not recommended within this report and would be contrary to Council policy.



43. Any revenue generated by paid parking schemes should be considered for reinvestment locally. Paid parking schemes, when appropriately installed, are typically introduced in areas where a high proportion of parking demand is not from local residents, and therefore not from rate payers. These customers/visitors, and businesses depending on them, can perceive any revenue generated through paid parking schemes as unfair if allocated in the same manner as general rates / other revenue sources obtained by Council. Reinvestment locally is a recommended option to highlight Councils commitment to these areas.
44. The Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan is an excellent example of a Council plan which provides an opportunity for local reinvestment. The Revitalisation Action Plan was developed alongside local businesses and provides a clear and endorsed opportunity for revenue to be invested in improving Springvale Activity Centre for the same businesses, customers and visitors using paid parking areas. Allocating revenue to the implementation of this Plan at around \$1m per year would give Council significantly elevated ability to commit to the delivery of the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

45. Existing roles are not affected but the proposal, however if increased application of this model were pursued, additional staff resource would be required.

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

Operating Budget Implications

46. Resources generated and required for this item/project are moderate. If adopted, this project would be cost positive and generate revenue for Council.
47. The extent of revenue generated depends on the fees charged, which would not be confirmed until the next Council Budget.

Asset Implications

48. This item relates to a future CIP project that this not currently incorporated in the Asset Plan. Priorities related to the need for this item still need to be determined.

Legal/Risk Implications

49. There are no significant legal / risks associated with this report.

Environmental Implications

50. There are no significant environmental implications relevant to this report.

Community Consultation

51. There has been no community consultation undertaken on this topic to date.
52. Business focussed community engagement is proposed to guide the methodology for implementation should the project progress, as discussed in the report above.



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

53. This report is consistent with the following principles of the Community Vision:

- Safe and peaceful community
- Sustainable Environment

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

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

- Not Applicable



MINUTE No.235

Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council:

- 1 ENDORSES progression with a project to roll out paid parking to improve the parking experience in locations where this is anticipated to improve parking experience;**
- 2 ENDORSES community engagement in early 2026 to seek business and community input on the process and methodology for implementation;**
- 3 CONSIDERS as part of the 2026-27 Budget / Fees and Charges process, the inclusion of:**
 - 3.1 Introductory parking rates in areas where new paid parking is proposed ; and**
 - 3.2 Dynamic” parking rates for off street car parks so that parking fees within underperforming car parks can be lowered / to encourage utilisation.**
- 4 CONSIDERS, each year, data provided prior to budget processes summarising parking revenue from each area to enable reinvestment locally or allocation of income to reserves for future investment locally;**
- 5 NOTES, each year, that data will be provided monitoring potential additional areas where paid parking could further enhance the parking experience, but that other locations are not suitable at this time;**
- 6 To facilitate the above, APPROVES, the introduction of paid parking schemes in the following locations:**
 - 6.1 Springvale Activity Centre (with reinvestment of revenue locally to the delivery of the Springvale Revitalisation Action Plan);**
 - 6.2 A section of Princes Highway Service Lane between Foster Street and Webster Street, Dandenong (only following conclusion of Webster Street Level Crossing Removal works); and**
 - 6.3 A section of Cleeland Street, Stuart Street and the Stuart Street East Car Park near Dandenong Market, Dandenong.**

**CARRIED 8 / 0
(AMENDED MOTION)**



4.2.3 Take A Swing for Charity Golf Day Event

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures
Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services

Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **NOTES** the Take a Swing for Charity Golf Day event will not proceed for 2026;
2. **APPROVES** the commencement of a feasibility study to further investigate and determine the key aspects of potentially establishing a community foundation for the: City of Greater Dandenong; and
3. **RECEIVES** a further report on community foundation at a future meeting.

Executive Summary

1. The Take a Swing for Charity Golf Day has been a fundraising event in Greater Dandenong since 2009, raising funding for 19 local charities through a partnership between KPJ Group, SEBN, and a committed Committee of Sponsors. Council has provided substantial in-kind support over the years through staff resourcing which are no longer available due to other priorities. A transition approach and partnership for the event coordination were proposed with the Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce from 2026, to ensure the long-term sustainability of the event, while continuing our support as a sponsor.
2. Following consultation, the Committee of Sponsors did not support the proposed partnership, citing concerns about volunteer capacity and fundraising viability. As a result, the Committee has determined the 2026 event will not proceed. Council's offer of \$10,000 for an event manager and volunteer support remains available for a 2026 event, and the Chamber has expressed interest in future collaboration with the Committee. Council is also exploring philanthropic funding mechanisms to enable continued support for charitable initiatives.

Background

3. The Take a Swing for Charity Golf Day has been an annual fundraising event in Greater Dandenong since 2009, raising over \$715,000 for 19 local charities. The event was originally established through a partnership between Gelpack Pty Ltd (now KPJ Group) and South East Business Networks (SEBN) and supported by a dedicated Committee of Sponsors. The Golf Day has been supported by corporate sponsors, many of whom have provided continuous sponsorship since its inception.
4. Originally aimed at addressing food insecurity, the event's focus broadened, with funds supporting a wide range of community needs from cold storage and school uniforms to lifting equipment and sensory gardens for people with disabilities.
5. The events success is a result of the strong partnership with local industry and key sponsors including KPJ Group, Grenda Corporation, Macpherson Kelley, Erntec Pty Ltd, Telstra Business Technology Centre, and Booran Motors.



6. Council does not contribute financially to the event but since its inception has provided significant in-kind support through staff resourcing to manage the coordination, administration, promotion and running of the event on the day. This resourcing came from the former Manager SEBN position with support from numerous economic development staff. This level of resourcing is no longer sustainable for Council to provide, and the event would benefit from a dedicated event manager. To ensure the event's sustainability and adequate and appropriate resourcing and coordination, an alternative model for the event was identified.
7. In February 2025 councillors received a briefing on the role of community foundations as philanthropic organisations with the focus on City of Greater Dandenong. This report then provided options about possible approaches to granting, fundraising and governance, should Council decide to proceed.
8. Since then, Council staff have received interest from businesses and community for a philanthropic fund to financially 'give back' to the local community.

Key Issues and Discussion

9. Council proposed a partnership between the Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce and the Committee of Sponsors to coordinate and administer the Golf Day event from 2026 and onwards. The proposal included Council providing some financial (\$10,000 for an event manager) and volunteer support to transition the event coordination from 2026.
10. Council facilitated discussions between representatives of the Committee of Sponsors and Chamber to form the partnership noting that Council could continue to support the event as a sponsor but will no longer be responsible for its coordination or administration.
11. The proposed partnership aimed to safeguard the event's sustainability, leverage the Chamber's strong business networks, maintain a visible and valued role for Council in supporting local charities and align with Council's resourcing focus.
12. The Chamber of Commerce agreed to the partnership however representatives of the Committee of Sponsors have declined advising:
 - the 2026 event will not proceed due to insufficient time to ensure the days success. Noting that the event was scheduled for 5 February 2026 (3 weeks earlier than in past years).
 - the proposal for the Chamber to oversee the 2026 and beyond Golf Day event is not supported, due to concerns which include:
 - a. adequate volunteer resources are unlikely to be available without the ongoing involvement of Council, and
 - b. the recipient charity is unlikely to secure sufficient funds to make the event worthwhile, especially given the need to cover event management costs from the proceeds.
13. Council has responded that the offer to assist with volunteer resourcing and funding towards the appointment of an event manager remains in place for a 2026 event.
14. The Chamber has offered the Committee of Sponsors reassurance that the necessary resources for the 2026 event would be provided to ensure the success of the day. The Chamber remains open to exploring future opportunities with the Committee to deliver a charity golf event. Council, subject to its annual budget process, may become a sponsor if future events are held.
15. Council staff are exploring philanthropic funding mechanisms to enable and empower individuals and organisations to financially contribute and support local causes. The objective of the golf day event is to raise funds for a chosen local charity to support a community project/cause.



Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

16. This item does not impact staff resources with the 2026 event cancelled by the Committee of Sponsors. Should a transition proposal be agreed in future, Business Development and Investment staff resourcing may be impacted at that time.

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

Operating Budget Implications

17. It is estimated that approximately \$70,000 will be required to fund the feasibility study stage for establishing a community foundation for City of Greater Dandenong, should Council decide to proceed. If approved and councillors consider it a priority, funding could be considered as part of the mid-year budget.

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:

- Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.

24. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:

- A city that supports business, entrepreneurship, quality education and employment outcomes.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

25. 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.



MINUTE No.236

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Council:

- 1. NOTES the Take a Swing for Charity Golf Day event will not proceed for 2026;**
- 2. APPROVES the commencement of a feasibility study to further investigate and determine the key aspects of potentially establishing a community foundation for the: City of Greater Dandenong; and**
- 3. RECEIVES a further report on community foundation at a future meeting.**

CARRIED 7 / 0

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

Abstained - Cr Rhonda Garad.



4.2.4 Council Meeting Schedule 2026

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services

Attachments: 1. Proposed 2026 Meeting Dates Eg X 8 n X 1 RU Cu HONSO
Heb IQ [4.2.4.1 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** amending its Council business cycle at its annual meeting on 13 November 2025 to hold one (1) Council Meeting per month as set out in the schedule per Attachment 1; and
2. **APPROVES** amending its Council business cycle for Council Briefing Sessions to a minimum of two (2) per month as set out in the schedule per Attachment 1.

Executive Summary

1. This report proposes options for Council's consideration relating to amendments to the Council business cycle commencing January 2026.
2. In accordance with Council's Governance Rules, Council will adopt its meeting cycle for the period November 2025 to November 2026 at its Annual Meeting on 13 November 2025.
3. Various factors contribute to the proposed changes to the Council business cycle including recent and future State Government initiated changes to the town planning framework, which has led to a significant reduction in applications being considered by Council.
4. In line with the Council Meeting cycle changes, the structure of the Councillor Briefing Sessions schedule will alter to include one session focused on long-term strategic topics for briefing/discussion and one session focused on business proposed to be presented to a forthcoming Council Meeting.
5. Dedicated time will be set aside to accommodate the compulsory professional development of Councillors, as required under the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*.
6. Since its creation in 1994, Greater Dandenong has conducted Council business on Monday evenings, with a combination of Council Meetings and Councillor Briefing Sessions. In instances where there is a fifth Monday, the practice is generally for no formal Council business to be scheduled on that night.
7. For some time, Council has held two Council Meetings per month as a way of managing the business to be decided in a sustainable way. As recently raised by a number of Councillors, a lesser volume of business coming before Council provides an opportunity to reconsider this business cycle.
8. Further, there is an opportunity to reconsider how other elements of Council business are conducted, especially the Councillor Briefing Sessions, so that matters of a longer-term strategic nature can be briefed and discussed in a dedicated session, separate from matters of a more immediate nature that will be considered at an imminent Council Meeting. Currently these matters are combined into the same session, with immediate matters often taking precedence over the longer-term strategic matters.
9. In addition, the Council business cycle needs to take account of the new legislative requirement for there to be an ongoing professional development program in place for all Councillors.



10. If Monday is a public holiday, it is proposed that Council business move to the Tuesday in that week.
11. Council always retains the right to call an additional Council Meeting to deal with urgent or important matters that fall outside the adopted meeting cycle. This also means that a matter deferred for consideration at a subsequent meeting can be considered at an additional Council Meeting rather than wait for the next scheduled meeting, minimising the impact of the deferral on the decision-making powers of Council.

Other matters for consideration

12. A reduction in the number of Council Meetings may at times result in a larger number of items being presented to the monthly Council Meeting, which may result in a slightly later finish time
13. Community members will continue to have a variety of ways to share their thoughts and raise matters with Council and Councillors, including through public question time at Council Meetings, as outlined in the Governance Rules. One benefit of the proposed change is that public questions about operational matters asked at Council meetings can instead be directed through other channels often leading to quicker responses and resolutions.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

14. This item does not impact existing human resources.

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

Operating Budget Implications

15. A reduction in the number of Council Meetings would result in cost savings across staff including technical support staff for the purpose of livestreaming the Council Meetings.

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.

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

19. Community consultation is not required under Council's Community Engagement Policy. A communications plan has been developed to support this proposed change.
20. Local Government Victoria (LGV) is developing the Model Governance Rules for Victorian Councils. These rules aim to promote best practice Council Meeting procedures and are part of broader local government reforms in Victoria. This initiative is guided by recommendations from the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC) following Operation Sardon and aims to improve governance and integrity within the local government sector. It is anticipated that the Model Governance rules will be available in the first half of 2026.

It is anticipated that the Model Governance Rules will be available in the first half of 2026 for Council consideration.



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

- Not Applicable

23. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:

- Not Applicable

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:

- Not Applicable

MINUTE No.237

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That Council:

- 1. APPROVES amending its Council business cycle at its annual meeting on 13 November 2025 to hold one (1) Council Meeting per month as set out in the schedule per Attachment 1; and**
- 2. APPROVES amending its Council business cycle for Council Briefing Sessions to a minimum of two (2) per month as set out in the schedule per Attachment 1.**

CARRIED 6 / 2

For - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Jim Memeti, Cr Bob Milkovic and Cr Melinda Yim.

Against - Cr Rhonda Garad and Cr Sophie Tan.



4.2.5 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors [4.2.5.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 6 October to 17 October 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 6 October to 17 October 2025.

MINUTE No.238

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad
Seconded by: Cr Sophie Tan

That the listed items for the period 6 October to 17 October 2025 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 8 / 0



5 NOTICES OF MOTION

5.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO.13 - ESTABLISHMENT OF A COUNCILLOR WORKING GROUP – INDEPENDENT CULTURE AND SUPPORT ASSESSMENT

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services
Author: Cr Rhonda Garad

Preamble

1. Recent correspondence to Councillors has raised concerns regarding organisational culture, staff wellbeing, and workplace equity. While unverified, these matters highlight the need for Council to demonstrate sound governance, transparency, and care for the health of its organisational environment.
2. Under the Local Government Act 2020, Councillors have statutory obligations directly relevant to this matter, including:
 - a) **Section 8(2)(b):** to ensure the maintenance of the Council's accountability, transparency and integrity;
 - b) **Section 9(2)(c):** to promote the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipality, which includes supporting a healthy and sustainable workforce;
 - c) **Section 106(1):** to ensure the ongoing financial and organisational capacity of the Council, including through effective oversight of staffing structures and workplace practices; and
 - d) **Sections 8(2)(b) and 46(1)(a):** to ensure oversight and accountability in relation to the Chief Executive Officer's statutory duty to maintain a safe and healthy organisational environment, consistent with occupational health and safety principles.
3. In fulfilling these obligations, it is both prudent and consistent with good governance that Council take steps to independently assess and, where appropriate, strengthen organisational culture, fairness and support structures.
4. A **Culture and Support Assessment**, guided by Councillors, would provide an impartial understanding of current organisational conditions, ensure the integrity of internal processes, and support a positive, fair and high-performing workplace.

Motion

That Council:

1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the importance of maintaining a safe, fair and high-performing organisational culture consistent with the principles of good governance set out in sections 8, 9, 46 and 106 of the Local Government Act 2020.
2. **RESOLVES** to establish a Councillor Working Group to:
 - a. initiate and guide the commissioning of an Independent Culture and Support Assessment of the organisation; and
 - b. ensure the process is transparent, independent, and informed by best-practice methods.



The Chair, Mayor Cr Jim Memeti, refused to accept the proposed Notice of Motion in accordance with **section 4.8.1(a) of Council's Governance Rules**, which states that a motion must “*relate to the powers or functions of Council.*” The Chair determined that the proposed motion did not meet this requirement and therefore exercised their discretion to reject it.

The Chair further noted that while **section 28(1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (LGA)** outlines the broad role of a Councillor, **section 28(3)** clarifies that this role does not extend to the responsibilities of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO). In accordance with **section 46 of the LGA**, the CEO's responsibilities include:

- Ensuring the effective and efficient management of the day-to-day operations of the Council;
- Establishing and maintaining an organisational structure for the Council; and
- Responsibility for all staffing matters.

The Chair concluded that the subject matter of the Notice of Motion pertained solely to staffing matters, which fall within the CEO's statutory responsibilities and not within the powers or functions of the Council. As such, the motion was deemed out of order and was not accepted for consideration.

That Council:

1. **ACKNOWLEDGES** the importance of maintaining a safe, fair and high-performing organisational culture consistent with the principles of good governance set out in sections 8, 9, 46 and 106 of the Local Government Act 2020.
2. **RESOLVES** to establish a Councillor Working Group to:
 - a. initiate and guide the commissioning of an Independent Culture and Support Assessment of the organisation; and
 - b. ensure the process is transparent, independent, and informed by best-practice methods.



6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso

Over the weekend, I spoke with Ms Christine Keys regarding the Dandenong Historical Society's Annual General Meeting scheduled for Sunday 19 October 2025 at Heritage Hill. The venue was booked, but staff failed to open the facilities, leaving the group unable to proceed. Ms Keys has contacted Council but received no response. I am extremely disappointed and request that the relevant officer respond, apologise and give an explanation to Ms Keys and the Societal group.

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

This is the first I have heard of this issue regarding the Historical Society unable to gain access to Heritage Hill for an event they had booked. I will follow up with Ms Keys and the Society tomorrow.

Comment

Cr Lana Formoso

I raise the tragic death of 16-year-old Levi Sire, who died from meningococcal B on 24 September, weeks after receiving the A-C-W-Y vaccine. The B strain is not included in Victoria's immunisation schedule, despite being funded in other states. Levi's mother, Norliah, is advocating for its inclusion, supported by over 19,000 petitioners and the Royal Australian College of General Practitioners.

I also highlight the closure of the Program for Refugee Immunisation Monitoring and Education (PRIME), which previously increased refugee immunisation rates from 24% to 84%. Its closure in late 2023 leaves many under-immunised.

I respectfully request the Mayor write to the Minister for Health, Mary-Anne Thomas, to: Express Council's concern about the exclusion of the meningococcal B vaccine from Victoria's immunisation schedule.

- Advocate for reinstating PRIME funding.
- Request an urgent meeting with the Minister to discuss public health impacts.
- I will also be foreshadowing a Notice of Motion on this matter.

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

Regarding the immunisation concerns, I appreciate your advocacy. The loss of PRIME does increase community risk, and we are also advocating on this issue.



Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

At the last meeting, a motion was passed, and Council endorsed a LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee recommendation to install rainbow stickers on primary entrances of five public-facing Council buildings. I have been informed that officers are instead designing a single inclusive sticker representing multiple groups. This contradicts the endorsed recommendation and risks diluting the visibility of the queer community.

What is the role of officers in implementing a recommendation that is passed at Council? If officers choose not to implement the recommendation, what is the process?

Response

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer

Council decisions must be implemented as soon as practical. I am unaware of any proposal to change the sticker design.

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services

There is no plan to revisit the action. Officers are exploring a unified design to represent all groups inclusively. If consensus is not reached, we will proceed with the rainbow stickers as outlined. The aim is to strengthen the message of inclusiveness, not to exclude.

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer

We will implement the motion as passed. Any future changes will be subject to a separate Council decision.

Question

Cr Rhonda Garad

My next question relates to the draft maps released for high-density housing in Dandenong. I understand five areas have been identified. I would like to know what this means for the community.

- Will the community have any say in the developments proposed for these areas?
- Can they oppose, reshape, or influence these developments? Or has the State Government removed all community and Council input?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

The Department has commenced the first round of consultation on these activity centres. This is an opportunity for the community to provide feedback to the State Government. A second round of consultation is planned for early next year. I strongly encourage community members to participate in this process. Council will also work with the State Government to help shape these activity centres.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

Finally, I would like to acknowledge Ms Michelle Hansen's departure. She is a highly capable Chief Operating Officer and has provided outstanding service to Council. Michelle is one of the most respected professionals I know. Her responses have always been accurate and reliable, even if not always what we wanted to hear. Her dedication and hard work have made a significant contribution to our local community. I sincerely thank her and wish her all the best in her future endeavours.



Comment

Cr Alice Phuong Le

On Sunday 19 October 2025, I attended the second anniversary celebration of the Vietnamese television channel event.

I also wish to raise a matter regarding parking meters. I have spoken with many residents and traders around Springvale Shopping Centre, and approximately 99 percent of them oppose the reintroduction of parking meters. They recall that a similar plan was proposed ten years ago but was later removed. Residents are now questioning why it is being considered again. Even though many Councillors support the project, the overwhelming majority of residents do not. Will Council proceed with the project despite this strong community opposition?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

If you ask anyone whether they want to pay for parking, the answer is usually no. However, we are planning to conduct community consultation in early February. We will also engage with local traders and explain the potential benefits of parking meters, including how free parking options may be incorporated. We will ensure the community is kept informed throughout the process.

Comment

Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor

I have attended several community events over the past two weeks and would like to acknowledge the following:

On Friday 17 October 2025, I attended the 20th anniversary of the Noble Park Art Show with Cr Phillip Danh. It was a fantastic celebration of creativity, community, and culture, showcasing artists from all age groups.

On Saturday 18 October 2025, I attended the 2025 Mid-Autumn Festival and the sixth anniversary of the J&U Melbourne Chinese Language and Culture School. The school currently has 126 students from prep to Year 12 and has made a significant contribution to language education and cultural exchange.

On Sunday 19 October 2025, I attended the Women's Health Community Awareness Program hosted by Malayalee Doctors of Victoria and Vipanchika Grandhasala Melbourne Inc. The event focused on raising awareness about women's health and empowering women to make informed health decisions.

On Tuesday 21 October 2025, I attended the Centenarian Morning Tea with Cr Bob Milkovic. We celebrated seven residents who recently turned 100 years old. Sharing their secrets to longevity included healthy eating, staying close to family, exercising, and giving back to the community.

On Wednesday 22 October 2025, I joined the CEO and Executive team in welcoming the Honourable. Patrick Gorman MP, Assistant Minister to the Prime Minister, to Greater Dandenong. This was his first visit to the municipality. Later that evening, I attended the Citizenship Ceremony and welcomed 300 new citizens to our city.



On Thursday 23 October 2025, I attended the City of Greater Dandenong Annual Children's Forum 2025, which included students from 25 primary schools. I also attended the opening of the Pure Dairy cheese factory in Dandenong South. Later that evening, I attended the Sandown Cup Reception at Sandown Park with Cr Bob Milkovic. Sandown is one of Victoria's premier greyhound racing venues.

On Saturday 25 October 2025, I attended the 100-year celebration of Dandenong West Primary School. It was a remarkable milestone, and I congratulate the teachers, staff, current and former students for their contributions.

Question

Cr Sophie Tan, Deputy Mayor

I would like an update on the usage of the Noble Park Library Locker, which was officially opened on 1 October 2025. Do we have any data on how many people have used it so far?

Response

Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening

I do not have specific statistics at this time, but an update will be included in this week's INFOSUM for Councillors. A more detailed update can also be provided in the minutes.

Comment

Cr Melinda Yim

On Thursday 2 October 2025, I attended the Cambodian Kids Can Charity Gala Dinner with Deputy Mayor Cr Sophie Tan and Cr Alice Phuong Le.

Comment

Cr Phillip Danh

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

On Friday 17 October 2025, I was honoured to join Deputy Mayor Cr Sophie Tan in launching the 20th anniversary of the Noble Park Art Show.

On Saturday 25 October 2025, I launched the Victorian Darts Competition at Fun Factory.

I would like to raise the ongoing issue of illegal rubbish dumping at Mile Creek and nearby parks, especially near the footbridge by Briggs Crescent, Noble Park. This area remains a hotspot. The water bank is managed by Melbourne Water. This creates a coordination challenge with Council. Are there plans to address this and prevent future dumping?

I wish to comment on the paid parking proposal. I thank Councillor Bob Milkovic for removing David Street from the list. I was undecided until lunchtime today. I appreciate the work of Council officers. This was a difficult decision. I understood both perspectives. Demand is high. Without regulation, spaces stay occupied all day. People do not choose to go to hospital. Their visits are often unavoidable. David Street is different from other locations. When this returns to Council, I look forward to working with officers and traffic engineers. The issue is not just free parking. It is about avoiding no parking or \$11 fees at the private hospital. The community relies on vehicles. Paid parking should be a last resort. David Street does not meet that threshold.

I also wish to speak about Greater Dandenong's industrial base. This has gained attention after visits from two federal ministers. The region is a key part of Victoria's manufacturing sector. It produces up to one-third of the state's output. Major companies include Jayco, Nissan, and Alstom.



These produce motorhomes, electric vehicles, and trains. The industry is growing. Jobs are available. Many locals still struggle to find work. A report from the Lord Mayor's office showed only 17 per cent of the workforce is under 30. This is an opportunity for Council to support local employment. This is vital for young people.

We must promote free TAFE, apprenticeships, and school partnerships. People must know these jobs exist. These are stable, well-paid roles. This will support businesses. This will help families and young people find secure work close to home. This will keep Greater Dandenong and South-East Melbourne at the heart of Australia's manufacturing future.

Response

Mayor Cr Jim Memeti

I will attend the Victorian Parliament to meet Members of Parliament to discuss the importance of manufacturing. This is a key focus for Greater Dandenong. We want both Victorian and Australian Governments to understand manufacturing is not dead, especially in the South-East. The Prime Minister recently expressed support for increasing domestic manufacturing. Greater Dandenong sits at the centre of this sector. We have advocated strongly for growth. Recent visits by two federal ministers highlight recognition of our region's potential.

Comment

Mayor Cr Jim Memeti

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

On Wednesday 1 October 2025, I presided over two citizenship ceremonies, where we welcomed 300 new citizens to our city. It is always a moving experience to hand over citizenship certificates and witness the joy and pride on the faces of our newest Australians. The phrase "Welcome home" truly resonates during these ceremonies.

On Thursday 2 October 2025, I attended the Dandenong South Soccer Club presentation night and congratulated the club on its promotion—its third in the past ten years.

On Friday 3 October 2025, I attended a special celebration at Harmony Village to mark Patty's 100th birthday - a wonderful get-together honouring her long life, kindness and the joy she brings to those around her.

On Saturday 4 October 2025, I participated in the Annual General Meeting of the Victorian Afghan Association Network. This organisation plays a vital role in supporting new migrants and hosting cultural festivals. Their work is deeply valued in our community. That same evening, I also attended the Springvale City Soccer Club Senior and Reserves Presentation Night to acknowledge the club's contributions to community sport and celebrate the achievements of players and teams over the 2025 season.

On Sunday 5 October 2025, I attended the launch event for the District 113 Gather My Lodge Crew initiative. Gather My Lodge is a charitable gardening and maintenance service that offers free support to Freemasons, Masonic widows and other members of the community. Later that day, I attended the Opening Ceremony of the 2025 SEMVAC Children Lantern Festival, a vibrant and well-organised event that brought the community together.



On Monday 6 October 2025, I met with representatives from the Level Crossing Removal Project (LXRP) regarding the Webster Street level crossing. The boom gates have now been removed, and road closures are in place while works continue. The underpass at Princes Highway will open soon, which will be a major improvement for the area.

On Tuesday 7 October 2025, I attended the SABA Local Trade Awards and the launch of the 2026 Lunar New Year celebrations marking the Year of the Horse. SABA did an excellent job recognising hard work, innovation and community spirit of local traders.

On Thursday 9 October 2025, I attended the MAV Conference Dinner, where I was honoured to receive a 20-year service recognition. This acknowledgment reminded me that my years of service as a Councillor have been shaped and sustained by the trust and support of Dandenong Ward residents and the diverse Greater Dandenong community — both of whom I am proud to serve. I would like to thank Cr Bob Milkovic for moving the amendment to remove David Street from the paid parking proposal. He spoke with me earlier in the day, and I appreciate his efforts to reflect community concerns.

Finally, this is Michelle Hansen's last meeting. I've been with you since day one and have watched you grow in your role. As Cr Garrad mentioned your comments, especially on figures, are always accurate and never need checking. Your departure is a significant loss for Council. You will be missed, and I wish you all the very best for the future.

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
22/09/25 CQT5	Cr Lana Formoso	Letter from Mayor While celebrating personal milestones, I was devastated to learn of the tragic deaths of Dao Akouen (15) and Chol Achiek (12). As a mother, teacher, and community advocate, I emphasise that these boys were not involved in gangs they were loved, active in school and sport. I condemn the harmful and divisive language used in media, stressing that this is a human and societal tragedy. I urge the Council to stand in solidarity, observe a minute of silence, and send support letters to the families and community.	Mayors EA	27/10/2025	Initial response provided 22/09/2025: If you can pass on the relevant contact information, we will ensure the letters are sent as soon as possible. Let us now observe a minute of silence. Further response provided 27/10/2025: Letters have been sent on behalf of the Mayor. COMPLETED
13/10/25 CQT2	Cr Bob Milkovic	Speeding, Dandenong North I have received several calls from residents in the surrounding streets near Brady Road, Dandenong North, particularly between Gladstone Road and Loch Road. These include Shalimar Crescent, Victor Avenue, First Avenue, Second Avenue, and Third Avenue. Residents have reported that since the installation of speed calming devices on Brady Road, drivers are using these side streets as shortcuts, which has led to increased speeding. There was a recent incident where a car took a corner too quickly, crashed into a fence, and nearly hit a house. I would like to request that Council undertake a traffic survey in these	Executive Director City Futures	23/10/2025	Initial response provided 13/10/2025: I will arrange for the transport team to investigate the area. They will conduct a traffic assessment and report back with findings and recommendations. Further response provided 23/10/2025: I can confirm that traffic surveys have been arranged for a number of streets in this area to assess the impact of the Brady Road treatments. This includes surveys on each of the streets you have raised. We anticipate that these surveys will be undertaken in November, and will provide an update to you directly with the results. COMPLETED



Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
		streets to assess whether there has been an increase in speeding and to explore options to slow down traffic and discourage shortcutting through residential areas.			



7 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was considered.



8 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.28pm.

Signature