



Minutes

Council Meeting

Thursday 13 November 2025, 6:00 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

[Cr Phillip Danh](#)

[Cr Bob Milkovic](#)

[Cr Isabella Do](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Cr Lana Formoso](#)

[Cr Sophaneth \(Sophie\) Tan](#)

[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Loi Truong](#)

[Cr Alice Phuong Le](#)

[Cr Melinda Yim](#)

[Cr Jim Memeti](#)



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

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer opened the Meeting at 6.00pm.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Bob Milkovic

Councillors Present

Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le,
Cr Jim Memeti, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong, Cr Melinda Yim.

Officers Present

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer; Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures; Yuri Guzman, Chief Customer and Information Officer; Dani Trimble, Coordinator Governance; Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services.



1.3 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Jim Memeti disclosed a direct material conflict of interest in Recommendation 2 - Item No. 2.5 Appointment of Council Liaisons and Representatives to Committees, peak industry bodies, regional and community based organisations, as he is a Director of a company that owns a stall at the Dandenong Market. Cr Jim Memeti left the Meeting prior to discussion and voting on this item.



1.4 WELCOME TO COUNTRY

Bunurong respected elder Uncle Mark Brown gave a traditional Welcome to Country to all in attendance at the meeting.



2 BUSINESS

2.1 ELECTION OF THE MAYOR

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services
Attachments: Nil.

Executive Summary

1. The *Local Government Act 2020* requires that a Mayor be elected and stipulates the methods by which that election must take place.
2. This report recommends that the 2025-2026 mayoral term be for a period of one year. Councillors will elect the Mayor at the meeting.

Recommendation 1

That the Mayor be elected for a one year term.

MINUTE No.1

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti
Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That the Mayor be elected for a one year term.

CARRIED 8 / 0

Recommendation 2

That Cr _____ be elected as Mayor for the 2025-2026 mayoral term.

MINUTE No.2

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti
Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Cr Sophie Tan be elected as Mayor for the 2025-2026 mayoral term.

CARRIED 8 / 0

Background

3. Sections 18 and 19 of the *Local Government Act 2020* set out the roles and powers of the Mayor.
4. The Mayor takes precedence at all municipal proceedings within the municipal district and must chair all meetings of the Council. In the normal course of events, the office of Mayor becomes vacant at the time and on the day of the next mayoral election. Any Councillor is eligible for election or re-election to the office of Mayor.
5. Section 26(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that before the Election of the Mayor, a Council must determine by resolution whether the Mayor is to be elected for a one (1) or a two (2) year term.



6. Section 25 of the *Local Government Act 2020* outlines the procedures for electing a Mayor.
7. Section 25(3) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that the Chief Executive Officer must chair the Election of the Mayor. It is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer to call for nominations for the position of Mayor. In the event that more than one Councillor is nominated for the position of Mayor for the 2025-2026 mayoral term, then Councillors present at the meeting must vote for one of the candidates by a show of hands.
8. Section 25(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that the Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority.
9. Section 25(7) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that absolute majority means the number of Councillors which is greater than half the number of the Councillors of a Council. At Greater Dandenong an absolute majority is therefore six (6).
10. In the event that an absolute majority is not obtained, a recount will be undertaken. If an absolute majority is still not obtained, Council may resolve to adjourn the meeting for a short time to discuss the matter further.
11. Section 4.16.10 of Council's Governance Rules provides that if an absolute majority cannot be obtained, the Mayor will be determined by lot.
12. After the election, the new Mayor will take the Chair for the remainder of the meeting.



Mayor Sophie Tan addressed the meeting as follows:

“Wominjeka! Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen!

I acknowledge the traditional custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders, past and present. As a Council, we recognise their ongoing connection to climate, culture, Country and waters. I also extend my respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and their elders present here tonight, especially Uncle Josh. And thank you to the wonderful Welcome to Country.

I want to begin by thanking my fellow Councillors for placing their trust and support in me. I want to acknowledge Cr. Jim Memeti, the outgoing Mayor, for his leadership, dedication, and contribution to our community over the past year. It is always impressive to work alongside him, watch him lead our Council and our community and I continue to learn a lot from him.

It is such a great privilege to be elected as Mayor of the City of Greater Dandenong. Having lived here for over 30 years, I have a strong attachment to this community and will use my time as Mayor as an opportunity to give back to this community.

My story is like so many that make up the Greater Dandenong community. It begins in 1995, when I migrated to Australia from Cambodia with my mother and four siblings, three years after my father passed away. We came to Australia because Cambodia wasn't safe for us to continue to live in.

Many people know Cambodia's history. An estimated two million people were killed by the Khmer Rouge led by Pol Pot between 1975-1979. My mother had nine siblings. All of them were killed. Her parents, my grandparents, were also killed. In the early - mid 90s, Cambodia was still recovering from the war. Fighting continued between the government and remaining Khmer Rouge forces, especially in rural and border areas. My younger sister and I were almost kidnapped several times. My mother took the courageous decision to leave the country for our safety.

I came here when I was just 11 years old. We settled in Springvale- our new home and the community that shaped me. I went to Springvale Secondary College and later graduated from Monash University with a Bachelor of Business & Commerce.

I began my career with a global marketing company, where I learned the importance of teamwork, innovation, and leadership and then into the financial services sector, gaining valuable experience that strengthened my understanding of business and community needs.

But this community has always been at the heart of my journey.

Today, I continue that commitment as President of the Cambodian Women's Group and the Vice-President of the Cambodian Australian Federation. These roles allow me to support and empower women, celebrate our culture, and advocate for the needs of our multicultural communities.

*I am also a proud member of the Australian Labor Party, standing by the values of equality, fairness, and opportunity for all. **When you give back throughout your life, these organisations shape you as much as you shape them.***

My Buddhist faith has guided me throughout my life-teaching me compassion, patience, and mindfulness.

Since being elected to the City of Greater Dandenong Council in 2019, I've had the privilege of serving our residents and have been twice elected as Deputy Mayor.

I am honoured to have been elected as the Mayor of the City of Greater Dandenong- and to be the first Cambodian Woman to hold this position in this country.

This is more than a personal achievement - it reflects the strength and spirit of our diverse community. It shows that no matter where we come from, this country, Australia, our home, offers us all the opportunity to make a difference.



I look forward to working alongside all Councillors, our CEO Jacqui Weatherill, the executive leadership team and all staff who continue to contribute to our community in all of their roles. As always, we have a lot to do.

Our priorities for 2026 include delivering our Council Plan and ensuring our major projects, especially the new aquatic and wellbeing centre opening in 2027. The continue of Dandenong New Art Gallery (DNA) construction. We also have the final stage of the Perry Road upgrade, and we're looking ahead to significant road safety improvements on MaCrae Street.

And we are preparing for the rollout of the purple glass bin delivery service, a mandatory Victorian Government initiative to be in place by mid 2027. We will focused on procurement and community updates throughout 2026 to keep our community informed.

I look forward to our ongoing works to enhance the Noble Park, Springvale, and Dandenong Activity Centres, along with our regular upgrades of local roads, footpaths, lightings, playgrounds, reserves and sports facilities.

Our community has its challenges, but our diversity and determination is our strength.

We are all part of a city that recognizes and supports its vulnerable residents. Council will continue to work to support the physical and mental health and wellbeing of all our residents.

On a personal note, I would like to thank my relatives who helped to sponsor my family here and ultimately, shape my life. To my mum, thank you for raising me to be the woman I am today. Thank you to Hong Lim, Youhorn Chea and to the current Member for Clarinda, Meng Heang Tak, and all my good friends for their ongoing support of me throughout my political career. Thank you to Tim Richardson, Julian Hill and Lee Tarlamis for their friendship and advice.

I am committed to working hard as Mayor to ensure Greater Dandenong is a better place to live, work and visit. Let's all work together for that.

Thank You!"



2.2 ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services
Attachments: Nil.

Executive Summary

1. Section 20A of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that an office of Deputy Mayor may be established and it is the practice of Greater Dandenong City Council to elect a Deputy Mayor.
2. This report recommends that the 2025-2026 deputy mayoral term be for a period of one year. Councillors will elect the Deputy Mayor at the meeting.

Recommendation 1

That the Deputy Mayor be elected for a one year term.

MINUTE No.3

Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That the Deputy Mayor be elected for a one year term.

CARRIED 8 / 0

Recommendation 2

That Cr _____ be elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2025-2026 mayoral term.

MINUTE No.4

Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Cr Phillip Danh be elected as Deputy Mayor for the 2025-2026 mayoral term.

CARRIED 8 / 0

Background

3. Section 21 of the *Local Government Act 2020* sets out the roles and powers of the Deputy Mayor.
4. The Deputy Mayor must perform the role of the Mayor and may exercise any of the powers of the Mayor if the Mayor is unable, for any reason, to attend a Council Meeting or incapable of performing any duties of the office of Mayor. In the normal course of events, the office of Deputy Mayor becomes vacant at the time and on the day of the next election for the Deputy Mayor. Any Councillor (other than the Mayor) is eligible for election or re-election to the office of Deputy Mayor.
5. Section 27 of the *Local Government Act 2020* outlines the procedures for electing a Deputy Mayor. A Council must determine by resolution whether the Deputy Mayor is to be elected for a one or a two year term.



6. It is the responsibility of the Mayor (as they have taken the Chair for the Meeting) to call for nominations for the position of Deputy Mayor. In the event that more than one Councillor is nominated for the position of Deputy Mayor for the 2025-2026 deputy mayoral term, then Councillors present at the meeting must vote for one of the candidates by a show of hands.
7. The Deputy Mayor must be elected by an absolute majority. Section 25(7) of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that absolute majority means the number of Councillors which is greater than half the number of the Councillors of a Council. At Greater Dandenong an absolute majority is therefore six (6).
8. In the event that an absolute majority is not obtained, a recount will be undertaken. If an absolute majority is still not obtained, Council may resolve to adjourn the meeting for a short time to discuss the matter further.
9. Section 4.16.12 of Council's Governance Rules provides that if an absolute majority cannot be obtained, the Deputy Mayor will be determined by lot.



Deputy Mayor Phillip Tan addressed the meeting as follows:

“Thank you very much Cr. Sophie Tan and a special thank you to Uncle Mark Brown for tonight’s Welcome and for all the work that you do in bringing our community together and sharing your culture.

Thank you to my fellow Councillors for the trust you’ve placed in me. It is truly an honour to serve as Deputy Mayor for the next twelve months and to serve alongside Cr Tan.

I am proud to serve on a Council that reflects the incredible diversity of cultures, perspectives, and experiences within our city. Since being elected at the start of 2024, I’ve learned a lot not just from my fellow Councillors, but also the staff here of all levels, that turn up everyday to ensure that the cogs continue to move in the service of our community. From our security guards, kitchen staff and IT team who ensure that residents can have their voices heard at Council meetings every fortnight. To our customer service team, sanitary workers, care workers and more who are on the front lines every day.

Everyone in this building and everyone who wears the Greater Dandenong logo on their uniforms have an equally important role to play which deserves recognition and tonight’s celebration is as much about them as it is about all of us up here.

I have lived in Greater Dandenong my entire life:

- **Noble Park** is where I grew up and still live, it’s the place where my parents chose to call home—like so many migrants who came to Australia seeking opportunities for a prosperous life
- I played soccer at a local club in **Springvale**, I’ve hung out with friends throughout high school at parks in **Keysborough**, and I still do my shopping in **Dandenong**.

This is a community I love and am proud to represent.

I chose to run for Council and commit myself to service because I wanted to make the lives of everyday people better.

Local government is the level of government closest to the people, and the functions of local government is one that people notice most.

I’ve spoken to lots of residents in Yarraman Ward across parts of Noble Park and Dandenong and to most, they just want Council to get the basics right, so they have one less thing to have to worry about:

- That means collecting our rubbish on time so our streets can be kept clean
- It means addressing cost-of-living pressures by maintaining our roads, so people aren’t out of pocket for pothole damage.
- It means ensuring our local libraries remain the best so young people have a safe place to study that is free of charge, a place where they can spend time with friends, especially at a time when young people are facing increased mental health challenges.
- It means ensuring that our local parks and sporting facilities meet the highest standards, like the current ongoing construction world-class facilities like the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre.

Our residents don’t ask for much, but they deserve the best.



I would like to thank:

- *My residents in Yarraman Ward for their continued support for me to be their representative in this chamber*
- *CEO and executive officers for your professionalism in providing ongoing support and counsel to all Councillors*
- *My fellow Councillors for the opportunity to serve in this role,*
- *The mentors, community volunteers and community leaders across Greater Dandenong who I have gotten to know and have helped to provide further meaning to this role*
- *And of course, my family and partner Tilly for your unconditional love and support, not just for my role here at Council, but in all facets of my life, I know that I wouldn't be here today if it were not for what you do.*

This election is an honour, and I look forward to working together with everyone to achieve meaningful outcomes for our communities.”



2.3 NOTING OF ALLOWANCES FOR MAYOR, DEPUTY MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services
Attachments: Nil.

Executive Summary

1. It has been common practice for this Council to note the current allowances provided to the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors at this annual Council Meeting at which the Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected.
2. This report recommends that the current allowances for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors, along with the contents of this report, be noted.

Recommendation

That Council NOTES the contents of this report and the current base allowances for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

MINUTE No.5

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council NOTES the contents of this report and the current base allowances for the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors.

CARRIED 8 / 0

Background

3. Section 39 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides for the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal (the "Tribunal" or "VIRT") to make a determination setting the value of the amount of the allowance payable for Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors. This determination must provide for Council allowance categories.
4. The Tribunal made its first Determination 01/2022 on the allowance payable to Mayors, Deputy Mayors and Councillors in March 2022. VIRT has made subsequent annual adjustments, with one commencing on 18 December 2022, one commencing on 1 July 2023, one commencing 1 July 2024, and one commencing on 1 July 2025.



5. Under these determinations, Greater Dandenong Councillor allowances are currently set as follows:

	Greater Dandenong City Council Base Allowances (Since 1 July 2025)
Mayor	\$142,661
Deputy Mayor	\$71,329
Councillors	\$41,992

6. Note 1: These allowances are inclusive of the 12% Superannuation Guarantee. Under Council's Council Expenses, Support and Accountability Policy, Council will also provide the Mayor with the use of a fully registered, insured, maintained and fuelled Council vehicle for their mayoral role and for private use.
7. Note 2: Greater Dandenong has been classified as a Category 3 Council since July 2005.
8. The above are base amounts payable within a Category 3 Council under the VIRT Determinations.
9. The Tribunal is required to make annual adjustments to the values of the allowances set in its Determinations under section 23B of the *Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019*.



2.4 COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE 2026

- Responsible Officer:** Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services
- Attachments:**
1. Proposed 2026 Meeting Dates (A 12238265) [2.4.1 - 1 page]

Officer Recommendation

That Council (as previously resolved at the 27 October 2025 Council Meeting):

1. **ADOPTS** its Council business cycle to hold one (1) Council Meeting per month as set out in the schedule per Attachment 1; and
2. **ADOPTS** 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.

MINUTE No.6

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Lana Formoso

That Council (as previously resolved at the 27 October 2025 Council Meeting):

1. **ADOPTS** its Council business cycle to hold one (1) Council Meeting per month as set out in the schedule per Attachment 1; and
2. **ADOPTS** 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 8 / 0

Background

1. Since its establishment in 1994, Greater Dandenong has conducted Council business on Monday evenings, generally holding two Council Meetings per month.
2. Recent State Government reforms to the town planning framework have reduced the number of matters requiring Council decision, providing an opportunity to simplify the meeting cycle.
3. From January 2026, Council will hold one Council Meeting per month and two Councillor Briefing Sessions per month. The revised briefing format will include:
 - One session dedicated to long-term strategic and policy matters.
 - One session focused on immediate business for upcoming Council Meetings.
 - Time allocated for mandatory professional development under the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*.
 - If a Monday falls on a public holiday, Council business will be held on the Tuesday.
4. Council retains discretion to schedule additional meetings when required.



Financial Implications

5. Reducing the number of Council Meetings will deliver minor operational savings, particularly through reduced staff and technical support costs for livestreaming. These savings will be met within the existing Governance Unit budget.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

6. The proposed schedule complies with the *Local Government Act 2020*, *Local Government (Governance and Integrity) Regulations 2020*, and Council's Governance Rules.

Conclusion

7. The 2026 meeting cycle provides a balanced and efficient framework for Council decision-making. It maintains transparency and accountability while allowing greater focus on strategic priorities and Councillor development.
8. The proposed schedule, detailed in Attachment 1, continues Council's commitment to good governance and effective community representation.

ATT 2.4.1 Proposed 2026 Meeting Dates (A 12238265)

COUNCIL MEETINGS & COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS			
DATES 2025 (after Annual Meeting)			
Week	Meeting Type	Day/Date	Comments
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session	Monday 17 November 2025	
Week 2	Council Meeting	Monday 24 November 2025	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session	Monday 1 December 2025	
Week 2	Council Meeting	Monday 8 December 2025	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session/Councillor breakup dinner	Monday 15 December 2025	
COUNCIL MEETINGS & COUNCILLOR BRIEFING SESSIONS			
DATES 2026			
Week	Meeting Type	Day/Date	Comments
Week 4	Council Meeting	Tuesday 27 January 2026	5pm start for PCM - essential business items only "contracts/items that Council have previously been briefed on"
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 2 February 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 9 February 2026	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 16 February 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 23 February 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 2 March 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Tuesday 10 March 2026 *	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 16 March 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 23 March 2026	
Week 5	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic/Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 30 March 2026	
Week 1	No Council Business proposed pending Budget Briefing requirements	Tuesday 7 April 2026 *	School holidays
Week 2	No Council Business proposed pending Budget Briefing requirements	Monday 13 April 2026	School holidays
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 20 April 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 27 April 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 4 May 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 11 May 2026	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 18 May 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 25 May 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 1 June 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Tuesday 9 June 2026 *	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 15 June 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 22 June 2026	
Week 5	Special CM to adopt budget (Only if Required)	Monday 29 June 2026	School holidays
Week 1	No Council Business proposed	Monday 6 July 2026	School holidays
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic/Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 13 July 2026	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 20 July 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 27 July 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 3 August 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 10 August 2026	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 17 August 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 24 August 2026	
Week 5	No Council Business proposed	Monday 31 August 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic/Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 7 September 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session - Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 14 September 2026	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 21 September 2026	School holidays
Week 4	No Council Business proposed	Monday 28 September 2026	School holidays
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 5 October 2026	
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 12 October 2026	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 19 October 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 26 October 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic	Monday 2 November 2026	Melbourne Cup the following day
Week 2	Councillor Briefing Session – Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 9 November 2026	
Week 2	Annual Council Meeting	Thursday 12 November 2026^	
Week 3	Council Meeting	Monday 16 November 2026	
Week 4	Councillor Briefing Session - Professional Development/Strategic	Monday 23 November 2026	
Week 5	No Council Business proposed	Monday 30 November 2026	
Week 1	Councillor Briefing Session – Strategic/Council Meeting Agenda	Monday 7 December 2026	
Week 2	Council Meeting	Monday 14 December 2026	
Week 3	No Council Business proposed	Monday 21 December 2026	School holidays

Key	
Red	Legislatively required, cannot be moved
Purple	School holidays
Blue Background	Council Meeting



2.5 APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL LIAISONS AND REPRESENTATIVES TO COMMITTEES, PEAK INDUSTRY BODIES, REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY BASED ORGANISATIONS

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services
Attachments: 1. Councillor Representation Nominations (A 12554307)
[2.5.1 - 13 pages]

Executive Summary

1. In conducting the business of Council and representing Council's interests in the wider community, Greater Dandenong City Council has formal representation and liaison with a wide number of committees, peak industry bodies and regional and community associations.
2. While the Mayor of the day is typically Council's key representative, the number of associations where Council seeks an involvement is such that representation needs to be shared among all Councillors to ensure a manageable workload.
3. This report provides a schedule of the proposed appointment of Council liaisons and representatives to committees, peak industry bodies, regional and community associations for 2025-2026.

Recommendation 1

That for the 2025-2026 Mayoral term Council:

1. **appoints Councillor Liaisons and Councillor Representatives to all of the community organisations, committees, reference groups, peak industry bodies and regional organisations listed in Attachment 1 but excluding Dandenong Market Pty Ltd.**
2. **notes the cessation of Councillor representation on the following organisations:**
 - **Mills Reserve Precinct Advisory Group (MPAG)**
 - **Taylors Road Landfill Community Reference Group**
 - **South Eastern Councils Biodiversity Network (SECBN); and**
 - **South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCA) Councillor Advisory Group.**



MINUTE No.7

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That for the 2025-2026 Mayoral term Council:

1. **APPOINTS Councillor Liaisons and Councillor Representatives to all of the community organisations, committees, reference groups, peak industry bodies and regional organisations listed in Attachment 1 but excluding Dandenong Market Pty Ltd; and**
2. **NOTES the cessation of Councillor representation on the following organisations:**
 - **Mills Reserve Precinct Advisory Group (MPAG)**
 - **Taylor's Road Landfill Community Reference Group**
 - **South Eastern Councils Biodiversity Network (SECBN); and**
 - **South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCA) Councillor Advisory Group.**

CARRIED 8 / 0

Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber at 6.44 pm.

Recommendation 2

That, for the 2025-2026 Mayoral term, Council appoints Cr _____ as the Council Representative to the Dandenong Market Pty Ltd.

MINUTE No.8

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That, for the 2025-2026 Mayoral term, Council appoints Cr Rhonda Garad as the Council Representative to the Dandenong Market Pty Ltd.

CARRIED 7 / 0

Background

4. Current appointments of Council Representatives on all representative bodies are provided in Attachment 1. The attachment also lists the proposed new appointments of Council Liaisons and Representatives on community organisations, committees, reference groups, peak industry bodies and regional organisations for 2025-2026.
5. During the year, Council may receive additional requests and these will be presented for consideration at other Council Meetings. Councillors are able to report on their attendance, observations or important matters arising from their liaison or representation with groups for which the Councillor has been formally appointed by Council at all Council Meetings.

Cr Jim Memeti returned to the Chamber at 6.45 pm.

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

NOTE:

The principal purpose of the item **Reports from Councillors/Delegated Members and Councillors' Questions** on any Council Meeting Agenda is for Councillors to report on their attendance, observations or important matters arising from their liaison or representation with groups for which the Councillor has been formally appointed by Council. In accordance with the documented 'protocol' that applies to either liaisons or representatives, Councillors should raise matters of importance at this item. Other matters may also be reported.

COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS

Organisation	Past Liaison(s) 2024-2025 13 Nov 2024 – 13 Nov 2025	New Liaison(s) 2025-2026 13 Nov 2025 – 12 Nov 2026	Status Update	Meeting Date and Frequency
<p>Dandenong and District Historical Society</p> <p>This organisation collects and displays historical information from the local area.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Rhonda Garad	Cr Melinda Yim	Current	<p>The Annual General Meeting (AGM) scheduled on Sunday 19 October, 2pm</p> <p>Once a year in October</p>
<p>Dandenong Show Committee</p> <p>This committee is for discussion around running and promoting the show, maintenance, legislative matters, changes to insurance, Council matters.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Bob Milkovic Alternate – Cr Jim Memeti	Melinda Yim Alternate – Cr Bob Milkovic	Current	<p>Biannually</p> <p>The Dandenong Show is scheduled for the weekend of 8–9 November.</p>
<p>Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network</p> <p>The Interfaith Network is a group of diverse religious faith leaders working in partnership to promote peace and harmony within the municipality. Meeting schedule is determined by the group.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Sophie Tan	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan	Current	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Members Meeting – 13th May 2026 • Annual Gathering - 19th August 2026 • Members Meeting – 30th September 2026 • AGM – 30th September 2026

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>South East Community Links</p> <p>South East Community Links provides a range of programs and support services for refugees and migrants, children, young people and volunteers.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>Cr Phillip Danh Cr Loi Truong</p> <p>Alternate - Cr Sean O'Reilly</p>	<p>Cr Isabella Do</p> <p>Alternate - Cr Sean O'Reilly</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>The SECL Board meets 8 to 10 times per year, in addition to committee meetings. Dates for 2026 have not yet been finalised, but meetings are typically held once a month, usually on the second Tuesday.</p>
<p>Springvale and District Historical Society</p> <p>This organisation collects and displays historical information from the local area.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>Cr Alice Phuong Le Cr Sean O'Reilly</p>	<p>Cr Sean O'Reilly Cr Alice Phuong Le</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>The Annual General Meeting (AGM) is scheduled on Saturday 25 October</p> <p>Once a year in October</p>
<p>Springvale Benevolent Society</p> <p>The Springvale Benevolent Society provides assistance to families in crisis in the Springvale, Noble Park and Keysborough areas.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>Cr Alice Phuong Le Cr Sophie Tan Cr Loi Truong</p>	<p>Cr Melinda Yim Cr Isabella Do Cr Alice Phuong Le Cr Loi Truong</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>The Board of Directors meet on the fourth Tuesday of every month, and their AGM is usually held on the fourth Tuesday of September.</p>

Councillor Liaison

It is not essential for Council to be involved in these groups – Councillors are only involved when they have the interest, the time and the inclination.

Protocols

Councillor Liaisons act as a liaison point between the organisation and Council as a whole and provide advice to Council or the organisation when decisions or relevant policy matters are discussed. Councillor Liaisons will generally keep informed about the work and functions of the organisation and support the role of the organisation in accordance with Council policy or direction. If a Councillor chooses to stand as an office bearer of the organisation this is undertaken separately to the role of Councillor Liaison.

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

COUNCIL GROUPS & COMMITTEES

Organisation	Past Councillor Representative(s) 2024-2025 13 Nov 2024 – 13 Nov 2025	New Councillor Representative(s) 2025-2026 13 Nov 2025 – 12 Nov 2026	Status Update	Meeting Date and Frequency
<p>Arts Advisory Board</p> <p>This committee is intended to meet quarterly and provide high level advice to Council regarding the strategic direction for arts, including Drum Theatre, within the municipality. It incorporates the functions of the former Public Arts Advisory Committee and the Drum Theatre Advisory Committee.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Isabella Do	Cr Isabella Do	Current	<p>Quarterly</p> <p>Next meeting: Thursday 20 November, 6pm–8pm</p> <p>2026 Dates: February, May, August and November – Usually the third Thursday of the month.</p>
<p>Audit and Risk Committee (ARC)</p> <p>This committee is required under the Local Government Act 2020 and considers a wide range of internal control issues, external audit, internal audit, risk management and performance measures of Council. Membership comprises three externally appointed members and two Councillors. The committee currently meets on a quarterly basis (March, June, September and November)</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Mayor of the Day Cr Rhonda Garad	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan Cr Rhonda Garad Alternate - Cr Melinda Yim	Current	<p>Quarterly</p> <p>March June September December</p>
<p>Australia Day Community Assessment Panel</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Mayor of the Day Cr Lana Formoso Cr Rhonda Garad Cr Alice Phuong Le Cr Sophie Tan	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan Cr Lana Formoso Cr Alice Phuong Le	Current	

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>CEO Employment & Remuneration Committee (changed from CEO Performance Review Committee by Policy)</p> <p>This Committee is responsible for conducting performance reviews of the CEO and reporting outcomes back to the wider Council for consideration.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	<p>Mayor of the Day Cr Isabella Do Cr Lana Formoso Cr Rhonda Garad Cr Alice Phuong Le Cr Jim Memeti Cr Sean O'Reilly Cr Sophie Tan Cr Melinda Yim</p>	<p>Mayor of the Day Cr Isabella Do Cr Lana Formoso Cr Rhonda Garad Cr Jim Memeti Cr Sean O'Reilly Cr Melinda Yim Cr Isabella Do Cr Sophie Tan</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>Biannually</p>
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Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>Children & Family Partnership</p> <p>The partnership group meets bi-monthly to implement the Greater Dandenong Children's Plan, Greater Dandenong Communities for Children and Greater Dandenong Best Start projects.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Lana Formoso	Cr Lana Formoso	Current	<p>Quarterly</p> <p>Next meeting: 17 November</p> <p>2026 Dates: February May August November</p>
<p>Community Safety Advisory Committee</p> <p>This group meets on a quarterly basis and advises Council on matters regarding perceptions of safety and actual levels of crime and safety in the municipality.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Mayor of the Day Cr Phillip Danh Cr Isabella Do Cr Sophie Tan Cr Melinda Yim	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan Cr Phillip Danh Cr Isabella Do Cr Melinda Yim	On Hold	TBC
<p>Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee</p> <p>This group meets on a quarterly basis and provides high level advice regarding Council's civic collection, plaques, memorials and historical archives. Membership comprises representatives from both historical societies from the municipality, Councillors, Council staff and industry representatives.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Rhonda Garad	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan	Current	<p>Quarterly</p> <p>Future meeting dates: 2025: 18 December (date TBC)</p> <p>2026 Dates: February, May, August and November – Usually the fourth Thursday of the month.</p>

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>Dandenong Market Pty Ltd</p> <p>The Dandenong Market Pty Ltd is a company established by Council for the purposes of managing the Dandenong Market. Council is the sole shareholder of the company which reports regularly on its performance to Council under a Management Services Agreement between the two bodies. The Company is comprised of five Directors who oversee the work of staff employed directly by the Company. Company Board meetings are held monthly.</p> <p><i>Executive Director City Futures – Sanjay Manivasagasivam</i></p>	<p>Cr Rhonda Garad Alternate – Cr Bob Milkovic</p>	<p>Cr Rhonda Garad Alternate – Cr Bob Milkovic</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>Monthly</p>
<p>Disability Advisory Committee</p> <p>This group meets quarterly and assists in the development of strategies relating to Council's response to the community's access issues and advises Council on priorities when reviewing the Disability Action Plan.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>Cr Melinda Yim</p>	<p>Cr Melinda Yim</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>Bi-monthly 20 October 25 15 December 25</p> <p>2026 Dates: February, April, June, August, October and December – Usually third week of the month to occur on CBS meeting date on Monday.</p>
<p>LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee</p> <p>Establishment of the LGBTIQA+ Advisory Committee aligns with the Greater Dandenong Council Plan and the objectives of Council's Community Engagement Policy and Framework and contributes to Council's strong commitment to engaging LGBTIQA+ communities in a genuine and meaningful way by bringing together local knowledge, expertise, and stakeholders to support Council's decision-making process.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	<p>Cr Rhonda Garad</p>	<p>Cr Isabella Do</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>Every three months.</p>

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>LG Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum</p> <p>Since 2018, the Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum has been advocating for the rights of people seeking asylum to the Federal and Victorian Government.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Mayor of the Day	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan	Current	Bimonthly
<p>Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee</p> <p>This group will meet quarterly to provide advice to Council on policies, plans and services that impact our multicultural communities. It will add value to other forms of community engagement used by Council to consult with and engage on issues relating to people seeking asylum, refugees and the broader multicultural communities.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Mayor of the Day	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan	Current	Every 3 months
<p>Positive Ageing Advisory Committee</p> <p>This group meets bi-monthly and supports Council in addressing the needs and concerns of older people within the municipality. The committee contributes to the development of strategies that promote wellbeing, inclusion, and active ageing. It also provides guidance on the implementation of initiatives outlined in Council's Positive Ageing Strategy.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Sophie Tan Cr Loi Truong Cr Melinda Yim	Cr Loi Truong Cr Melinda Yim	Current	<p>Bi-monthly 16 October 25 11 December 25</p> <p>2026 Dates: February, April, June, August, October and December – Usually second Thursday of the month.</p>
<p>South East Leisure Pty Ltd</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	Cr Lana Formoso Alternate – Cr Angela Long	Cr Lana Formoso Alternate - Cr Isabella Do	Current	Meetings held monthly commencing at 5pm-7pm

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>Springvale Community Hub Committee</p> <p>The City of Greater Dandenong manages the Springvale Community Hub, which is located on the eastern side of Springvale Road. The hub has been developed to build on the strengths of the Springvale community and surrounds and aims to create a Community and civic heart in Springvale.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>Cr Richard Lim OAM Cr Loi Truong</p>	<p>Cr Alice Phuong Le Cr Sean O'Reilly</p> <p>Alternate - Cr Isabella Do Alternate - Cr Loi Truong</p>	<p>Disbanded and replaced by the new Community Hubs Reference Group</p> <p>This will be an informal group, and no official Councillor representation will be required.</p>	<p>Not Applicable</p>
<p>Community Hubs Reference Group</p> <p>The purpose of the Community Hubs Reference Group is to provide advice to the Council on matters related to community development, engagement, and the promotion, evaluation, and development of all community hubs within the municipality.</p> <p>This will be an informal group, and no official Councillor representation will be required.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Cr Isabella Do Cr Alice Phuong Le Alternate – Cr Loi Truong</p>	<p>New</p>	<p>Quarterly</p> <p>Next meeting: Wednesday 19 November, 5.30pm – 7pm</p> <p>2026 Dates (TBC): February, May, August and November – Aiming for the third Wednesday of the month.</p>
<p>Sustainability Advisory Committee</p> <p>This group meets quarterly to support Council in engaging with the community on various sustainability and climate change matters, and to provide feedback on the development and implementation of sustainability projects, policies and strategies.</p> <p><i>Executive Director City Futures – Sanjay Manivasagasivam</i></p>	<p>Cr Isabella Do</p>	<p>Cr Isabella Do Alternate - Cr Melinda Yim</p>	<p>Revised Terms of Reference to be determined by Council at the 27 October Council meeting. If adopted, committee will recommence in 2026</p>	<p>Biannually</p>

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

<p>Young Leaders</p> <p>The Young Leaders program provides leadership and project management skills and serves as a representative group of young people for Council consultation and engagement.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Community Strengthening – Peta Gillies</i></p>	<p>Mayor of the Day Ambassador - Cr Lana Formoso Ambassador – Cr Phillip Danh Ambassador – Cr Jim Memeti Ambassador – Cr Sean O’Reilly Ambassador – Cr Sophie Tan Ambassador - Cr Rhonda Garad Ambassador - Cr Melinda Yim Ambassador - Cr Alice Phuong Le</p>	<p>Mayor of the Day Ambassador - Cr Lana Formoso Ambassador – Cr Phillip Danh Ambassador – Cr Jim Memeti Ambassador – Cr Sean O’Reilly Ambassador – Cr Sophie Tan Ambassador - Cr Rhonda Garad Ambassador - Cr Melinda Yim Ambassador - Cr Alice Phuong Le</p>	<p>Current</p>	<p>One Meet and Greet Session – (approx. June) One Young Leaders Presentation on their final projects at a Council Meeting (typically held September-October).</p>
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Councillor Representative

An essential or mandatory appointment that it is in Council’s best interests to engage in, the organisation’s constitution requires a Councillor Representative or a Councillor or Council representative is a requirement of Council funding.

Protocols

Council representatives participate as a member of these groups by representing Council’s views and to inform Council of key issues related to these organisations/groups. They act as a reference point between the organisation/group and Council as a whole and provide advice to Council or the organisation/group when decisions or major policy matters are discussed.

NB: # denotes alternate councillor required when nominated councillor cannot attend a meeting.

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

PEAK INDUSTRY BODIES

Organisation	Past Councillor Representative(s) 2024-2025 13 Nov 2024 – 13 Nov 2025	New Councillor Representative(s) 2025-2026 13 Nov 2025 – 12 Nov 2026	Status Update	Meeting Date and Frequency
<p>Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) #</p> <p>The ALGWA aims to assist in furthering knowledge and understanding of the function of local government and to encourage the participation of women in local government at all levels. It also protects the interests and rights of women in local government and acts in an advisory capacity to intending women candidates for local government elections.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Cr Lana Formoso Alternate – Cr Sophie Tan	Cr Alice Phuong Le	Current	ALGWA Victoria hosts monthly online forums, regular committee meetings, and an annual state conference
<p>Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) #</p> <p>The MAV is the legislated peak body for local government in Victoria. Formed in 1879, it has a long tradition of supporting councils and councillors. Its role is to advocate local government interests, build the capacity of Victorian councils, facilitate effective networks, initiate policy development and advice, support councillors and promote the role of local government.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Cr Sean O'Reilly Alternate – Cr Lana Formoso	Cr Sean O'Reilly	Current	Biannually
<p>Victorian Local Governance Association (VLGA) #</p> <p>The VLGA advocates for social change and empowers local governments by strengthening their capacity to engage with their communities. It is governed by an elected Board of councillor and individual members and is broad-based both geographically and politically. Its members are from rural and regional, interface and metropolitan areas and from a wide range of (or no) political affiliations.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Cr Lana Formoso Alternate – Cr Sophie Tan	Cr Lana Formoso Alternate – Cr Isabella Do	Current	Monthly

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

REGIONAL ORGANISATIONS AND COMMITTEES

Organisation	Past Councillor Representative(s) 2024-2025 13 Nov 2024 – 13 Nov 2025	New Councillor Representative(s) 2025-2026 13 Nov 2025 – 12 Nov 2026	Status Update	Meeting Date and Frequency
<p>Alliance for Gambling Reform</p> <p>The Alliance for Gambling Reform is a collaboration of organisations with a shared concern about the harmful and unfair impacts of gambling and its normalisation in Australian culture.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Cr Sophie Tan Alternate - Cr Rhonda Garad	Cr Rhonda Garad Alternate – Cr Lana Formoso	Current	Annually Meetings are organised as required.
<p>Eastern Transport Coalition</p> <p>The Eastern Transport Coalition (ETC) consists of Melbourne's seven eastern metropolitan councils. Combined, the ETC represents approximately one million residents and advocates for sustainable and integrated transport services that reduce car dependency. It aims to work with Federal and State governments to ensure the economic, social and environmental wellbeing of Melbourne's outer east.</p>	Cr Isabella Do	Cr Isabella Do Alternate – Cr Phillip Danh	Current	Monthly. Typically 3 rd Thursday of the month.
<p>Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM)</p> <p>Greater South East Melbourne (GSEM) advocates for jobs, infrastructure, investment, liveability, sustainability and wellbeing for the southeast and everyone who works and lives in the region.</p> <p>GSEM includes the shires of Cardinia and Mornington Peninsula, and the cities of Casey, Frankston, Greater Dandenong, Kingston, Knox and Monash.</p> <p><i>Chief Executive Officer – Jacqui Weatherill</i></p>	Mayor of the Day	Mayor of the Day – Cr Sophie Tan Alternate – Cr Jim Memeti	Current	Monthly CEO meetings.

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

MINISTERIAL APPOINTED MEMBERSHIP

Organisation	Past Councillor Representative(s) 2024-2025 13 Nov 2024 – 13 Nov 2025	New Councillor Representative(s) 2025-2026 13 Nov 2025 – 12 Nov 2026	Status Update	Meeting Date and Frequency
<p>2020 Local Government Mayoral Advisory Panel</p> <p>The Local Government Mayoral Advisory Panel (LGMAP) is appointed and chaired by the Minister for Local Government. The panel advises the Minister on a range of legislative, regulatory, strategic and policy decisions which impact the local government sector. Meetings of the LGMAP are usually scheduled between March and October to account for mayoral terms and to enable the Minister to select and appoint new members each year.</p> <p><i>Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services – Marjan Hajjari</i></p>	Appointment by Minister only	Appointment by Minister only	Current	<p>In 2025, meetings were held on:</p> <p>24 April 11 June 19 August 8 October</p> <p>Extraordinary meetings may be scheduled at the discretion of the Minister.</p>
<p>Recycling Victoria Local Government Advisory Committee</p> <p>The role of the Recycling Victoria Advisory Committee is to provide advice and insights to the Minister for Environment and Head, Recycling Victoria on Recycling Victoria's strategic priorities, to support Victoria's transition to a circular economy.</p>	Appointment by Minister only	Appointment by Minister only	No representation required - remove	

Councillor Representative

An essential or mandatory appointment that it is in Council's best interests to engage in, the organisation's constitution requires a Councillor Representative or a Councillor or Council representative is a requirement of Council funding.

Protocols

Council representatives participate as a member of these groups by representing Council's views and to inform Council of key issues related to these organisations/groups. They act as a reference point between the organisation/group and Council as a whole and provide advice to Council or the organisation/group when decisions or major policy matters are discussed.

NB: # denotes alternate councillor required when nominated councillor cannot attend a meeting.

Councillor Representation on Committees, Community Organisations and Associations, Peak Industry Bodies and Regional Organisations – 13 November 2025 – 12 November 2026

ORGANISATION CESSATION

Organisation	Past Councillor Representative(s) 2024-2025 13 Nov 2024 – 13 Nov 2025	New Councillor Representative(s) 2025-2026 13 Nov 2025 – 12 Nov 2026	Status Update	Meeting Date and Frequency
<p>Mills Reserve Precinct Advisory Group (MPAG)</p> <p>The Mills Reserve Precinct Advisory Group has been established to guide the project team during the development and implementation of the Mills Reserve Precinct Plan and the Dandenong Aquatic and Wellbeing Centre design.</p> <p>Executive Director City Futures – Sanjay Manivasagasivam</p>	<p>Mayor of the Day Cr Lana Formoso Cr Rhonda Garad Cr Jim Memeti Cr Sean O'Reilly Cr Sophie Tan</p>	<p><i>This cell is intentionally left blank</i></p>	To be dissolved	
<p>Taylors Road Landfill Community Reference Group #</p> <p>This community group meets monthly with SUEZ, the landfill operator. Membership is constituted of SUEZ and local community representatives and is chaired by SUEZ. Council has observer status at this forum.</p> <p>Executive Director City Futures – Sanjay Manivasagasivam</p>	<p>Cr Rhonda Garad Alternate – Cr Jim Memeti</p>	<p><i>This cell is intentionally left blank</i></p>	No further representation required - remove. Is now operational focus.	Quarterly evening meetings.
<p>South Eastern Councils Biodiversity Network (SECBN)</p> <p>This is planned as an annual roundtable event to be hosted by the South Eastern Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) with the first one scheduled for early 2025. This network has been formed in response to Notice of Motion No. 22 by Cr Garad and will comprise of Councillors and Council Officers from the cities of Bayside, Greater Dandenong, Frankston, Kingston, Melbourne, Mornington Peninsula Shire and Port Phillip.</p>	<p>Cr Rhonda Garad</p>	<p><i>This cell is intentionally left blank</i></p>	No representation required – remove. SECBN does not currently exist. Council awaiting SECCCA to initiate inaugural meeting.	
<p>South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) Councillor Advisory Group</p> <p>SECCCA is a regional body that supports member Council's in south-east Melbourne to address the challenges of climate change at both a regional and municipal level. The Councillor Advisory Group meets on average once a quarter to discuss SECCCA's progress against its strategic plan and other climate change and sustainability related matters.</p>	<p>Cr Lana Formoso</p>	<p><i>This cell is intentionally left blank</i></p>	Council resolved at the 14 April 2025 Council Meeting to cease its SECCCA membership from 1 July 2025. As such, this group will be removed from this list	



3 RECOGNITION OF FAITH LEADERS

3.1 RECOGNITION OF FAITH LEADERS

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services
Attachments: Nil

Executive Summary

1. The City of Greater Dandenong is known for its diversity in cultures and faith. The Interfaith Network is a leading organisation which represents a diverse range of faiths from within the City and members have attended Council meetings over many years to offer prayers at the beginning of each Council meeting.
2. It has been past practice for the President of the Interfaith Network to pledge its support to the new Mayor and the Greater Dandenong City Council. Tonight, the Interfaith Network is represented at this meeting by its President Mehtap Williams.

Proceedings

3. The new Mayor acknowledged the role of all of the faiths within our diverse community and welcomed the President of the Interfaith Network, Mehtap Williams.
4. The Mayor invited the President of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, Mehtap Williams to read the Common Statement on behalf of all faith leaders:

COMMON STATEMENT OF THE FAITH COMMUNITIES

We bring greetings from the faith communities to the Mayor, Councillors and people of Greater Dandenong.

We offer to the City of Greater Dandenong our common commitment to seek to live together in peace and goodwill.

We affirm our desire to promote respect and tolerance for the integrity of each other's beliefs, cultures and traditions. This desire arises not only from our common humanity but also from our being people of faith and people of prayer.

We recognise that as neighbours, we have responsibilities to the community, the world and ourselves. We therefore urge all citizens, both religious and non-religious, to put aside intolerance, prejudice and divisiveness, to attain peaceful and fruitful co-existence in our City.

5. The Mayor accepted the Common Statement on behalf of Council and read an acknowledgement as follows:

I reaffirm Council's desire to promote respect and acceptance for the integrity of all faiths, cultures and traditions of communities in the City of Greater Dandenong, in partnership with the Interfaith Network.

Thank you to all of the faiths within the Greater Dandenong community and to all faiths within the Interfaith Network.



4 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 6.48pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Smith', written over a horizontal line.

Signature