

MINUTES

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING

TUESDAY 13 MARCH 2018

Commencing at 7:00 PM

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

225 Lonsdale Street, Dandenong VIC 3175

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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Heang Tak
John Bennie PSM, Chief Executive Officer

Councillors Present

Cr Youhorn Chea (Chairperson)

Cr Roz Blades AM, Cr Tim Dark, Cr Matthew Kirwan, Cr Angela Long, Cr Zaynoun Melhem, Cr Jim Memeti, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Maria Sampey, Cr Loi Truong

Officers Present

Martin Fidler, Director Community Services; Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design and Amenity; Mick Jaensch, Director Corporate Services/Acting Chief Executive Officer; Paul Kearsley, Group Manager, Greater Dandenong Business; Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

1.2 OFFERING OF PRAYER

All present remained standing as Cr Roz Blades AM from the Jewish Community, a member of the Greater Dandenong Interfaith Network, read the following prayer:

"Hero Israel, the lord our god the lord is one. Blessed be his name whose glorious Kingdom is forever and ever. And thout shall love the lord thy god with all thine heart and with all thine soul and with all thine might and these words which I command thee this day shall be upon thine heart and thou shall teach them diligently unto thy children and shall talk of them when they sitis in thine house when they walk is by the way. God of all that lives, please bestow your spirit on all the inhabitants of the City of Greater Dandenong and plant love, fellowship, peace and friendship between the different nationalities that dwell within our boundaries. Uproot from their hearts all dislike, animosity and strife, in order to fulfil the longings of its people, who aspire for its dignity, and desire to see it as a light for all nations."

1.3 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Ordinary Meeting of Council held 26 February 2018.

Recommendation

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 26 February 2018 be confirmed.

MINUTE 568

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti Seconded by: Cr Tim Dark

That the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Council held 26 February 2018 be confirmed.

CARRIED

1.4 ASSEMBLIES OF COUNCIL

The following assemblies of Council occurred in the period 22 February to 7 March 2018:

Date	Meeting Type	Councillors Attending	Topics Discussed & Disclosures of Conflict of Interest
23&24/2/18	Councillor Strategic Retreat	Youhorn Chea (part), Tim Dark, Matthew Kirwan, Angela Long, Zayoun Melhem, Sean O'Reilly, Heang Tak (part)	- Councillor Strategic Retreat Weekend
26/2/18	Councillor Briefing Session	Roz Blades, Youhorn Chea, Tim Dark (part), Matthew Kirwan, Angela Long, Jim Memeti, Sean O'Reilly, Heang Tak, Loi Truong	- Discussion on the impacts of China's recent announcement to ban importing recyclable waste on Greater Dandenong's own recycling activities and costs (CONFIDENTIAL) Hockey Victoria activity in Greater Dandenong Agendas items for the Council Meeting of 26 February 2018.
1/3/18	Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee	Roz Blades, Matthew Kirwan (part)	- Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee Meeting.
5/3/18	Councillor Briefing Session	Roz Blades, Youhorn Chea, Tim Dark, Matthew Kirwan, Angela Long, Jim Memeti, Sean O'Reilly, Maria Sampey, Heang Tak, Loi Truong	 Discussion about pros and cons of altering the CGD tagline "City of Opportunity" to "City of Celebration" as proposed by Council resolution. Community Engagement Policy review. City Deals – new approach in Australia bringing together the three levels of government to create place-based partnerships. Funding received for employment of indigenous officer. Further public consultation required for Road Management Plan. Success of Sustainability Festival held at Dandenong Market over the weekend. Agendas items for the Council Meeting of 13 March 2018.

Recommendation

That the assemblies of Council listed above be noted.

MINUTE 569

Moved by: Cr Roz Blades AM Seconded by: Cr Angela Long

That the assemblies of Council listed above be noted.

CARRIED

1.5 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

2 OFFICERS' REPORTS

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR TABLING

File Id: qA228025

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Report Summary

Council receives various documents such as annual reports and minutes of committee meetings that deal with a variety of issues that are relevant to the City.

These reports are tabled at Council Meetings and therefore brought to the attention of Council.

Recommendation Summary

This report recommends that the listed items be received.

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR TABLING (Cont.)

List of Reports

Author	Title
Pennington Institute	Annual Report 2017

A copy of each report is made available at the Council meeting or by contacting the Governance Unit on telephone 8571 5235.

Recommendation

That the listed items be received.

MINUTE 570

Moved by: Cr Angela Long Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That the listed items be received.

CARRIED

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters

File Id: qA228025

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Attachments: Petitions and Joint Letters

Report Summary

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.

Issues raised by petitions and joint letters will be investigated and reported back to Council if required.

A table containing all details relevant to current petitions and joint letters is provided in Attachment 1. It includes:

- 1. the full text of any petitions or joint letters received;
- 2. petitions or joint letters still being considered for Council response as pending a final response along with the date they were received; and
- 3. 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.

Note: On occasions, submissions are received that are addressed to Councillors which do not qualify as petitions or joint letters under Council's current Meeting Procedure Local Law. These are also tabled.

Petitions and Joint Letters Tabled

Council received one [1] new petition and no joint letters prior to the Council Meeting of 13 March 2018.

A petition signed by twelve Keysborough residents regarding requests for Orlando Crescent, Keysborough. This petition has been forwarded to the relevant Council business unit for consideration.

N.B: A summary of the progress of ongoing change.org petitions has been provided in the attachment to this report.

Recommendation

That the listed items detailed in Attachment 1, and the current status of each, be received and noted.

MINUTE 571

Moved by: Cr Tim Dark Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That the listed items detailed in Attachment 1, and the current status of each, be received and noted.

CARRIED

DOCUMENTS FOR TABLING

PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

ATTACHMENT 1

PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

PAGES 7 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5309.

Date Received	Petition Text (Prayer)	No of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
8 January	Petition – Cover letter	Signed by	Completed	Tabled at Council Meeting 29 January
2	A letter addressed to the President of the School Council Wooranna Park Primary School, Dandenong North.	residents.		Referred to Planning - Residential
	I write to you behalf of all the residents regarding the nuisance of heavy traffic and excessive noise caused by all the hired/booked activities occurring during weeknights and weekends at the Terry O'Connor Centre.			29/1/18 - Local Law officers have detailed future steps required to
	We constantly struggle to get out of our driveways through the heavy traffic of vehicles that park and drive up and down Wondalga Avenue and Gibb Street Dandenong North as access to the Terry O'Connor Centre and that many of us residents have been subject to near incidents through these drivers not abiding by the road law.			address this framer with the head petitioner and adjoining properties.
	We are only asking as residents and ratepayers to be able to safely and peacefully live in our own home and street.			
	In support of the above, I enclose a petition, footage and audio of the excessive noise and traffic for your perusal, seeking your attention that appropriate and due consideration is taken for a satisfactory outcome.			
	Please note that the City of Greater Dandenong Council has also been provided the above material.			

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5309.

Date Received		No of Petitioners	Status	Responsible Officer Response
26/2/18	Petition – Prayer letter	Signed by 12 Keysborough	In Progress	Tabled at Council Meeting 13 March 2018.
	Residents of Keysborough have requested the following for Orlando Crescent in Keysborough:	residents.	1	
	 Car parking bays on some nature strips. Erection of play equipment. Redesign of path inside park. BBQ facilities. 			

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5309.

e.org	No of Co-Status Officer Response Signatures	Begin detailed design of an integrated, intergenerational Keysborough South Community Hub. South Community Hub. Keysborough South needs Council to urgently start the detailed design of community hub to meet the needs of all ages and interests in a population of over 10,000 residents and still growing.	Additional early learning services required for Keysborough by 2018. Residents of Keysborough request that Greater Dandenong Council, deliver on the promise to establish a new maternal and child health centre and kindergarten to meet the growing needs of our community by 2018.	(via Change.org) Currently 1303 Complete Cranbourne Pakenham Loop Train Line Extension including Koo-Wee- signatories. 23/5/17 Rup & Phillip Island. Build a 3 platform station to allow a V-line train to connect Phillip Island – Cranbourne & Pakenham – Koo-Wee-Rup – Melbourne City.
(Via Change Begin detai South Common Begin detai South Common Keysboroug Community Hover 10,000 and the promise Residents of on the promise Rindergarten Kindergarten Rup & Philli Build a 3 pla Cranbourne Rup & Shilli Build a 3 pla Cranbourne	Content	(Via Change.org) Begin detailed design o South Community Hub. Keysborough South need community hub to meet th	(Via Change.org) Additional early I Residents of Keys on the promise to kindergarten to me	(via Change.org) Cranbourne Pake Rup & Phillip Isle Build a 3 platform Cranbourne & Pak

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5309.

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Other/Submissions

Other/Submissions

2.1.1 Petitions and Joint Letters (Cont.)

Date Received	Content	No of Co- Signatures	Status	Officer Response

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5309.

Page 9725

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ne details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5309.

2.2 STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2.2.1 Town Planning Application - Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866)

File Id: 414665

Responsible Officer: Director City Planning Design & Amenity

Attachments: Submitted Plans

Clause 22.09 Assessment Clause 52.06 Assessment

Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential

Development Assessment

VCAT Order P1784/2017 - PLN17/0145

Application Summary

Applicant: Lend Lease (Prime Life)

Proposal: The development of the land for three (3), five (5) storey

accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking, and alteration

to access to a road in a Road Zone, Category 1.

Zone: General Residential Zone (Schedule 1)

Overlay: Public Acquisition Overlay (Schedule 1)

Ward: Lightwood

This application has been brought to a Council meeting due to the significance of the project and an earlier planning application PLN17/0145 which was refused by Council but has since been approved by VCAT.

The application proposes the development of the land for one hundred and five (105) independent living units within three (3), five (5) storey accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking, and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone, Category 1.

A permit is required under the following provisions of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme:

General Residential Zone

- 32.08-8 to construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.08-2.
- Clause 52.06-3 to reduce the number of car parking spaces required under clause 52.06-5.
- Clause 52.29 to create or alter access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1

It is noted that the subject application was submitted on 21 November 2016 and as such the application meets the transitional provisions of Amendments VC110 and VC136. Therefore the application is not required to meet the garden area and height requirements of the General Residential Zone or comply with Clause 58 – Apartments.

Objectors Summary

The application was advertised to the surrounding area through the erection of a notice on-site and the mailing of notices to adjoining and surrounding owners and occupiers. No objections were received.

Assessment Summary

The multi storey buildings are of a contemporary design constructed of pre-fabricated Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) with fibre cement cladding (light grey / brown and cream), with hipped roof form (metal pan roofing).

It is considered that the proposed multi storey buildings' external elevations have been broken up through the use of varying building materials and staggered setbacks to the elevations providing depth and a level of visual interest.

In addition the provision of nine (9) single storey villa units will provide an alternative product which will provide additional diversification of the accommodation stock on site.

As such, it is considered that the overall net community benefit of the proposed sustainable buildings that provides a much needed accommodation type within an existing retirement village outweighs the potential for visual impact due to the proposed height at this location. The visual impact in itself will be regarded as minimal due to the existing development on site, retention of vegetation, proposed setbacks and enhancement and provision of landscaping. Furthermore, VCAT have recently approved a similar five storey building on this site, and Council must consider relevant VCAT decisions in determining planning applications. As such, the proposed development is considered acceptable and should be supported.

Planning Scheme Amendment C182 (Part 1) was gazetted on 21 December 2017. Therefore the amendments to the General Residential Zone (Schedule 1) and Clause 22.09 – Residential Development and Neighbourhood Character Policy apply.

Recommendation Summary

As assessed, the proposal is consistent with and appropriately responds to the provisions of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. The proposal appropriately responds to strategic policy for an extension to the existing retirement village at the subject location with this report recommending that the application be supported and a permit be issued containing the conditions as set out in the recommendation.

Subject Site and Surrounds

Subject Site

The subject site is located on the eastern side of Westall Road in Springvale.

- The lot is irregular in shape with a frontage of approximately 128 metres to Westall Road, 168.47 metres to Villa Road to the north and 128.55 metres to Windsor Avenue to the south. All other boundaries are shared with residential uses. The overall site area measures 6.386 Hectares.
- The subject site has a fall of approximately seven (7) metres north to south.
- The site is currently developed with a retirement village comprising 294 independent living units in three 'snowflake' shaped buildings varying from two (2) to three (3) storeys. The current village is serviced by a dining room, gym, pool, theatrette, shop and outdoor bowling green and tennis court.
- Access to the site is via four (4) crossovers (one (1) from Westall Road, two (2) from Windsor Avenue and one (1) from Villa Road. The site provides 278 existing car parking spaces.
- Mature significant trees are located adjacent to the southern and eastern boundary.
- Several drainage and sewerage easements run through the site but will not be impacted upon.

Surrounding Area

- North: Villa Road (approximately 9m wide). Across Villa Road the site bounded by Osborne Avenue, Regent Avenue, Villa Road and Westall Roads is currently being developed for a predominantly two and three storey residential development. It has a commercial component with a McDonalds Convenience Restaurant having already been constructed on the corners of Osborne Ave and Westall Road. Further north between Osborne Avenue and the train line and beyond the train line is a large industrial complex.
- **South:** There are three aspects to the southern interface, the first is a single storey brick dwelling located on the northern side of Windsor Avenue located at 61-53 Windsor Avenue, the second is Windsor Avenue (approximately 15m road reserve), and thirdly the traditional post war single story residential context to the south on the other side Windsor Avenue.
- **East:** To its east the site directly interfaces with a high care aged care centre. Beyond this there lies traditional single storey development that fronts Ellen Street and a small pocket of commercially zoned land at 51C Windsor Ave (south east comer). That has been developed as single storey retail premises.

• West: The site has a mixed interface to its west. There are two single detached dwellings within close proximity to the proposed building. These are 112 Westall Road (a single storey dwelling and carport) and 108-110 Westall Road (a large double storey dwelling). On the opposite side of Westall Road (6 lane arterial road) a number of small/light industry and associated forms are located together with traditional residential development.

Locality Plan





Background

Previous Applications

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

- Planning permit 1996/483 was issued on 18/11/1996 for the to use part of the existing buildings on the land for the purpose of a Display Centre, in accordance with the attached endorsed plans;
- Planning permit 1998/759 was issued on 7/06/1999 for a Drug Rehabilitation Centre;
- Planning permit 1999/059 was issued on 30/04/2000 for Accommodation (temporary) Drug Rehabilitation Centre;
- Planning permit 1999/426 was issued on 10/09/1999 to use and develop the site for the purpose
 of Accommodation (a Residential Village), with associated facilities, to modify access to the
 Road Zone Category 1 (Westall Road), to remove Native Vegetation (within the Road Zone
 Category 1 Westall Road), all in accordance with the endorsed plans;

- Planning permit 2000/0176 was issued on 29 June 2001 to construct buildings and works (extension to existing aged care facility), all in accordance with the endorsed plans;
- Planning permit 2000/0195 was issued on 18 May 2000 for the erection of floodlit signage and non-illuminated signage, all in accordance with the endorsed plans.
- Planning permit 2000/0196 was issued on 8 August 2000 for the creation of new access into No's 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale, all in accordance with the endorsed plans;
- Planning permit PLN02/0829 was issued on 15/04/2003 for the development of the site incorporating extensions to the existing residential village, including an additional 120 accommodation units and associated car parking, all in accordance with the endorsed plans;
- Planning permit PLN06/0518 was issued on 20/11/2006 for a two lot subdivision;
- Planning permit PLN12/0775 was issued on 20/02/2013 for buildings and works (decking and landscaping);
- Planning permit PLN17/0215 for the removal of easement was issued on 27/07/2017.
- Planning permit PLN17/0145 for the development of the land for one (1) five (5) storey
 accommodation building in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking,
 and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1 was issued by VCAT on 19/01/2017.

Subject Application

Proposal

The application proposes the development of the land for one hundred and five (105) independent living units within three (3), five (5) storey accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units, reduction in the parking requirements of Clause 52.06 and alteration of access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1.

Key details of the development and use are as follows:

Accommodation Buildings

The proposal seeks to construct three (3), five (5)-storey buildings comprising independent living units located on the first, second, third and fourth floors with car parking (undercroft) on the ground floor.

Multistorey Buildings:

Each building (Buildings B, C and D) will consist of:

- 24 x Two bedroom units
- 8 x Three bedroom units

Each unit is provided with a balcony directly accessed from main living areas with balcony areas of ten (10) Sq. metres with a minimum dimension of 2.6 metres.

Villa Units:

Two villa floor plans will be available:

- Villa Type A (units 1-6 & 8-9) will comprise of two (2) bedrooms and provide 26 Sq. metres of POS;
- Villa Type B (units 7) will comprise of two (2) bedrooms and a study and provide 24 Sq. metres of POS.

All Villa units will be single storey and will be accessed via Lexington Boulevard with the exception of units 8 & 9 which will be accessed via a new crossover from Windsor Avenue.

A combined total of one hundred and five (105) units will be provided.

Layout and Built form

The proposed multistorey buildings are to be prefabricated in cross laminated timber off-site and as such a standard 'product' or layout is created with identical dimensions, car parking numbers, numbers of residences and basement entries.

Building B

Building B is located 10.1m to the west of units 8 and 9 and to the south-east and west of the two proposed water gardens. The building maintains a setback of 10.8m from the southern boundary (Windsor Avenue). The building is recessed through its mid-section which will allow the retention of canopy planting along Windsor Avenue and provide façade articulation along the length of the building. Building B will be a maximum of 15.69 metres high.

An existing crossover from Windsor Avenue will provide access to the undercroft car parking area for building B.

Building C

The proposed Building C is located parallel to the western site boundary, and will maintain a minimum street setback of 3.9m and setback 29.6m south of Building D. Along with Building D, building C will frame the entry to the development from Westall Road and will present to its main interface along the busy arterial of Westall Road. Building C will be a maximum of 15.69 metres high.

This building is sited on the central boulevard of the retirement village, access is also provided from this central boulevard. Buildings B and C will be connected through a covered car parking area.

Building D

Building D along with Building C will frame the main entry to the development from Westall Road.

This building is setback from the boundary 9.7m to Westall Road. This setback has been adopted to ensure the building sits outside the existing Public Acquisition Overlay. Building D will be a maximum of 15.69 metres high.

The buildings will be constructed of a contemporary design constructed of pre-fabricated Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT) with fibre cement cladding (light grey / brown and cream), with hipped roof form (metal pan roofing). The ground floor undercroft car parking will be clad with perforated fabric metal mesh (dark grey) with separate landscape planters, arbour and earth bunds adjacent to the ground floor in order to mask the undercroft parking area.

Pedestrian entry to the buildings will be via a main entry lobby facing into the centre of the site with access via one (1) internal lift. Staircases are accessed from the car park on the ground floor level.

Each level will contain the following:

Ground floor

- Car parking/ bicycle facilities;
- Lobby to retirement units (lifts & staircases);
- Services;
- Waste storage.

First /second/third/fourth floor

• 8 independent living units (6 x 2 bedrooms, 2 x 3 bedrooms) to each floor.

Car parking/ access

The proposal includes car spaces located within the ground floor of each building within an undercroft car parking area for the residents accessed via external roller doors from the existing internal loop road.

Requirement Clause 52.06	Car parking required	Car parking provided	Reduction required
Retirement Village:	150 in total:	128 in total:	24 resident spaces

•	1 space per one /two bedroom	129 resident spaces	105 resident spaces	5 visitor spaces
•	dwelling; 2 spaces per each three or more bedroom dwelling;	20 visitor spaces for the three multistorey buildings altogether 1 visitor space for the 9 villa units	14 visitor spaces 9 visitor spaces (1 per villa)	The villa units over cater for visitor spaces and will operate independently of the multistorey buildings
•	1 for visitors to every five dwellings			therefore the proposed visitor spaces will not be utilised by the occupiers of the multistorey buildings.

Vegetation Removal/ Landscaping

The proposal will require the removal of thirty six (36) trees and one (1) tree group in areas which will be required for building footprints, driveways, carparks and their entrances. The submitted Arborist report identifies the trees on site are not remnant vegetation and as having been planted and as such no permit is required to remove vegetation under Clause 52.17 Native Vegetation. Whilst this is the case the applicants have identified that the minimum of vegetation will be required to be removed for the proposed development. A landscape plan has been submitted with this application and a condition to the permit, should one be granted, is that an amended landscape plan must be submitted and approved prior to any trees being removed and prior to any development plans being approved.

Easements

The proposal does not impact on any of the drainage and sewerage easements covering the land. It is identified that easements E1 and E4 have been removed under planning permit PLN17/0215.

Alteration of Access to a road in a Road Zone, Category 1

The existing access point to Westall Road, designated as a Road Zone, Category 1, will be used more frequently for the proposed development and as such it is considered the additional traffic movements will alter the access to the site and therefore trigger Clause 52.29.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

All matters relevant to the Victorian Human Rights Charter have been considered in the preparation of this Policy and are consistent with the standards set by the Charter.

Financial Implications

No financial resources are impacted by this report.

Planning Scheme and Policy Frameworks

Pursuant to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme, a planning permit is required:

- To construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.08-2 (Clause 32.08-8 GRZ1).
- To reduce the number of car parking spaces required under clause 52.06-5.
- To create or alter access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1under Clause 52.29.

The relevant controls and policies are as follows:

Zoning Controls

The subject site is located in a General Residential Zone Schedule 1 (GRZ1), as is the surrounding area.

The purpose of the General Residential Zone outlined at Clause 32.08 is:

- To implement the State Planning Policy Framework and the Local Planning Policy Framework, including the Municipal Strategic Statement and local planning policies.
- To encourage development that respects the neighbourhood character of the area.
- To encourage a diversity of housing types and housing growth particularly in locations offering good access to services and transport.
- To allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of other non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

A permit is required under:

• Clause 32.08-8 for the construct a building or construct or carry out works for a use in Section 2 of Clause 32.08-2.

Particular Provisions

The site adjoins Road Zone Schedule 1 (RDZ1) Westall Road to the west.

The purpose of Clause 52.29 is to:

- To ensure appropriate access to identified roads.
- To ensure appropriate subdivision of land adjacent to identified roads.

A permit is required to create or alter access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1. Alteration to a Road Zone Category 1 includes the intensification of the use occurring on the land.

Overlay Controls

A Public Acquisition Overlay is identified along the western boundary with Westall Road. The subject overlay does not affect the subject location of the proposed building.

State Planning Policy Framework

The **Operation of the State Planning Policy Framework** outlined at Clause 10 seeks to ensure that the objectives of planning in Victoria are fostered through appropriate land use and development planning policies and practices which integrate relevant environmental, social and economic factors in the interests of net community benefit and sustainable development. The objectives of Planning in Victoria are noted as:

- (a) To provide for the fair, orderly, economic and sustainable use, and development of land.
- (b) To provide for the protection of natural and man-made resources and the maintenance of ecological processes and genetic diversity.
- (c) To secure a pleasant, efficient and safe working, living and recreational environment for all Victorians and visitors to Victoria.
- (d) To conserve and enhance those buildings, areas or other places which are of scientific, aesthetic, architectural or historical interest, or otherwise of special cultural value.
- (e) To protect public utilities and other facilities for the benefit of the community.
- (f) To facilitate development in accordance with the objectives set out in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e).
- (g) To balance the present and future interests of all Victorians.

In order to achieve those objectives, there are a number of more specific objectives contained within the State Planning Policy Framework that need to be considered under this application.

Clause 11 Settlement states that planning is to anticipate and respond to the needs of existing and future communities through provision of zoned and serviced land for housing, amongst others.

Urban growth is the focus of **Clause 11.02** which includes an objective that aims to ensure a sufficient supply of land is available for residential development, which is relevant to the current application.

Clause 15 Built environment and heritage seeks to ensure that planning achieves high quality urban design and architecture that meets a number of objectives. The following objectives are of relevance to the current application:

• To create urban environments that are safe, functional and provide good quality environments with a sense of place and cultural identity.

- To achieve architectural and urban design outcomes that contribute positively to local urban character and enhance the public realm while minimising detrimental impact on neighbouring properties.
- To encourage land use and development that is consistent with the efficient use of energy and the minimisation of greenhouse gas emissions.

Housing is the focus of **Clause 16** and includes the following provisions:

- Planning should provide for housing diversity, and ensure the efficient provision of supporting infrastructure.
- New housing should have access to services and be planned for long term sustainability, including walkability to activity centres, public transport, schools and open space.
- Planning for housing should include providing land for affordable housing.

Clause 16.01-2 Location of residential development includes an objective that aims to locate new housing in or close to activity centres and employment corridors and at other strategic redevelopment sites that offer good access to services and transport.

There are a number of objectives of relevance to the current application under **Clause 18 Transport** including the following:

- To create a safe and sustainable transport system by integrating land-use and transport.
- To promote the use of sustainable personal transport.
- To integrate planning for cycling with land use and development planning and encourage as alternative modes of travel.

Local Planning Policy Framework

A **Vision for Greater Dandenong** is outlined at **Clause 21.03**. Included in the vision are the following points of relevance:

- A municipality where, central Dandenong, major activity centres, other neighbourhood and local centres function as activity centres where high quality, appropriate, high to medium housing exists in harmony with a thriving and well-managed retail and commercial sector.
- A municipality where, housing diversity and choice is promoted in its various attractive neighbourhoods.

The objectives and strategies of the MSS are under four (4) main themes including: land use; built form; open space and natural environment; and, infrastructure and transportation (considered individually under Clauses 21.04 to 21.07). Of particular relevance to this application are Clauses 21.04 (Land Use) and 21.05 (Built Form).

Clause 21.04 Land Use contains the following objectives and strategies which are of relevance to the current application:

- 1. To encourage and facilitate a wide range of housing types and styles which increase diversity and cater for the changing needs of households.
 - 1.1. Encourage a mix of housing types that better reflects the cross section of the community in Greater Dandenong.
 - 1.3. Encourage the provision of housing that is adaptable to support the needs of the changing needs of present and future residents.
- 2. To respect and improve residential environments.
 - 2.1. Encourage developments to exceed minimum compliance with the requirements of Clauses 54, 55 and 56, where appropriate and identified.
 - 2.2. Encourage new residential development that incorporates adequate space for the planting and the long term viability and safe retention of canopy trees.

Clause 21.05 Built Form contains the following objectives and strategies which are of relevance to the current application:

- 1. To facilitate high quality building design and architecture.
 - 1.1. Ensure building design is consistent with the preferred character of an area and fully integrates with surrounding environment.
 - 1.2. Encourage high standards of building design and architecture, which allows for flexibility and adaptation in use.
 - 1.3. Encourage innovative architecture and building design.
 - 2. To facilitate high quality development, which has regard for the surrounding environment and built form.
 - 2.2. Promote all aspects of character physical, environmental, social, and cultural.
 - 2.3. Encourage planting and landscape themes, which complement and improve the environment.
 - 2.4. Encourage developments to provide for canopy trees.
 - 2.5. Recognising valued existing neighbourhood character and promoting desired future character as defined in the Residential Development and Neighbourhood Character Policy at Clause 22.09.
- 7. To protect and improve streetscapes.
 - 7.1. Ensure that new developments improve streetscapes through generous landscape setbacks and canopy tree planting.

- 7.2. Ensure landscaping within private property that complements and improves the streetscapes and landscaping of public areas.
- 8. To ensure landscaping that enhances the built environment.
 - 8.1. Encourage new developments to establish a landscape setting, which reflects the local and wider landscape character.
 - 8.2. Encourage landscaping that integrates canopy trees and an appropriate mix of shrubs and ground covers and complements and integrates with existing or proposed landscaping in public areas.

Clause 22.05 Greater Dandenong Gateways Policy

The subject site is located within a significant entry point to the City of Greater Dandenong. As shown on Map 1 – Gateway Locations the subject site is located within Area 1.

The objectives of Clause 22.05-2 are:

- To develop gateways that engage, challenge and inspire the community.
- To encourage gateway developments that uniquely identify the City of Greater Dandenong.
- To provide certainty as to how gateway locations will look, feel and function.
- To improve the perception of the City of Greater Dandenong among its residents and visitors.
- To improve the visual amenity of the municipality's gateway locations.

Where a permit is required for land use or development the following policy applies:

 An application for a Planning Permit must include an assessment against the Public Realm and Built Form Guidelines contained within the relevant Gateway Concept Plan (City of Greater Dandenong Gateways Strategy, December 2011).

Clause 22.09 Residential Development & Neighbourhood Character Policy sets out Council policy for future residential development within the municipality, identifying which areas are suitable to undergo varied levels of change.

Relevant details from that policy include the following:

 To guide the location and design of different types of residential development within Greater Dandenong, having regard to State and local planning policies, while respecting the valued characteristics and identified future character of residential neighbourhoods.

- To ensure that new residential development is consistent with the identified future character and preferred built form envisaged for the three Future Change Areas.
- To provide certainty about which areas are identified for, or protected from, increased residential development consistent with the purpose of the applicable zone.
- To facilitate high quality, well designed residential development and on-site landscaping.
- To promote a range of housing types to accommodate the future needs of the municipality's changing population.
- To ensure that residential development uses innovative, responsive and functional siting and design solutions that:
 - Achieve high quality internal amenity and private open space outcomes for future residents;
 - Make a positive contribution to the streetscape through quality design, contextual responsiveness and visual interest;
 - Promote public realm safety by maximising passive surveillance;
 - Demonstrate responsiveness to the site, adjoining interfaces, streetscape and landscape context;
 - Respect the amenity of adjoining residents and the reasonable development potential of adjoining properties;
 - Achieve environmentally sustainable design outcomes;
 - Use quality, durable building materials that are integrated into the overall building form and façade; and
 - Minimise the visual dominance of vehicle accessways and storage facilities, such as garages, car ports and basement entrances.

Clause 22.09-3.1 provides overarching design principles which consider matters such as: safety, landscaping, car parking, setbacks, front boundary and width, private open space, bulk and built form, site design, materials and finishes, domestic services and internal amenity.

Clause 22.09-3.3 provides additional design principles which development must be assessed against in the incremental change area including, preferred housing type, building height, landscaping, setbacks, front boundary and width, private open space and bulk and built form.

An assessment against this clause is included as Attachment 2.

Particular Provisions

Clause 52.06 Car Parking needs to be considered under the current application. The purposes of this provision are:

- To ensure that car parking is provided in accordance with the State Planning Policy Framework and Local Planning Policy Framework.
- To ensure the provision of an appropriate number of car parking spaces having regard to the demand likely to be generated, the activities on the land and the nature of the locality.
- To support sustainable transport alternatives to the motor car.
- To promote the efficient use of car parking spaces through the consolidation of car parking facilities.
- To ensure that car parking does not adversely affect the amenity of the locality.
- To ensure that the design and location of car parking is of a high standard, creates a safe environment for users and enables easy and efficient use.

Pursuant to Clause 52.06-3 a permit is required to reduce (including reducing to zero) the number of car parking spaces required under Clause 52.06-5.

The proposal seeks to expand the existing use on the site through the construction of an additional accommodation building for the following:

Residential Village.

The table at Clause 52.06-5 sets out the car parking requirement that applies to the proposed uses of land as follows:

Use	Rate
Retirement Village	One (1) car parking space to each one (1) or two (2) bedroom dwelling; and
	Two (2) car parking spaces to each three (3) or more bedroom dwelling.
	One (1) car parking space for visitors to every five (5) dwellings for developments of five (5) or more dwellings.

The proposal seeks a reduction of 24 of the required car spaces for the additional accommodation building (residential village). The applicant also seeks a reduction of 5 visitor car spaces of the total number required to be provided. A total of 128 car spaces are proposed to be provided on site.

An application must meet the Design standards for car parking included at Clause 52.06-8.

An assessment against this clause is included as Attachment 3.

Clause 52.29 land adjacent to a Road Zone, Category 1, or a Public Acquisition Overlay for a Category 1 Road needs to be considered under the current application. The purposes of this provision are:

The purpose of Clause 52.29 is to:

- To ensure appropriate access to identified roads.
- To ensure appropriate subdivision of land adjacent to identified roads.

A permit is required to create or alter access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1.

General Provisions

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

Proposed Planning Scheme Amendments

Planning Scheme Amendment VC110 affects the proposal which is explained below:

Planning Scheme Amendment VC110 was gazetted by the Victorian State Government on 27 March 2017. This amendment introduced:

- Mandatory minimum garden areas; and
- Maximum building heights of 11 metres or no more than three (3) storeys in the General Residential Zone.

The amendment included Transitional provisions which details as follows:

"The minimum garden area requirement of Clause 32.08-4 and the maximum building height and number of storeys requirements of Clause 32.08-9 introduced by Amendment VC110 do not apply to:

 A planning permit application for the construction or extension of a dwelling or residential building lodged before the approval date of Amendment VC110".

It is identified that the application was submitted on 21 November 2016 before the 27 March 2017 gazettal of the amendment and therefore the amendments under VC110 do not apply to this application.

Planning Scheme Amendment VC136 affects the proposal which is explained below:

Planning Scheme Amendment VC136 was gazetted by the Victorian State Government on 13 April 2017. This amendment introduced:

Clause 58 – Apartment Developments into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. This
clause provides objective and standards in relation to minimum design requirements for apartment
developments of five or more storeys.

The amendment included Transitional provisions which details as follows:

"Clause 58 does not apply to:

An application for a planning permit lodged before the approval date of the amendment".

It is identified that the application was submitted on 21 November 2016 before the 13 April 2017 gazettal of the amendment and therefore the amendments under VC136 do not apply to this application.

Restrictive Covenants

No Restrictive Covenants registered on title.

Council Plan 2013-2017 – Strategic Objectives, Strategies and Plans

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. In accordance with the commitment in Council's Annual Plan, all applications are considered on their merits.

Diversity (Access & Equity)

It is not considered that the proposal raises any diversity issues affecting the planning assessment of this application.

Community Safety

It is considered that there would be no adverse community safety implications in permitting the proposal.

Safe Design Guidelines

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

Referrals

Pursuant to Section 55 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, the application was externally referred to:

External Referrals	Advice/Response/Conditions
Vic Roads	No objections (no conditions)
Public Transport Victoria	No objections (subject to conditions)

Internal

The application was internally referred to the following Council Departments for their consideration:

Council Referrals	Advice/Response/Conditions
Strategic Planning	No objection
Asset Planning	No objection subject to conditions
Civil Development	No objection subject to conditions
ESD/ Sustainability	No objection subject to conditions
Transport Planning	No objection subject to conditions
Urban Design	Comments provided
Waste Management	No objection
Arborist	No objection subject to conditions

The comments provided have been considered in the assessment of the application.

Advertising

The application has been advertised pursuant to Section 52 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, by:

- Sending notices to the owners and occupiers of adjoining land; and
- Placing four (4) signs on site facing Westall Road and Windsor Avenue.

The notification has been carried out correctly.

Council has received no objections to date.

Consultation

A consultative meeting was not required to be held.

Assessment

Statutory Context

The subject site is located with the General Residential Zone (Schedule 1):

It is noted that the following recent Victorian Planning Scheme Amendments do not apply to the subject application for a five (5) storey accommodation building:

- Amendment VC110 Minimum Garden Area and height controls (11 metres / 3 Stories). The
 application was submitted prior to amendment VC110 being gazetted on 27/03/2017 and as
 such benefits from the transitional provisions under Clause 32.08-14.
- Amendment VC136 The subject application must be assessed against Clause 52.35 Design Response for residential development over five or more storeys, rather than Clause 58 – Apartments as the application was submitted prior to amendment VC136 being gazetted on 13/04/2017 and as such benefits from the transitional provisions.

It is noted that the subject use is not identified as either a dwelling or residential building under the definition of the Planning Scheme. As such the application is not subject to an assessment under the Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development which was incorporated into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme at Clause 52.35 prior to Amendment VC136 being gazetted on 13/04/2017. Notwithstanding that, it has been used to assess this application.

The application for development must be assessed against the General Residential Zone (as was in place prior to the above outlined Amendments) and Cause 52.35 of the Planning Scheme.

Planning Scheme Amendment C182 (Part 1) was gazetted on 21 December 2017. Therefore the amendments to the General Residential Zone (Schedule 1) and Clause 22.09 – Residential Development and Neighbourhood Character Policy must be applied. An assessment against Clause 22.09 as amended under C182 has been undertaken and is attached to this report (Attachment 2).

<u>Use</u>

The proposed use of the site for an expansion of the existing accommodation use (retirement village) does not require a permit, with the use being established through historic permits as identified earlier in this report.

Development

The development proposes a total of one hundred and five (105) independent living units within three (3), five (5) storey accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units on the subject site.

The subject site is identified as an existing large scale retirement village being comprised of large two (2) to three (3) storey buildings (294 units) utilised by the elderly and retirees. In addition Planning Permit PLN17/0145 was issued by VCAT on 19 January 2018 for:

"The development of the land for one (1) five (5) storey accommodation building in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking, and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1".

Whilst the application is not required to be assessed against the Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development (DSE 2004), an assessment was undertaken in order to ensure the proposed development would not cause detriment to the amenity of the area both physically and visually. Overall the proposal is considered to meet all of the objectives as outlined within the guidelines.

It is considered that the proposed three (3) multi storey buildings external elevations have been broken up through the use of varying building materials and staggered setbacks to the elevations providing depth and a level of visual interest. The steel permeable balustrades to the balconies allow for views which also assist in minimising the perceived bulk of the building.

The style of the buildings is contemporary and the development will not appear out of context with the established village, but will create a unique and appealing architecture which has utilised a combination of external finishes and colours designed to create visual interest when viewed from the internal road network, Souter Street, Windsor Avenue, Westall Road and the surrounding area.

Whilst the proposed development will be unique in terms of being the only current five (5) storey buildings within the immediate area, the development is considered to contribute to an improved urban character whilst still being respectful of the existing surrounding residential interfaces. This will be aided by the retention of the large trees located along the Windsor Avenue frontage with the exception of a number of trees to be removed in order to provide vehicular access to Villa Units 8 & 9 and Building B.

The design of the independent living units both within the five (5) storey buildings and villa units are open plan, have good accessibility and will meet the needs of a broader range of the retiring/elderly community. The internal layout of the units seeks to minimise expensive modifications if short or longer term impairment occurs for any of the residents.

It is considered sufficient solar access is provided to all the units with large windows and balconies / ground floor private open space, allowing for a good amount of natural light into the units.

The proposed building height of five (5) storeys for the three (3) buildings whilst being higher than the two (2) storey preferred building height under Clause 22.09-3.2 is considered acceptable at this location.

It is considered that:

• The setbacks of the buildings from all boundaries afforded due to the considerable size of the site, specifically to Windsor Avenue;

- The existing and proposed landscaping and vegetation retention along the eastern and southern boundaries of the lot:
- The overall context of the site and existing significant built form;
- The use being provided for (retirement village); and
- The sustainability initiatives and construction model proposed;

allow for a departure from the preferred two storey built form that would normally be required within the incremental change area under Clause 22.09 (as amended).

In addition, it is identified within the Neighbourhood Character Study 2007 (NCS), which informed the new residential zones and the drafting of Clause 22.09 at figure 10 that the subject site is located within an anomaly area. A question of the NCS was should consolidated allotments be able to be developed with a more intensive built form than the surrounding area?

It is considered that in this instance, on this site, within the anomalies area, the more intense form of development should be supported.

As required under Clause 10.04 – Integrated Decision Making:

"Planning Authorities and Responsible Authorities should endeavour to integrate the range of policies relevant to the issues to be determined and balance conflicting objectives in favour of net community benefit and sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations".

It is identified that between 2017 and 2026 the forecast population of 65+ year olds will increase by 10% with 75+ year olds increasing by 15% (source: Population current and forecast in Greater Dandenong January 2014).

It is considered that as the over 65 or retiree population within the City of Greater Dandenong increases, facilities and residential / retirement villages such as Lexington Gardens will need to expand in order to provide accommodation. It is considered that due to a lack of larger consolidated parcels of land and affordability, independent living units in denser developments such as the one proposed are acceptable and should be supported.

The applicants will construct the subject multistorey buildings using an advanced building technique. Central to the projects sustainability strategy is the selection of cross-laminated timber (CLT) for the building's structure. CLT is an innovative construction material that allows higher rise buildings to be built from timber rather than concrete; the resulting embodied energy savings are considerable, achieved through the substitution of energy, water and materials intensive concrete with renewable, sustainable timber. It is estimated that the selection of CLT structure will reduce the embodied carbon in the building by 50%.

In addition, the overall planning and design of all the units has been developed to maximise indoor environment quality.

As such, it is considered that the overall net community benefit of the proposed sustainable buildings, along with the diversity of unit typologies within an existing residential village outweighs the potential for visual impact due to the proposed height at this location. The visual impact in itself will be regarded as minimal due to the existing development on site, retention of vegetation and enhancement and provision of landscaping; as such the proposed development is considered acceptable and should be supported.

This view is supported by VCAT in the Tribunals decision to issue Planning Permit PLN17/0145 for the development of the land for one (1) five (5) storey accommodation building in association with an existing retirement village on the subject site (identified as Building A). Building A is to be located east of the existing retirement village amenities building and due to the topography of the site will sit higher than the proposed buildings B, C & D (See context Elevation Plan LEX TP041 Rev 4).

Member Wilson in her decision found that there was, "considerable support in the Planning Scheme for additional housing catering for older age groups, a sector of the population that is projected to increase and more generally for greater diversity of housing in accessible locations."

It is identified that this is an important factor in balancing all the matters that must be considered and reaching a decision that achieves net community benefit and sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations as required under Clause 10.04 of the Planning Scheme.

Member Wilson also found that there is significant emphasis in various provisions and policies of the Planning Scheme on ensuring that development responds appropriately to context and is respectful of neighbourhood character. Regard should be given to the unique characteristics of the site, the siting and design of the building and to the balancing of neighbourhood character objectives against the established use of the land for a retirement village and policy that seeks increased diversity of housing, especially for the aged.

The member considered the departure to include a more intense and higher form (5 storeys) of development proposed should be supported. Whilst in the case for Building A (PLN17/0145) Council lawyers argued that the proposal should not be supported and that the Council refusal should be upheld, the Member agreed with the views expressed in the Council report that there are circumstances that justify departure from the preferred two-storey height and preferred medium density housing in the incremental change area. In addition the Member found that:

"The overall height of the building, although two storeys higher than the three storeys allowed for in the GRZ and anticipated in the incremental change areas, will have limited impact outside the site given its location internally within a large site that effectively has its own character".

In relation to the subject application, the additional three (3), five (5) storey buildings will be located fronting Westall Road and Windsor Avenue. It is considered that the five (5) storey built form (Buildings C & D) along Westall road with a varied setback of 3.79 - 9.64 metres from the western boundary will provide a robust built form when located adjacent to the six (6) lane road. It is considered in the context and character of the site, buildings of this scale would not look or feel out of place but would frame this corner location.

In terms of Building B, it is considered that the 10.9 metre setback, retention of the 1.8-2 metre high fence, retention of the majority of mature trees (with the exception for the provision of access), proposed additional landscaping and the topography of the land will help reduce any perception of bulk and scale. The building will be appropriately and extensively screened along Windsor Avenue (see Attachment 1 - Lexington Gardens - Photomontage – Windsor Avenue dated 11/08/2017).

Overall it is not considered that the proposed buildings will dominate or erode the character of Windsor Avenue or the surrounding residential area as was found by Member Wilson in her decision for Building A whereby it was identified that:

"Assessing the proposal against the neighbourhood character objectives of Schedule 1 to the GRZ I find as follows:

- The scale, built form and setbacks respond to the existing site circumstances which do not have the consistent built form and street patterns evident in the more traditional residential streetscapes where Schedule 1 to the GRZ applies.
- There is generous opportunity for substantial high quality landscaping and canopy trees.
- The development will not result in car parking or vehicle access dominating a streetscape.
- The development provides a useable area of private open space for each unit."

It is important to remember that when determining planning applications, Council's must take into consideration relevant VCAT decisions. In this case, there is a very recent VCAT decision for a similar proposal on the same site, which was approved.

Vegetation and landscaping

The proposal will require the removal of thirty six (36) trees and one (1) tree group in areas which will be required for building footprints, driveways, carparks and their entrances. The submitted Arborist report identifies the trees on site to not be remnant vegetation but to have been planted and as such no permit is required to remove vegetation under Clause 52.17- Native vegetation of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. Whilst this is the case, the applicants have designed the proposed development so that the minimum of vegetation will be required to be removed. The majority of the existing mature trees located along the southern boundary (Windsor Avenue) and at the entrance from Westall Road will be retained. All retained trees will be required to be protected during construction and conditions will be placed on any permit issued to ensure the provision of Tree Protection Zones at that time.

In addition, it can be identified from the Landscape Concept Plan that extensive and substantial landscaping is proposed along all interfaces with any existing dwellings (east), Windsor Avenue and Westall Road as well as internal of the site. It is considered that the increase in landscaping vegetation will soften the built form and more than adequately replace any vegetation to be lost.

Clause 52.35 - Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development Assessment

An assessment of the proposed development has been made against Clause 52.35 as the application is subject to the transitional requirements under Amendment VC136. Overall the applicant submitted an appropriate Urban Context Report which is considered to meet all of the application requirements.

Car Parking

Car parking for the proposed five (5) storey buildings has been provided in the form of under croft parking for the residents accessed from the both the internal road and Windsor Avenue with each of the Villa units being provided with a single garage each along with one additional space in tandem.

The application has been assessed against the design standards of Clause 52.06-8 as per the table attached to this report and is considered to comply with all of the design standards.

Pursuant to Clause 52.06-5 the following car parking rates are applicable to the proposed uses (retirement village).

Car parking required	Car parking provided	Reduction required
150	128 in total:	24 resident spaces
129 resident spaces	105 resident spaces	5 visitor spaces
20 visitor spaces for the three multistorey buildings altogether 1 visitor space for the 9 villa units	14 visitor spaces 9 visitor spaces (1 per villa)	The villa units over cater for visitor spaces. As the villas visitor spaces will operate independently of the multistorey buildings therefore the proposed visitor spaces will not be utilised by the occupiers of the multistorey buildings.

Based on the above the proposal is seeking a car parking reduction of twenty nine (29) car spaces (24 resident and 5 visitor spaces). The applicant has advised through a Traffic and Transport Assessment that the reduction in car parking is appropriate for the use.

The reduction in parking of the twenty four (24) residential spaces (reduction of one (1) space per three (3) bedroom unit) is considered acceptable due to the use of the building for retirees and the inclusion of car sharing schemes and other transportation options provided by the management of the village (e.g. buses to and from shopping areas etc.).

It is considered that the reduction in the visitor car parking requirements is not acceptable and should be provided. Therefore a condition will be placed on any permit to be issued to provide an additional five (5) visitor spaces in close proximity to the proposed buildings in order to meet the requirement.

Clause 52.29 - to alter access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1

The subject site adjoins Westall Road to the west which is a Road Zone Category 1 (RDZ1).

The site has an existing access point from Westall Road which will be used more frequently for the proposed development.

The application was referred to VicRoads which had no objection to the proposal.

Conclusion

The proposed development for three (3), five (5) storey accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking, and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone, Category 1 is considered acceptable at this location due to the overall context of the site, setbacks, proposed design and sustainable construction methods and the overall net community benefit the proposal will bring to the municipality.

Recommendation

That Council resolves to issue a Permit to grant a permit in respect of the land known and described as 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Lot 1 PS543421V), for the development of the land for three (3), five (5) storey accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking, and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone, Category 1 in accordance with the plans submitted with the application subject to the following conditions:

- 1. Before the development starts, two (2) copies of amended plans drawn to scale and dimensioned, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority for approval. No buildings or works must be commenced until the plans have been approved and endorsed by the Responsible Authority. The endorsed copy of the plans forms part of this permit. The plans must be in accordance with the plans submitted with the application, but modified to show;
 - 1.1. An additional five (5) visitor car parking spaces located in close proximity to the subject building.
 - 1.2. The location(s) for all outdoor AC units. If they are placed on the balcony, must be concealed from the street and surrounding views.
 - 1.3. Tree protection zones for all trees which may be impacted by the construction of the proposed building in compliance with the Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Building Sites.

- 1.4. All physical environmentally sustainable design features referred to within the Sustainability Report prepared by Lendlease dated 17 November 2016 or any subsequent amended report.
- 1.5 Villa Units 8 & 9 to be provided access to the proposed footpath to the rear of the units via a gate from the each unit's private open space.

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 2. Before plans are endorsed under condition 1, a revised Sustainability Report detailing sustainable design strategies to be incorporated into the development must be submitted to, and approved by the Responsible Authority this includes the submission of a revised BESS assessment. The revised Sustainability Report is to address the issues identified by the Responsible Authority including but not limited to energy efficiency, water efficiency and indoor environmental quality.
- 3. Prior to the occupation of the development, a report from the author of the Sustainability Report approved pursuant to this permit, or similarly qualified person or company, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority. The report must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must confirm that all measures specified in the Sustainability Report have been implemented in accordance with the approved Plan.
- 4. Before the plans are endorsed under condition 1, and before any trees or vegetation are removed, an amended landscape plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The amended landscape plan must be prepared by a person or firm with suitable qualifications to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, drawn to scale with dimensions and 3 copies must be provided. The amended landscape plan must be generally in accordance with the landscape concept plans prepared by CJ Arms & Associates dated 7 August 2017 but modified to show:
 - 4.1 Plans to accord with Condition 1 of this permit;
 - 4.2 Demonstration that proposed planting will substantially screen ground floor car park walls;
 - 4.3 Natural ground level and altered ground levels;
 - 4.4 Proposed surfacing;

- 2.2.1 Town Planning Application Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)
 - 4.5 Details of arbour, gazebo and any other proposed structures in the landscaped area; and
 - 4.6 Irrigation system to all planted areas

When approved, the amended landscape plan will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.

The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the landscape plan must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 5. Before the approved development starts, a Construction Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The Construction Management Plan must address, but is not limited to:
 - 5.1. Hours of construction, control of noise and airborne matter, deliveries, vehicle access, worker car parking, damage to public assets, and contact numbers for complaints;
 - 5.2. All Traffic Management Plans for the site demolition, excavation, deliveries and other construction related activities that will affect vehicle and pedestrian traffic:
 - 5.3. The location of all areas on-site and off-site to be used for construction staff parking;
 - 5.4. A Parking Management Plan for all associated construction vehicles;
 - 5.5. All site sheds, portable toilet, storage and materials, etc. must be confined to the land;
 - 5.6. The covering and maintenance of all roads/storage areas/external stockpiles/or vacant areas to avoid dust nuisance to any residential and commercial premises;
 - 5.7. A truck wheel-wash must be installed and used so vehicles leaving the site do not deposit mud or other materials on roadways:
 - 5.8. No water containing oil, foam, grease, scum or litter will be discharged to the stormwater drainage system from the land;
 - 5.9. All stored wastes are kept in designated areas or covered containers that prevent escape into the stormwater system;

- 2.2.1 Town Planning Application Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)
 - 5.10. The amount of mud, dirt, sand, soil, clay or stones deposited by vehicles on the abutting roads is minimised when vehicles are leaving the land; and
 - 5.11. No mud, dirt, sand, soil, clay or stones are washed into, or are allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.

When approved, the Construction Management Plan will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.

The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the endorsed Construction Management Plan must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 6. Prior to the occupation of the accommodation buildings approved by this permit, an appropriate stormwater discharge arrangement from the site must be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. When required, fees for plan checking and supervision must be paid to the Responsible Authority.
- 7. The layout of the site and size, design and location of the buildings and works permitted must always be in accordance with the endorsed plans, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 8. Once the development has started, it must be continued and completed in accordance with the endorsed plans, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 9. The development must be constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the Sustainability Report to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 10. The accommodation buildings or any stage of the development hereby approved must not be occupied until all buildings and works and the conditions of this permit have been complied with, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 11. Prior to the occupation of the accommodation building hereby permitted, all landscaping as shown on the endorsed plans, including trees, shrubs and lawn, shall be planted and thereafter maintained, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 2.2.1 Town Planning Application Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)
- 12. Access to the site and any associated roadwork must be constructed, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Vehicle Crossing permit is required for alteration/removal/reinstatement of existing vehicle crossings and construction of new vehicle crossings. Works are to be in accordance with Council Standards.
- 13. Any works undertaken within the road reservation and easements will require the developer to obtain a Civil Works Permit from Council.
- 14. All piping and ducting above the ground floor storey of the building, except for downpipes and spouting, shall be concealed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 15. Before the approved development is occupied, the area(s) set-aside for the parking of vehicles, together with the associated driveways and access lanes as shown on the endorsed plans must be:
 - 15.1. Constructed in accordance with the endorsed plan/s.
 - 15.2. Properly formed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the plans.
 - 15.3. Surfaced with an all-weather sealcoat.
 - 15.4. Drained to the legal point of discharge.

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority

- 16. Visitor parking must be clearly marked and well-lit outside of daylight hours.
- 17. Car spaces, access lanes and driveways must be maintained and kept available for these purposes at all times.
- 18. Provision must be made for the drainage for proposed development including landscaped and paved areas, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 19. The connection of the internal drainage infrastructure to the Legal Point of Discharge must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 2.2.1 Town Planning Application Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)
- 20. Collected stormwater must be retained onsite and discharged into the drainage system at pre development peak discharge rates as stated in the Legal Point of Discharge approval letter. Approval of drainage plan including any retention system within the property boundary is required.
- 21. Before the approved building is occupied, the development must be provided with external lighting capable of illuminating access to each garage, car parking space and pedestrian walkway. Lighting must be located, directed and shielded to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority so as to prevent any adverse effect outside the land.
- 22. Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority, floor levels shown on the endorsed plan/s must not be altered or modified.
- 23. No buildings or works may be constructed over any easement or other restriction on the land or any sewers, drains, pipes, wires or cables under the control of a public authority without the prior written consent of the relevant authority and the Responsible Authority.
- 24. Before the accommodation building is occupied, all landscaping as shown on the endorsed plans, including trees, shrubs and lawn, must be planted to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
 - At all times, the landscaping must be maintained to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 25. Access to the site and any associated roadwork must be constructed, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
 - Note all existing vehicle crossing will need to be removed and reinstate with kerb in accordance with Council Standards. Also, the developer will need to obtain a Vehicle Crossing Permit from Council.
- 26. Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority and under the supervision of a consulting qualified Arborist, the following must not occur within the Tree Protection Zone:
 - 26.1. vehicular or pedestrian access;
 - 26.2. trenching or soil excavation; and

26.3. storage or dumping of tools, equipment or waste, including stockpiled soil and building debris;

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 27. Before the approved development starts, all existing trees shown on the endorsed plans to be retained on the land must, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, be suitably marked in a "Tree Protection Zone" with the Tree Protection Zones as required under Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Building Sites.
- 28. The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the endorsed Acoustic Report by Marshall Day Acoustics report no: Rp001R03 2017008 must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Public Transport Victoria

- 29. The permit holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that disruption to bus operations along Westall Road and Windsor Avenue is kept to a minimum during the construction of the development. Foreseen disruptions to bus operations during construction and mitigation measures must be communicated to Public Transport Victoria fourteen days (14) prior.
- 30. This permit will expire if:
 - 30.1. The development does not start within two (2) years of the date of this permit, or
 - 30.2. The development or any stage of it is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit.

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

Notes

• A Building Approval is required prior to the commencement of the approved development. This planning permit does not constitute any building approval.

- A Vehicle Crossing Permit must be obtained from Council for all vehicular crossings
 prior to construction of the crossings. You may be required to apply for a Asset
 Protection Permit from Council's engineering services. Queries regarding engineering
 requirements can be directed to Council's general phone number on 8571 1000.
- Approval of any retention system within the property boundary is required by the relevant building surveyor.
- Before commencement of the development occurs, the applicant should contact the City of Greater Dandenong's Civil Development and Design Unit regarding legal point of discharge, new crossings, building over easements, etc.
- Mailboxes should be provided and located for convenient access as required by Australia Post.
- The property is identified to be subject to flooding in major rain events. An application for Report and Consent for Flooding is required. Infrastructure Planning is to be contacted to confirm the minimum finished floor level (FFL) of the proposed development.
- Prior works commencing the developer will need to obtain an Asset Protection Permit from Council.

MINUTE 572

Moved by: Cr Zaynoun Melhem Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

That Council resolves to issue a Permit to grant a permit in respect of the land known and described as 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Lot 1 PS543421V), for the development of the land for three (3), five (5) storey accommodation buildings and nine (9) villa units in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking, and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone, Category 1 in accordance with the plans submitted with the application subject to the following conditions:

1. Before the development starts, two (2) copies of amended plans drawn to scale and dimensioned, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority for approval. No buildings or works must be commenced until the plans have been approved and endorsed by the Responsible Authority. The endorsed copy of the plans forms part of this permit. The plans must be in accordance with the plans submitted with the application, but modified to show;

- 1.1. An additional five (5) visitor car parking spaces located in close proximity to the subject building.
- 1.2. The location(s) for all outdoor AC units. If they are placed on the balcony, must be concealed from the street and surrounding views.
- 1.3. Tree protection zones for all trees which may be impacted by the construction of the proposed building in compliance with the Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Building Sites.
- 1.4. All physical environmentally sustainable design features referred to within the Sustainability Report prepared by Lendlease dated 17 November 2016 or any subsequent amended report.
- 1.5 Villa Units 8 & 9 to be provided access to the proposed footpath to the rear of the units via a gate from the each unit's private open space.

To the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 2. Before plans are endorsed under condition 1, a revised Sustainability Report detailing sustainable design strategies to be incorporated into the development must be submitted to, and approved by the Responsible Authority this includes the submission of a revised BESS assessment. The revised Sustainability Report is to address the issues identified by the Responsible Authority including but not limited to energy efficiency, water efficiency and indoor environmental quality.
- 3. Prior to the occupation of the development, a report from the author of the Sustainability Report approved pursuant to this permit, or similarly qualified person or company, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority. The report must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must confirm that all measures specified in the Sustainability Report have been implemented in accordance with the approved Plan.
- 4. Before the plans are endorsed under condition 1, and before any trees or vegetation are removed, an amended landscape plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The amended landscape plan must be prepared by a person or firm with suitable qualifications to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, drawn to scale with dimensions and 3 copies must be provided. The amended landscape plan must be generally in accordance with the landscape concept plans prepared by CJ Arms & Associates dated 7 August 2017 but modified to show:
 - 4.1 Plans to accord with Condition 1 of this permit;

- 2.2.1 Town Planning Application Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)
 - 4.2 Demonstration that proposed planting will substantially screen ground floor car park walls;
 - 4.3 Natural ground level and altered ground levels;
 - 4.4 Proposed surfacing;
 - 4.5 Details of arbour, gazebo and any other proposed structures in the landscaped area; and
 - 4.6 Irrigation system to all planted areas

When approved, the amended landscape plan will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.

The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the landscape plan must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 5. Before the approved development starts, a Construction Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The Construction Management Plan must address, but is not limited to:
 - 5.1. Hours of construction, control of noise and airborne matter, deliveries, vehicle access, worker car parking, damage to public assets, and contact numbers for complaints;
 - 5.2. All Traffic Management Plans for the site demolition, excavation, deliveries and other construction related activities that will affect vehicle and pedestrian traffic;
 - 5.3. The location of all areas on-site and off-site to be used for construction staff parking;
 - 5.4. A Parking Management Plan for all associated construction vehicles;
 - 5.5. All site sheds, portable toilet, storage and materials, etc. must be confined to the land;
 - 5.6. The covering and maintenance of all roads/storage areas/external stockpiles/or vacant areas to avoid dust nuisance to any residential and commercial premises;

- 5.7. A truck wheel-wash must be installed and used so vehicles leaving the site do not deposit mud or other materials on roadways;
- 5.8. No water containing oil, foam, grease, scum or litter will be discharged to the stormwater drainage system from the land;
- 5.9. All stored wastes are kept in designated areas or covered containers that prevent escape into the stormwater system;
- 5.10. The amount of mud, dirt, sand, soil, clay or stones deposited by vehicles on the abutting roads is minimised when vehicles are leaving the land; and
- 5.11. No mud, dirt, sand, soil, clay or stones are washed into, or are allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.

When approved, the Construction Management Plan will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.

The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the endorsed Construction Management Plan must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 6. Prior to the occupation of the accommodation buildings approved by this permit, an appropriate stormwater discharge arrangement from the site must be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. When required, fees for plan checking and supervision must be paid to the Responsible Authority.
- 7. The layout of the site and size, design and location of the buildings and works permitted must always be in accordance with the endorsed plans, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 8. Once the development has started, it must be continued and completed in accordance with the endorsed plans, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 9. The development must be constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the Sustainability Report to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 10. The accommodation buildings or any stage of the development hereby approved must not be occupied until all buildings and works and the conditions of this permit have been complied with, unless with the written consent of the Responsible Authority.

- 2.2.1 Town Planning Application Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)
- 11. Prior to the occupation of the accommodation building hereby permitted, all landscaping as shown on the endorsed plans, including trees, shrubs and lawn, shall be planted and thereafter maintained, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 12. Access to the site and any associated roadwork must be constructed, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Vehicle Crossing permit is required for alteration/removal/reinstatement of existing vehicle crossings and construction of new vehicle crossings. Works are to be in accordance with Council Standards.
- 13. Any works undertaken within the road reservation and easements will require the developer to obtain a Civil Works Permit from Council.
- 14. All piping and ducting above the ground floor storey of the building, except for downpipes and spouting, shall be concealed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 15. Before the approved development is occupied, the area(s) set-aside for the parking of vehicles, together with the associated driveways and access lanes as shown on the endorsed plans must be:
 - 15.1. Constructed in accordance with the endorsed plan/s.
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 - 15.3. Surfaced with an all-weather sealcoat.
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All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority

- 16. Visitor parking must be clearly marked and well-lit outside of daylight hours.
- 17. Car spaces, access lanes and driveways must be maintained and kept available for these purposes at all times.
- 18. Provision must be made for the drainage for proposed development including landscaped and paved areas, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 19. The connection of the internal drainage infrastructure to the Legal Point of Discharge must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 20. Collected stormwater must be retained onsite and discharged into the drainage system at pre development peak discharge rates as stated in the Legal Point of Discharge approval letter. Approval of drainage plan including any retention system within the property boundary is required.
- 21. Before the approved building is occupied, the development must be provided with external lighting capable of illuminating access to each garage, car parking space and pedestrian walkway. Lighting must be located, directed and shielded to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority so as to prevent any adverse effect outside the land.
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- 24. Before the accommodation building is occupied, all landscaping as shown on the endorsed plans, including trees, shrubs and lawn, must be planted to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
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 - Note all existing vehicle crossing will need to be removed and reinstate with kerb in accordance with Council Standards. Also, the developer will need to obtain a Vehicle Crossing Permit from Council.
- 26. Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority and under the supervision of a consulting qualified Arborist, the following must not occur within the Tree Protection Zone:
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- 28. The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the endorsed Acoustic Report by Marshall Day Acoustics report no: Rp001R03 2017008 must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Public Transport Victoria

- 29. The permit holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that disruption to bus operations along Westall Road and Windsor Avenue is kept to a minimum during the construction of the development. Foreseen disruptions to bus operations during construction and mitigation measures must be communicated to Public Transport Victoria fourteen days (14) prior.
- 30. This permit will expire if:
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 - 30.2. The development or any stage of it is not completed within four (4) years of the date of this permit.

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

Notes

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- Approval of any retention system within the property boundary is required by the relevant building surveyor.
- Before commencement of the development occurs, the applicant should contact the City of Greater Dandenong's Civil Development and Design Unit regarding legal point of discharge, new crossings, building over easements, etc.
- Mailboxes should be provided and located for convenient access as required by Australia Post.
- The property is identified to be subject to flooding in major rain events. An application for Report and Consent for Flooding is required. Infrastructure Planning is to be contacted to confirm the minimum finished floor level (FFL) of the proposed development.
- Prior works commencing the developer will need to obtain an Asset Protection Permit from Council.

MINUTE 573

Moved by: Cr Loi Truong Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That Cr Matthew Kirwan be granted an extension of time of two minutes to speak against the motion.

CARRIED

MINUTE 574

Moved by: Cr Matthew Kirwan Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That Cr Tim Dark be granted an extension of time of two minutes to speak in support of the motion.

CARRIED

CARRIED (REFERS TO MINUTE NUMBER 572)

For the Motion: Cr Roz Blades AM, Cr Youhorn Chea, Cr Tim Dark, Cr Angela Long, Cr Jim Memeti, Cr Zaynoun Melhem, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Maria Sampey, Cr Loi Troung

Against the Motion: Cr Matthew Kirwan (called for the Division)

STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TOWN PLANNING APPLICATION – NOS. 114-122 WESTALL ROAD, SPRINGVALE (PLANNING APPLICATION PLN16/0866)

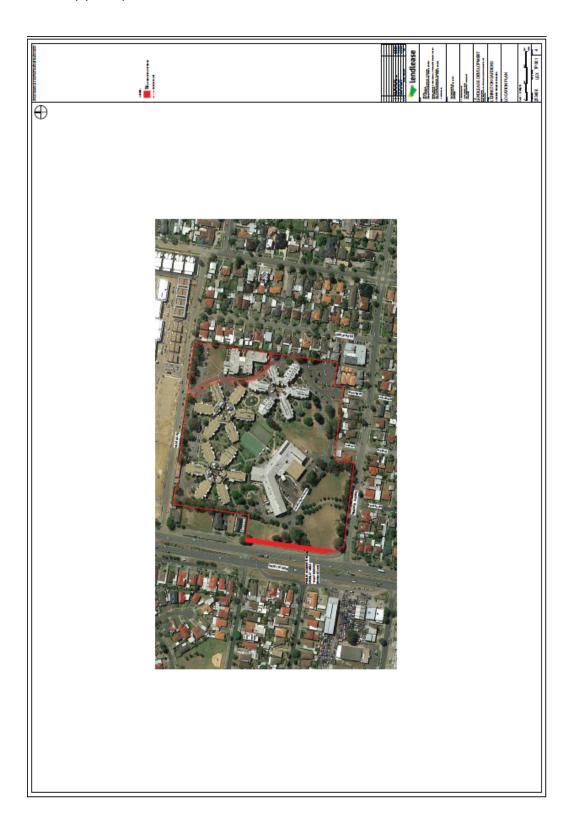
ATTACHMENT 1

SUBMITTED PLANS

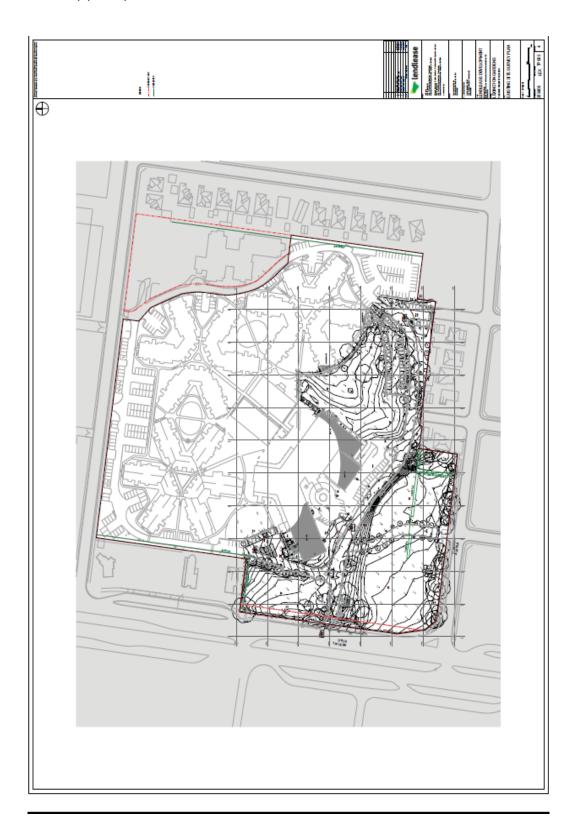
PAGES 33 (including cover)

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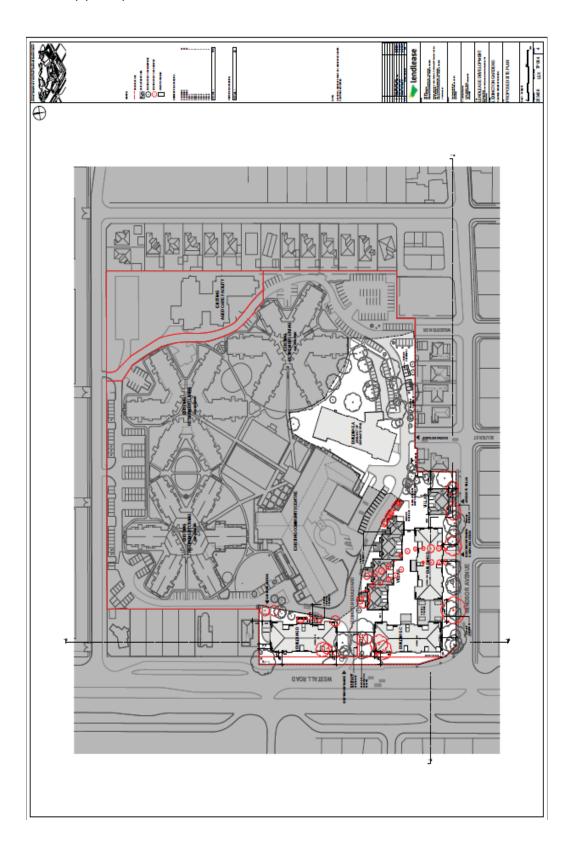




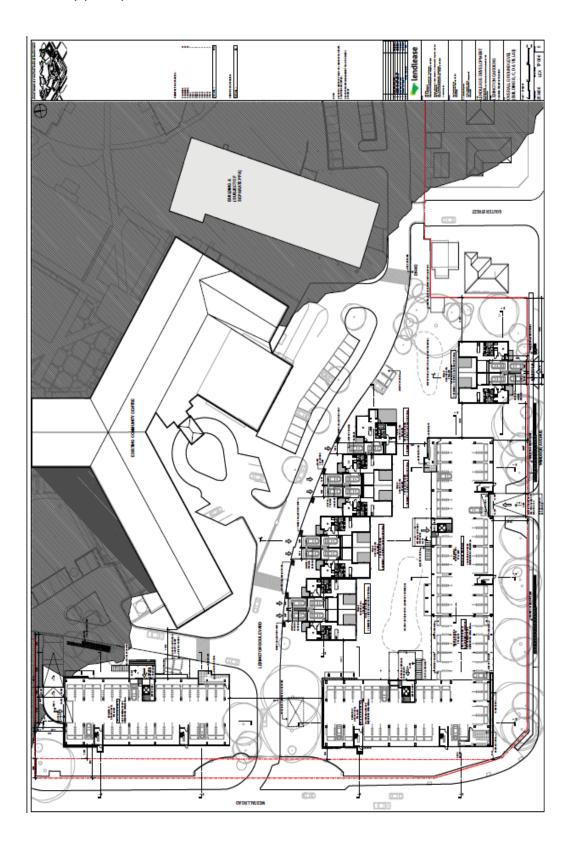




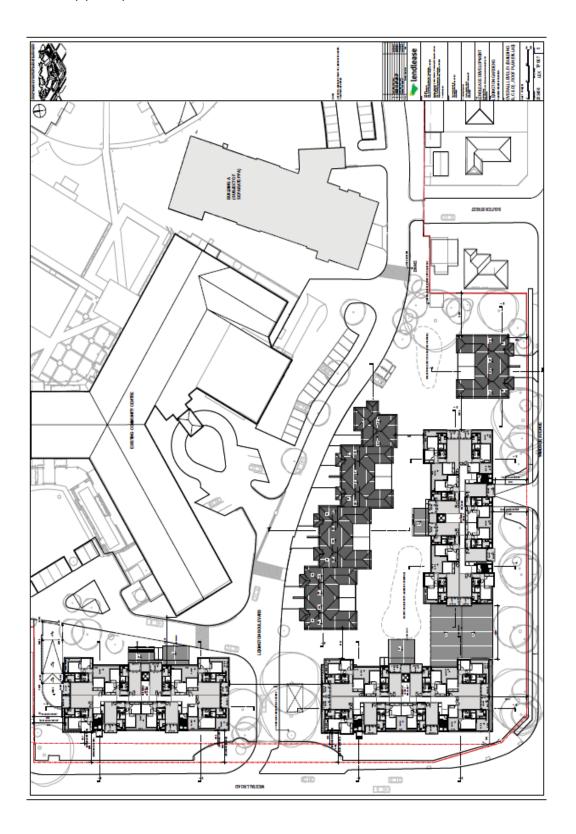
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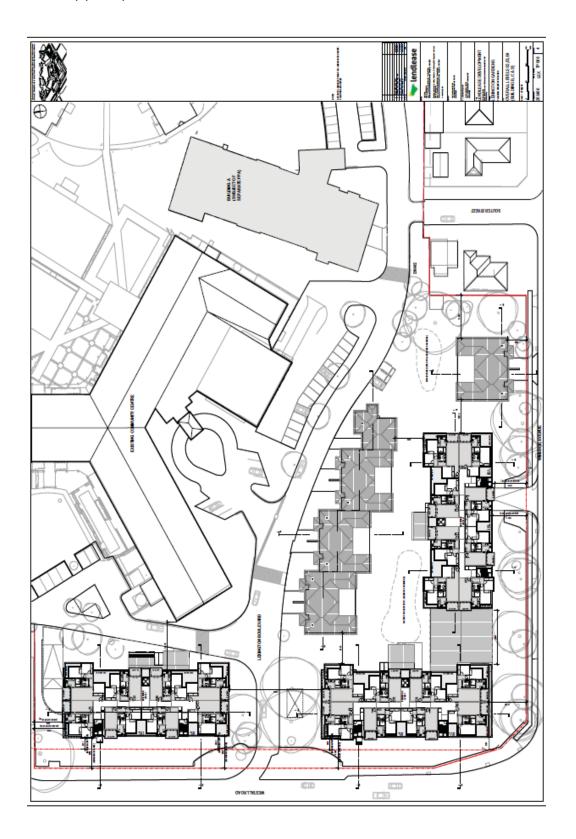
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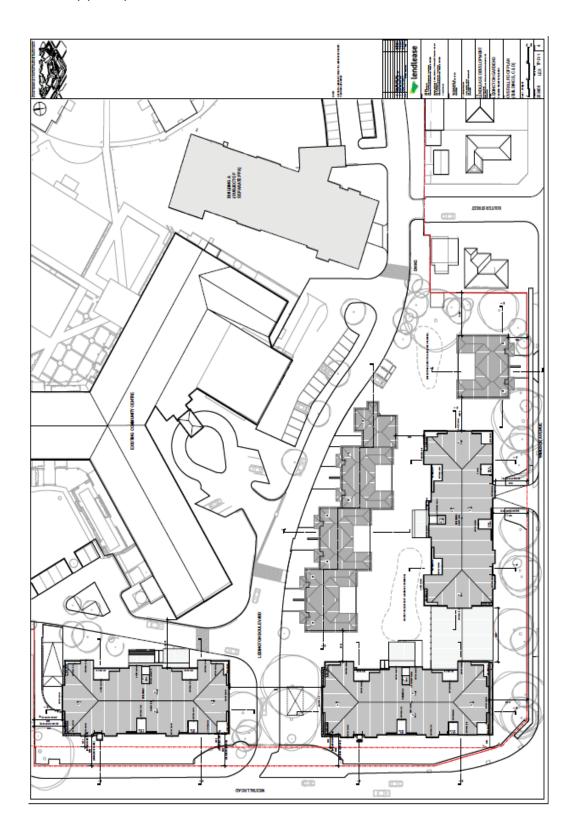
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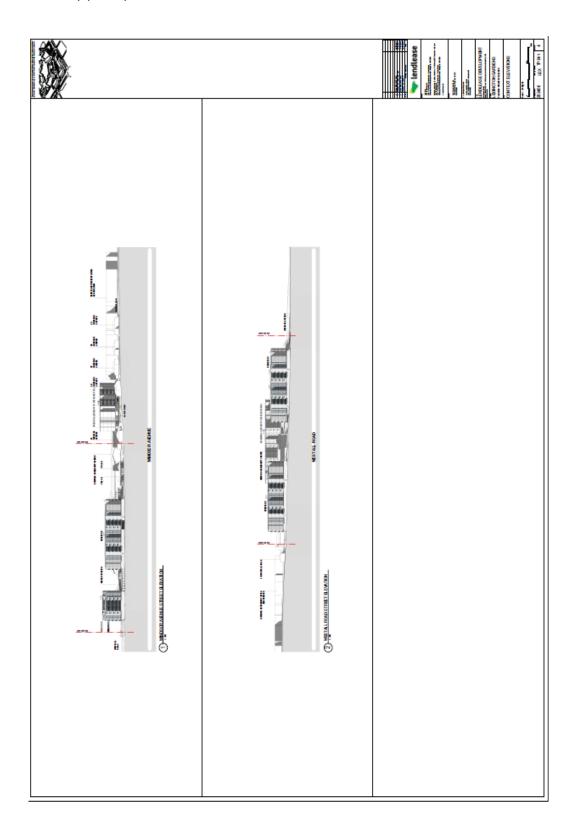
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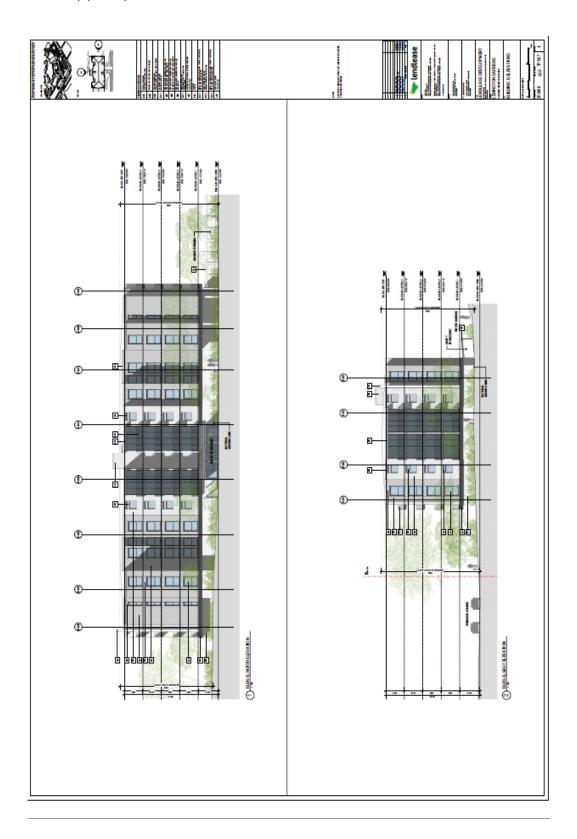
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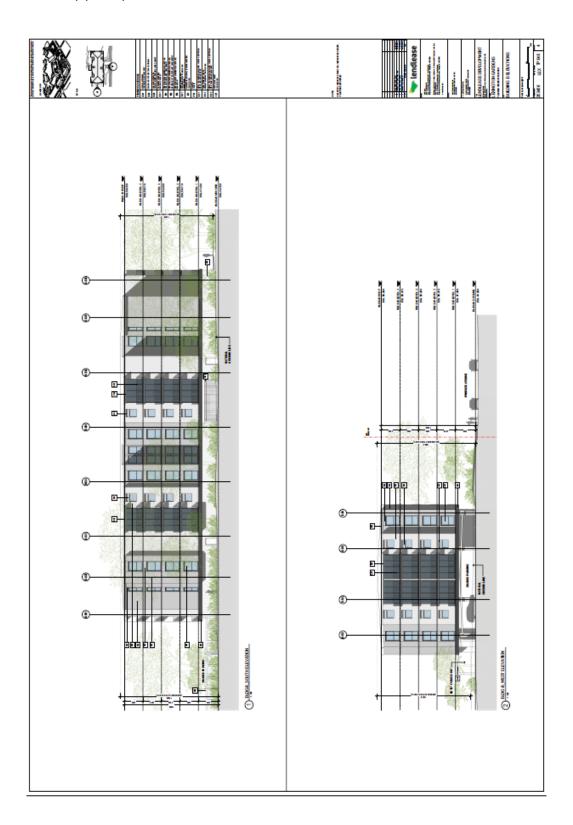
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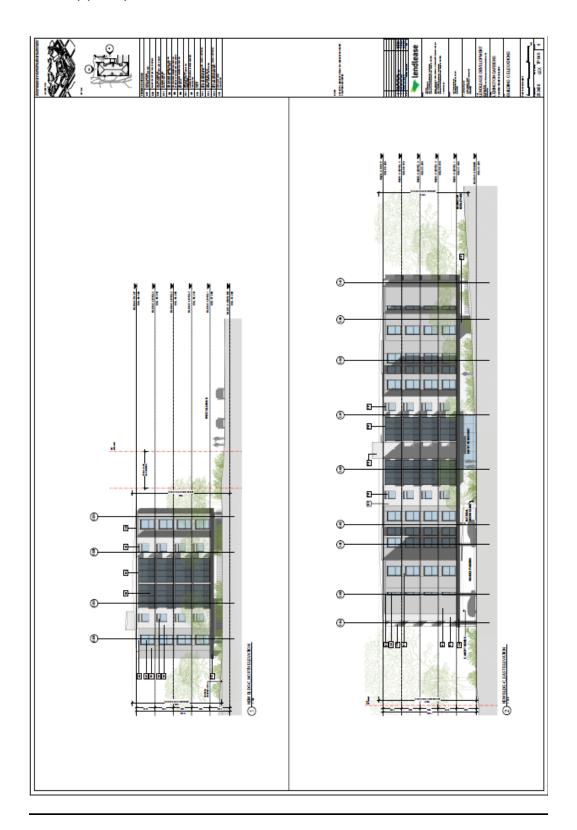
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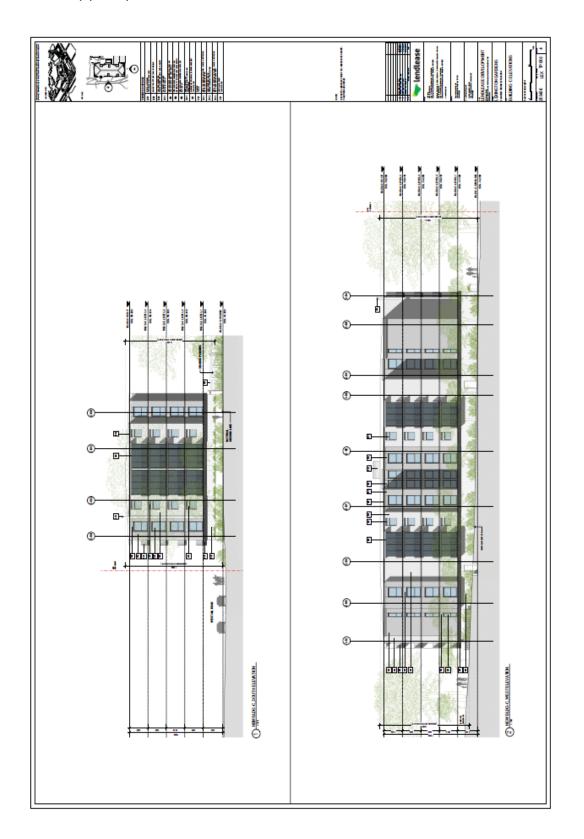
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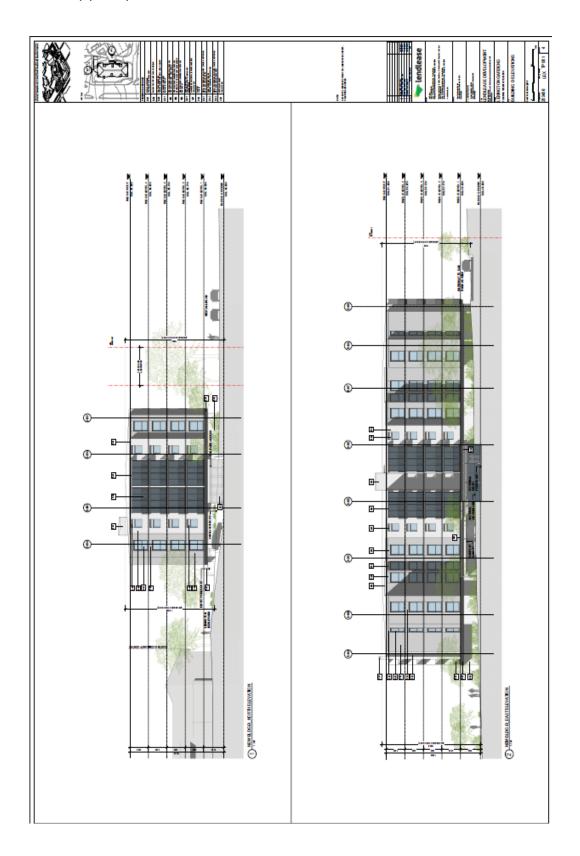
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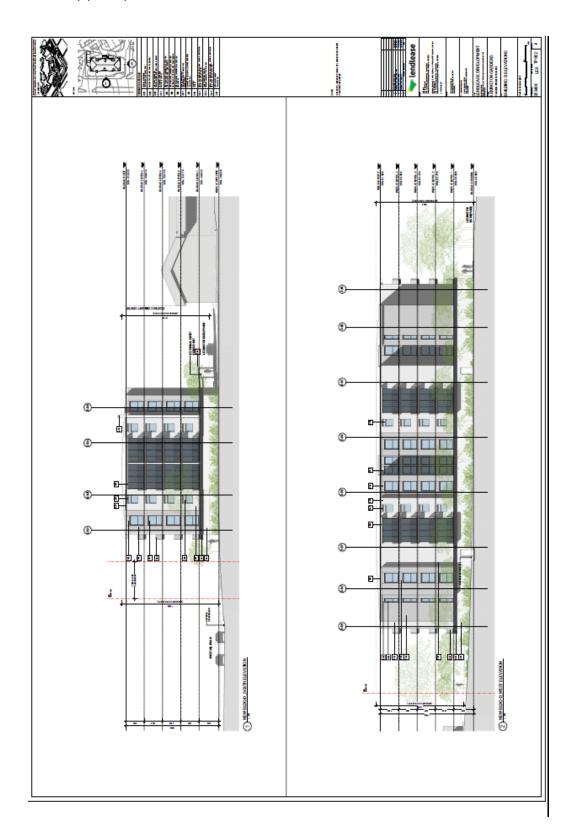
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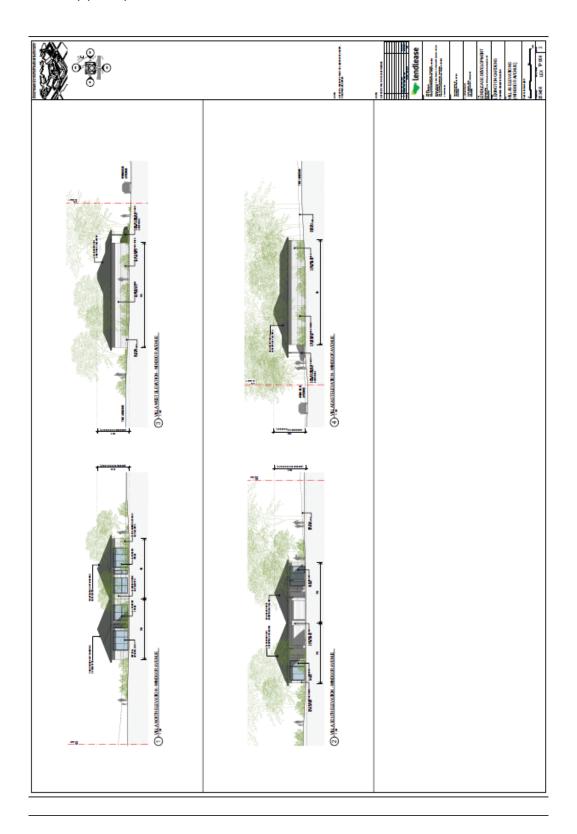
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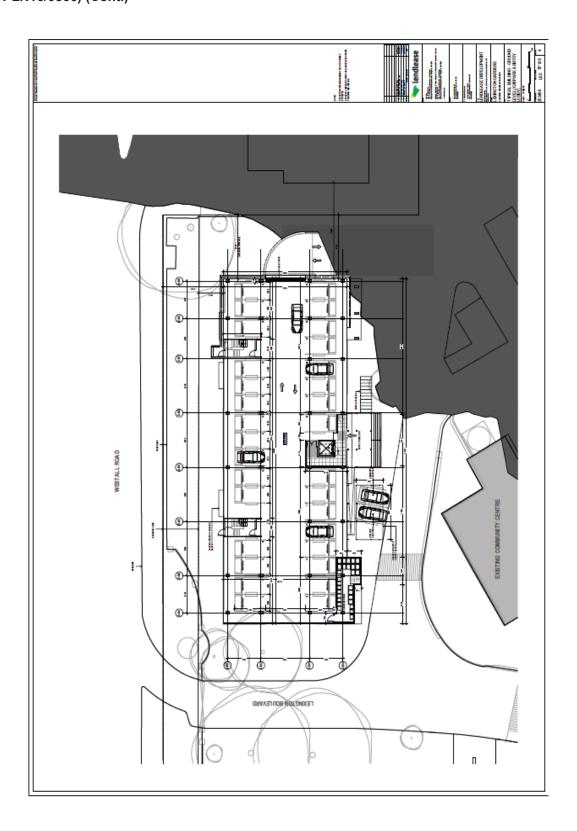


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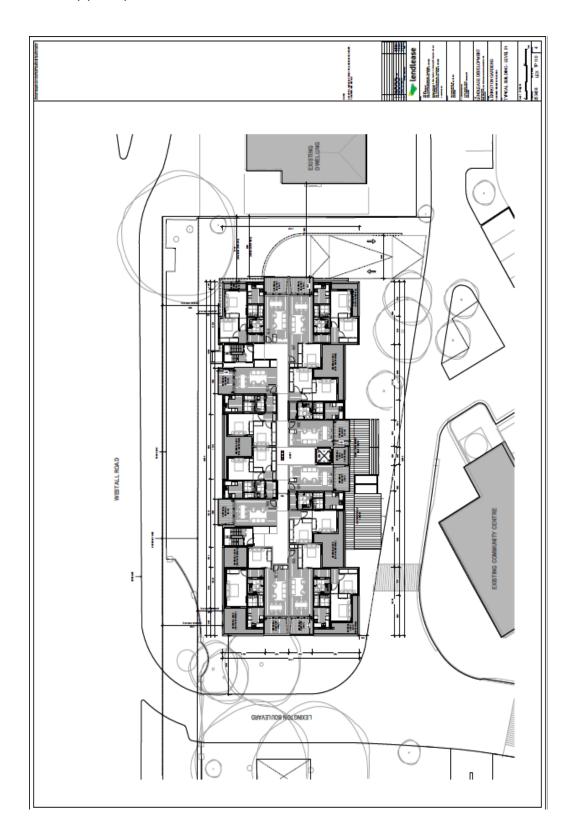




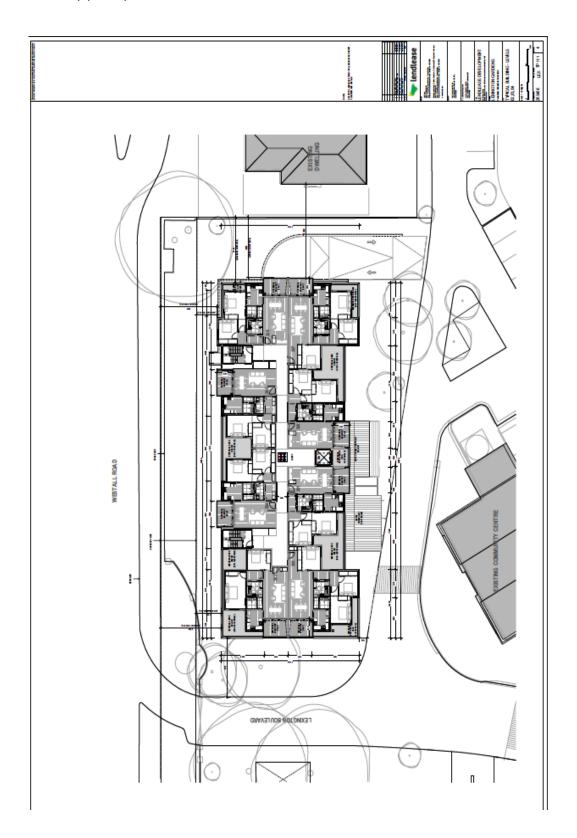
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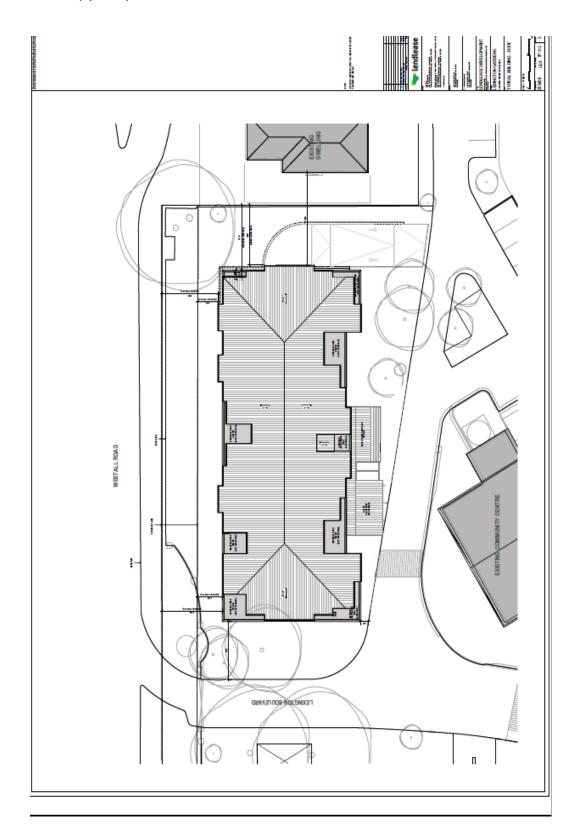
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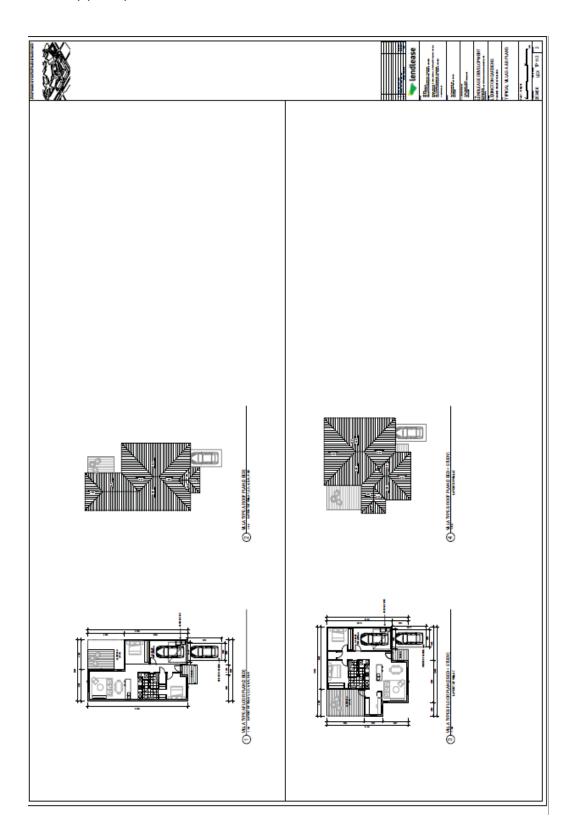


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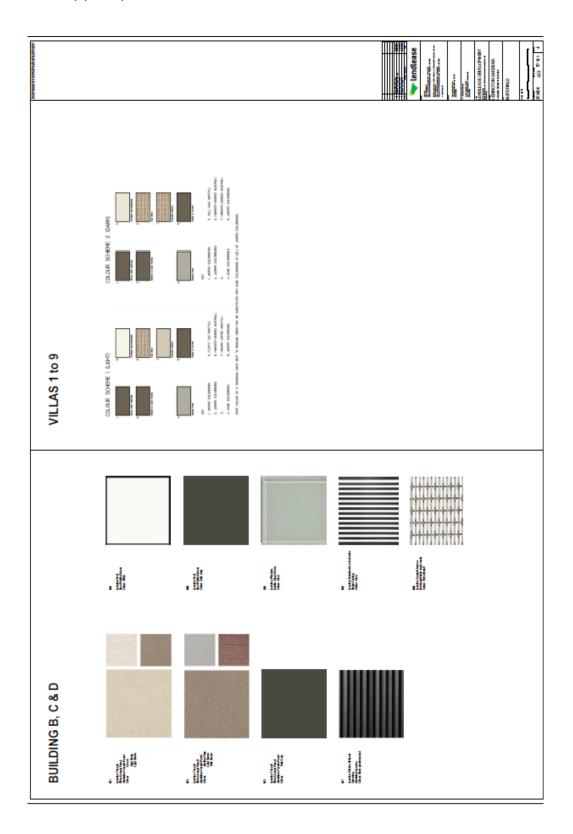
2.2.1 Town Planning Application - Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)











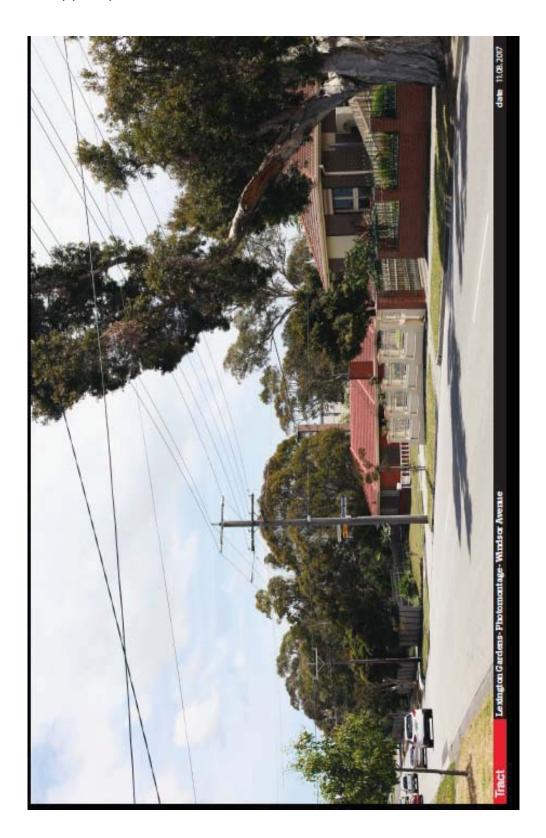
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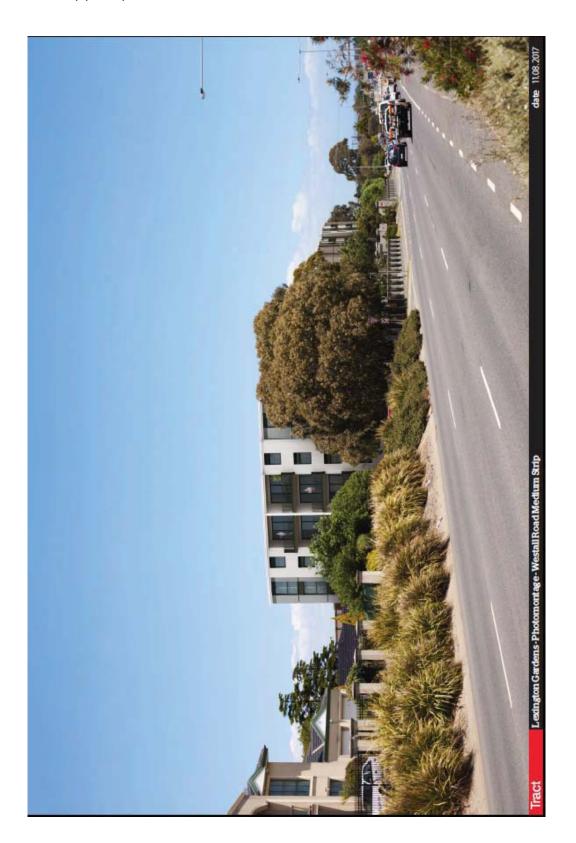
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2.2.1 Town Planning Application - Nos. 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale (Planning Application No. PLN16/0866) (Cont.)



STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TOWN PLANNING APPLICATION - 114-122 WESTALL ROAD, SPRINGVALE (PLANNING APPLICATION PLN16/0866)

ATTACHMENT 2

CLAUSE 22.09 ASSESSMENT

PAGES 7 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

The subject site is located within the Incremental Change Area at Clause 22.09-3.5 Map 1 – Future Change Areas.

Clause 22.09 requires all residential developments to be assessed against the design principles, in addition to those specific to each future Change area.

The overarching Design Principles at Clause 22.09-3.1 are as follows:

	Design Principle	Response
Safety	To encourage the provision of safer residential neighbourhoods, new development should enable passive surveillance through designs that: Incorporate active frontages including ground floor habitable room windows. Maximise the number of habitable room windows on all levels of residential	✓ Complies
	 buildings that overlook the public realm, streets, laneways, internal access ways and car parking areas. Use semi-transparent fences to the street frontage. Light communal spaces including main entrances and car parking areas with high mounted sensor-lights. Ensure that all main entrances are visible 	
	Locate non-habitable from the street. Locate non-habitable rooms such as bathrooms, away from entrances and street frontage.	
Landscaping	Residential development should:	✓ Complies
	 Provide substantial, high quality on-site landscaping, including screen planting and canopy trees along ground level front and side and rear boundaries. Provide substantial, high quality landscaping along vehicular accessways. Include the planting of at least one substantial canopy tree to each front setback and ground level secluded private open space area. Planting trees that are common to and perform well in the area. Avoid the removal of existing mature trees by incorporating their retention into the site design. Use landscaping to soften the appearance of the built form when viewed from the street and to respect the amenity of adjoining properties. Ensure that landscaping also addresses the Safety Design Principles. Canopy trees should be planted in well proportioned setbacks/private open space that are sufficient to accommodate their future growth to maturity. Landscaping should minimise the impact of 	

	increased storm water runoff through water sensitive urban design and reduced impervious surfaces. Landscaping should be sustainable, drought tolerant, and include indigenous species and be supported through the provision of rainwater tanks.	
Car parking	The existing level of on-street car parking should be maintained by avoiding second crossovers on allotments with frontage widths less than 17 metres. On-site car parking should be: • well integrated into the design of the	✓ Complies
	 building, generally hidden from view or appropriately screened where necessary, located to the side or rear of the site so as to not dominate the streetscape and to maximise soft landscaping opportunities at ground level, 	
	Where car parking is located within the front setback it should be: fully located within the site boundary; and capable of fully accommodating a vehicle between a garage or carport and the site	
	Developments with basement car parking should consider flooding concerns where applicable.	
Setbacks, front boundary and width	 Provide a front setback with fence design and height in keeping with the predominant street pattern. Maintain the apparent frontage width pattern. Provide appropriate side setbacks between buildings to enable screen planting where required, and at least one generous side setback to enable the retention of trees and/or the planting and future growth of trees to maturity. Provide open or low scale front fences to allow a visual connection between landscaping in front gardens and street tree 	✓ Complies
Private open space	planting. All residential developments should provide good quality, useable private open space for each dwelling directly accessible from the main living area. Ground level private open space areas should be able to accommodate boundary landscaping, domestic services and outdoor furniture so as to maximise the usability of the	Variation Each unit is provided with a balcony given the level of development is considered reasonable. In addition the villa units are provided with ground level POS areas.

	space.	
	Private open space should be positioned to maximise solar access.	
	Upper floor levels of the same dwelling should avoid encroaching secluded private open space areas to ensure the solar access, useability and amenity of the space is not adversely affected.	
	Upper level dwellings should avoid encroaching the secluded private open space of a separate lower level dwelling so as to ensure good solar access and amenity for the lower level dwelling.	
Bulk & Built Form	All residential developments should respect the	Variation
	Using similarly proportioned roof forms, windows, doors and verandahs; and Maintaining the proportion of wall space to windows and door openings.	The development will have a maximum of 5 storeys — Given the sites location and existing use; type of development; topography of land and overall net community benefit of the proposed use the height is considered appropriate. Whilst
	Balconies should be designed to reduce the need for screening from adjoining dwellings and properties.	there are sensitive land uses to the east and south the building is appropriately setback and located within the centre of the site.
	The development of new dwellings to the rear of existing retained dwellings is discouraged where:	The overall bulk of the building will be reduced through the use of materials and the use of screening mechanisms such as earth bunds and landscaping to reduce the
	The siting of the retained dwelling would not enable an acceptable future site layout for either the proposed or future dwelling; or The retention of the existing dwelling detracts from the identified future character.	overall perspective of the building.
	On sites adjacent to identified heritage buildings infill development should respect the adjoining heritage by:	
	Not exceeding the height of the neighbouring significant building; Minimising the visibility of higher sections of the new building; and Setting higher sections back at least the depth of one room from the frontage.	
Site Design	Residential development should:	✓ Complies
	Preserve the amenity of adjoining dwellings through responsive site design that considers the privacy, solar access and outlook of adjoining properties. Maximise thermal performance and energy efficiency of the built form by addressing orientation, passive design and fabric performance. Ensure that building height, massing and articulation responds sensitively to existing residential interfaces, site circumstances,	

T		
	setbacks and streetscape and reduces the need for screening. Provide sufficient setbacks (including the location of basements) to ensure the retention of existing trees and to accommodate the future growth of new trees. Provide suitable storage provisions for the management of operational waste. Appropriately locate suitable facilities to encourage public transport use, cycling and walking.	
Materials &	Residential development should:	✓ Complies
Finishes	 Use quality, durable building materials and finishes that are designed for residential purposes. Avoid the use of commercial or industrial style building materials and finishes. Avoid using materials such as rendered cement sheeting, unarticulated surfaces and excessive repetitive use of materials. Use a consistent simple palette of materials, colours, finishes and architectural detailing. Maximise the ongoing affordability and sustainability of residential developments through the selection of low maintenance, resource and energy efficient materials and finishes that can be reasonably expected to endure for the life of the building. 	
Domestic	In order to minimise the impact of domestic	✓ Complies
services normal to a dwelling and Building services	and building services on the streetscape, adjacent properties, public realm and amenity of future residents, new residential development should: • Ensure that all domestic and building services are visually integrated into the design of the building and appropriately positioned or screened so as to not be seen from the street or adjoining properties. • Be designed to avoid the location of domestic and building services: - within secluded private open space areas, including balconies; and - where they may have noise impacts on adjoining habitable rooms and secluded private open space areas.	
Internal Amenity	Residential development should:	✓ Complies
	 Ensure that dwelling layouts have connectivity between the main living area and private open space. Be designed to avoid reliance on borrowed light to habitable rooms. Ensure that balconies and habitable room windows are designed and located to reduce the need for excessive screening. 	

Ensure that dwellings without ground level main living areas meet the Standards of Clauses 55.03-5, 55.04-1, 6 & 7, 55.05-3, 4 & 5.	

Assessment Table for Clause 22.09-3.3 Incremental change areas

Title & Objective	Standard	Complies / Does Not Comply / Variation Required / N/A
Preferred housing types	The preferred housing type for the Incremental Change Area is medium density.	Variation The development seeks a higher density development. Refer to report. Given the sites location and existing land use and form of development the proposed building is considered appropriate.
Building Height	The preferred maximum building height for land within the GRZ1 and GRZ2 is up to 2 storeys, including ground level.	Variation It is noted that the subject use is not identified as either a dwelling or residential building under the definition of the Planning Scheme. As such the application is not subject to an assessment under the Design Guidelines for Higher Density Residential Development which was incorporated into the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme at Clause 52.35 prior to Amendment VC136 being gazetted on 13/04/2017. Notwithstanding that, it has been used to assess this application. The application for development must be assessed against the General Residential Zone (as was in place prior to the above outlined Amendments) and Cause 52.35 of the Planning Scheme. Planning Scheme Amendment C182 (Part 1) was gazetted on 21 December 2017. Therefore the amendments to the General Residential Zone (Schedule 1) and Clause 22.09 — Residential Development and Neighbourhood Character Policy must be applied. The development will have a maximum of 5 storeys — Given the sites location and existing use, type of development, topography of land and overall net community benefit of the proposed use the height is considered appropriate. Whilst there are sensitive land uses to the east and south the building is appropriately setback
Landscaping	Residential development should use landscaping to create a landscaped character, particularly canopy trees in front and rear gardens; and to protect the outlook of adjoining properties.	and located within the centre of the site. ✓ Complies

Setbacks, front boundary and width	Parking, paving and car access within the front boundary setback should be limited in order to maximise the opportunity for soft landscaping and prevent the over dominance of carports and garages in the street.	✓ Complies
Private open space	Residential development should provide secluded private open space at the side or rear of each dwelling to avoid the need for excessive screening or high front fencing	Variation Each unit is provided with a balcony given the level of development is considered reasonable. In addition the villa units are provided with ground level POS areas.
Bulk & Built Form	Residential development should: ensure that the built form respects the scale of existing prevailing built form character and responds to site circumstances and streetscape; provide separation between dwellings at the upper level; retain spines of open space at the rear of properties to maximise landscaping opportunities and protect private secluded open space; position more intense and higher elements of built form towards the front and centre of a site, transitioning to single storey elements to the rear of the lot. The rearmost dwelling on a lot should be single storey to ensure the identified future character of the area and the amenity of adjoining properties is respected by maximising landscaping opportunities and protecting adjoining private secluded open space. Two storey dwellings to the rear of a lot may be considered where: the visual impact of the building bulk does not adversely affect the identified future character of the area; overlooking and/or overshadowing does not adversely affect the amenity of neighbouring properties; the building bulk does not adversely affect the planting and future growth of canopy trees to maturity; sufficient side and rear boundary landscaping can be provided to screen adjoining properties; upper storey components are well recessed from adjoining sensitive interfaces. Residential development should be well articulated through the use of contrast, texture, variation in forms, materials, and colours.	✓ Complies

STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TOWN PLANNING APPLICATION – NOS. 114-122 WESTALL ROAD, SPRINGVALE (PLANNING APPLICATION PLN16/0866)

ATTACHMENT 3

CLAUSE 52.06 ASSESSMENT

PAGES 4 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

Car Parking Assessment Table for Clause 52.06

Title & Objective	Standard	Complies / Does Not Comply / Variation Required / N/A
Parking Provision To ensure that car and bicycle parking for residents and visitors is appropriate to the needs of residents.	Car parking for residents should be provided as follows: One space for each one or two bedroom dwelling. Two spaces for each three or more bedroom dwelling, with one space under cover. Studies or studios that are separate rooms must be counted as bedrooms. One space for visitors to every 5 dwellings for developments of 5 or more dwellings	! Variation required Refer to assessment section in the report Reduction of: 24 resident spaces 5 visitor spaces Required Reduction in visitor car spaces not supported.
Design Standard 1 Accessways The provision of car parking should meet the design requirements of this Clause.	Accessways should: Be at least 3 metres wide. Have an internal radius of at least 4 metres at changes of direction or intersection or be at least 4.2 metres wide. Allow vehicles parked in the last space of a dead-end accessway in public car parks to exit in a forward direction with one manoeuvre. Provide at least 2.1 metres headroom beneath overhead obstructions, calculated for a vehicle with a wheel base of 2.8 metres.	✓ Complies
	If the accessway serves four or more car spaces or connects to a road in a Road Zone, the accessway must be designed so that cars can exit the site in a forward direction. If an accessway to four or more car parking spaces is from land in a Road Zone, the access to the car spaces must be at least 6 metres from the road carriageway. Provide a passing area at the entrance at least 5 metres wide and 7 metres long if the accessway serves ten or more car parking spaces and is either more than 50 metres long or connects to a road in a Road Zone.	✓ Complies ✓ Complies
	Have a corner splay or area at least 50 per cent clear of visual obstructions extending at least 2 metres along the frontage road from the edge of an exit lane and 2.5 metres along the exit lane from the frontage, to provide a clear view of pedestrians on the footpath of the frontage road. The area clear of visual obstructions may include an adjacent entry or exit lane where more than one lane is provided.	✓ Complies

Title & Objective	Standard	Complies / Does Not Comply / Variation Required / N/A
Design Standard 2 Car parking spaces Car parking spaces and accessways should have minimum dimensions.	Minimum car park and accessway dimensions: Parallel – 2.3m x 6.7m with a accessway width of 3.6m 45 degrees – 2.6m x 4.9m with a accessway width of 3.5m 60 degrees – 2.6m x 4.9m with a accessway width of 4.9m 90 degrees – 2.6m x 4.9m with a accessway width of 6.4m (refer to the table in 55.06 for more details)	✓ Complies
	A building may project into the space if it is at least 2.1 metres above the space. Car spaces in garages, carports or otherwise constrained by walls should:-	✓ Complies ✓ Complies
	Single garage 3.5m x 6mDouble garage 5.5m x 6	

Title & Objective	Standard	Complies / Does Not Comply / Variation Required / N/A
Design Standard 3 Gradients Accessways to ensure safety for pedestrians and vehicles.	Accessway grades should not be steeper than 1:10 (10 per cent) within 5 metres of the frontage to ensure safety for pedestrians and vehicles. Ramps (except within 5 metres of the frontage) should have the maximum grades of: 20 metres or less 1:5 (20%) Longer than 20 metres 1:6 (16.7%)	✓ Complies
Design Standard 4 Mechanical parking	Mechanical parking may be used to meet the car parking requirement provided: At least 25 per cent of the mechanical car parking spaces can accommodate a vehicle clearance height of at least 1.8 metres. Car parking spaces that require the operation of the system are not allocated to visitors unless used in a valet parking situation. The design and operation is to the satisfaction of the responsible authority.	N/A
Design Standard 5 Urban Design	Ground level car parking, garage doors and accessways should not visually dominate public space. Car parking within buildings (including visible portions of partly submerged basements) should be screened or obscured where possible, including through the use of occupied tenancies, landscaping, architectural treatments and artworks.	✓ Complies ✓ Complies
Design Standard 6 Safety	Car parking should be well lit and clearly signed.	✓ Complies
	The design of car parks should maximise natural surveillance and pedestrian visibility from adjacent buildings.	✓ Complies
Design Standard 7 Landscaping	The layout of car parking areas should provide for water sensitive urban design treatment and landscaping.	✓ Complies
	Landscaping and trees should be planted to provide shade and shelter, soften the appearance of ground level car parking and aid in the clear identification of pedestrian paths.	✓ Complies
	Ground level car parking spaces should include trees planted with flush grilles. Spacing of trees should be determined having regard to the expected size of the selected species at maturity.	✓ Complies

STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TOWN PLANNING APPLICATION - 114-122 WESTALL ROAD, SPRINGVALE (PLANNING APPLICATION PLN16/0866)

ATTACHMENT 4

DESIGN GUIDELINES FOR HIGHER DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSESSMENT

PAGES 13 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

ELEMENT 1 – URBAN CONTEXT

OBJECTIVE	SUGGESTIONS	PLANNERS RESPONSE
1.1 To ensure buildings respond creatively to their existing context and to agreed aspirations for the future development of the area.	 Urban context report with regard to the principles outlined in Clause 19.03. Identify and document existing Planning Scheme objectives & requirements applicable to the site. Ensure a development is consistent with the strategic location of the site. Consideration of likely location, size and impact of future developments/uses. Use of an urban context report for pre-application discussions and tests. 	The application is accompanied by an adequate neighbourhood and site description plan. The plan identifies that the site is located in an established area, with differing surrounding uses, both residential and commercial in nature. Strategically, the site is ideal for such a development with an existing large residential village already being established with large buildings of 2 to 3 stories spread throughout the site. The site is also in close proximity to Springyale Activity Centre.
To provide a creative design response that is based on a clear understanding of the urban context and neighbourhood character.	 To explain how it responds to relevant planning provisions that apply to the land. Provide illustrations of the development in its context. 	The design response is considered to address the urban context and neighbourhood character. Whilst a higher built form has been proposed the proposal adequately responds to its strategic context whilst minimising its impacts on the adjoining neighbours.

ELEMENT 2 – BUILDING ENVELOPE

OBJECTIVE	SUGGESTIONS	PLANNERS RESPONSE
To ensure that the heir new development resp to existing urban conte and neighbourhood character objectives of area.	onds massing and for reinforce the structure of the	to existing buildings which will provide a feel of transition from one built form to another. In addition the buildings fronting the main arterial route of Westall Road will provide a robust built form at this interface.
2.2 To ensure new develor is appropriate to the sornearby streets, other properties, and buildings.	ale of street width and	intended density accommodation buildings in the immediate context of the subject site, the proposal is appropriate to its strategic context. The proposal has generous setbacks from its boundaries at ground floor level to enable the provision of adequate landscaping to soften its visual impacts from the adjoining properties as well as the public realm. The building is well articulated by design and can be read as three smaller buildings rather than one large mass due to variations in the built form.
2.3 To protect sunlight acc to public spaces.	ess • Avoid reducing simportant public	

To respond to existing or preferred street character.	 Reinforce consistent street edges, except where creating a new public space is an integral part of the proposal. Match existing setbacks. Respond to the local physical context in a way that makes a positive contribution to the pedestrian environment at street level. 	The subject building will be located within the site approximately 10 metres from any nearby suburban street and is appropriately setback from Westall Road. The proposed development responds positively to the preferred streetscape character through the use of extensive and effective landscaping which will help provide a buffer between the building and the street (Windsor Avenue). It will also help integrate with the existing mature vegetation surrounding the subject site.
2.5 To ensure building separation supports private amenity and reinforces the neighbourhood character	 Don't separate buildings with side setbacks in streets that have connected buildings. Use recesses at the street front to create the appearance of separated buildings where side setbacks are important but do not contribute to private amenity. Use side setbacks where these are important for private amenity. 	The buildings have been well set back from the front, side and rear boundaries, enabling adequate planting and landscaping to be provided at ground level along with the retention of existing significant trees on the eastern and southern portion of the site.
2.6 To ensure areas can develop with an equitable access to outlook and sunlight.	 Consider possible future development on adjoining sites. Maintain sunlight and daylight access to adjoining open spaces of dwellings in accordance with Clause 55. Provide spacing between taller buildings. Orient new buildings to optimize sunlight and amenity for dwellings, private open spaces and adjoining public spaces. 	The configuration of the development will provide each of the proposed apartments and villa units with adequate access to daylight. The majority of units have an aspect to an open courtyard located on the east and north, thus providing increased opportunity for solar access into the apartments and villa units.

2	2.7 To ensure visual impacts to dwellings at the rear are appropriate to the context.	 Consider views from dwellings abutting the development. 	The site adjoins residential uses to the east (approx. 110 metres) and south (approx. 24 metres). It is considered that the introduction of extensive landscaping within earth bunds will help in reducing any visual impact the building may cause by reducing the perception of the built form.
			It is considered that views from the east will be minimally impacted as the buildings will be part obscured by existing structures, vegetation and the topography of the land.
			In terms of views from the south these will be impacted to a greater extent but will continue to 'look out' on extensive structures. It is identified that additional significant landscaping will be implemented in order to help mitigate against any feeling of increase bulk etc.

2.8 To maximize informal or passive surveillance of streets and other public open spaces.	 Provide windows overlooking these areas. Locate living areas towards these areas. Use level changes to allow views from residential units onto adjacent public open spaces while controlling views into these units. 	The units provide for informal passive surveillance through balconies and windows.
2.9 To maximize residential amenity through the provision of views and protection of privacy within the subject site and on neighbouring properties.	Locate living areas, windows and private open spaces to minimize the potential for overlooking.	As the site does not directly adjoin any dwellings there is no overlooking.
2.10 To ensure new tall buildings do not create adverse wind effects.	 Use stepped building forms and articulation of building mass. Provide protection for pedestrians in public and private spaces from wind down drafts where a building is taller than surrounding development. 	It is considered that this objective is not relevant to the application under assessment. Although the proposed buildings are taller than the surrounding buildings in existence, it is not considered as tall enough to have significant adverse wind effects.
2.11 To treat roof spaces and forms as a considered aspect of the overall building design.	 Incorporate plant and lift overruns as an integral part of roof design. Design the roof to be used. 	A hipped roof has been proposed over the entire development.

ELEMENT 3 – STREET PATTERN & STREET-EDGE QUALITY

ELEMENT 3 – STREET PATTERN & STREET-EDGE QUALITY OBJECTIVE SUGGESTIONS PLANNERS RESPONSE		
3.1 To create walkable areas	Maintain and extend street	The development of the subject site will not
within a safe and interesting public setting.		impact upon the existing street network with regard to pedestrian linkages. In addition the proposed building has been sited to create an internal public setting which will be extensively landscaped.
3.2 To closely integrate the layout and occupation patterns of new development with the stree	 Locate active ground floor uses along the street perimeter to increase safety, use and interest. Maximise ground level windows and entrances. Avoid blank walls, large service areas, car parking, garage doors and dense planting at street frontages. Avoid recesses to the ground floor that could allow concealment. 	Whilst pedestrian access points to the proposed buildings are internal to the site, the proposed buildings have been designed to have active frontages, particularly through the integration of balconies overlooking these areas.
3.3 To ensure car parking does not dominate the street frontage.	 Screen or disguise above- ground parking areas. Screen half basement car parking. 	Resident car parking is proposed within an undercroft area of the buildings which is well screened by landscaping and a variety of other materials. The design of the development therefore ensures that car parking is not a dominant element to the street frontage.
3.4 To create street entrances with a strong identity that provide a transition from the street to residential interiors		A common entrance is proposed via pathway on t each of the buildings this leads to a lobby and lift well as well as a flight of stairs to the upper levels. The proposed entrances are appropriate as they will be easily identifiable from the internal street and will provide a suitable transition from the proposed pick up drop off location.

3.5 To ensure car park entries do not detract from the street.	 Avoid car park entrances on shopping streets. Incorporate pedestrian access with car park entrances or provide for discrete car entrances. 	There is only one car parking entry to the under croft area to each building which will be accessed via roller door. Whilst the car park entrances will be visible on the streetscape, the proposed car parking entry will be safe, convenient and not detract from the street.
3.6 To avoid creating inactive frontages as a result of fencing private open spaces.	 Use of low, transparent or partially open fences. 	No fencing proposed
3.7 To ensure that front fences respect and contribute to neighbourhood character.	 Respect existing character or contribute to establishing a new character. 	

ELEMENT 4 – CIRCULATION & SERVICES

OBJECTIVE	SUGGESTIONS	PLANNERS RESPONSE
4.1 To provide adequate, safe and efficiently designed parking layouts.	 Clearly mark access into and movement through car parks with clear signage, floor markings and lighting. Clearly identify parking spaces allocated to specific dwellings. Make provisions for loading and unloading of goods and services. Make provision for bicycle parking. 	The number of visitor car parking spaces for the intended use is not considered to be adequate; all parking for visitors must be provided and will be required as a condition on any permit issued (condition 1.1). Parking spaces are easily identifiable with the resident parking provided within the under croft area. Public transport is available along both Westall Road, and there is a high likelihood that many residents and visitors would utilise this method of transport on a frequent basis.
4.2 To provide safe and convenient access between car parking and bicycle areas and the pedestrian entry to buildings.	 Provide well considered entrances from the car park to residential lobbies, foyers and individual apartments. Design car parks to assist orientation and way-finding. Provide adequate parking for visitors. 	The buildings are provided with lift and staircases from the ground level to the upper floors of the building.
4.3 To create shared internal spaces that contribute positively to the experience of living in higher density development.	 Ensure that the main entry and individual dwelling entries allow for the delivery/removal of large furniture items. Ensure service lifts can accommodate large furniture items. Design quality internal spaces. 	Shared internal spaces within the buildings comprise corridors, the entry lobby; lift well, stairwell and the car parking area. These are appropriately designed to facilitate human circulation and easy movement of goods, such as furniture and service equipment, into the site.

4.4 To minimise runni maintenance cost		An 'ESD (Ecological Sustainable Development) report has been provided, with the building design to incorporate features that will minimise running and maintenance costs.
4.5 To minimise wate	 Collect and re-use stormwater where practical Use natural irrigation in landscape areas. 	As stated above, an Ecological Sustainable Development report has been provided to ensure that on-site water management is sufficient and acceptable for the site.
4.6 To incorporate profor site services in building design to good function and of service and maintenance.	the refuse disposal. ensure Provide facilities for mail	Emergency services access will be possible on the site.

ELEMENT 5 – BUILDING LAYOUT & DESIGN

OBJECTIVE SUGGESTIONS			PLANNERS RESPONSE
5.1	To provide a range of dwelling sizes and types in higher density residential developments.	Design for a mix of dwelling types (eg. household size/type, people with limited mobility, incomes etc.).	The development proposes a mixture of two (2) and three (3) bedroom units within the buildings. The buildings would adequately cater for people of limited mobility as a lift well is proposed to enable disabled access to all floors.
5.2	To optimise the layout of buildings in response to occupants' needs as well as identified external influences and characteristics of a site.	 Design the internal layout to suit the site and surroundings as well as the needs of its occupants. Consider multiple lifts and stair cores rather than a single central core in buildings with a larger footprint or floor plate. 	There is one common entrance to each building from the internal access ways. This is considered appropriate as the provision of one common entry to the development would avoid confusion and facilitate easy access to both residents and visitors.
5.3	To create functional, flexible, efficient and comfortable residential apartments.	 Check layouts for practicality. Where possible, build in some flexibility in the uses of rooms. 	The layout of the apartments is considered adequate to cater for their intended uses. Living areas are generally open plan to provide for greater flexibility.
5.4	To ensure that a good standard of natural lighting and ventilation is provided to internal building spaces.	 Provide direct light and air to all rooms wherever possible. Design light wells that are adequately sized for their intended purpose. Take measures to reduce the reverberation of noise in light wells. 	Windows are provided to all habitable rooms allowing for adequate lighting and ventilation to the units.
5.5	To provide adequate storage space for household items.	Provide adequate storage space.	Each unit is provided with a storage area within each apartment unit.
5.6	To promote buildings of high architectural quality and visual interest.	 Design various building elements to suit the different ways they are viewed. Consider materials as an integral part of the design response. Avoid an unconsidered repetition of elements. Use external lighting to enhance the design. Integrate signage and graphics with the building design. Provide a discrete location for air conditioner units. 	The buildings are of a contemporary style and provide for a visually interesting and high quality design.

ELEMENT 6 - OPEN SPACE & LANDSCAPE DESIGN

	:MENT 6 – OPEN SPACE & JECTIVE	SUGGESTIONS	PLANNERS RESPONSE
6.1	To ensure access to adequate open space for all residents.	 Ensure private open spaces are useable and provide reasonable levels of amenity. Clearly distinguish between private and public spaces. 	Balcony areas are provided to each unit accessed from the main living areas. A large communal open space garden is also provided on the ground floor.
	To ensure common or shared spaces are functional and attractive for their intended users.	 Consider the availability of recreational spaces and facilities in the area, potential demands for them, and provide for facilities that are absent or undersupplied. Consider providing high-quality specialised facilities that will be shared by other local developments. Design open spaces that can be well maintained. Design spaces that are usable in a range of weather conditions. Open space should: be substantially fronted by active ground floors, including building entries; provide an outlook for as many dwellings as possible; provide opportunity for mature planting to shade, shelter and screen; be designed to protect any natural feature on or abutting the site; be accessible and useable. 	Common areas within the existing facility are able to be well maintained and managed.
6.3	To allow solar access to the private and shared open spaces of new high density residential units.	 Orient balconies, terraces and communal open space to optimise access to sunlight. Use the open spaces on balconies, podiums and roof terraces to provide open spaces with maximum access to sunlight. 	The proposed siting of the building has been provided to maximise solar access into accommodation as well as private and shared open spaces.

6.4	To integrate the design of the shared and private open space into the overall building design and façade composition.	 Integrate balconies, terraces and roof gardens with the overall building form and façade composition. 	The design of the development has ensured that balconies and roof forms have been integrated into the overall design of the building. The balconies have been located so as to provide for an appropriate rhythm to the building.
6.5	To provide for greenery within open spaces.	 Include substantial areas for landscaping. Design to enable high quality, sustainable landscaping over structures. Minimise the visual effects of water run-off from open space areas. Provide permeable ground surfaces. 	A landscape plan has been submitted with the application which indicates extensive and significant landscaping proposed and the retention of all significant trees surrounding the development.
6.6	To create public open space appropriate to its context.	 Ensure new public open spaces contribute to a safe, attractive and well used public environment. 	Public open space areas proposed for residents within this development. As noted above, the subject site is located within a strategic context which encourages intensification of residential development. The provision of communal open space within the site is considered necessary given this strategic context.

STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

TOWN PLANNING APPLICATION - 114-122 WESTALL ROAD, SPRINGVALE (PLANNING APPLICATION PLN16/0866)

ATTACHMENT 5

VCAT ORDER P1784/2017 - PLN17/0145

PAGES 23 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

VICTORIAN CIVIL AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT LIST

VCAT REFERENCE NO. P1784/2017 PERMIT APPLICATION NO. PLN17/0145

CATCHWORDS

Section 77 of the Planning & Environment Act 1987. Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. General Residential Zone, Schedule 1. Amendment C182. Retirement village. Building height. Neighbourhood character. Car parking.

APPLICANT Lendlease Primelife Limited

RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITY Greater Dandenong City Council

REFERRAL AUTHORITY VicRoads

SUBJECT LAND 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale

WHERE HELD Melbourne

BEFORE Cindy Wilson, Member

HEARING TYPE Hearing

 DATE OF HEARING
 11 December 2017

 DATE OF ORDER
 17 January 2018

CITATION Lendlease Primelife Limited v Greater

Dandenong CC [2018] VCAT 14

ORDER

- 1 In application P1784/2017 the decision of the responsible authority is set aside.
- 2 In planning permit application PLN17/0145 a permit is granted and directed to be issued for the land at 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale in accordance with the endorsed plans and the conditions set out in Appendix A. The permit allows development of the land for one, five-storey building in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1

Cindy Wilson Member

APPEARANCES

For Lendlease Primelife

Limited

Mr Stuart Morris QC with Ms Jane Sharp, barrister, instructed by Ms Sally Macindoe of Norton Rose Fulbright Australia. They called expert evidence from the following witnesses: Mr Andrew Biacsi, town planner of Contour

Consultants Aust Pty Ltd

Mr Jason Walsh, traffic engineer of Traffix

Group Pty Ltd

For Greater Dandenong City

Council

Mr Terry Montebello, solicitor, of Maddocks

Lawyers

For VicRoads No appearance

INFORMATION

Description of proposal Construction of a five storey building comprising

four levels of residential retirement units over ground floor parking. A total of 40 units are proposed together with 40 car spaces.

Nature of proceeding

Application under section 77 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 - to review the refusal to

grant a permit.

Planning scheme Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme

Zone and overlays General Residential Zone, Schedule 1 (GRZ1)

> Public Acquisition Overlay affects part of the land adjacent to Westall Road. The proposal does not include development on land affected

by this overlay.

Permit requirements Clause 32.08-8 A permit is required to construct

a building or construct or carry out works for a

use in Section 2 of clause 32.08-2.

Clause 52.06 A permit is required to reduce the

standard car parking requirement.

Clause 52.29 A permit is required to alter access

to a Road Zone, Category 1.

VCAT Reference No. P1784/2017

Page 2 of 22

Council advised it considers this clause triggers the need for a permit based on the decision in Peninsula Blue Developments Pty Ltd v Frankston CC (Revised) (Red Dot) [2015] VCAT 571 that found increased use of an access point (if a permit is required for use or development under any provision of the planning scheme) which will change traffic access to a road in a Road Zone
Category 1, results in a requirement for a permit under clause 52.29. The applicant did not oppose consideration of this permit trigger.

Relevant scheme policies and Clauses 9, 10, 11, 15, 16, 18, 19, 21, 22.09,

provisions

32.08, 52.06, 52.29 and 65.

Land description

The review site is of irregular shape with an area of 6.38 hectares, a frontage of 128 metres to Westall Road, a frontage of 168 metres to Villa Road and a frontage of 128 metres to Windsor Avenue. The land contains a retirement village with 288 units and associated car parking and

communal facilities.

Tribunal inspection

I inspected the review site and surrounds on 10

December 2017.

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REASONS²

WHAT IS THIS PROCEEDING ABOUT?

- A retirement village occupies a 6.38 hectare site at 114-122 Westall Road, Springvale. Lendlease Primelife Limited seek a permit to develop a new five-storey building that will contain 40 dwellings and provide for 40 car spaces.
- 2 The Greater Dandenong City Council refused to grant a permit. The refusal grounds refer to built form and building height that is inconsistent with current neighbourhood character policy and with proposed local policy under Amendment C182 to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme. Insufficient provision for visitor car parking is also a concern of Council. The decision to refuse the application was contrary to the recommendation of the Council's planning officer to grant a permit subject to conditions. The conditions recommended by the Council officer included a requirement for eight visitor car spaces to be provided onsite.
- 3 The Tribunal must decide whether a permit should be granted and if so, what conditions should apply. Having inspected the site and surrounds, considered the submissions and evidence and had regard to the provisions and policies of the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme, I have decided a permit should be granted. I have reached this decision based on my findings on the following key issues:
 - Does the Planning Scheme support additional housing on the review
 - Is the built form an acceptable response to context?
 - Is the car parking provision acceptable?
- 4 Before addressing these key issues, I set out a description of the relevant physical context and refer to Amendments C182 and C204 gazetted on 21 December 2017.

PHYSICAL CONTEXT

The review site is a large site of 6.38 hectares with frontage to Westall Road, Villa Road and Windsor Avenue, Springvale. Originally developed to house immigrants to Australia, the site has been used as a retirement village since approximately 1999 and is known as Lexington Gardens. The village comprises 288 retirement units within three 'snowflake' shaped buildings ranging in height from two to three storeys. The site also contains a community centre with dining room, shop, gym, pool, library and other communal amenities together with outdoor facilities that include a tennis court and bowling green. Vehicle access is available from Westall Road (entry only), Villa Road and Souter Street. An internal loop road provides

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The submissions and evidence of the parties, any supporting exhibits given at the hearing; have all been considered in the determination of the proceeding. In accordance with the practice of the Tribunal, not all of this material will be cited or referred to in these reasons.

- vehicle access within the site and provides access to 278 car spaces for residents, visitors and staff.
- 6 The site of the proposed development is an open lawn area located to the east of the community centre and north of the entry to the site from Souter Street. The land slopes up from the loop road and is devoid of any trees.
- 7 To the south of the community centre is a vacant area of land that is part of the property and has frontage to Windsor Avenue. Council advised an application for a planning permit to develop three, five-storey buildings and some single-storey units with associated car parking is currently being considered. A previous proposal for five multi-level buildings in the south part of the site, including two four level buildings in a similar location to the current proposal, was approved by the Tribunal in 2008³ but has not been acted upon.
- Adjoining the Lexington Gardens site, south of the proposed development, there are three abuttals. First is the rear of 61 Windsor Avenue which has a side boundary to the western side of Souter Street. This lot contains a single-storey detached house with a garage located adjacent to the rear boundary. Secondly, the site abuts the northern termination of Souter Street which has a road reserve of approximately 15 metres width. Thirdly, the site abuts the rear boundary of 59 Windsor Avenue which is located with a side boundary to the east side of Souter Street. This lot contains a single-storey dwelling with a garage and sheds adjacent to the rear boundary with the review site.
- 9 Further to the south east are single storey dwellings facing Windsor Avenue with contemporary two-storey townhouse development along the east side of Wilberton Drive. A small group of shops is located on the north-west corner of Windsor Avenue and Ellen Street.⁴
- The abuttals of the overall Lexington Gardens site include an aged care facility to the immediate north east, facing Villa Road. To the east the site adjoins the rear boundaries of residential lots facing Ellen Street. These lots contain detached dwellings. Land to the north, on the opposite side of Villa Road, contains recent two to three-storey residential development. To the north-west are three detached dwellings with frontage to Westall Road. To the south west the site has frontage to Westall Road which has a road reserve of approximately 60 metres width and contains a divided carriageway.

AMENDMENT C182

At the hearing, Council provided a letter from the Minister for Planning⁵ advising that Amendment C182 (Part 1) to the Greater Dandenong Planning

Dated 19 November 2017.

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Babcock and Brown Communities Ltd v Greater Dandenong CC [2008] VCAT 2235
 I note that Amendment C182 (part 1), gazetted on 21 December 2017 and referred to later in this decision, designates this group of shope as a "Local Shop Node" at clause 21.04, although there is no reference to this classification in the text of clause 21.04.

Scheme (C182) would be approved. Since the hearing, this Amendment has been gazetted. The parties addressed me on the adopted version of this amendment. At the hearing I asked the parties if there should be a further opportunity provided for submissions on C182, following gazettal. Neither Council nor the applicant sought such an opportunity. I note that Amendment C204 to the Greater Dandenong Planning Scheme was also gazetted on the 21 December 2017 and made corrections to errors in Amendment C182. These corrections have no implications in this proceeding.

12 Relying upon the decision in Ungar v City of Malvern⁷ that the Tribunal is required to apply the law as it exists at the date of determination. I refer to and rely on current policies and provisions of the Planning Scheme in this decision.

Does the Planning Scheme support additional housing on the review site?

- 13 Council welcomes additional housing on the review site in association with the existing retirement village and says this is in line with policy at clauses 16.02-4 and 21.07 of the Planning Scheme. Council does not contest that the site offers opportunity for more intensive residential development but submits that the building with its uniform building plates and five storey form will be at odds with the preferred character of the area sought in local policy.
- 14 The applicant says that there is no question that the additional independent living units on a site that is already used for the purpose of a retirement village is logical, appropriate and meets the State and local policy supporting the provision of aged care. In terms of built form, the applicant says the policy guideline on neighbourhood character to a large site, on a main road, with an existing retirement village and a history of institutional use is of little relevance.
- "Retirement village" is defined in the Planning Scheme and requires a permit for use and development in the General Residential Zone (GRZ). Unlike residential aged care accommodation which State policy specifically recognises has a different purpose and function to dwellings and an associated different built form, there is no specific concession for the built form of a retirement village
- Although not disputed, it is important to my decision to set out the Planning Scheme provisions that support additional housing on the review site, and specifically housing targeted for older residents.
- 17 State policy seeks planning to accommodate projected population growth and to give consideration to opportunities for intensification of existing

7 [1979] VR 259.

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⁶ On 21 December 2017.

Defined at clause 74 of the Planning Scheme and a use permitted without a permit in the General Residential Zone.

- urban areas.9 Plan Melbourne says by 2051 the percentage of Melbourne's population aged over 65 is projected to increase from 13.8% to 20.5%.
- 18 Local policy identifies the need to provide more housing and supported accommodation catering for older age groups in the municipality, acknowledges this will include higher density housing and supports residential development that allows people to age in their existing community. 11
- Clause 21.07 refers to a forecast that by 2031 an extra 628,000 persons aged more than 60 years will reside in metropolitan Melbourne, of whom it is estimated 42,000 will reside in Greater Dandenong. It is acknowledged that this increase in the population of older residents will raise the demand for accommodating the aged population in the form of smaller infill dwellings and retirement accommodation and seeks this accommodation, where possible, to be co-located with community facilities, welfare services and recreational facilities within activity centres close to public transport.
- There is encouragement in State and local policy and in the purpose of the General Residential Zone (GRZ) for housing diversity and increased housing numbers in existing urban areas. There is support for a range of housing types to meet increasingly diverse needs, especially in middle and outer suburbs. In addition, policy seeks delivery of more affordable housing through increasing housing choice to meet the needs of households as they move through life cycle changes and for planning that enables older people to live in appropriate housing in their local community.
- 21 The planning officer report to Council on the application stated:

It is identified that between 2017 and 2026 the forecast population of 65+ year olds will increase by 10% with 75+ year olds increasing by 15% (source: Population current and forecast in Greater Dandenong January 2014).

It is considered that as the over 65 or retiree population within the City of Greater Dandenong increases, facilities and residential/retirement villages such as Lexington Gardens will need to expand in order to provide accommodation. It is considered that due to a lack of larger consolidated parcels of land and affordability, independent living units in denser developments such as the one proposed are acceptable.

22 The existing retirement village on the land offers a range of facilities and services, including shops, medical services, recreational opportunities, a bus service and theatrette. Making better use of those existing services and facilities is supported by policies that relate to sustainability and housing choice.

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At page 7 of Plan Melbourne 2017-2050: Metropolitan Planning Strategy (Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, 2017).
At clauses 21.03-1, 21.04-1 and 22.09-2.

- 23 Taken together, I find considerable support in the Planning Scheme for additional housing catering for older aged groups, a sector of the population that is projected to increase and more generally for greater diversity of housing in accessible locations. This is an important factor in balancing all the matters that must be considered and reaching a decision that achieves net community benefit and sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations, as required by clause 10.04 of the Planning Scheme.
- 24 There is also significant emphasis in various provisions and policies of the Planning Scheme on ensuring that development responds appropriately to context and is respectful of neighbourhood character. This is the key matter in dispute and I address this next.

IS THE BUILT FORM AN ACCEPTABLE RESPONSE TO CONTEXT?

- 25 Council submits that the proposed building with its uniform floor plates and five-storey built form will be at odds with the preferred character for the incremental change area that seeks development to respond to existing character and allows for medium density development up to two to three storeys. Council says the five-storey building will sit uncomfortably at the end of Souter Street, will be excessive in the context of the incremental change area policies and includes a commercial appearance and 'uninspiring' south façade, dominant in views from the south.
- 26 It is the evidence of Mr Biacsi that the proposed development is an appropriate outcome in a residential area that features considerable diversity when one takes account of the existing retirement village and the design utilises materials, colours, textures, setbacks and building articulation to achieve variation in the building mass and add visual interest when viewed from nearby public vantage points and private properties.
- 27 Themes in the Planning Scheme relevant to built form include:
 - Emphasis on ensuring new development responds to its context starting with a comprehensive site analysis to inform design to achieve an outcome that reinforces special characteristics of the local neighbourhood.¹²
 - Architectural and urban design outcomes to contribute positively to local urban character, enhance the public realm while minimising detrimental impact on neighbouring properties.¹³
 - Ensure building design contributes to safety and perception of safety.¹⁴
 - Encourage development that is consistent with energy efficiency and the minimisation of greenhouse gases.

At clause 15.01-4.

At clauses 15.01-2, 15.01-3 and 21.05-3

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¹² At clauses 11.02-1 and 15.01-5

At clauses 15.01-2 and 21.05-1.

- To respect and improve residential environments and strongly encourage new residential development to make a positive contribution to the identified future character of each residential Future Change Area, with the existing neighbourhood character to be respected in the incremental change area. ¹⁶
- To ensure landscaping that enhances the built form with new developments encouraged to establish a landscape setting.¹⁷
- 28 Clause 22.09 contains local policy on residential development and neighbourhood character. It seeks residential development to demonstrate consistency with the policy objectives, identified future character, change area policies, preferred housing type and the applicable design principles. There are general design principles that apply to all development relating to safety, landscaping, car parking, setbacks, private open space, built form site design, materials and finishes, services and internal amenity. The three identified future change areas are substantial, incremental and limited change. The review site is within an incremental change area where the future character is identified as one which will change over time to contain a greater proportion of well-designed and site responsive medium density infill development that respects the existing neighbourhood character. Residential development will comprise well-designed houses, town houses, units and dual occupancies of up to two storeys with the main living area generally on the ground level.
- 29 Having considered the physical context of the site and the various policies and provisions of the Planning Scheme relating to built form, summarised above, I find the proposed development acceptable. I set out my findings under headings that address the design response, neighbourhood character and amenity impacts.

Design Response

- 30 A site analysis is an important starting point in achieving a design that is appropriately responsive to context. An analysis of the Lexington Gardens site indicates some unique characteristics which create both opportunities and constraints. The characteristics include:
 - A large site in the context of surrounding conventional residential development.
 - Location on a main road.
 - Existing built form that includes large buildings including three storey height.
 - Internal road system and extensive onsite car parking.
 - Common boundary with a number of properties containing single and some double-storey dwellings to the east, south and west.

16	At clause	21.04-1.
17	At alauca	

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- Some relatively large open areas within the site providing physical separation of existing development from adjoining land.
- 31 The site of the proposed development within the Lexington Gardens site has additional specific characteristics as follow:
 - Open lawn setting between a three-storey residential building and a large community centre.
 - Absence of trees or significant vegetation.
 - Topography that slopes but is not steep.
 - Separated from adjoining residential sites to the south by an internal road.
- 32 Although a five-storey building in this setting will be visible and change the existing built form character, I consider the design response is wellconsidered and acceptable. I say this for the following reasons.
- 33 Despite the proposal being higher than other buildings on the review site, the setting is one where larger buildings exist and where more intensive built form can be absorbed. The visibility of the building from outside the site will be tempered by substantial setbacks to site boundaries. The closest neighbours to the proposal are the dwellings at 59 and 61 Windsor Avenue. The proposal will be a minimum of 15 metres from the rear boundaries of these lots, noting both have garages and outbuildings adjoining the common boundary with the review site.
- 34 The location of the building within a large site limits the impact of the building height on nearby streetscapes. Most affected will be Souter Street which terminates at the southern boundary of the review site. There will be views of the building along Souter Street looking north but the setback of over 16 metres from the street, the intervening loop road and the proposed landscaping will acceptably limit negative impacts to this street. In reaching that view, I have had regard to the streetscape character of the section of Souter Street north of Windsor Avenue which comprises the side boundaries of 59 and 61 Windsor Avenue, rather than a traditional form of regular front setbacks and established gardens.
- 35 Council raised concerns about the construction typology and referred to comments of Council's urban designer who criticised the extent of ground floor car park, the massing with a unified and blank podium wall treatment and the dull fibre cement walls.
- 36 The applicant explained the construction material is cross laminated timber, an engineered timber panel product that offers significant sustainability advantages with 'flat pack' technology allowing for fast assembly onsite, fewer waste materials and limited water use. The applicant said that although it would be possible to incorporate different layouts on each floor, the identical floor plates contribute to the efficiency and sustainability.

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- 37 Although the residential levels above the ground level car park are uniform, I find the building is well-articulated through staggered setbacks to each façade, inclusion of balconies and fenestration to all elevations and different colours in façade panels. The ground level will be enclosed by a dark, woven wire mesh that will limit visibility of the parking area and the proposed landscaping is adjacent to the ground level for most of its perimeter providing an acceptable interface for pedestrians within the site.
- 38 Council submitted the southern elevation will appear 'commercial' and 'uninspiring' and dominant in views from the intersection of Windsor Avenue and Souter Street, particularly given it will be higher at this point due to the topography. I do not agree. The southern elevation presents with variation in setbacks across its width that will provide a modulated appearance to the four levels above the ground level car park entrance. Together with four vertical lines of windows, variation in external colours and ground level landscaping to both sides of the vehicle entry, I am satisfied the southern elevation of the building will appear acceptable.
- 39 While the building is higher at its southern elevation compared to the northern elevation, I consider the difference is not so substantial that it results in an unacceptable appearance when viewed from the south. Relevant to this finding is the siting of the building to the southern site boundary that will result in the appearance of an angled southern façade when viewed from Souter Street. I am not persuaded that the building will be unreasonably dominant when viewed from the intersection of Windsor Avenue and Souter Street, given a separation of over 50 metres.
- 40 The layout provides spacing between buildings on the site including relatively large areas to the north, east and west of the proposal. In addition to protecting amenity of existing residents of the retirement village, this design will avoid the appearance of continuous building bulk from within the overall site and when viewed from outside the site. The areas around the building will be landscaped, providing pedestrian paths, seating and an attractive, treed setting. The landscape plan shows extensive planting around the building that includes 33 trees capable of reaching a height of 5 metres or more, of which 12 will be between 8 and 15 metres. Landscaping to the south side of the building is also proposed, either side of the vehicle access, which will include three larger trees and lower level planting that will be visible when viewed from Souter Street. Importantly no significant vegetation is required to be removed

Neighbourhood character

41 Council submits that no regard has been given to the design guidelines for development in an incremental change area at clause 22.09 with no ground floor secluded private open space, building height that exceeds the two to three-storey height identified in the policy and uniform building bulk. Council submits that even if the development is considered on merit given the large site size, an allowance provided for in policy prior to approval of Amendment C182, the height and design is at odds with the preferred

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character for the area. This arises, Council says, from an assessment of the site and surrounds that shows the current two and three-storey scale of existing buildings on the land, the single and double-storey scale of development surrounding the land and the 11 metre/three-storey height limit that now applies under GRZ.

- 42 In addition to the planning scheme provisions set out earlier, I note the purpose of the GRZ encourages development that respects the neighbourhood character of the area and Schedule 1 includes the following neighbourhood character objectives:
 - To ensure the scale, built form and setbacks of residential developments respond to the existing site circumstances by respecting the predominant built form, façade and street patterns.
 - To provide appropriate front, side and rear setbacks, garden areas and significant private open space to allow for substantial high quality landscaping and canopy trees to protect the amenity of adjoining properties and to create a landscape character.
 - To maximise the opportunities to create high quality landscaping, through minimal paving and the use of permeable ground surfaces.
 - To ensure vehicle accessways and storage facilities do not visually dominate the streetscape.
 - To ensure that residential development achieves high quality, useable private open space outcomes for future residents, including the provision of secluded private open space at the side or rear of each dwelling.
- 43 Maximum building height for residential buildings, where there is none specified in the Schedule to the zone, as is the case here, is 11 metres or three storeys at any point. Minimum garden area requirements are set out in the GRZ. However the height limit and the garden area requirements do not apply to the proposal due to transitional provisions that exempt applications made before the approval date of VC110. Furthermore the requirements of clause 55, including those varied in Schedule 1 to the GRZ, are not relevant since this clause does not apply to a development of five or more storeys. The provisions of clause 58 relating to apartment developments are not applicable pursuant to transitional provisions at clause 32.08-6 of the GRZ.
- 44 The approval of Amendment C182 (Part 1) provides detailed policy guidance for substantial, incremental and limited change areas. The revised clause 22.09 no longer includes recognition that larger sites may warrant a departure from the future character identified for the area. Even without the specific recognition for circumstances where departure from policy might be acceptable, I consider a sensible approach that avoids the application of policy as though it was a mandatory control, rather than a guide, is appropriate. I agree with the findings in SMA Projects v Port Phillip CC¹⁸

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^{18 [1999]} VCAT 1312.

In the new planning system planning decisions are meant to be heavily influenced by policy, and in particular the consistent application of policy can avoid the adverse effects of incremental change which can occur through an ad hoc site by site decision making process. Nevertheless, policy must be applied in an intelligent and flexible way having regard to the entire strategic and policy framework affecting the future use of land while at the same time avoiding unfortunate outcomes in individual permit applications. . . .

- 45 Having regard to the unique characteristics of the site, the siting and design of the building and to the balancing of neighbourhood character objectives against the established use of the land for a retirement village and policy that seeks increased diversity of housing, especially for the aged, I consider the more intense development proposed should be supported.
- 46 The overall height of the building, although two-storeys higher than the three-storeys allowed for in GRZ and anticipated in the incremental change area, will have limited impact outside the site given its location internally within a large site that effectively has its own character. I agree with the views expressed in the planning officer's report¹⁹ on the permit application that there are circumstances in this case that justify departure from the preferred two-storey height and preferred medium density housing in the incremental change area and these include:

The extensive setback of the building from all boundaries afforded due to the considerable size of the site;

The existing and proposed landscaping and vegetation retention along the eastern and southern boundaries of the lot;

The overall context of the site and existing significant built form;

The use being provided for (residential/retirement village); and

The sustainability initiatives and construction model proposed.

- 47 While there is no ground level secluded private open space provided for each dwelling, all dwellings are provided with a useable private open space in the form of a 9 square metre balcony directly accessible from a living room and unscreened. Furthermore the area set aside for shared open space is generous and, when landscaped, will provide an attractive space for all residents of the complex.
- 48 Importantly I find elements of the proposal accord with the general design principles relating to neighbourhood character at clause 22.09, in addition to those specific to the incremental change areas including:
 - Windows and balconies to all elevations are unscreened and allow for passive surveillance of the retirement village complex and the nearby Souter Street contributing to a safer neighbourhood.
 - The landscaping plan provided shows substantial, high quality, onsite landscaping and avoids removal of existing trees.

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Statutory Planning Applications Report dated 24 July 2017 on pages 19-20.

- Car parking is integrated in the design of the buildings and screened from view.
- There are setbacks to other buildings on the site sufficient to provide for landscaping and the proposed siting does not interrupt a pattern of building setbacks and siting.
- The site design avoids adverse amenity impacts on adjoining dwellings through consideration of privacy, solar access and outlook of adjoining properties.
- The building is well articulated through the use of variation in setbacks, materials and colours.
- 49 Assessing the proposal against the neighbourhood character objectives of Schedule 1 to the GRZ I find as follows:
 - The scale, built form and setbacks respond to the existing site circumstances which do not have the consistent built form and street patterns evident in the more traditional residential streetscapes where Schedule 1 to the GRZ applies.
 - There is generous opportunity for substantial high quality landscaping and canopy trees.
 - The development will not result in car parking or vehicle access dominating a streetscape.
 - The development provides a useable area of private open space for each dwelling in the form of a balcony

Amenity impacts

- Although clauses 55 and 58 do not apply, there are other Planning Scheme policies and provisions²⁰ that seek to ensure acceptable amenity is achieved for future residents and to avoid unreasonable amenity impacts to existing dwellings. Although not contested by parties, it is relevant to my support of the proposal that I find the proposal acceptable in relation to amenity impacts for the following reasons.
- 51 Shadow impacts to existing dwellings are acceptably limited. There is no shadow cast outside the review site between 9.00am and 3pm at the equinox. Although the clause 55 standard relating to overshadow does not apply, it would be met.
- 52 Separation distances between proposed habitable room windows and balconies and existing secluded private open spaces and habitable room windows on adjoining properties are generous (at least 20 metres). This will avoid unreasonable loss of privacy.
- 53 The appearance of visual bulk is limited by the setback of the building from property boundaries and a built form that avoids a 'box-like' appearance through articulated elevations.

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Including clauses 15, 22.09 and 65.01.

- Amenity for future residents of the proposal is of a high standard with all dwellings provided with unscreened outlook from habitable room windows and balconies, useable balcony area accessible from a living area and convenient car parking. Residents will have access to the extensive range of communal facilities and services provided in the existing retirement village.
- 55 Pedestrian entry to the building is provided on the east side of the building accessible via a path from the loop road (as shown on the landscape plan) and from the ground level car park. A roof is proposed over the entry and over an adjacent entrance forecourt. Although there are two car spaces south of the forecourt that are to be covered and allocated to residents, I consider the layout will provide a sense of dwelling entry to the building, be visible and provide shelter.

IS THE CAR PARKING PROVISION ACCEPTABLE?

- 56 The parking requirement for a retirement village, as set out in clause 52.06 of the Planning Scheme, is one car space for each one or two bedroom dwelling, two car spaces for each three bedroom dwelling and one visitor car space per five dwellings. Application of these rates result in a requirement for 44 resident car spaces and eight visitor car spaces.
- 57 The proposed development would provide 40 car spaces for resident use, 38 under the building and two in a covered area adjacent to the main building entry. The application includes a waiver of the remaining 12 car spaces.
- 58 Council accepts the car parking proposed for residents but opposes the waiver of eight visitor spaces. Council says surveys referred to in Mr Walsh's evidence to assess visitor car parking demand were undertaken during weekdays and do not reflect the peak demand that occurs at weekends. If a permit is to be granted, Council seeks a condition that requires the provision of eight visitor car spaces on site.
- 59 It is the evidence of Mr Walsh that the allocation of one car space per dwelling will cater for the residential tenants. In relation to visitor car parking, it is the evidence of Mr Walsh that a conservative projection of demand is eight car spaces and these can be readily accommodated within the adjacent visitor car parking area.
- 60 The one car space provided per unit for residents is not contested by Council. I am satisfied that, having regard to the survey information in Mr Walsh's evidence,²¹ the number of car spaces provided for residents will cater for demand.
- 61 The application does not propose any additional car parking for residential visitors and in fact allocates two existing visitor car spaces for resident use. Despite this arrangement, I am satisfied that the demand for visitor car spaces generated by the development can be accommodated within the
- The parking surveys referred to by Mr Walsh showed a maximum occupancy of resident car spaces equivalent to 0.54 car space per unit at the existing 288 unit retirement village on the review site and a survey of another retirement village which showed a peak resident demand of 0.64 spaces per occupied unit.

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- existing on-site visitor parking and no additional visitor car spaces are required. I reach this view having regard to the following.
- 62 The development is adjacent to an existing parking area allocated for visitors to Lexington Gardens. This area contains 31 car spaces, which will be reduced to 29 with this development. Mr Walsh advised that the surveys undertaken of the parking showed²² the maximum occupancy of this area was recorded at 25 car spaces but noted that some of this demand is likely to have been associated with the construction activity occurring nearby. It was his evidence that the normal usage of the car park would be a maximum of 11 car spaces based on surveys during October 2016 and evening surveys in November 2017, both times when there was no construction activity occurring nearby.
- 63 The availability of car spaces in the adjacent car park is further supported by an analysis of NearMap aerial photos over a two-year period undertaken by Mr Walsh. This analysis showed on nine of the ten survey times (that included one survey on Saturday and one on Sunday) the minimum number of car spaces available to be 18 of the 31 spaces. There was one surveyed time when only 12 car spaces were available but this coincided with the construction activity referred to above. In any event, at all of the observed times of the car park derived from NearMap, there was capacity for at least 12 car spaces to be parked (or 10 allowing for the reduction of the car park to 29 spaces as proposed by the development).
- 64 On the basis of this information, I find there will be capacity for parking of eight cars in the adjacent car park that would provide convenient parking for the projected visitor demand for the proposed development.
- 65 The total number of visitor car spaces on the Lexington Gardens site is 61. The surveys showed the maximum occupancy of these spaces was 43 leaving 18 spaces vacant, noting the same construction activity demand for car spaces impacts these figures. At the five survey times7, when no construction activity was occurring, the maximum occupancy was 23 of the 61 visitor spaces, leaving 38 car spaces available. At 18 or 38 car spaces, I find there is sufficient existing car parking to cater for the potential eight car spaces required for visitor car spaces under clause 52.06
- Mr Walsh's evidence is that the access to the undercroft car parking from the loop road does not meet the Planning Scheme standard but this can be readily modified to achieve compliance. I have included a permit condition to ensure the required grades are achieved.
- 67 Council submitted that the existing access point to Westall Road, designated as a Road Zone, Category 1, will be used more frequently for the proposed development but does not reject the proposal for this reason. VicRoads raised no objection to the proposal.

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The parking surveys referred were undertaken at 2.30pm, 3.30pm, 6.30pm and 7.30pm on Thursday 20 October 2016 and 11am and 9pm on Tuesday 21 November 2017.

WHAT CONDITIONS ARE APPROPRIATE?

- 68 Draft permit conditions were circulated by Council and discussed at the hearing. I have generally adopted these conditions subject to changes that reflect my findings and to address the following additional matters:
 - Council raised concern about collection of waste. I have included a condition that requires details of storage and collection of waste to be provided as part of Condition 1 plans.
 - Provision for storage cages in the car park area was sought by Council, although it was acknowledged that retirement living requires a lower capacity of storage spaces. The applicant advised there was some storage provided at each residential level and there is opportunity for residents to hire storage space in the community centre. I am satisfied the storage opportunities provided are adequate.

CONCLUSION

- 69 The applicable policy context contains some conflicting objectives relevant to this proposal. The Planning Scheme seeks integration of the relevant policies and balancing of conflicting objectives in favour of net community benefit and sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations.²³ I consider the proposal that will create additional, well-designed accommodation for older people on a large site provided with services and facilities and well-separated from adjoining sites achieves, on balance, a net community benefit.
- 70 For the reasons given above, the decision of the responsible authority is set aside. A permit is granted subject to conditions.

Cindy Wilson Member

23 At clause 10.04.

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APPENDIX A

PERMIT APPLICATION NO:	PLN17/0145
LAND:	114-122 Westall Road, Springvale
WHAT THE PERMIT ALLOWS	:

The development of land for one, five storey building in association with an existing retirement village, reduction in car parking and alteration to access to a road in a Road Zone Category 1 in accordance with the endorsed plans

CONDITIONS

- Before the development starts, two copies of amended plans drawn to scale and dimensioned, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority for approval. No buildings or works must be commenced until the plans have been approved and endorsed by the Responsible Authority. The endorsed copy of the plans forms part of this permit. The plans must be in accordance with the plans submitted with the application, but modified to
 - (a) Ramp grades altered to reflect the Sketch Plan Ramp Grades in Appendix B attached to the Expert Evidence Report of Jason Walsh of Traffix Group dated 24 November 2017.
 - (b) The location(s) for all outdoor air conditioning units. If they are placed on the balcony they must be concealed from the street and surrounding views;
 - (c) Tree protection zones for all trees which may be impacted by the construction of the proposed building in compliance with the Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Building
 - (d) All physical environmentally sustainable design features referred to within the Sustainability Report prepared by Lendlease dated 17 November 2016 or any subsequent amended report;
 - Arrangements for storage and collection of rubbish to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority:

to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- Before plans are endorsed under condition 1, a revised Sustainability Report detailing sustainable design strategies to be incorporated into the development must be submitted to, and approved by the Responsible Authority.
- Before the approved development starts, and before any trees or vegetation are removed, an amended landscape plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the

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Responsible Authority. The amended landscape plan must be prepared by a person or firm with suitable qualifications to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, drawn to scale with dimensions and 3 copies must be provided. The amended landscape plan must be generally in accordance with the landscape site plan and landscape sections prepared by CJ Arms & Associates dated 8 March 2017 modified to show:

- (a) plans to accord with Condition 1 of this permit;
- (b) modification to the landscaping adjacent to the southern elevation to include earth mounds and substantial planting flanking the vehicular entry gate to the car park;
- (c) Demonstration that proposed planting will substantially screen ground floor car park walls;
- (d) Natural ground level and altered ground levels;
- (e) Proposed surfacing;
- (f) Details of arbour, gazebo and any other proposed structures in the landscaped area; and
- (g) Irrigation system to all planted areas.

When approved, the amended landscape plan will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.

The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the landscape plan must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 4 Prior to the occupation of the accommodation building hereby permitted, all landscaping shown on the endorsed landscape plans, including trees, shrubs and lawn, shall be planted and thereafter maintained, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 5 Prior to the occupation of the development, a report from the author of the Sustainability Report approved pursuant to this permit, or similarly qualified person or company, must be submitted to the Responsible Authority. The report must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority and must confirm that all measures specified in the Sustainability Report have been implemented in accordance with the Sustainability Report approved in accordance with condition 2 of this permit.
- 6 Before the approved development starts, a Construction Management Plan to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority must be submitted to and approved by the Responsible Authority. The Construction Management Plan must address, but is not limited to:
 - (a) hours of construction, control of noise and airborne matter, deliveries, vehicle access, worker car parking, damage to public assets and contact numbers for complaints;

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- (b) all Traffic Management Plans for the site demolition, excavation, deliveries and other construction related activities that will affect vehicle and pedestrian traffic;
- (c) the location of all areas on-site and off-site to be used for construction staff parking;
- (d) a Parking Management Plan for all associated construction vehicles;
- (e) all site shed, portable toilet, storage and materials, etc. must be confined to the land;
- (f) the covering and maintenance of all roads/storage areas/eternal stockpiled/ or vacant areas to avoid dust nuisance to any residential and commercial premises;
- a truck wheel-wash must be installed and used so vehicles leaving the site do not deposit mud or other materials on roadways;
- (h) no water containing oil, foam, grease, scum or litter will be discharged to the stormwater drainage system from the land;
- all stored wastes are kept in designated areas or covered containers that prevent escape into the stormwater system;
- the amount of mud, dirt, sand, soil, clay or stones deposited by vehicles on the abutting roads is minimised when vehicles are leaving the land; and
- (k) no mud, dirt, sand, soil, clay or stones are washed into, or are allowed to enter the stormwater drainage system.

When approved, the Construction Management Plan will be endorsed and will form part of this permit.

The provisions, recommendations and requirements of the endorsed Construction Management Plan must be implemented and complied with to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- Prior to the occupation of the accommodation building approved by this permit, an appropriate stormwater discharge arrangement from the site must be designed and constructed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Prior to Council checking and supervising the design and construction of the stormwater discharge arrangement, the applicant must pay the requisite fees to the Responsible Authority.
- 8 The layout of the site and size, design and location of the buildings and works permitted by this permit must always be in accordance with the endorsed plans, unless with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- Once the development has started, it must be continued and completed in accordance with the endorsed plans, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

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- 10 The development must be constructed in accordance with the recommendations of the Sustainability Report approved under condition 2 of this permit to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 11 The accommodation building hereby approved must not be occupied until all buildings and works and the conditions of this permit have been complied with, unless with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority.
- 12 Access to the site and any associated roadworks must be constructed, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. Vehicle Crossing permit is required for alteration/removal/reinstatement of existing vehicle crossings and construction of new vehicle crossings. Works are to be in accordance with Council Standards.
- 13 Any works undertaken within the road reservation and easements will require the developer to obtain a Civil Works Permit from Council.
- 14 All piping and ducting above the ground floor storey of the building, except for downpipes and spouting, shall be concealed to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 15 Before the approved development is occupied, the area(s) set-aside for the parking of vehicles, together with the associated driveways and access lanes as shown on the endorsed plans must be:
 - (a) Constructed in accordance with the endorsed plans.
 - (b) Properly formed to such levels that they can be used in accordance with the plans.
 - (c) Surfaced with an all-weather sealcoat.
 - (d) Drained to the legal point of discharge.

All to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 16 Visitor parking must be clearly marked and well-lit outside of daylight hours.
- 17 Car spaces, access lanes and driveways must be maintained and kept available for these purposes at all times, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 18 Provision must be made for the dramage for the proposed development including landscaped and paved areas, all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 19 The connection of the internal drainage infrastructure to the Legal Point of Discharge must be to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.
- 20 Collected stormwater must be retained onsite and discharged into the drainage system at pre development peak discharge rates as stated in the Legal Point of Discharge approval letter. Approval of drainage plan including any retention system within the property boundary is required.

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- 21 Before the approved building is occupied, the development must be provided with external lighting capable of illuminating access to each garage, car parking space and pedestrian walkway. Lighting must be located, directed and shielded to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority so as to prevent any adverse effect outside the land.
- 22 Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority, floor levels shown on the endorsed plans must not be altered or modified.
- 23 No buildings or works may be constructed over any easement or other restriction on the land or any sewers, drains, pipes, wires or cables under the control of a public authority without the prior written consent of the relevant authority and the Responsible Authority.
- 24 Except with the prior written consent of the Responsible Authority and under the supervision of a consulting qualified Arborist, the following must not occur within the Tree Protection Zone:
 - (a) vehicular or pedestrian access;
 - (b) trenching or soil excavation; and
 - storage or dumping of tools, equipment or waste, including stockpiled soil and building debris;

all to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

- 25 Before the approved development starts, all existing trees shown on the endorsed plans to be retained on the land must, to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority, be suitably marked in a 'Tree Protection Zone' with the Tree Protection Zones as required under Australian Standard AS4970-2009 Protection of Trees on Building Sites.
- 26 This permit will expire if:
 - (a) The development does not start within two years of the date of this permit; or
 - (b) The development or any stage of it is not completed within four years of the date of this permit.

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

Public Transport Victoria

27 The permit holder must take all reasonable steps to ensure that disruption to operations along Westall Road and Windsor Avenue is kept to a minimum during the construction of the development. Foreseen disruptions to bus operations during construction and mitigation measures must be communicated to Public Transport Victoria fourteen (14) days prior.

End of Conditions

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2.3 OTHER

2.3.1 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

File Id: qA283304

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Attachments: Correspondence Received 5 February-16

February 2018

Report Summary

Subsequent to resolutions made by Council on 11 November 2013 and 25 February 2014 in relation to a listing of incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 provides a list of this correspondence for the period 5 February-16 February 2018.

Recommendation

That the listed items provided in Attachment 1 for the period 5 February-16 February 2018 be received and noted.

MINUTE 575

Moved by: Cr Tim Dark Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That the listed items provided in Attachment 1 for the period 5 February-16 February 2018 be received and noted.

CARRIED

ORDINARY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

2.3.1 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors (Cont.)

OTHER

LIST OF REGISTERED CORRESPONDENCE TO MAYOR AND COUNCILLORS

ATTACHMENT 1

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED 5 FEBRUARY - 16 FEBRUARY 2018

PAGES 2 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5235.

2.3.1 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors (Cont.)

Objective

Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 05/02/2018 & 16/02/2018 - for officer action - total = .	sceived between 0	5/02/2018 & 1	6/02/2018 - for officer action - total = 4
Correspondence Name The Crescent Hall hire cost enquiry	Date Created 07-Feb-18	objective ID fA137486	User Assigned Civic Facilities
Traffic issues in Brady Road Dandenong North	13-Feb-18	fA137713	Engineering Services
Donation request from School Crossings Victoria for an upcoming awards night	14-Feb-18	fA137763	Community Services
Obejction to PLN17/0213 - Springvale Road, Springvale	09-Feb-18	fA137617	City Planning, Design & Amenity

biective

NECTED COLLABORATIVE COMMINITY

Correspondences addressed to the Mayor and Councillors received between 05/02/2018 & 16/02/2018 - for information only - total =

senondence Name	Date Created	Ohiactive ID	Hear Assigned
er from Hon John Fren MP Community Sports Infrastructure Fund	15-Feh-18	A4822265	Mayor & Councillors FA
firm the outcome of Councils applications submitted	2		

2.3.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions - 12 & 19 February 2018

File Id: fA25545

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Report Summary

As part of Council's ongoing efforts to improve transparency in Council processes, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions (other than those matters designated to be of a confidential nature) are reported on at ordinary Council meetings.

The matters listed in this report were presented to Councillor Briefing Sessions in February 2018.

Recommendation Summary

This report recommends that the information contained within it be received and noted.

2.3.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions - 12 & 19 February 2018 (Cont.)

Matters Presented for Discussion

Item		Briefing Session
1	Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following topics: a) Future of Recycling. b) Upcoming Noble Park Station site visit hosted by LXRA. c) Agenda items for the Council meeting of 12 February 2018.	12 February 2018
2	Strategic Property Register (Confidential) Councillor Sean O'Reilly declared a conflict of interest in part of this item and left during the discussion of this part of the item.	19 February 2018
3	Review of Local Government Bill – Council's Submission Councillor input was sought on the proposed draft submission.	19 February 2018
4	Outcome of Community Engagement Annual Plan/Budget Councillors were updated on the outcomes of the Community Engagement process.	19 February 2018
5	Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following topics: a) Recycling Industry Update. b) Recent sport and recreation grant applications. c) Future of the LXRA project. d) Agenda items for the Council meeting of 26 February 2018.	19 February 2018

Apologies

- Councillor Roz Blades AM submitted an apology for the Councillor Briefing Session on 12 February 2018.
- Councillor Roz Blades AM, Councillor Jim Memeti, Councillor Maria Sampey, Councillor Heang Tak and Councillor Loi Truong submitted apologies for the Councillor Briefing Session on 19 February 2018.

2.3.2 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions - 12 & 19 February 2018 (Cont.)

Recommendation

That:

- 1. the information contained in this report be received and noted; and
- 2. the information discussed at the above listed Councillor Briefing Sessions that was declared confidential in Item 2 by the Chief Executive Officer under Sections 77 and 89 of the Local Government Act remain confidential until further advisement unless that information was the subject of a subsequent Council report.

MINUTE 576

Moved by: Cr Roz Blades AM Seconded by: Cr Zaynoun Melhem

That:

- 1. the information contained in this report be received and noted; and
- the information discussed at the above listed Councillor Briefing Sessions that was declared confidential in Item 2 by the Chief Executive Officer under Sections 77 and 89 of the Local Government Act remain confidential until further advisement unless that information was the subject of a subsequent Council report.

CARRIED

File Id:

Responsible Officer: Director Corporate Services

Attachments: Submission Template - Local Government Bill

Report Summary

Victorian Local Government currently operates under the Local Government Act 1989.

Over the past two years, Local Government Victoria have been undertaking a review process of the Act with a view to adopting a new Act for Victorian Local Government.

In December, 2017, as the final phase in the consultation process, the State Government released the draft Local Government Bill with Councils having the opportunity to make submissions prior to 16 March, 2018.

This report presents Councils draft submission under that process.

Recommendation Summary

This report recommends that Council note the proposed submission in respect of the draft Local Government Bill.

Background

The release of the final draft Bill for public comment follows two earlier phases of consultation undertaken by Local Government Victoria in the development of a new Local Government Act.

A key feature of the proposed new Act is the removal of much of the prescription that is currently contained within the existing Act. Whilst this on the surface can be viewed as positive in many respects, much of this prescription will now be dealt with by regulation rather than in the Act and Council has not been able to view any proposed regulations at this point.

Council supports much of the content contained in the draft Bill but there are several key features that remain of concern to Council. The attached draft submission outlines these in detail but for the purposes of this report the following are highlighted:

- Council's current electoral structure of four wards with three wards comprising three Councillors and one ward containing two Councillors will not be allowed under the new Act. Council believes that flexibility around ward structures should be maintained rather than reduced in the new Act;
- The proposed draft Bill would remove the option for Council to require rate payments by instalments and once again introduce a lump sum option that will likely occur 7 ½ months into the financial year. The introduction of instalment payments has seen over 90% of Council residents move to this approach which is in line with all other utilities assisting people in smoothing payments over the course of the year and assisting Council with its cash-flow. Moving back to a lump sum payment in February would appear to be a retrograde step in the Act;
- Whilst current rate capping requirements exclude the waste services charge it would appear
 that the State Government are moving to include waste as part of future rate capping calculations.
 Given that costs in the waste industry are highly dynamic as evidenced by recent events relating
 to recycling, this has the potential to significantly financially disadvantage Council;
- The proposed conflict of interest rules in the new Act would appear extremely subjective as compared to the detailed and more prescriptive framework that currently exists and which provides greater clarity to Councillors;
- The Bill proposes that the Minister set a common method of elections for all Councils. Currently Greater Dandenong is one of nine Councils in the State that utilise attendance voting which Council believes better matches the local demographic needs and has the highest voting participation and interaction with candidates. Council is proposing that flexibility in the choice of election method be retained.

Proposal

This report recommends that Council note the proposed submission in respect of the draft Local Government Bill.

Community Plan 'Imagine 2030' and Council Plan 2017-2021 – Strategic Objectives, Strategies and Plans

After consultation with the Greater Dandenong community on what kind of future they wanted to see for themselves and the City in 2030, the result was the Greater Dandenong Community Plan 'Imagine 2030'. This report is consistent with the following community visions:

Community Plan 'Imagine 2030'

Opportunity

• Leadershipby the Council – The leading Council

Council Plan 2017-2021

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. This report is consistent with the following goals:

Opportunity

• An open and effective Council

Financial Implications

The proposed Bill, if enacted as an Act, will have several potential financial implications which will need to be further assessed at that point.

Consultation

As noted the current consultation process is the third and final step undertaken by Local Government Victoria. The proposed submission has been tabled to Council at briefing sessions held on 22 January and 19 February, 2018.

Conclusion

On balance, Council supports much of the proposed content in the Local Government Bill but remains concerned that it has been unable to view the regulations which will sit below the Act and contain much of the prescription which is current transparently visible in the existing Local Government Act.

Council further remains concerned about several other aspects of the Bill which are outlined in its draft submission.

Recommendation

That Council note the proposed submission in respect of the draft Local Government Bill.

Cr Zaynoun Melhem left the Chamber at 7:25pm.

MINUTE 577

Moved by: Cr Roz Blades AM Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

That Council note the proposed submission in respect of the draft Local Government Bill.

CARRIED

Cr Loi Truong left the Chamber at 7:30pm.

OTHER

REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT – GREATER DANDENONG SUBMISSION

ATTACHMENT 1

REVIEW OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT SUBMISSION TEMPLATE

PAGES 18 (including cover)

If the details of the attachment are unclear please contact Governance on 8571 5235.



Submission Template

Local Government Bill - Exposure Draft

Name	Mick Jaensch

If you work in an organisation or council, please provide the following information:

Organisation or council name	City of Greater Dandenong
Position	Director Corporate Services
Are you providing this	Organisation
submission on behalf of the	
organisation or council?	

Key information about making a submission

What feedback should I provide on the exposure draft bill?

Following an extensive consultation process that considered the policy issues that underpin the Local Government Act, we are now seeking feedback on the Local Government Exposure Draft Bill to inform the final draft legislation before the Government reviews it to present to the Victorian Parliament. We strongly encourage you to read the explanatory document (A New Local Government Act for Victoria) to assist you to navigate the draft legislation.

What is the closing date for submissions?

The closing date for submissions is **5:00 pm, Friday 23 February 2018**. Given that the draft bill is subject to parliamentary timeframes, submissions received after this date will be considered at the Government's discretion.

How do I make a submission?

Submissions can be made in three ways:

- $\bullet \quad \hbox{Online by uploading your submission to the } \underline{www.yourcouncilyourcommunity.vic.gov.au} \ website$
- Emailing your submission to local.government@delwp.vic.gov.au
- Posting your submission to:

Local Government Act Review Secretariat

C/o Local Government Victoria,

PO Box 500, Melbourne VIC 3002

How do I complete this template?

To complete this template:

- (1) Locate the part of the Draft Bill you wish to comment on.
- (2) Insert the clause number, your level of support for the clause, the proposed change and any other comments into the table.

Can I provide a submission in another format?

It is strongly preferred for submissions to be made by completing this template. However, if another format suits your needs or the requirements of your organisation you are welcome to use another format.

Will submissions be made publicly available?

Written submissions and the name of the author will be published on the www.yourcouncilyourcommunity.vic.gov.au website unless confidentiality is requested and the Executive Director of Local Government Victoria grants it, or if it is determined your submission should remain confidential. Submissions that are defamatory or offensive will not be published.

Please contact the Local Government Act Review Secretariat if you have any questions on (03) 9948 8518 or local.government@delwp.vic.gov.au



Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause? What changes do you propose and why? Do you have any overall comments on Part 1 of the Exposure Draft Bill? No comments on this section Support / Do Not Support / Neutral Clause (No.)

Part 1: Preliminary

Part 2: Councils

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
12 (3)	Neutral	Council acknowledges the retention of the present Councillor numbers of 5-12. The draft Bill refers to the fact that final numbers will be determined after applying criteria prescribed by Regulation. Council is concerned that these regulations have not yet been made public allowing it to have a view on any potential outcomes.	
12(4)	Do Not Support	Council currently has an electoral structure made up of four wards –one of which has Councillor numbers below the other three and consequently will not comply with the LGA. At this point Councils only options (should the number of Councillors remain unchanged) is un-subdivided or 11 single member wards.	Council believes the current structure has served Council well and is concerned that there has been no case made as to why a change to existing legislation is necessary. This proposed change would require Council to undergo an electoral review prior to the 2020 election and there are concerns that the VEC would not have the resource capability to appropriately deal with all the reviews required in this time frame.
			Council supports the retention of the existing flexibility to appropriately structure wards around communities of interest.
15-16	Neutral	Council notes the extensive powers for the Minister to prescribe the future electoral structures of Councils and the potential application of an electoral structure review or a ward boundary review. In both instances the Act notes that a community engagement process will be undertaken but Council is not specifically noted as being a compulsory part of this process.	
20	Neutral / Do not Support	The Act allows the Office of Mayor to be vacated via a NOM signed by the majority (in our case 6) and supported by 75% or more (in our case 8 Councillors).	Greater Dandenong Council discussion on this matter has been mixed. One view noted was that if the Mayor does not enjoy the support of 75% of the elected members then it would be appropriate for a change to be made. This current clause does however allow for the potential for the Mayor to have a majority of Councillors voting against him/her but not too the threshold of 75% - which would see them retain their role but without majority support. NOM should therefore be set at the same threshold as the resolution requirement. This clause is

			also somewhat in conflict with the expectation that the Mayor is going to play a leadership role in Councillor behaviour as the Mayor will have an active disincentive to risk upsetting other Councillors. Council also noted that at present there is no requirement for the NOM to outline the cause/reasons that the Mayor is not supported or a natural justice process for the Mayor to respond to these causes.
26	Support	Agree with the change from the Directions paper that Mayors can be elected for one year terms rather than compelling it to be for 2 years.	
27	Neutral	The Act prescribes that each Council must have a position of Deputy Mayor. The previous approach in CGD is to have a 'defacto' Deputy Mayor in that the Mayoral Representation Policy provides that the immediate past Mayor fills this role.	Greater Dandenong currently applies a policy of the immediate past mayor representing the Mayor where the Mayor is unable which has served Council well. There are even occasions where the immediate past Mayor is also unavailable and this approach there has a succession line that can be referenced. Council is not opposed to the appointment of a Deputy Mayor but believes its existing approach is also an appropriate outcome.
33	Do not support	A Councillor in the new Act can be absent for four consecutive months without a leave of absence. Previously it was four consecutive Council meetings which would appear more relevant than months?	Greater Dandenong Council currently meets twice per month. This proposed clause would allow a Councillor to miss eight consecutive Council meetings without a leave of absence being granted. Council believes the existing provisions based on meetings is more appropriate than months.
39 (2)	Do not support	Council must provide all details of any re-imbursement of Councillor expenses to the Audit Committee. For the Audit Committee to do anything with this it will need to be satisfied that expenses are bona fide – which would require an annual audit process to be undertaken?	This would appear to be loading up the AAC with a responsibility to undertake an annual audit at more expense to Council. Currently Greater Dandenong publishes a table of all Councillor expenses on its website – this would appear to be a better approach to transparency than having the AAC audit and review the expenses annually.
45	Do not support	CEO must develop and maintain a workforce plan that describes the organisational structure and specifies projected staffing needs for a period of at least 4 years. This is difficult to do with any certainty given rate capping. The plan must also set out measures to seek to ensure gender equity, diversity and inclusiveness—the principles are supported but to take this further into 'targets' would be concerning.	Council is concerned that the wording of this clause lends itself to the view that Council will be required to meet gender and/or diversity targets as compared to appointing staff on merit.

53	Do not support	Audit Advisory Committee must monitor compliance of Council To require the AAC to sign off that all policies and procedures	To require the AAC to sign off that all policies and procedures
		Policies and Procedures with overarching governance	comply with governance principles of the Act is overkill and
		principles and the Act – therefore meaning every Council Policy again will likely require the AAC to conduct an audit of all	again will likely require the AAC to conduct an audit of all
		and procedure would have be a) either audited or b) go to	existing policies and any new ones. At present, Council
		Audit Committee prior to Council. Audit Committee self -	endorses the minutes of every AAC with a report to the
		assessment needs to be tabled at a Council meeting and now	following Council meeting and meets with the AAC once per
		the Audit Committee needs to report to Council twice a year	annum where the Annual Report is presented. This annual
		on its activities. (as compared to this currently occurring	report is then presented to an open Council meeting. Council
		annually)	believes this level of transparency is sufficient and further
			reporting beyond this should not be required.
Do you have any	overall comments o	Do you have any overall comments on Part 2 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	

Part 3: Council decision making

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
54	Support	Council must have a community engagement policy with mandatory content prescribed both in the Act and in forthcoming regulations	Subject to what is included in the regulations, Council has no issue with this new requirement.
56	Neutral	Council must adopt and maintain a public transparency policy outlining ways in which Council documents and information are made publicly available. Broadly all Council information must be publicly available unless deemed confidential or contrary to public interest.	In theory Council supports this clause but has concern over the both the wording and intent expressed. For the default position to be that every document is publicly available unless deemed confidential would appear excessive and contrary to the FOI framework that currently exists to assess eligibility of documents.
28	Neutral	Council must establish a set of Governance Rules which replace the current Meeting Procedure Local Law. The rules govern the conduct of Council meetings, joint meetings, the form and availability of meeting records, election of Mayor and matters prescribed by regulation. The Governance Rules must provide for a Council to institute decision making processes to ensure that any persons whose rights will directly affected by a decision of the Council is entitled to communicate their views and have their interests considered.	Council's views on Governance Rules has been mixed. It is recognised the current approach to changing a Local Law is substantial and time consuming – so having Governance Rules may offer the opportunity of more flexibility – but potentially at the loss of stability with Council able to change its Rules on the run and frequently. Potentially this could be solved by Council having to give notice of an intention to change the Governance Rules at a meeting prior to where the Rules change is considered. The current Meeting Procedure Local Law approach has also served Council well and there would be benefits in this continuing in the future.
09	Do not support	Two or more Councils can hold a joint Council meeting. A joint meeting is a meeting of each Council for the purposes of the Act	Council view is that true collaboration between Councils is more likely to occur with informal meetings rather than a formal joint meeting. The only exception Council sees to this is the potential for Councils to meet to jointly consider collaborative tender proposals?
Do you have any overall comm	overall comments o	lents on Part 3 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	

Part 4: Planning and financial management

Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?	Whilst likely that CGD can comply with this requirement there would be concerns for smaller Councils meeting all of these within the 8 month period from the election in 2020. Council would support the MAV approach that the Council Plan and Annual Plan be adopted by 30 June following the election with the longer term strategic documents to follow in 2022 – but allowing those with resources to adopt earlier if they choose. Council also notes that whilst ten year financial plans sounds trendy – the reality is that there is so much financial uncertainty and change that years 6-10 are essentially for show and will undoubtedly change markedly.	lget Council currently prepares an Annual Budget but also provides st be forward forecasts for the next four years following in the ples financial statements including within the budget. This should be sufficient.	The concept of materiality should be considered particularly with very minor changes to the rate in the dollar. Council is now in a position where valuations will be controlled centrally and beyond Councils ability to directly manage. Circumstances may occur where the valuations shift slightly between the point when Council prepares the budget for public display and the adoption of the budget. Prior to rate capping this would not have given rise to any concern – but now Council needs to move its rate in the dollar should any valuations change – to ensure it complies with the rate cap.	
What changes do you propose and why?	The Act requires a Community Vision (10 years +), 4 year Council Plan, 10 year financial plan, 10 year asset plan and 4 year Revenue and Rating Plan. Council Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan due by 30 June following the election.	The Annual Budget must now be based on a four-year budget basis – due also by 30 June following election. Budget must be prepared in accordance with financial management principles and community engagement policy.	The triggers for a formal revised budget are any variation to the declared rates or service charges, any borrowings not included in the original budget.	Do you have any overall comments on Part 4 of the Exposure Draft Bill?
Support / Do Not Support / Neutral		Do not support	Support with change	overall comments or
Clause (No.)	83-88	68	06	Do you have any

Part 5: Rates and charges

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
105	Support	The current four times rule (highest cannot be more than 4 times lowest) has been retained.	Greater Dandenong Council is heavily reliant on the use of differential rates to offset the rating burden on its low socioeconomic residential sector. The continuation of the four times rule is essential for Council. Preferably Council would support the elimination of this restriction in the Act altogether.
121	Do Not Support	Rate Payment Dates – The draft Bill does nothing to sort out the present issue Council has where the payment option is mandatory instalments – and should ratepayers wish to pay a single payment then they need to do this by 30 September. This clause states that Council must allow a person to pay rates in 4 instalments OR as a lump sum –with the applicable dates set the Minister. This could lead to a person being able to say they must have the option of paying in a lump sum and the date set by the Minister is 15 February. This needs to be fixed or better explained how this section is going to work to allow the over 30 odd Councils to continue with mandatory instalments and to be able to advertise 30 September as the applicable date if paying by lump sum.	In 2010, the City of Greater Dandenong moved to introduce payment by mandatory instalments. Whilst this move created confusion in the first year of operation, residents now accept the payment methodology and we have now moved to a point where 90% pay by instalments. This has been a beneficial outcome for both Council and residents in terms of making rates more affordable and spreading the rating burden across the financial year. Should the proposed change in the Act proceed and the Minister nominate 15 February as the date for lump sum payments then residents will again be able to opt for this choice leaving Council to provide services for 7½ months without access to any rate payments and potentially cause residents choosing this option increased financial difficulties. No other modern utility allows customers to not pay for such an extended period and this proposal in the Act is taking local government back to the 1980's in terms of modern payment approaches.
140	Do Not Support	The definitions contained in S140 relating to how the rate cap will be calculated have been amended to include Service Charges (as prescribed by regulation). This change was not contemplated in the Directions Paper nor has it been transparently communicated in any of the information released by LGV with the draft Bill. Local Government Service Charges all typically relate to the Waste Services Charge and as has been evident in recent years, Councils have very dynamic cost pressures in this area that	Greater Dandenong does understand that Service Charges should be based on the recovery of costs related to the function and not be inappropriately used by Council to derive profit outside of the rate cap. The approach that Council would propose as an alternative to including service charges in the rate cap is for regulations to instead require Councils to include in the Budget a summary of the costs making up the service charge and a comment explaining any increases in this cost over the preceding year – and for this statement to be

	must not be included in the rate cap. For example in 2018 we	subject to audit where required by the ESC.
	are dealing with a crisis in recycling that for the Greater	
	Dandenong Council has an immediate cost implication of	
	\$650,000 in lost revenue and potentially an even greater cost	
	in the coming year should recycling need to treated as landfill.	
	In past years Council has had to deal with spirally costs in the	
	State Government imposed landfill levy.	
	Under no circumstances should service charges form part of	
	the definition of the rate cap.	
to you have any over	Do you have any overall comments on Part 5 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	
to you have any over	rall comments on Part 5 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	

Part 6: Council operations

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
145	Neutral	Requirement for Council to provide services to the community that are responsive to diverse needs, accessible, provide good value and be based on continuous improvement. There are no concerns expressed in respect of the principles but with 65% of our revenue capped and Council being dependent on State Government for another 20% it is highly likely that in the future Council will be required to reduce or remove current service provision. – And these decisions may well not be responsive to community needs but be driven by financial imperatives beyond Councils control.	
147	Support	Procurement Policy – Council can now set its own thresholds as to when it goes to tender. Must review the Procurement Policy once during each 4 year term of Council. Notably any report that goes before Council for a procurement agreement must include an assessment from the CEO on opportunities for collaboration with other Councils or public bodies.	Whilst Council does support the flexibility offered to set its own procurement thresholds some concern is expressed about how this may relate to significant inconsistencies throughout the industry and the flow on impact on suppliers.
154	Neutral	Lease of Council land clause similar to previous but if a proposal to lease land is included in the annual budget then there is no further community consultation requirements. If not included in the Budget then there is still no 28 day mandatory requirement – but the lease must be entered into with regard to the community engagement policy.	Whilst increased flexibility is again supported Council has expressed some concern over this clause given that any party potentially impacted by a proposed lease or sale of Council land is unlikely to read Councils budget to discover this – and that an appropriate engagement strategy should still be required.

Do you have any overall comments on Part 6 of the Exposure Draft Bill?

Part 7: Council integrity

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
166	Do not support	General Conflict of interest deemed to exist in a matter if an impartial, fair minded person would consider that the persons private interests could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty. (does not include personal opinions or beliefs)	Council supports the retention of the existing Conflict of Interest framework as outlined in the 1989 Act. Whilst material conflict will be reasonably easy to define, this general conflict of interest is broad and very subjective and is likely to give rise to significant confusion in the industry.
174	Neutral	Public access to summary of personal interests. CEO must prepare a summary of the personal interests information in accordance with regulations. The summary needs to be published on Councils website and be available for inspection.	Council supports this is principle subject to understanding what will be required in yet to be seen regulations.
176	Support	Gift Policy required (we already have one in place). Councillors cannot accept a gift that exceeds the gift threshold unless they know the name and address of the person making the gift.	
179-180	Support	Council must review and adopt the Councillor Code of Conduct within 4 months of a general election. Has to have the support of 2/3rds the total number of Councillors elected. In our case at present this would require 8 Councillors to support. In any other review at other times – also requires 8 Councillors to support any amendment.	
Do you have any	overall comments o	Do you have any overall comments on Part 7 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	

Part 8: Ministerial oversight

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make
	Support / Neutral		on this clause?
209	Support with change	Governance directions – this clause gives the Minister quite wide ranging powers to direct Council to amend, discontinue or replace its governance processes or policies, direct a Council to adopt a good practice guideline or adopt any recommendation made by a Monitor, inspector, Commission of Inquiry, Ombudsman or IBAC The Minister can also direct Council to not employ a new CEO or re-employ an existing one.	Council does not believe it should be the role of the Minister to direct Council in relation to employment matters regarding the CEO.
243	Support with change	Minister now has the power to suspend an individual Councillor or Councillors. Grounds are contributing to - the creation of a serious risk to health and safety of a Councillor or member of staff, failure by Council to provide good governance or failure to comply with a governance direction. The Minister can also act on the recommendations from a Monitor, Inspector, Ombudsman or IBAC to suspend a Councillor. Suspension is by Order in Council which needs the support of both Houses of Parliament	Council does believe that a Councillor should be afforded the opportunity to respond to a proposed suspension direct to the Minister
245	Support with change	Minister retains the ability to suspend all Councillors of a Council again by making an Order in Council which needs approval by both Houses of Parliament.	Similar to the previous clause Council believes that natural justice should be afforded to Council to put a case as to why they should not be suspended.
253	Support	Restructuring Advisory Panels must consider the views of any Council affected and ensure a process of community engagement is followed.	
Do you have any	overall comments o	Do you have any overall comments on Part 8 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	

Part 9: Electoral provisions

Clause (No.)	Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	What changes do you propose and why?	Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?
276	Do Not Support	The Minister will determine a uniform voting system for all 79 Councils with this decision to be published 12 months in advance of the election.	The City of Greater Dandenong currently utilises attendance voting which it believes is the most appropriate form to encourage participation from an extremely diverse community. Attendance voting in this area has been the only form of voting used and is well understood and accepted by our community. It allows candidates to physically meet with electors and requires candidates to exhibit greater personal commitment levels to get elected. Council remains concerned that a potential move to postal voting will encourage the greater use of dummy candidates. Council strongly supports the retention of the ability for individual Councils to determine their method of voting.
320	Support	Election campaign donations. Donation returns must be lodged now with the Chief Municipal Inspector and not the CEO. Returns are due by no later than 7 days after nomination day or within 21 days after receipt – whichever is the latter. This may easily give rise to candidates having to lodge multiple donation returns. A return is still required even where no donations are received.	Whilst supportive of the change to the Chief Municipal Inspector Council does express some concern over the potential for some candidates to have to submit multiple donation returns under this approach.
Do you have any overall comm	overall comments o	ents on Part 9 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	

Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?			
What changes do you propose and why?		Do you have any overall comments on Part 10 of the Exposure Draft Bill?	
Clause (No.) Support / Do Not Support / Neutral		overall comments on	this section
Clause (No.)		Do you have any	No comments on this section

Part 10: General provisions

like to make			
Are there any other comments you would like to make on this clause?			
What changes do you propose and why?	Do vou have any overall comments on Part 11 of the Exposure Draft Bill?		
Clause (No.) Support / Do Not Support / Neutral	overall comments on	this section	
Clause (No.)	Do vou have any	No comments on this section	

Part 11: Consequential amendments and repeals

3 NOTICES OF MOTION

3.1 Notice of Motion No. 53 - Support for change to response time to a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation issued to refugees with permanent protection visas who apply for citizenship.

Responsible Officer: Director Community Services

Author: Cr Roz Blades AM

Preamble

The City of Greater Dandenong is the most culturally diverse community in Australia and we are a Council that welcomes refugees and people seeking asylum.

Council has become aware of instances where people holding permanent protection visas have applied for Australian Citizenship and were subsequently issued with a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation (NOICC).

It is of concern to our Council that the Immigration Act stipulates only a 14 day response time to this NOICC and this may not allow sufficient time for a refugee respondent on a permanent protection visa to adequately prepare support documentation to respond to issues raised. If a permanent visa is cancelled, the person becomes an unlawful non-citizen and is liable to be placed in immigration detention losing any entitlement they have as a permanent resident to income support, Medicare and work rights. If the visa cancelled is a protection visa, the person is not able to make a further application for a protection visa unless they are given permission to do so by the Minister for Home Affairs.

Motion

That Council writes to the relevant State and Federal Ministers with responsibility for Immigration, and local members of Parliament, expressing Council's concern this situation disadvantages refugees holding permanent visas who apply for citizenship and recommends the 14 day response time to a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation be extended to at least 28 days, with a further option for extension, to be at the discretion of the administrating case officer.

3.1 Notice of Motion No. 53 - Support for change to response time to a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation issued to refugees with permanent protection visas who apply for citizenship. (Cont.)

MINUTE 578

Moved by: Cr Roz Blades AM Seconded by: Cr Matthew Kirwan

That Council writes to the relevant State and Federal Ministers with responsibility for Immigration, and local members of Parliament, expressing Council's concern this situation disadvantages refugees holding permanent visas who apply for citizenship and recommends the 14 day response time to a Notice of Intention to Consider Cancellation be extended to at least 28 days, with a further option for extension, to be at the discretion of the administrating case officer.

CARRIED

Cr Loi Truong returned to the Chamber at 7:32pm.

Cr Tim Dark left the Chamber at 7:37pm.

Question Cr Loi Truong

I would like to raise the issue of a large amount of counterfeit \$50 notes circulating Australia. I think warnings regarding this matter should be circulated via the internet and print media to inform people. Is it possible for the Mayor to write a letter to the Federal Government to take responsibility and action to protect the people from this problem.

Cr Zaynoun Melhem returned to the Chamber at 7:40pm.

<u>Comment</u> <u>Cr Youhorn Chea, Mayor</u>

Yes.

Comment Cr Sean O'Reilly

I attended the opening of the new building at Lexington Gardens with the Mayor, Councillor Youhorn Chea. It was really good to see the interest the people had in Lexington Gardens and more broadly in living in Springvale. It is great to see that Springvale is kicking along and your speech Mayor where you spoke of how Lexington Gardens was once your residence. I think quite a few of the audience were surprised and astonished, but it just goes to show that Dandenong the city of opportunity has afforded yourself that opportunity to move from Lexington Gardens and now serve your fourth term as Mayor, which I believe is a record, so it was great to see that.

I also attended the Sustainability Festival at Dandenong Market, which was a really pleasant day weather-wise and a good speech by yourself and Councillor Kirwan. The market continues to grow in leaps and bounds, showing kids and family how we can all play a little part, by changing not too much to be more sustainable. Congratulations to the organisers.

I also attended the Holi festival at Springers Leisure Centre and I was well prepared there this time as I was aware we were all going to be splattered with paint which is part of the traditional celebration. I was prepared as I was wearing old clothes. I knew that there would not be much parking at Springers Leisure Centre, so I called an Uber to Springers Leisure and then participated fully in the paint all

over my clothes, but I did not plan the next stage which was getting home. I walked four kilometres down Springvale Road home, and it just goes to show how far I am willing to go to join and represent at my community event.

Question Cr Sean O'Reilly

I visit Dandenong Oasis regularly about two or three times a week. In particular, regarding the spa bath at Dandenong Oasis, which I do not use because the bubbles do not do much for me. I can understand they seem to do something for other people, but I am normally in the sauna and swimming, but the spa is bath is great in that it is not much bigger than a home spa, but there is about 12 people jammed in there. It is like our own United Nations think tank, because a whole lot of conversations go on in there, it is very social. Just like United Nations, a lot of problems are discussed, ideas worked out and then nothing happens. The problem with the spa there is that for some reason it is on a timer and it seems to go on for half an hour and then will just inexplicably shut off, even when it is full. After about 15 or 20 minutes, so people can be in depth working out the next problems of the world and then all of sudden the spa bath shuts off. Although this may not seem a great big problem to bring to a Council meeting it might be able to be resolved easily.

Cr Tim Dark returned to the Chamber at 7:41pm.

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

From my personal experience of spa baths I think it is quite common that the spa baths do shut down over a period, after a period of time. Certainly, if Council thinks that it is an issue, we will investigate and report back on why is shuts down after that period of time and whether or not there is anything that needs to be fixed.

Comment Cr Jim Memeti

As the Councillor representative on the steering committee of the Team 11 project, tomorrow we will be appointing our first paid person to be on the job for our A-League team bid. For the Team 11 in the A-League as the third team in Victoria, is Mr Matt Windley, who is a Herald Sun journalist will be coming to work on the A-League bid on behalf of the three Councils; the City of Greater Dandenong, City of Casey and the Cardinia Shire. It was a busy meeting last week with a steering committee which is going really well and there will be a lot more information coming out in the next few days and weeks regarding the bid.

I had His Excellency Wahidullah Waissi, the ambassador of Afghanistan, come to see me last week regarding the Afghan community in Dandenong and particularly in the southeast which is probably the biggest in the country. He told me that the Australian Government and the Afghanistan Government have had a bi-lateral agreement for 50 years and he is looking at which way, and how we can celebrate

it in the City of Greater Dandenong and discuss other issues regarding the Afghanistan community. That was a good meeting to have and he was telling me that the Afghan community have been in Australia for a long time, over 100 plus years, when they had the Afghan cameleers come out nearly 200 years ago. There has been a long history of Afghan people coming to Australia.

Question

Cr Jim Memeti

Some residents have called me regarding parked trucks in neighbourhood areas. It is my understanding, that a permit is required to park trucks within your property. If trucks are parked on the road would they then be illegally parked?

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

Depending on the size and weight of the truck depends on whether they can park in the residential street. I will have Council's parking officers follow up this matter further tomorrow and obtain further details.

Question

Cr Jim Memeti

I have already passed on some details to you, so we will follow that up as well. What is the size limit, where they can or are allowed to have them on the properties? If they are bigger than 3 tonnes or 5 tonnes I believe they may be illegally parked on the street, is that correct?

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

That is correct, I will take that question on notice and advise Council on that weight limit.

Question

Cr Jim Memeti

I have received a few complaints regarding people dumping rubbish, and it has happened before in the Dandenong Creek area where Metro Village is and also behind the Dalgety Street. The latest dumped rubbish is couches. People are dumping or bringing couches to that location and people are congregating on the creek and sitting on these couches. I am not sure if maybe we should look at installing tables and chairs there for stop overs as people ride their bicycles. To have people bring their own couches is not a good a look and I will give the Director some areas where we need to look and maybe remove these couches.

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

We have had some experience in some of our watercourse areas around the issue that you are talking about. In some circumstances it is not Council's responsibility as it sits with the water authority and in this particular case Melbourne Water. We have reported some rubbish dumping in some of

the Melbourne Water areas so we would have to check to see where those areas are. We would report that to them if it was their responsibility, if not we will obviously go and clean up. If you could provide us those exact locations of where that has been reported then we will follow that up and advise either Melbourne Water or follow up ourselves.

Comment

Cr Matthew Kirwan

The following are some of my activities over the last two weeks.

On Thursday 1 March 2018, I attended the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) Environment Committee where there were some interesting presentations, including one from Moreland Council that I will refer to in one of my questions in a moment. However, there was a long non-agenda discussion, not surprisingly about the recycling situation. Later that afternoon, I attended the Greater Dandenong Council's Cultural Heritage Advisory Committee and the Greater Dandenong Council's Sustainability Reference Committee.

On Friday 2 March 2018, I attended along with many Council staff, a screening of the sequel to the climate change documentary "An Inconvenient Truth", which the title was "An Inconvenient Sequel Truth to Power".

On Saturday 4 March 2018, I attended the Council of Family Sustainability Festival along with yourself the Mayor, Councillor Chea, Councillor Blades, Councillor Blades, Councillor Long and Councillor O'Reilly. Numbers are still in the process of being confirmed but it was potentially the best attended festival ever. Noticeably also was the level of engagement at each of the tents, so people were not just walking in, staying for a few minutes and then walking out, they were participating in the activities and talking to the various exhibitors. I think that was the strongest impression the day had on me. I concur with Councillor O'Reilly, well done to sustainability team and all the other staff members of this Council that assisted on this day for another successful year.

On Thursday 8 March 2018, I attended the meeting of the new Arts Advisory Board that we agreed as a Council to form. It was a great first meeting and it seems like we have a group of talented and committed individuals that we have selected, so it is very promising.

On Friday 9 March 2018, I attended the Audit Advisory Committee meeting along with the Mayor, Councillor Chea and Councillor Sampey.

On Saturday 10 March 2018, I attended a neighbourhood watch special forum in Keysborough for the Keysborough Chinese community along with Councillor Blades. That was a very successful event and was very well received.

Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber at 7:53pm. Cr Maria Sampey left the Chamber at 7.53pm

Question

Cr Matthew Kirwan

Regarding the new park at the corner of Westwood Boulevard and Stanley Road, Keysborough, I have received a number of questions that have been commented to me over the last two weeks, but particularly on the weekend that has just passed. They include:

- A. The grass in the large kick around area has turned to dust and needs to have instant turf laid on the views of a large number of residents. There are concerns that it will turn to mud in winter if its current state is not rectified.
- B. The oval is uneven in terms of the surface and not safe for children to run over.
- C. That the only activity for older children in the playgroup, which is a half basketball court, is completely saturated in use and that the young girls in the area never get a go with the half basketball court, given the high use of that court by older boys. I have received requests of me, it looks like we need another half basketball court or some other activities for older children.
- D. That there is no lighting. I have received a comment about this park from a number of people, a number of mums that peaked again in the last couple of weeks. I usually give the comment that we do with all of our parks when people ask for lighting, that it may attract anti-social activity at night. Residents have come back to me saying young people that live in that neighbourhood are using it after dark anyway, so it would be safer with lighting.
- E. Continuing requests for a toilet given the high use of the park.
- F. Whilst we are on the subject of this park, I was wondering if could an update of the progress with the naming competition, when is that due to start?

Cr Jim Memeti returned to the Chamber at 7:56pm.

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

A. Whilst instant turfing is desirable for the area and it would be ideal, it is really just too cost prohibitive to undertake on such a large scale. We are talking about an area of approximately 10,000 square metres, which would cost the Council in the vicinity of about \$160,000. That is not the only cost, there would also be a significant watering cost for the establishment of that particular turf. Council staff are aware of the issues and it is not ideal at present given the extremely dry conditions experienced over the summer period. There are plans however to undertake further improvement

works by reseeding the oval, once the hot weather starts to subside and we start to receive some rainfall which will add much needed moisture to the soil. Whilst this will still take some time, we hope that there should be a reasonable turf cover by mid-Spring this year.

- C. The park has been developed to the Neighbourhood Playground Network standard in accordance with Council's playground strategy. Any additional improvements to develop the site further would be more in line with a district level of playground. Whilst further improvements may well be desirable, Council will need to be mindful of its financial capacity to afford the additional improvements, given our other competing priorities. I will note that there are two other parks within a one kilometre radius of this particular park. One in particular is a district park, that being Pirate Park and another park that has a half basketball court. There are other facilities in the immediate surrounds of this particular park.
- D. In relation to lighting Council officers do not support lighting at these types of facilities at this stage because they attend to attract anti-social behaviour well into the night. As Councillor Kirwan has indicated, if Council wants to change their approach to that, certainly we would be happy to consider that. However, that would attract a significant extra investment into the park, and we would have to forward plan for that in our City Improvement Program (CIP).
- E. Regarding a public toilet, well we know that Counsellor Kirwan has forwarded this request to us previously and that is now being listed in the annual CIP process for consideration for the 18/19 budget year.
- F. In relation to the naming competition, my understanding is this will commence in June of this year with the release of the June edition of the City magazine.

Cr Maria Sampey returned to the Chamber at 7:58pm.

Question Cr Matthew Kirwan

I do not think you covered but correct me if I am wrong item B) that the oval is uneven and not safe to run over. In relation to you answer in item C) I think one of the issues with parks in this area, is that they are drawing people from all of the municipality and in terms directing people to Pirate Park or Pencil Park which are nearby, I think, I know what the response to that I am going to receive is, but I will try it. It will be that those parks are at saturation point as well, but specifically about the facilities at this park. My understanding is that there is leftover budget from the creation of this park. I am wondering if that is the case and if so, why is that not being used for improvements?

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

In relation to the uneven surface, Council staff are aware of this, we do not believe that it is a major issue at this point in time, in terms of risk, but we are mindful of that. When we undertake the seeding we will even out the surface at the same time as doing the seeding and there is an economy of doing that at the same time when we have the contractors out there. In relation to leftover budget, we are not finished, we have still got the seeding and the surfacing to be done, so I cannot be absolutely sure at this stage if there is leftover budget. Certainly, I will provide Council with that information once the works have been completed.

Question

Cr Matthew Kirwan

In terms of the uneven surface was it built by the contractor correctly and to specification?

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

I will check that with the staff and get back to you.

Question

Cr Matthew Kirwan

My second question which I foreshadowed earlier was something that was presented at the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) environment committee meeting that I attended. It was a very interesting but also thorough presentation on what Moreland Council's been doing. They have been reviewing their entire fleet, including construction vehicle and how over the next ten years they plan to either move them to electric, or in the case of heavy fleet, hydrogen vehicles. The business case they have completed for this projects cost savings as well as reductions in emissions by this ten-year conversion. Do we have any similar analysis planned or can we see if any learnings from the Moreland analysis can be applied to us?

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

Council's fleet services monitors industry trends and technological achievements, including the application of electric and or hydrogen vehicles. At this point in time electric vehicle technology is still an expensive proposition particularly for heavy plant with the main benefits and efficiency's geared towards long haul transport over long distances. In contrast, most of Council's heavy plant only travel short distances and spend quite a considerable amount of the working day stationary on site or have a heavy stop start application. For example, the garbage compactors, not ideally suited to electric technology at this point in time. Similarly, there are still some significant design and safety to be resolved with the storage of hydrogen fuel pressure vessels before we would see this technology introduced into the operations centre. Fleet services current focus for cost savings and emission reductions revolves around the use of the application of Euro 5, Euro 6 technology. That said, fleet services will follow up with Moreland City Council to gain a better understanding of their review and determine if there are any learnings that can be applied to Greater Dandenong.

Comment

Cr Matthew Kirwan

I just want to qualify the question that I was asking about the next ten years not about what was feasible right at this moment. Moreland Council in their presentation that was done by one of their senior officers acknowledged that for heavy fleet vehicles, electric was not feasible and that is why there was a long discussion about hydrogen vehicles. I will wait to get that answer back when you speak to Moreland.

Question

Cr Matthew Kirwan

I received a question from Springvale South residents this afternoon wanting to know when would the detailed results of the consultation on the four park master plans be publicly available on Council's website? The resident was particularly interested in how popular were the relative ideas about Burden Park but also interested in the results of the other master plan consultations as well.

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

The community consultation for the four park master plans finalised last Friday. Officers are now collating and summarising those ideas and comments that were received from both the 'Our Say' online forum as well as the park drop in sessions. In terms of the timing for placing the summary of the results on the website, we are still working through exactly what that date will be and will advised once the information is to hand. However, it is important to note that all of the ideas that were submitted through the 'Our Say' online forum are still available on the Council website for people to view and also the number the votes that each of those got is still publicly available on the website. So, anyone can log on, whether it be Burden Park or any of the other four parks and have a look at the ideas and the number of votes each of those got now.

Comment

Cr Matthew Kirwan

That resident was well aware of the Our Say consultation, it was the other mechanisms they were interested in and the totality was the analysis.

Question

Cr Matthew Kirwan

My final substantive is question is without notice so I can understand it will be likely taken on notice. It relates to the forum that Councillor Blades and I attended on Saturday. I spoke to our one-page summary of our community safety plan and I got two bits of feedback about that one-page summary of the community safety plan. One that it was incredibly clear and they love the idea it was all on page so the format and ease of reading, particularly because it was an audience of largely Chinese speakers with different levels of English. They were really pleased with the communication approach there. What they said to me was quite blunt they said; "well look these are all good things the Council are doing with community safety, but the thing we want to know about is that Councillor Kirwan you are talking about we are advocating for more police numbers, we are advocating for a police station

in Keysborough South". They wanted to know about our advocacy efforts, that is what they wanted a one-page summary about. Can we review our materials to supplement that summary of the community safety plan with a summary of our advocacy around law enforcement and community safety?

Response

Martin Fidler, Director Community Services

I will take that question on notice and follow it up and provide a response to Council.

Cr Matthew Kirwan left the Chamber at 8:04pm.

Comment

Cr Angela Long

These are some of the events that I have attended since our last formal meeting.

On Wednesday 28 February 2018, I attended the 33rd birthday party of the Italo-Spanish Club. That night I attended the Meridian Estate community workshop.

On Sunday 4 March 2018, I attended the Greater Dandenong Sustainability Festival at the Dandenong Market.

On Tuesday 6 March 2018, I attended the launch of the Greater Dandenong Liquor Accord 2017-2020.

On Wednesday 7 March 2018, I attended the Reconciliation Plan Working Group meeting. That night I attended the Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce Platinum Partners Networking Night and the Quest Hotel in Dandenong.

On Thursday 8 March 2018, I attended the International Women's Day morning tea. That afternoon I attended the Napoli Family Club 28th birthday party.

On Friday 9 March 2018, I attended South East Business Network (SEBN) and Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce breakfast in celebration of International Women's Day, where the guest speaker was Samantha Gash. An international marathon runner who spoke about the toughness of running across the four most arid desserts in the world and running from one side of South Africa to the other.

Comment

Cr Zaynoun Melhem

I have had a group of Syrian refugees approach me in the last two weeks asking for a place at Council where they can congregate. There are a couple of senior community leaders who have been here for a couple of generations who have been approached by new arrivals to Australia. They wanted to see if there was a place where they could congregate and meet and potentially give advice and

help mentor and tutor and just generally liaise with each other and help them integrate into society. Now we have a lot of Syrian refugees here in Dandenong and they wanted to see if there was an area where they could congregate and potentially a community facility or something that the City of Greater Dandenong can provide for them. The question is without notice so I am happy for the relevant officer to get back to me.

Cr Matthew Kirwan returned to the Chamber at 8:06pm.

Response

Martin Fidler, Director Community Services

If Councillor Melhem provides me with the details, I am happy to follow them up and provide a lot of information about the various venues and facilities that we have available.

Comment

Cr Maria Sampey

I have attended a few events in the past couple of weeks.

Question

Cr Maria Sampey

Residents from Springvale South have contacted me with regard to Corio Drive, Springvale South. A petition was previously submitted to council regarding this and they have not received a response. Corio Drive forms a loop and there is only one way in and one way out into Heatherton Road. When you are undertaking a right hand turn into Heatherton Road on our Council side of Heatherton Road, there is a keep clear sign indicated by stripes on the road. On the Monash Council side of the road they have faded a bit. There are problem with motorists once they try to make that right-hand turn, the other cars do not stop because it is only keep clear for half the road. Can an officer investigate and advise the progress of the petition?

Response

Julie Reid, Director Engineering Services

I think I vaguely remember that issue and have a feeling the matter was referred to VicRoads as the responsible authority, but I will follow that up and advise Council further.

Question

Cr Roz Blades AM

Can we check with the relevant agencies about whether the Federal Government has withdrawn funds for language services? I would like the matter confirmed as if it is the case it might be necessary for us to lobby the Federal Government.

This question was taken on notice.

Comment Cr Roz Blades AM

I want to thank all of the staff involved in the Sustainability Festival. I thought it was an outstanding effort on the Saturday, Councillors and the community to come along and see our staff there on the weekend. Staff from planning, staff from engineering, staff from other departments all there on a Saturday and it was well attended, which means the community appreciates all of that. I am sorry I was not able to stay for the awards, Councillor Long and I did draw the raffle and it was an excellent day and I would like to thank everyone.

On behalf of the Mayor, I attended the Liquor Accord with Inspector Mark Langhorn and Councillor Long at the Dandenong RSL. It was also well attended and a very important event in order to reduce alcohol harms in the City of Greater Dandenong with licensees signing up to the accord. So hopefully that will be a positive for the city. I would like to congratulate Councillor Memeti on his team and his team on employing someone to further the A-League presentation. I think it is an excellent effort and I hope that comes to fruition.

I would like to mention that at the International Women's Day function at Wellsprings where the guest speaker was Trish Kelty from AvoCare, she came out with some rather startling and some quite damning facts. That Australian's waste 3.3 million tonnes of food annually and that Australian households throw out the equivalent of one bag per week of groceries which you could be giving to the Benevolent Society I might add, enough to fill the MCG six times over. Supermarkets and retailers send 170,000 tonnes of food to landfill every year.

Question Cr Roz Blades AM

Can Council staff report back as to how we can address this and as to how we can speak to supermarkets, hot bread shops, all sorts of organisations that supply food, in order to redirect some of this waste back into a community who desperately needs it?

Cr Loi Truong left the Chamber at 8:12pm.

Response

Martin Fidler, Director Community Services

We will look into that and provide some feedback back to Councillors.

Question

Cr Roz Blades AM

Noble Park Football Club are having their 100th anniversary next year and I know in the City magazine there is a community page. Can we advertise on this community page asking people in the community if they have any photographs, any old editorials, anything at all that might help the club in a book that they are writing later this year?

Response

Mick Jaensch, Director Corporate Services

Yes.

Comment

Cr Roz Blades AM

I can put you in touch with the football club and you can work that out.

Question

Cr Roz Blades AM

Autumn Fest is coming up on 8 April 2018 and we have an excellent leaflet saying 'City of Celebration'. I wonder if these could be on display in the Council tent? We have a tent with Council information that we supply to the community, I think it would be a good idea to have these on display as well.

This question was taken on notice.

Cr Loi Truong returned to the Chamber at 8:15pm.

Comment Cr Tim Dark

I must say Councillor O'Reilly if there is and I know the cat curfew and I have always maintained is the best call so far of my Council term but tonight we are certainly putting the icing on the cake, well and truly. There is an old adage of what happens in the sauna, should stay in the sauna and that is something we should definitely adhere to. Over the last fortnight I have attended several events. I represented the Mayor at the opening of the She Exhibition at the Walker Street Art Gallery, Dandenong. Thanks to some changes that the Community Services Director had undertaken we are able to expand it to six fantastic students who were able to showcase their work. It was so good to see students participating in a bridge where they are going from what they learnt at University or TAFE and then put that into real life practicality of having their own art show. There was one who had drawn family portraits and they had drawn a portrait of one of their grandparents who unfortunately passed away when they were little. This portrait they used from stories that they had been told and from the family that were there they were very, very emotional. It was a really fantastic evening.

I attended the Holi Festival of the Shri Vishnu Temple in Carrum Downs, and also the A Triple Light Holi Festival here in the City of Great Dandenong at Tatterson Park, Keysborough. It was a very, very well attended event. It is growing every single year and they are always excited to get up on stage and I saw a fire hydrant full of coloured powder which was a lot of fun and a fantastic event. I was there with the Mayor, Councillor Chea, Councillor O'Reilly, and Members of Parliament.

I also attended the Greater Dandenong Chamber of Commerce Networking Night at the Quest Hotel. The Quest Hotel has undergone a lot of work to ensure they can attract a lot of a new customers. They have just been able to uncover that they can get a lot of international students who are learning how to fly and bring them out to Australia to be able to come out and be able to stay and learn and have somewhere to have accommodation while they are learning to fly. That is a very, very niche market and I congratulate them on that.

I also attended two Citizenship ceremonies at Springvale Town Hall, I know you were very, very excited Mr Mayor with the second one, where your daughter-in-law was receiving her citizenship and very excited to be receiving it from her father-in-law. I know there were lots of photos with the Honourable Mark Dreyfus, Federal Member for Isaacs, and Councillor Blades for the first session as well. It is always exciting and I have always loved Citizenship events. It is always the final target after so long and they have finally received Citizenship and they are excited to attend and they always get dressed up. I congratulate governance for having such a smooth run for the 300 people attending over two ceremonies.

I also attended the South Eastern Business Network Chamber of Commerce International Women's Day breakfast, this was held at Highways in the City of Greater Dandenong. I know there have been some Councillor who have said they want events in the City of Greater Dandenong and this was actually held very well attended event by Samantha Gash as the guest speaker. I was there with Councillor Long and as Councillor Long touched on, Samantha is an ultra-marathon runner, now everyone knows I do not run a kilometre, but low and behold she has competed in a grand slam, which is four desert marathons of 250 kilometres each. She ran through South Africa, raising money for World Vision of 1,968 kilometres and then she also did a 76-day run through India, covering 3,253 kilometres of running. She produced a video which was absolutely phenomenal of how much energy it took for that to happen and then some incidents that occurred along the way. It was a fantastic breakfast I know that everyone was very excited for it.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

Regarding the temporary island on Corrigan Road, Noble Park it is currently sitting in the middle of the road there was a keep left sign which has since been knocked off and you can tell by the substantial damage to it that a lot of vehicles have run into it or hit it. It is starting to disintegrate quickly so I would like to know when that will be removed?

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

I will take that question on notice.

Question

Cr Tim Dark

Regarding the Keysborough Park Primary School site which is an old site of the school that used to be there. I believe that has been sold and the site at the moment has got a chain-link fence. It looks quite ugly in terms of what the older Keysborough area should look like. Could we please have an update on if they plan on submitting any applications, who the purchaser is, if we know, and what their designs or plans are?

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

I will take that question on notice.

Question Cr Tim Dark

Regarding the master plans for Wachter and Parkfield Reserves in Paperbark Ward. I know that the closing date was last Friday and they are in the process of being compiled. I would like to know approximately how many people are believed to have made submissions and if there was anybody that missed, if they are still able to make submissions?

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

In terms of the number of submissions we are still working through that to confirm that so we will come back to you shortly. If people have missed out, the consultation period has officially finished, so I think in terms of comments that is probably the end of that.

Question Cr Tim Dark

There was recently a Federal Cabinet re-shuffle and the Federal Member for the Knox region, Alan Tudge has been appointed the Federal Minister for Multicultural Affairs and Citizenship. I think it would be worthwhile to invite him to come down one night or during lunch to have a meeting with Councillors over particularly the multicultural community. Given that this is Australia's most multicultural municipality if we could send a letter to him inviting him that would be great if we could?

Comment Cr Youhorn Chea, Mayor

Yes.

Question Cr Tim Dark

There has been quite a lot of media coverage over the last week particularly around a document produced by the Diversity Council of Australia which was targeted and then which was then adopted by Qantas. Which was an extremely politically correct document saying that they would prefer their staff do not refer to people as husband and wife, they do not refer to people as mum and dad, that they use the terms partner, spouse or parents. Not only that, but that they avoid the terms of guys, love, honey, darling and then avoid the terms of chairman and then anything else and minimising their interruptions. The City of Greater Dandenong from what I could see, there was a whole of State Local Government organisations that are members of this Diversity Council of Australia. Just want to confirm whether we could find out whether the City of Greater Dandenong is also a member of this organization?

Response

Martin Fidler, Director Community Services

I will take that question on notice.

Comment

Cr Youhorn Chea, Mayor

I would like to congratulate our staff who worked very hard on Sunday 4 March 2018 at the Dandenong Market and organised the Greater Dandenong Sustainably Festival. I believe that at the moment Dandenong Market is wonderful many people attended almost twice as many as before so it is great.

I also attended at the annual Holi, I am very scared that my Mayoral robe would be painted as there were many people covered in paint including Councillor Dark and Councillor O'Reilly. So that festival is becoming bigger and bigger and also not only the Indian community attending, but also the Australian community.

I also presided over a very large Citizenship ceremony with almost 300 candidates in attendance.

I will table the events I attended for the minutes of this meeting:

Tuesday, 13 February 2018

Springvale Chinese Culture & Arts Festival

Wednesday, 14 February 2018

Refugee Alternatives Conference 2018

Thursday, 15 February 2018

- Noble Park Railway Station opening of the first section of elevated rail to passengers
- Xuzhou Sister City Exhibition, Heritage Hill
- Vic Multicultural Commission Networking Event including the Launch of the Multicultural Champions Program for 2018

Friday, 16 February 2018

Open the Lions Summer Festival, Burden Park

Monday, 19 February 2018

Yarraman Oaks Primary School Assembly to present leadership badges

Tuesday, 20 February 2018

• Southern Migrant & Refugee Centre Silver Jubilee celebration

- Victoria Police Southern Metro Region Division 3 Award Ceremony
- Lunar New Year celebration hosted by the Teo Chew Chinese Association of Vic

Wednesday, 21 February 2018

• Public Forum: Gambling and our Community

Thursday, 22 February 2018

- Launch of the Community Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 and Profile of Health and Wellbeing in Greater Dandenong
- LGPro Annual Conference Dinner

Friday, 23 February 2018 & Saturday, 24 February 2018

• City of Greater Dandenong Councillors / Executive Leadership Retreat

Saturday, 24 February 2018

- Chinese New Year celebration hosted by the Haka Chinese Association of Vic
- "Belonging Together" project celebration hosted by the Al-Emaan Women's organisation

Sunday, 25 February 2018

• Chinese New Year Dinner hosted by the Cambodian Chinese Friendship Association of Vic

Monday, 26 February 2018

- Official Opening of Icon Cancer Centre at The Valley Private Hospital
- Open the 9th annual Take a Swing for Charity Golf Day

Mick Jaensch, Acting Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided as an attachment.

COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Response	Summary of Response
26/02/18 CQT13	Cr Matthew Kirwan	Maybe this is partly a question for Governance but I think we need some clarity in our plans so when we say 'reporting to Council' it usually means through a Council meeting. I have noticed a couple of times it can sometimes be via InfoSum. To get to the core matter here, in terms of the public being able to see the annual progress on the Children's Plan, what is the mechanism for that?	Director Community Services	8/03/18	An annual update will be made available, alongside the Children's Plan for the community to view on Council's website by 3 April.
26/02/18 CQT8	Cr Matthew Kirwan	I am receiving reports from residents of near misses near the intersection of Church Road and Westwood Boulevard due to speeding and poor lines of visibility. In particular I am receiving enquiries whether traffic calming measures can be introduced in the vicinity of this intersection. Can this please be looked at? I should have said Church Road and Stanley Road.	Director Engineering Services	13/03/18	The issues or concerns raised by the community are to do with drivers approaching the intersection at speeds which may be too fast for them to take necessary action, which appears to be more of a behavioural issue as opposed to an engineering matter. However, the report of near misses, indicates the environment does provide road users with sufficient visibility and space to avoid actual crashes. As with all elements of the road network, there is an expectation users will adhere to the road rules, which includes drivers approaching intersections at speeds which allows them to stop if necessary. If road users choose to act outside of the road rules, crashes are more likely to occur.
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irts from Councillors/Delegates & Councillors' Questions – Questions Taken on Notice

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Response	Summary of Response
					The intersection of Church Road and Stanley Road has been assessed by Councils Traffic Engineers as providing sufficient sight distance on all approaches for the local speed environment. That is, any motorist approaching this intersection at a safe speed for the local environment, will have sufficient sight distance to determine if they can proceed or need to give way.
					Signage and line marking was present on both approaches and observed to be in good condition and street lighting was present to provide sufficient lighting of the intersection during times of low light. Given the straight alignment of both roads, visibility of the intersection was assessed as being excellent on all approaches.
					Given these results no further engineering measures are proposed for this location at this time. However, the area is being monitored with regards to vehicle speeds and if necessary, requests will be submitted to the Victorian Police for targeted enforcement of speed in the area.

At the Ordinary meeting of Council on Monday, 24 March 2014, Council resolved to change the way Councillors and Public questions taken on notice are answered and recorded from 14 April 2014 meeting of Council onwards.

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

2/2

5 QUESTION TIME - PUBLIC

Question

Colin Riddiford, Dandenong North

Has the system to eradicate the birds from the city centre worked?

Response

Brett Jackson, Acting Director City Planning, Design & Amenity

Work does continue on the program to eradicate birds from the city centre, but to date we have seen a significant reduction in the number of the birds in the centre. We are considering that the operation has been successful.

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No urgent business was considered.

The meeting closed a	t 8	3.24	4PM	١.
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