

Local Government Mayoral Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum Minutes – Executive Meeting No. 18 – Wednesday 20 October 2021

1-3pm via Microsoft Teams

Chairperson: Mayor Angela Long (*Greater Dandenong*).

Attendees: Hayfa Kaassamani (*Casey*), Courtney Boi (*Casey*), Wambui Thirimu (*Brimbank*), Shabaz Fattah (*Darebin*), Cr Rhonda Garad (*Greater Dandenong*), Cr Lana Formoso (*Greater Dandenong*), Peter Johnstone (*Greater Dandenong*), Marek Krol (*Greater Dandenong*) – Minute Taker, Mayor Jonathon Marsden (*Hobsons Bay*), Amber Cassidy (*Hobsons Bay*), Kristen Cherry (*Hume*), Mayor Steve Staikos (*Kingston*), Mayor Brian Little (*Monash*), Colin Bostock (*Monash*), Mayor Annalivia Carli Hannan (*Moreland*), Deputy Mayor Mark Riley (*Moreland*), Emma Sampson (*Moreland*), & Cristina Del Frate (*Yarra*).

Guests: Cr Rose Iser (*Moonee Valley*), Meghan Hopper (*Moonee Valley*), Emma Patterson (*Moonee Valley*).

Apologies: Mayor Ranka Rasic (*Brimbank*), Calum Pattie (*Casey*), Mayor Lina Messina (*Darebin*), Cr Susan Rennie (*Darebin*), Pamela Kosij (*Monash*), Petr Svoboda (*Moreland*), Nalika Peiris (*Moreland*), Mayor Gabrielle de Vietri (*Yarra*).

Agenda Item	Discussion Points/Comments	Follow up Actions / Who
Welcome and Introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mayor Angela Long welcomed all representatives attending and acknowledged Traditional Owners. • Apologies noted. 	
Endorsement of Minutes of Previous Meeting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Previous minutes moved by Cr Rhonda Garad and seconded Collin Bostock. 	

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Review of Outstanding Action Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions carried over from previous meeting: • Develop list of marginal seats in Victoria. • Develop list of MPs with a disposition to supporting refugees and people seeking asylum. • Send out template for Executive Members to include list of MPs and Senators to lobby. • Develop map of existing detention centres amongst LGAs. 	Carried over actions to be followed up – Marek (CGD).
Ratification of Executive Member Casey Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Executive ratified Casey Council as the tenth member of the Executive. 	

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<p>Back Your Neighbour Phase 4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EOI Discussion and Feedback • Discussion of alternative options for Phase 4 if an early election is called • Confirmation of financial contributions and officer hours amongst Executive Members 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>EOI Discussion and Feedback:</u> Executive provided feedback and comments in relation to the BYN Phase 4 EOI for a media consultancy firm. All suggestions were integrated into the final version of the EOI. Final version of the BYN Phase 4 EOI attached to minutes. • <u>Alternative options for Phase 4 BYN:</u> If an early election is called for December 2021, there will be insufficient time to engage a media consultancy firm to manage BYN Phase 4 through an EOI process. Instead, a more immediate option would involve engaging Social Change Projects for a six-week period to manage the campaign, due to its previous experience in managing BYN in 2018. A further option would involve engaging a full-time officer to manage the six-week campaign via Comensura. The alternative options are in place only if an early election is called. • <u>Confirmation of financial contributions and officer hours</u> Following Executive Members have confirmed a \$5,000 contribution to Phase 4 BYN: Greater Dandenong, Brimbank, Darebin, Hobsons Bay, Hume, Monash, Moreland, Yarra. At time of meeting, confirmation from the following Councils was being awaited on: Casey. Taskforce Secretariate to follow up with Executive Members regarding in kind support e.g. officer hours. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide Taskforce Members with an outline of officer hours and commitments for the duration of the campaign – Marek (CGD).

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<p>Regional/Local Updates</p> <p>a) PSAARD Network</p> <p>b) South East Melbourne Material/Aid Humanitarian Response Collaboration</p>	<p>a) <u>PSAARD (People Seeking Asylum At Risk of Destitution) Network</u> Rob Koch (Monash Health) has been the convener of the PSAARD Network for several years and will be stepping down from this position. Possibility for an individual from another sector, such as ASRC, to take over as convener. Next meeting is on Friday 26 November, where the new convener will be appointed.</p> <p>b) <u>South East Melbourne Material/Aid Humanitarian Response Collaboration</u> Local Partnerships Initiative has been extended until April 2022. The Partnership has focused on COVID-19 messaging and emergency relief. The 6-month extension will continue work around vaccination messaging and material aid.</p>	
<p>Other business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Taskforce Members suggested investigating the policies of the two major parties in relation to people seeking asylum in the lead up to the Federal Election. • Cr Mark Riley suggested working with Refugee Voices (a community led organisation) to use the stories of refugees as part BYN campaign material. • Cr Jonathon Marsden acknowledged the work of the Taskforce Chair and Taskforce Members. • The following Notice of Motion was raised by Cr Steve Staikos: That Greater Dandenong Council will appoint the successful media consultancy firm at the close of the EOI. Moved by: Cr Steve Staikos Seconded by Cr Jonathon Marsden 	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TBC 	
<p>Close</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2:15PM 	