



Minutes

Council Meeting

Tuesday 27 January 2026, 7:00 pm

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

greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



COUNCIL OBLIGATIONS AND AGENDA REPORTS

Council has several obligations in relation to its Community Vision, Council Plan, Instruments of Legislation and Council policy. These are summarily considered in each Agenda report and further details are added as required. The obligations are as follows:

Community Vision 2040 (Community Vision | Greater Dandenong Council)

After consultation with the Greater Dandenong community on what kind of future they wanted for themselves and our city, the Greater Dandenong People's Panel developed a new Community Vision for 2040:

*The City of Greater Dandenong is a home to all.
It's a city where you can enjoy and embrace life through celebration and equal opportunity.
We harmonise the community by valuing multiculturalism and the individual.
Our community is healthy, vibrant, innovative and creative.
Our growing city is committed to environmental sustainability.
Welcome to our exciting and peaceful community.*

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Council Plan 2025-29 (Council Plan 2025-29 | Greater Dandenong Council)

The Council Plan describes the kind of future the Council is working for, and how Council will do this over four years. The Council Plan has the following key strategic objectives:

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

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.

The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020

Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. These are:

- a) Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
- b) priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
- c) the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
- d) the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
- e) innovation and continuous improvement are to be pursued;
- f) collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
- g) the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
- h) regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
- i) the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

Also, in giving effect to the overarching governance principles above, a Council must take into account the following supporting principles:

- a) the community engagement principles (section 56);
- b) the public transparency principles (section 58);
- c) the strategic planning principles (section 89);
- d) the financial management principles (section 101);
- e) the service performance principles (section 106).

Reports in this Agenda will identify when any of the above principles are relevant.



The Gender Equality Act 2020

The *Gender Equality Act 2020* came into operation on 31 March 2021 and requires councils to take positive action towards achieving workplace gender equality and to promote gender equality in their policies, programs and services. The objects of the Act are as follows:

- a) to promote, encourage and facilitate the achievement of gender equality and improvement in the status of women; and
- b) to support the identification and elimination of systemic causes of gender inequality in policy, programs and delivery of services in workplaces and communities; and
- c) to recognise that gender inequality may be compounded by other forms of disadvantage or discrimination that a person may experience on the basis of Aboriginality, age, disability, ethnicity, gender identity, race, religion, sexual orientation and other attributes; and
- d) to redress disadvantage, address stigma, stereotyping, prejudice and violence, and accommodate persons of different genders by way of structural change; and
- e) to enhance economic and social participation by persons of different genders; and
- f) to further promote the right to equality set out in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

Council is obligated to think about how its programs and services affect different people and different communities and how we can avoid reinforcing unintentional inequalities. Reports authors must consider the requirements of the *Gender Equality Act 2020* and Council's Diversity, Access and Equity Policy when asking Council to consider or review any issues which have a direct or significant impact on members of the Greater Dandenong community.

Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities

Council, Councillors and members of Council staff are a public authority under the *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* and, as such, are all responsible to act in accordance with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006* (the Charter). The Charter is founded on the following principles:

- human rights are essential in a democratic and inclusive society that respects the rule of law, human dignity, equality and freedom;
- human rights belong to all people without discrimination, and the diversity of the people of Victoria enhances our community;
- human rights come with responsibilities and must be exercised in a way that respects the human rights of others;
- human rights have a special importance for the Aboriginal people of Victoria, as descendants of Australia's first people, with their diverse spiritual, social, cultural and economic relationship with their traditional lands and waters.

Given this municipality's diversity and inclusiveness, when developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to ensure their report is consistent with the standards set by the Charter.



Consideration of Climate Change and Sustainability

One of the overarching governance principles of the *Local Government Act 2020* is that the economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted.

In January 2020, this Council joined a growing number of cities around Australia and declared a “Climate and Ecological Emergency” and committed this Council to emergency action on climate change. Council has developed a Climate Change Emergency Strategy and Action Plan 2020-30 to help the City of Greater Dandenong become a resilient, net zero carbon emission city with an active community prepared for the challenges of changing climate.

When developing or preparing a report for Council consideration, report authors are required to consider what impacts their issue has on Council's Declaration on a Climate and Ecological Emergency, Council's Climate Change Emergency Strategy and the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* in relation to the overarching principle on climate change and sustainability.

Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks

Report authors will consider how their report aligns with existing Council policies, strategies, frameworks or other documents, how they may affect the decision of this report or are relevant to this process.

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Supporting Documents

Attachments for reports included in these Minutes can be found within the corresponding Agenda document on Council's website <https://www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au/council-meetings>.

Your Councillors

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

[Cr Bob Milkovic](#)

[Deputy Mayor Phillip Danh](#)

[Cr Sean O'Reilly](#)

[Cr Isabella Do](#)

[Cr Loi Truong](#)

[Cr Lana Formoso](#)

[Cr Melinda Yim](#)

[Cr Rhonda Garad](#)

[Cr Alice Phuong Le](#)

[Cr Jim Memeti](#)

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We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters.



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Acknowledging
Bunurong Country

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1 MEETING OPENING

1.1 OPENING OF MEETING BY CHAIR

Cr Sophie Tan opened the Meeting at 7.00pm.

1.2 ATTENDANCE

Apologies

Cr Lana Formoso, Cr Alice Phuong Le, Cr Isabella Do (LoA).

Councillors Present

Cr Sophie Tan, Mayor (Chair)
Cr Phillip Danh, Deputy Mayor
Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Jim Memeti,
Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Loi Truong, Cr Melinda Yim.

Officers Present

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer; Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures; Marcus Forster, Acting Executive Director Community Strengthening; Yuri Guzman, Chief Customer & Information Officer; Michael Tonta, Manager Governance, Integrity, Legal & Risk; Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services; Kosta Tzim, Acting Chief Financial Officer.



1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

Those who wish to stand for the acknowledgement to country are welcome to do so.

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of this land, the Bunurong People, and pay respect to their Elders past and present.

We recognise and respect their continuing connections to climate, Culture, Country and waters and we also pay our respect and acknowledge all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and their Elders present here today, in acknowledging their journey.

Mayor Cr Sophie Tan read out the below speech to acknowledge the passing of Living Treasure, Helen Heath OAM:

“This evening, we pause to acknowledge the passing of Helen Heath, OAM — a remarkable woman who gave so much of herself to the City of Greater Dandenong and its people.

For more than 30 years, Helen worked tirelessly to bring people together across faiths, cultures and difference, always doing so with humility, patience and an unwavering sense of fairness.

As a cornerstone of our Interfaith Network since 2000 - serving as President, Executive Member, Secretary, and later as Development Officer and Executive Officer - Helen was a calm, strong and deeply empathetic voice for dialogue and mutual respect.

Her work extended nationally and internationally through the Parliament of the World's Religions, the Faith Communities Council of Victoria, and the Jewish Christian Muslim Association of Australia, reflecting her lifelong commitment to peace, understanding and inclusion.

Many will also fondly remember Helen using gentle humour and mindfulness to bring joy, hope and connection to others.

Helen's leadership, generosity and humility earned her widespread respect and many honours, including an Order of Australia and induction into the City of Greater Dandenong's Living Treasures program. But those who knew her understand that Helen's true legacy lives in the relationships she built, the doors she opened - and held open - for others, and the sense of belonging she helped create across our extended and diverse communities.

On behalf of Council, her fellow Living Treasures, and the people of Greater Dandenong, we extend our deepest sympathy to Colin and their children, and we thank them for sharing Helen with us.

Helen Heath will always remain a treasured part of Greater Dandenong's story, and she will be dearly missed.”



1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

All remained standing as Kamla Reddy, a member of the Hindu Faith, read the following:

"GAYATRI MANTRA

Om Bhur Bhuvaḥ Suvaha Tat-savitur Vareṇyaṃ Bhargo Devasya Dheemahi Dhiyo Yonaḥ

Prachodayāt We meditate on that most adored Supreme Lord,

the creator, whose effulgence (divine light)

illuminates all realms (physical, mental and spiritual).

May this divine light illumine our intellect.

Universal Hindu Prayer

By Swami Sivananda

O Adorable Lord of Mercy and Love

Salutations and prostrations unto

Thou art Omnipresent, Omnipotent and Omniscient

Thou art Sat-Child-Ananda

Thou art Existence, Knowledge and Bliss Absolute

Thou art the indweller of all beings.

Grant us an understanding heart, equal vision,

Balanced mind, faith, devotion and wisdom

Grant us inner spiritual strength

To resist temptation and control the mind.

Free us from egoism, lust, anger, greed, hatred and jealousy,

Fill our hearts with Divine Virtues.

Let us behold Thee in all these names and forms.

Let us serve thee in all these names and forms

Let us ever remember Thee. Let us ever sing Thy glories.

Let Thy name be ever on our lips.

Let us abide in Thee for ever and ever.

Loka Samastha Sukhino Bhavanthu

May all beings everywhere be happy and free.

And may the thoughts, words and actions of my own life

Contribute in some way to that happiness and to that freedom for all"



1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 8 December 2025

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 8 December 2025 be confirmed.

MINUTE No.281

Moved by: Cr Melinda Yim

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 8 December 2025 be confirmed.

CARRIED 8 / 0

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Cr Jim Memeti disclosed a material conflict of interest (s128) in Item 4.3.1 Re-appointment of Director - Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) as he is the Director of a company that has a stall at the Dandenong Market. Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber prior to discussion and voting on this item.



1.7 ADOPTION OF THE AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The Audit and Risk Committee held a meeting on 5 December 2025 and Minutes of this meeting, as summarised in the following table, are presented to Council for adoption.

Item	Topic
1.	The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed actions arising from previous meetings.
2.	The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed, discussed and noted the following reports with Council officers: • Audit & Risk Committee Self-Assessment • Chief Executive Officer's Report • Risk Management Update • Directorate Overview – Community Strengthening • Quarterly Financial and Performance Report - Q1 2025-26 • Policy Review Update • External Auditor Performance Update • Core Systems Renewal (Previously known as ERP) • Policies For Feedback • Artificial Intelligence (AI) Policy Update • Procurement Policy 2025-2029 • Procurement Exemptions • Occupational Health and Safety Dashboard and Matters
3.	The Audit and Risk Committee reviewed, discussed and noted the following reports with Council officers and the internal auditor: • HLB Mann Judd Internal Audit Status Report • Council Status of Internal Audit Actions • GDCC - Review of Councillor Expenses • GDCC - Review of Freedom of Information • Privacy and Data Governance Status Update • Integrity Body Reports

Officer Recommendation

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 5 December 2025 be adopted.

MINUTE No.282

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That the unconfirmed minutes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 5 December 2025 be adopted.

CARRIED 8 / 0



2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2.1.1 Planning Delegated Decisions Issued - November & December 2025

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures
Attachments: 1. Planning Delegated Decisions Issued - November & December 2025 [2.1.1.1 - 16 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

Executive Summary

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

MINUTE No.283

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That the listed items in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 8 / 0



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question

Caitlin Ryan, Keysborough

After being told by traffic management that Tyers Lane (between Perry Rd and Chapel Rd) is safe and no slowing traffic measures are needed, I am saddened to hear that a young child has been hit by a car crossing the road.

Can Councillors please address this issue? Can the community of Keysborough please be kept safe by the Council adding two pedestrian crossings on Tyers lane - one near Stanley Rd (to connect the footpath that is around the reserve) and the other near the fences off pond near Chi Ave?

Without these safety measures our children are vulnerable.

There is already congestion of traffic around Keysborough Gardens Primary School because parents don't feel they can allow their children to walk safely to school.

Adding these two pedestrian crossings will help to reduce traffic and make our community safer.

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Council officers have been pursuing a suite of road safety improvements around Keysborough Gardens Primary School.

Council applied for an additional school crossing supervisor on Homeleigh Road through the Victorian Government's Crossing Supervisor Scheme to improve safety on the pedestrian routes to Tyers Lane, however this application was unsuccessful.

Council has also applied for Victorian Government grant funding for road safety infrastructure improvements on Chapel Road as this location was identified as the highest risk around the school by an independent road safety assessment. We are awaiting the outcome of this grant application.

Prior to any further infrastructure improvements and reassessment of safety around the school, Council will install some additional signage on Tyers Lane to alert traffic to the increased likelihood of children present.

Any residents wishing to speak to our traffic engineers directly are encouraged to do so by contacting Council's Customer Service.

Question

Dominique, Dandenong

Request to create permit parking zones around the apartment and townhouse streets and along Cheltenham Road directly in front of the townhouse and apartment blocks. Non-residential cars park there all the time as it is near the station and residents are finding it difficult to park near their homes and also being fined in the process.

Dandenong is not a safe neighbourhood and the residents need priority in these car spots. I suggest each household gets one resident pass and one visitor pass.



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Council surveys have identified that almost all parking within the estate is associated with vehicles owned by residents of the estate. Due to resident parking demand being higher than on street parking capacity, residential permit schemes are not a viable method of reducing parking demand on street.

Council officers have consulted with residents in the estate on a proposal to introduce timed parking restrictions, however this was not supported by a majority of responding residents.

This advice has been provided directly to the resident.

Question

Kim, Dandenong

Dandenong has one of the largest homeless populations in Victoria and it is a known statistic that most of these people do not have a mobile. They have an email they can access through the local library and other services but no mobile or home number.

Dandenong Council is prohibiting these people to ask public questions at these meetings as a mobile number is a requirement to ask a public question.

Can Council please remove this discrimination towards the homeless by removing the requirement of a mobile number to ask a public question?

Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director strategy & Corporate Services

Council is committed to ensuring that everyone in our community can participate in Council meetings, including people who may not have stable housing or regular access to a mobile phone. The requirement to provide a contact number is not intended to exclude or disadvantage anyone.

It is simply in place so that Council can follow up if we need clarification or further information to ensure your question is accurately recorded and appropriately responded to.

This requirement is not considered discrimination, and it does not require that the number be a mobile phone. A landline or other contact number, such as a number for a support service or organisation that has agreed to receive messages on your behalf can also be provided.

Council remains committed to supporting equitable access for all members of the community and welcomes questions from everyone.



Question

Susan Smith, Dandenong

At the last Council meeting, councillor Bob Milkovic said that the Hub site land near the market was so valuable as a moneymaker and since the Hub design and keeping greenspace was too expensive at such a valuable site the only solution was to vote by scrapping the Hub plan that was carefully thought out by many over years and instead having high rises selling off residents property there.

Why did Councillors not consider selling off other Council owned properties lying unused to make money that could be put toward keeping the hub design that architects oversaw and residents chose to meet their needs with the greenspace where children could play?

This year Government will fund 3-year-old kinder so that part of the Hub will not be part of the cost.

To go backwards, waste the time and money after spending hundreds and thousands already into this ideal design why not vote to keep that design and come up with more creative ways to make money to put toward the Hub and greenspace play space Dandenong residents have already said they want?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

There is no plan or intention to scrap the Dandenong Community Hub project. The Hub remains a key community priority for Council. Council values all the input received through the co-design process over the years.

The Hub site is located within the Market Precinct and must be designed to fit within the endorsed project boundary and broader precinct planning framework. This includes ensuring the Hub integrates appropriately with surrounding uses and allows for future precinct development, while supporting the long-term success of both the Hub and the Market Precinct as a whole.

Council has not ruled out any appropriate funding options. Once a final Hub concept is supported through community consultation and formally endorsed by Council, all funding models and opportunities will be considered.

Council remains committed to delivering a high-quality community Hub that responds to community needs while remaining financially responsible and aligned with precinct planning requirements.

Question

Susan Smith, Dandenong

Why are we not continuing with the current concept design process given that a quality Hub with a large playground and neighbourhood feel is what Dandenong residents want? In particular, a large playground would be a draw card for the Hub and for the market.

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Council approved the project scope and boundary in 2021. The current concept includes open space outside that boundary, so Council must decide whether to expand the boundary or increase the budget.

The project is funded at \$30 million, while the concept design is estimated at \$80 million, as reported at the 8 December 2025 Council Meeting. This funding gap requires Council direction.

A Notice of Motion will be considered tonight to determine the next steps.



Question

Geraldine Gonsalvez, Dandenong

Why is the already approved design concept of the Dandenong Community Hub up for a proposed redesign? And why is the redesign proposal being sought to be made comparable to the existing established Keysborough Hub, when in fact this current design received Councils approval in 2021?

Is Council seeking to reject the co-design process and contribution of the co-design participants and their insights as key inputs into the ongoing architects work?

Why is the Greater Dandenong Council to delay and redesign the commencement and construction of the already approved Dandenong Community Hub over so many years given that the land has been made available.

The Community Hub concept plan and design previously approved and budgeted with funds committed as this project by Council resolve and may add community satisfaction of the existing project plan by all residents?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Throughout your questions, you have referred to an “approved design.” I would like to clarify that Council has not approved a design for this project.

In 2021, Council approved the project area and the key principles that needed to be included. Following that decision, a co-design process began with community groups to develop potential design options. This process is still underway, and no final design has been endorsed by Council.

We have referenced the Keysborough Community Hub because it was delivered for \$30 million, and the approved budget for the current project is also \$30 million. This provides a useful comparison point.

However, the current co-design option is estimated at approximately \$80 million, which is more than three times the allocated budget. This level of investment is not included in Council’s long-term financial plan, meaning we would need to secure around \$50 million in additional government funding to proceed.

In addition, due to the significantly larger footprint proposed through the co-design, the facility would cost approximately \$5 million per year to operate, which also requires careful consideration to ensure long-term financial sustainability.

For these reasons, Council has examined potential redesign options, as discussed at the meeting on 8 December 2025.

We also have a Notice of Motion before Council tonight for consideration. Once a decision has been made, we will communicate the outcome and outline the next steps for the project.



4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 PROCUREMENT

4.1.1 Tender Report - Corrigan Road Rehabilitation – VP484176

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures
Attachments:	CONFIDENTIAL - ATTACHMENT 1 Tender information confidential Contract No VP484176 for the Corrigan Road (1) [4.1.1.1 - 4 pages] This report contains an attachment which is deemed confidential under s 3(1)(a) of the <i>Local Government Act</i> 2020. It contains council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released.

Purpose

- This report outlines the tender process undertaken to select a suitably qualified and experienced contractor for the Corrigan Road (Harold Road to Alister Road) Rehabilitation Project.

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- AWARDS Contract VP484176 for the Corrigan Road (Harold Road to Alister Road) Noble Park, Rehabilitation Project to Prestige Paving Pty Ltd ABN: 84 140 970 912 for a fixed lump sum price of One million five hundred seventy-one thousand, six hundred seven dollars and sixty-five cent (\$1,571,647.65) including GST of \$157,164.765;**
- AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements and any associated documentation; and**
- DELEGATES the Chief Executive Officer to make expenditure variations up to and not exceeding the contract contingency amount as specified in the confidential attachment.**

Executive Summary

- This report recommends that Council awards Contract VP484176 to Prestige Paving Pty Ltd ABN: 84 140 970 912 for a fixed lump sum price of One million five hundred seventy-one thousand, six hundred seven dollars and sixty-five cent (\$1,571,647.65) including GST of \$157,164.76. This is a Lump Sum Contract and not subject to rise and fall.

Background

- This contract is for the reconstruction of Corrigan Road, between Harold Road and Alister Road, Noble Park.
- The existing road surface is in poor condition with rutting and crocodile cracking throughout the road segment. The requirement for road rehabilitation works was determined through Council's condition modelling assessment and subsequently confirmed by on-site inspections conducted by Council engineers.
- Once completed, the rehabilitation works will restore the pavement's structural integrity, extend the road's service life, and enhance safety and ride quality for all users.



Tender Process

6. A Restricted Quotation process was undertaken inviting suitably qualified contractors to quote for this project through Council's panel contact 2223-06 Road Resurfacing & Associated Works.
7. The tender process opened on Monday 27 October 2025 and closed 2pm Tuesday 18 November 2025.
8. The invited contractors were:

Contractors Name	ABN
Prestige Paving Pty Ltd	ABN: 84 140 970 912
R & C Asphalt Paving Pty Ltd	ABN: 96 006 864 179
R.A.B.S Paving Services Pty Ltd	ABN: 60 145 446 939
Fulton Hogan Industries Pty Ltd	ABN: 54 000 538 689
Downer EDI Works Pty Ltd	ABN: 66 008 709 608
Alex Fraser Asphalt Pty Ltd	ABN: 60 083 841 963

9. Tenderers were requested to provide lump sum pricing for each stage of works using Council's Bill of Quantities issued with the tender documents.
10. Contractors were also required to be registered with Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance) prior to the tender closing date at risk level one (1) rating.

Tender Evaluation

11. The evaluation panel consisted of Council's Coordinator Civil Projects, Project Engineer (Civil) and Project Engineer (Civil Projects).
12. The submissions were evaluated using Council's weighted attribute value selection method. The evaluation criteria included in the tender documents and allocated weightings used to evaluate the tender are as follows:

	Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
1.	Price/Rates	20%
2.	Relevant Experience	25%
3.	Past Performance	30%
4.	Project Plan, program and works methodology	25%
5.	OH&S Systems (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail
6.	Environmental System (Pass / Fail)	Pass / Fail



13. Submissions are assessed by the panel members based on the Evaluation Criteria 1 - 4 in the above table. Scores are allocated to each Evaluation Criteria on a scale from 0 (Not Acceptable) to 5 (Excellent), as outlined in the table below.

Score	Description
5	Excellent
4	Very Good
3	Good, Better than Average
2	Acceptable
1	Marginally Acceptable (Success Not Assured)
0	Not Acceptable

14. Evaluation Criteria 5 and 6 are given a Pass or Fail via the Rapid Global (Council's Workforce Management Software – Health and Safety Compliance).
15. All the invited contractors downloaded the documentation. At the close of the tender period submissions were received from four (4) contractors.
16. Each submission was assessed against all evaluation criteria, to ensure that the tenderers met the standards required for Council contractors. Having a failure in any criterion would automatically exclude tenderers from further consideration for this contract.
17. At the completion of the tender evaluation process described above, the Evaluation Panel agreed that the tender submission from Prestige Paving Pty Ltd ABN: 84 140 970 912 would provide the best value for money outcome to Council for these works.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

20. The resource requirements associated with this report are \$1,428,770.59 excluding GST compared to the annual budget allocation of \$6,147,840.00 excluding GST for this purpose.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

23. There was no requirement for community consultation.



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

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

- Principle 1: Safe and Peaceful Community

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

- Strategic Objective 3. A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places

Legislative and Policy Obligations

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

- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Social Procurement

27. Prestige Paving Pty Ltd (ABN: 84 140 970 912) provided good responses to all questions in Council's Social Procurement Questionnaire in the submission through Council's panel contact for the contract 2223-06 – Road Resurfacing and Associated works.

28. Prestige Paving Pty Ltd (ABN: 84 140 970 912) have policies and company statements covering Social Procurement, Equal Employment Opportunity, Indigenous, Modern Slavery, Prohibition of Child & Forced Labour, an Anti- Bullying Harassment and Local Content First.

29. Prestige Paving Pty Ltd (ABN: 84 140 970 912) engage with Social Enterprises and have demonstrated their diverse workforce, ranging from gender type to disadvantaged groups.

Local Industry

30. As per the tender submission for Contract No 2223-06 Road Resurfacing and Associated Works (Panel of Contractors) - Prestige Paving Pty Ltd (ABN: 84 140 970 912) operates from its office located in Bayswater North. Twelve (12) staff members reside within the Council boundary.

31. As per the tender submission for Contract No 2223-06 Road Resurfacing and Associated Works (Panel of Contractors) - Prestige Paving (ABN: 84 140 970 912) expects to allocate approximately 10% of the labour component and 30% of the materials component (Asphalt, Sealing products, and quarry materials) of the contract value to local suppliers within the Greater Dandenong area.



MINUTE No.284

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

- 1. AWARDS Contract VP484176 for the Corrigan Road (Harold Road to Alister Road) Noble Park, Rehabilitation Project to Prestige Paving Pty Ltd ABN: 84 140 970 912 for a fixed lump sum price of One million five hundred seventy-one thousand, six hundred seven dollars and sixty-five cent (\$1,571,647.65) including GST of \$157,164.765;**
- 2. AUTHORISES the Chief Executive Officer to execute the contract agreements and any associated documentation; and**
- 3. DELEGATES the Chief Executive Officer to make expenditure variations up to and not exceeding the contract contingency amount as specified in the confidential attachment.**

CARRIED 8 / 0

DRAFT



4.2 POLICY AND STRATEGY

4.2.1 Open Space Improvements Five Year Plan

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments:

1. Public Open Space Acquisition Improvements Policy Revised 2025 draft [4.2.1.1 - 15 pages]
2. Public Open Space Acquisition Improvements Policy Draft Table of Changes [4.2.1.2 - 1 page]
3. Council Meeting 260127 Five Year Open Space Plan Projects 2026-27 to 2030-31#1 [4.2.1.3 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **ADOPTS the Five-Year Open Space Plan: 2026/27-2030/31 and the use of the Open Space Improvement Reserve to fund the plan;**
2. **APPROVES the allocation of a baseline figure of \$3 million per annum from the Open Space Improvement Reserve to fund the nominated projects; and**
3. **ADOPTS the revised Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy to align with the Five-Year Open Space Plan.**

Executive Summary

1. Open space plays a critical role in improving the health and wellbeing of the Greater Dandenong community. Tied to the health and wellbeing benefits is the associated environmental impacts that open space plays in improving and meeting the needs of the community.
2. To support Council's emphasis on the community's health and wellbeing the *Greater Dandenong Open Space Strategy 2020-30* and the *Make Your Move Strategy 2020-30* seek to achieve a high quality, accessible and sustainable open space network supported by opportunities to participate in active recreation.
3. Council's 2025-26 Annual Budget and Asset Plan 2025-35 identify the construction of the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre (DWC) and Dandenong New Art, as well as several renewal initiatives, as its primary infrastructure projects over the coming years. As a result of prioritising these major undertakings, discretionary funding available for other initiatives, such as open space and active recreation projects will be significantly constrained over the next ten years, resulting in very few new open space and active recreation projects being able to be delivered.
4. Given the significant financial constraints on Council's budget to deliver open space and recreation projects, officers have identified a delivery pathway for new open space projects in existing reserves over the next five years.
5. A Five-Year Open Space Plan: 2026/27-2030/31 (the Plan) with a nominated baseline budget of \$3 million per financial year has been developed (Attachment 1). It is proposed that the Plan would be funded using the Open Space Improvements Reserve.



6. To facilitate the use of the Open Space Improvements Reserve, the *Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy* has been revised (Attachment 2).
7. The benefit of this Plan is that it will provide a clear direction to the community, councillors and officers on which capital improvement projects will be delivered over the next five years.
8. Significant consideration has been given to the allocation of projects each financial year for all eleven wards. Whilst there are some variations in the budgets, the objective is to provide an equitable approach to the selection of projects that respond to priorities across the municipality.
9. Officers are seeking Councillors' support for the Five-Year Open Space Plan and funding model and revised *Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy*.

Background

10. Open space provides many benefits for our residents and the environment. These include:
 - Encouraging social connection;
 - Helping people stay healthy by providing passive and active recreation opportunities, such as walking paths, playgrounds and community and sports facilities;
 - Free facilities for socio-economically challenged residents and families to enjoy; and
 - Open space also allows trees, plants and animals to survive and thrive, and assists in combating the impact of climate change.
11. The Council Plan 2025-29 places a strong emphasis on the importance of open space and recreation opportunities, with three of its strategic objectives being '*A socially connected, safe and healthy city*', '*A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places*' and '*A green city committed to a sustainable future*'.
12. The Council Plan 2025-29 states that improving and prioritising the health and wellbeing of the community is a key focus of Council. Of the five priority areas, three of these: active living, social connection and wellbeing, and climate change and health are specifically linked to the critical role that open space provides for the community.
13. The *Greater Dandenong Open Space Strategy 2020-30* vision is '*A high quality, accessible and sustainable open space network*'. The Strategy focuses on:
 - Increasing the *quantity* of publicly accessible open space; and
 - Improving the *amenity and quality* of existing open spaces
14. In addition, Council's community satisfaction surveys continually highlight open space as being one of the most valued and important parts of our community.
15. However, as per the Council Plan 2025-29, Council will continue to face challenges, financially, socially and environmentally which will continue to affect Council and the community over the coming years.
16. Council's 2025-26 Annual Budget and Asset Plan 2025-35 identify the construction of the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre (DWC) and Dandenong New Art, as well as several renewal initiatives, as its primary infrastructure projects over the coming years. As a result of prioritising these major undertakings, funding available for other initiatives, such as new open space and active recreation projects will be significantly constrained.



17. Table 1 below outlines the very limited predicted 'discretionary funding' for open space and recreation improvement projects in the Asset Plan 2025-35. The predicted funding amounts are likely to further decrease as additional renewal projects are identified as priorities.

Table 1 – Asset Plan 2025-35 - New Open Space and Recreation Projects Funding Predictions

26/27	27/28	28/29	29/30	30/31	31/32	32/33	33/34	34/35	35/36
\$730,300	\$196,240	\$185,350	\$326,865	\$0	\$99,220	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0

18. Historically, several million dollars has been provided in the annual budget for new open space and recreation improvement projects. However, as outlined above, there is extremely limited funding available over the next five to ten years to invest in open space improvement projects.
19. Council regularly receives communication from the community regarding the infrastructure located in our existing open space areas, however based on the projected funding above Council will not be able to meet the expectations of the community.
20. Given the significant financial constraints on Council's budget to deliver open space projects, officers have identified a delivery pathway to implement new open space projects in existing reserves over the next five years. This delivery pathway is via the use of the Open Space Reserves to fund the improvement works in our existing open space areas.
21. Over recent years, Council has placed a strong emphasis on using the Open Space Reserves to acquire new open space, with eleven new areas of open space purchased since 2020. Given the significant financial limitations available over the next ten years to improve existing open space areas, and to meet the community's expectations, officers are recommending that the Open Space Reserves are used in a more balanced manner to support both improvements to existing areas, while still retaining funds for the purchase of new open space when appropriate land is identified and secured.

Issues and Discussion

22. The Five-Year Open Space Plan has been developed to clearly set out the open space improvement projects that will be delivered in the next five years. It is intended to fund the Plan from the Open Space Reserve, however, to do so will require some amendments to the *Public Open Space Acquisition and Improvements Policy*. These matters are discussed below.

Five-Year Open Space Plan

23. To address the on-going uncertainty around the open space improvements projects that can be undertaken from year to year based on the available funding, officers have developed a Five-Year Open Space Plan to deliver improved open space for the community, which is proposed to be funded from the Open Space Reserves (Attachment 1).
24. The benefit of this Plan is that it will provide a clear direction to the community, councillors and officers on what open space capital improvement open space projects will be delivered in the next five years.



25. The Five-Year Open Space Plan has been developed using the following two (2) key considerations which are discussed further below:

- Criteria for the selection of the projects
- Typology of the proposed projects

Criteria for selection of projects

26. To ensure the Plan achieves an equitable outcome for the community across the municipality, a set of key criteria were developed as follows:

- Needs analysis and gaps in the provision of active recreation infrastructure;
- Priority open space reserves as per the Open Space Strategy;
- Priority playground projects as per the officer review of all playgrounds, the external auditors' condition ratings and open space gap analysis;
- Adopted Park Master Plans with priority projects identified in the Implementation Plans;
- Completing the outstanding dog off-leash projects;
- Concept Plans that have been completed, have been consulted on and are priority projects; and
- Ensuring that the selected projects are evenly distributed across the eleven wards.

Typology of the proposed projects

27. To support as many community members as possible, the Plan includes the following project typologies:

- General landscape improvements such as paths, park furniture and tree planting;
- Dog off-leash park improvements;
- Playground equipment; and
- Active Recreation which can include courts, goals, activity walls, fitness equipment, and tracks and trails.

28. While all criteria and typologies have been included in the development of the Plan, significant consideration has been given to the allocation of projects each financial year for all eleven wards. It is acknowledged that there are some variations in the budgets, however the objective is to provide an equitable approach to the selection of projects that respond to priorities across the municipality.

29. Other budget variations across wards are mostly due to the design and construction sequencing of projects across separate financial years.

30. There are also budget variations in some wards due to specific projects having funding that is separate to this Plan, such as a grant, and some wards have historically had greater investment than others.



31. Table 2 below summarises the proposed allocation of the Open Space Reserve and the Open Space Operational budget for the eleven (11) wards for the five years.

Table 2- Funding total for the eleven wards (2026-27–2030-31)

Council Ward	Open Space Reserve	Operational Fund
Cleeland	\$ 1,440,000.00	\$ 14,400.00
Dandenong	\$ 912,000.00	\$ -
Dandenong North	\$ 1,701,960.00	\$ 14,600.00
Keysborough	\$ 1,662,000.00	\$ 12,000.00
Keysborough South	\$ 1,456,000.00	\$ 6,000.00
Noble Park	\$ 1,062,000.00	\$ 9,400.00
Noble Park North	\$ 1,514,000.00	\$ 1,200.00
Springvale Central	\$ 1,272,000.00	\$ 26,000.00
Springvale North	\$ 1,406,000.00	\$ -
Springvale South	\$ 1,564,000.00	\$ 18,000.00
Yarraman	\$ 1,106,000.00	\$ 31,200.00
Grand Total	\$ 15,095,960.00	\$ 132,800.00

32. Refer to **Attachment 1** for the details of all proposed projects included in the Five-Year Open Space Plan. To allow Council to maximise the number of open space improvement projects undertaken, it is also proposed to utilise some existing operational funding to implement the Plan. This will primarily fund design work.

33. The implementation of the Plan will deliver the following community benefits:

- Direct community benefits by Council demonstrating a commitment to improving the park facilities and investing in new projects that encourage physical participation, play, health and wellbeing and social connections;
- Assist in addressing the geographical gaps in the provision of active recreation, such as a multi-court, rebound wall, fitness equipment or walking paths;
- Improvements to the health and well-being of socio-economically challenged community members who benefit from access to free recreational facilities;
- Assist in addressing barriers to participation in recreation by improving access to free facilities for the community to use;
- Assist in improving the quality of the open spaces and provision of recreation facilities in identified priority areas forecast to have population growth and increased density and development around the Activity Centres of Dandenong, Noble Park and Springvale;
- Assist in addressing the backlog of important open space and recreation improvement projects to benefit the health and wellbeing of the community;
- Addressing climate change by actively working to increase canopy cover to reduce impacts of the urban heat island effect; and
- Providing high quality open space to ensure the needs of the existing residents and future generations are met.

34. Council will undertake a Gender Impact Assessment for each relevant open space improvement project as set out in this Five-Year Open Space Plan when the design work for each project is undertaken.



Open Space Reserve

35. The *Subdivision Act 1988* requires Council to collect Open Space Contributions when land is subdivided. This contribution is required to be used to acquire land for the purposes of public open space or to improve land that is already set aside for public open space. These contributions must be placed in Council's Open Space Reserve. They cannot be used for any other purpose or included in Council's general revenue.
36. Council currently has two Open Space Reserve accounts, the Open Space Acquisitions Reserve and the Open Space Improvements Reserve. The two reserves accord with the adopted *Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy (September 2020)*.
- The Open Space Acquisition Reserve – is used for property purchases to create new open space. This reserve is required to have a balance of \$6,000,000 at the start of each financial year, which is topped up from the Open Space Improvements Reserve.
37. The Open Space Improvements Reserve – is used for improvements to existing open spaces. All open space contributions collected by Council are placed in this reserve. The balance varies as it is drawn down to fund the open space improvements projects and to replenish the Open Space Acquisition Reserve to \$6,000,000 (as above).
38. At the end of the 2024-25 financial year, the Open Space Acquisition Reserve had a balance of \$6,000,000 and the Open Space Improvement Reserve had a balance of \$6,725,638

Historical Use of the Open Space Reserve

39. Since the adoption of the Open Space Strategy in 2020, there has been a focus by Council on purchasing new areas of open space to address the physical gap in access to open space using the Open Space Acquisition Reserve.
40. As per Table 3 below, since 2019-20, Council has purchased eleven (11) sites, equating to:
- \$12.73 Million; and
 - 14,221sqm of new open space.

Table 3 – Open Space Purchases using the Open Space Acquisition Reserve (20-21 to 24-25)

Address	Land Area
89 Douglas Street, Noble Park	534sqm
77 Herbert Street, Dandenong	870sqm
2a Frank Street, Noble Park	908sqm
86-88 Clow Street, Dandenong	4,831sqm
218 Railway Parade, Noble Park	819sqm
6-8 Fifth Avenue, Dandenong	1,241sqm
90 Gove Street, Springvale	914sqm
114 Hanna Street, Noble Park	1,600sqm
61 Heyington Crescent, Noble Park Nth	2,940sqm
49 View Road, Springvale	966sqm
9A Blissington Street, Springvale	753sqm



41. With the focus on purchasing new sites in gap areas, there has been less use of the Open Space Improvement Reserve to invest in upgrading and providing new open space infrastructure in existing reserves for the community to benefit from.
42. As outlined in the Background section, Council's finances to fund new open space capital improvement projects over the next five to ten years are significantly constrained. As such, it is proposed to utilise the Open Space Reserves in a balanced manner, by setting aside funds for improvements, while also ensuring funds remain available to purchase new areas of open space. Without doing this, Council will not be able to fund any meaningful open space improvement projects such as playgrounds, multi-courts, walking paths and community gathering areas over the next ten years.

Funding the Five-Year Plan with the Open Space Reserve

43. To fund the Five-Year Open Space Plan, it is proposed to allocate a baseline figure of \$3 million per financial year from the Open Space Improvement Reserve.
44. Table 4 below provides a five-year projection of the Open Space Reserve to demonstrate that allocating \$3 million per year to fund the projects can be achieved.
45. The projection builds in a conservative budget of \$2 million per year for public open space contributions received as inflow improvements into the Open Space Reserve (Council has averaged contributions of \$2.8 million per year over the last 10 years).
46. As a result of this proposal, there would still be \$6 million available in the Open Space Acquisition Reserve during this five-year period for the purchase of new open space (noting this may not then be topped up at the end of each financial year). In addition, there will be approximately \$3.3 million unutilised in the Open Space Improvements Reserve that Council could utilise for either purchasing new open space or other improvement works.

Table 4 – Five Year Plan – Open Space Reserve Projection

Reserves	Amended Budget	Projections				
	2025-26 \$'000	2026-27 \$'000	2027-28 \$'000	2028-29 \$'000	2029-30 \$'000	2030-31 \$'000
Open space - planning, developments and improvements						
Opening balance	6,726	8,333	7,333	6,333	5,333	4,333
Transfer to reserve	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Transfer from reserve	(393)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)	(3,000)
Closing balance	8,333	7,333	6,333	5,333	4,333	3,333
Open space - acquisitions						
Opening balance	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000
Transfer to reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transfer from reserve	0	0	0	0	0	0
Closing balance	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000	6,000



Revised Public Open Space Acquisition and Improvements Policy

In 2020, Council adopted the *Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy* to implement and complete the Notice of Motion 69 - Open Space Acquisition Policy (September 2016) which required the Open Space Reserve to be split into two reserves, being the Open Space Acquisition Reserve and the Open Space Improvements Reserve.

47. As above, this Policy requires:

- The Open Space Acquisition Reserve to contain \$6 million at the start of each financial year (topped up from the Open Space Improvements Reserve); and
- All contributions received to be deposited in the Open Space Improvements Reserve. The balance of this reserve varies with funds used to either top up the Open Space Acquisition Reserve or to fund open space improvements.

48. The *Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy* is due for review.

49. To support the Five-Year Plan and funding model and *Open Space Strategy*, a revised policy has been prepared, along with a Table of Changes (Attachments 2 & 3). The revised policy sets out the:

- Criteria and process for acquiring land to be utilised for public open space;
- Criteria and process for improving the quality of existing areas of public open space; and
- Operation of the Open Space Reserves.

50. The key changes to the policy are:

- Alter the focus of the policy from a priority on purchasing new areas of open space, to a balance between purchasing new open space and improving existing open space; and
- Altering the use of the Open Space Reserves to the following:
 - Open Space Improvements Reserve – set aside \$3 million dollars at the start of each financial year, commencing in 2026/27, to implement the Five-Year Open Space Plan.
- 51. Open Space Acquisition Reserve – to contain \$6 million dollars at the start of the 2026/27 financial year for the purchase of new areas of open space over the five- year period of the Five-Year Open Space Plan (not to be topped up each year).
 - The balance of the Open Space Acquisition Reserve to be either retained for future years' projects or utilised for additional improvements to existing open space or for the purchase of new areas of open space, as determined on a case-by-case basis.

Summary

52. The development of the Five-Year Open Space Plan would provide clear direction for Council and the community on the open space projects to be undertaken over the next five years.

53. Funding this Plan through the Open Space Improvements Reserve is considered to be a logical and appropriate way in which to implement the Five-Year Open Space Plan.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

54. Resources required for this item can be absorbed within the current arrangement of the Open Space Planning team.



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

Operating Budget Implications

- 55. There are no financial implications for this report in the current financial year, as the Five-Year Plan is not intended to commence until 2026/27.
- 56. A headline figure of approximately \$15 million in expenditure is planned to deliver the Five-Year Open Space Plan. This equates to a baseline amount of \$3 million per financial year from 2026-27 to 2030-31. However, it is important to note that this amount is to be funded from the Open Space Improvements Reserve, and not Council's operating or capital budget programs.
- 57. The Plan outlines the sequential staging of the design and construction projects and associated cost estimates as a funding guide.

Asset Implications

- 58. This item increases the use of council assets. The ongoing maintenance costs have been assessed and included in operating and resource costings.

Legal/Risk Implications

- 59. Safety and Compliance: Continuing to defer playground renewals risks injury on aging assets and non-compliance with Australian Standards.
- 60. The historical underinvestment in playgrounds renewals and upgrades is likely to result in ongoing challenges in future years related to poor asset condition ratings and increased budgets to replace the number of aging assets.
- 61. The timeline for adopted master plans and their corresponding implementation plans will continue to be postponed. Engaging with the community also raises expectations for the timely delivery of projects, which cannot be consistently met given current limited funding for Open Space initiatives. This situation carries potential political implications.
- 62. The CGD Open Space Strategy provides key guidance for the formulation of Master Plans. As each Master Plan is created, corresponding implementation plans are developed to ensure effective management. Proceeding without adopted Master Plans may negatively impact the quality of open space and active recreation assets.
- 63. Advocacy efforts and grant funding opportunities for Open Space projects are typically dependent on supporting adopted master plans and community consultation as a prerequisite. Additionally, Community consultation greatly enhances the likelihood of project success. The five-year plan will assist in providing more certainty when advocating for grants.

Environmental Implications

- 64. The reduction in open space funding particularly to tree canopy, garden beds, and water sensitive urban design may have a flow on effect to increasing tree canopy coverage to mitigate the effects of climate change on both the community and environment.



Community Consultation

65. Community consultation was undertaken prior to the development of the Five-Year Open Space Plan for the Open Space Strategy and all the nominated district park master plan projects, both of which guided the development of the Plan. Community consultation on the draft designs for the local and neighbourhood projects scheduled for construction in 2026/27 will occur over quarters 3 and 4 of 2025/26. Further community consultation will occur as the sequence of design and construction projects occur across the five financial years.

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

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

- Sustainable environment.

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

- A socially connected, safe and healthy city;
- A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places; and
- A green city committed to a sustainable future.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

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

- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.285

Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council:

1. **ADOPTS the Five-Year Open Space Plan: 2026/27-2030/31 and the use of the Open Space Improvement Reserve to fund the plan;**
2. **APPROVES the allocation of a baseline figure of \$3 million per annum from the Open Space Improvement Reserve to fund the nominated projects; and**
3. **ADOPTS the revised Public Open Space Acquisition & Improvements Policy to align with the Five-Year Open Space Plan.**

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.2.2 Community Engagement Policy update

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services
Attachments:	1. DRAFT Community Engagement Policy review 2025 [4.2.2.1 - 13 pages] 2. Community Engagement Policy Review Table of Changes [4.2.2.2 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council ADOPTS the updated Community Engagement Policy, per Attachment 1.

Executive Summary

1. Council approved a new Community Engagement Policy in 2021, to meet the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020*. This policy is now due for renewal.
2. The Community Engagement Policy has been effective. It is based on the IAP2 Spectrum of Engagement. Modest updates are proposed to:
 - a. bring the policy into a format consistent with other council policies;
 - b. provide clarifying information about how engagement methods may be chosen; and
 - c. provide flexibility in setting the duration of engagement periods.
3. The most significant change is to remove the blanket requirement that all community consultations are open for a minimum of four (4) weeks. The proposed revised policy recommends four (4) week periods in most cases but also provides that 10 business days may be sufficient in some instances.
4. We have also included a section emphasising that this is a Child Friendly City, committed to creating meaningful opportunity for children and young people to have a say on decisions that impact them.

Background

5. *The Local Government Act 2020* requires councils to develop a Community Engagement Policy consistent with the principles provided for in s56. Council has had a Community Engagement Policy since 2013 but developed an updated policy in line with the requirements of the new Local Government Act back in 2021.
6. The policy is now due for review. Only modest updates are recommended, apart from changing the minimum consultation period in certain circumstances.

Key Issues and Discussion

7. The proposed revisions to the policy bring it in line with Council's current policy template.
8. The proposed updated policy is at Attachment 1. A table summarising the proposed changes is at Attachment 2.
9. The most significant proposed change is to the minimum period for a community consultation. In the current policy, it is a blanket, mandatory four-week period.



10. The proposed revised policy still recommends that a four-week consultation period is appropriate in most cases.
11. However, there are instances where this is not necessary or appropriate and could introduce unnecessary delays. For example, where a thorough four-week engagement has already been undertaken in an earlier phase of a project or policy development, and the next phase of engagement is mostly to check back in and show the community how the design or proposal has incorporated or responded to earlier feedback.
12. In larger, complex projects with high costs, multiple phases of at least four-week engagements would probably still be appropriate. The proposed update to the policy introduces some flexibility where currently there is none.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

15. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

16. Identify if there are any legal or risk implications.

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

18. Gender impacts of this policy have been considered. Generally, there tends to be a statistical over-representation of women among those who contribute to community consultations. However, we need to be mindful that consultation also considers education, literacy, cultural and linguistic backgrounds and other potential barriers, with a view to making participation as accessible as possible.
19. It will still be important that gender impact is considered in designing each project and consultation.



Community Consultation

Purpose	We sought community feedback on the modest proposed changes to the policy.
Engagement period	The proposed policy and the table of changes was published on Council's 'Your Say' page from 18 November to 15 December 2025.
Level of Influence:	A 'consult' level of influence was available.
Engagement Activities:	The consultation was promoted by social media posts, on Council's website and via an email to 159 people who have subscribed to be kept up to date on consultations. The policy was also circulated internally among Council staff.
Communication reach and engagement numbers:	There were 50 visits to the consultation page, with 42 unique visitors. Two of these accessed the page in Vietnamese, two in (traditional) Chinese and one in Dari. The documents were downloaded by 17 visitors (total 50 documents were downloaded). No external community members lodged feedback. Four pieces of internal staff feedback were received.
Summary of feedback:	Officer feedback suggested: 1. The inclusion of a statement about our commitment to being a Child Friendly City and committed to the Child Safe standards, to make this more explicit. This was incorporated. 2. That the proposed minimum two weeks of community consultation should be reframed as 10 business days. This was incorporated. This emphasizes the need to take public holidays into account and avoid shorter consultation periods over public holiday times. 3. Providing greater clarity on what can be influenced and what is genuinely outside the scope of what can be influenced, for example, due to financial or site limitations, or regulatory or compliance matters. This is already covered within the policy and can be addressed through good consultation design and communication. 4. Greater definition of 'important stakeholders' and targeting consultations, to ensure a range of representative voices are heard on projects that will impact various segments of the community. The policy already provides for this, but it is a good reminder that officers and Councillors must continuously strive to provide accessible consultations, and to weigh and evaluate feedback received, including whether we are hearing the 'hardly reached' voices.



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

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

- Principle 4: Embrace diversity and multiculturalism

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

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

Legislative and Policy Obligations

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

- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

MINUTE No.286

Moved by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council **ADOPTS** the updated Community Engagement Policy, per Attachment 1.

CARRIED 6 / 2

For - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Sophie Tan, Cr Loi Truong and Cr Melinda Yim.

Against - Cr Rhonda Garad and Cr Jim Memeti.



4.3 OTHER

4.3.1 Re-appointment of Director - Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL)

Cr Jim Memeti disclosed a material conflict of interest (s128) in this Item as he is the Director of a company that has a stall at the Dandenong Market. Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber prior to discussion and voting.

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures

Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council re-appoints Mr Chad Hermesen as a Non-Executive Director of Dandenong Market Pty Ltd for a further three (3) years commencing 24 March 2026 and concluding on 23 March 2029.

Executive Summary

1. This report recommends that Council re-appoint Mr Chad Hermesen as a Non-Executive Director of Dandenong Market Pty Ltd for a further three (3) year term commencing 24 March 2026.

Background

2. Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL) was established in September 2012 as a means of Council establishing a skills-based Board to drive the strategic direction and operations of the Dandenong Market. Since then, the Board has provided an extremely valuable service to Council and the Market has continued to evolve and develop including initiatives such as the introduction of Sunday trading, night markets and a full program of festivals and events.
3. The Market is an extremely valuable asset, not only to the City of Greater Dandenong, but also the region, and acts as an important community networking vehicle that brings together people from all different backgrounds in the one (1) location. It also remains a reliable source of fresh produce and goods at a very reasonable price.
4. DMPL consists of five (5) Directors which were appointed by Council under the terms of the DMPL Constitution (which requires Director appointments to be made by the Shareholder (Council)). Mr Chad Hermesen joined the Board under a formal resolution on 22 February 2021 and a re-appointment on 26 February 2024.

Key Issues and Discussion

5. It is proposed the Council reappoints Mr Chad Hermesen as Non-Executive Director of Dandenong Market Pty Ltd for a further three (3) years commencing 24 March 2026 which will take him up to eight (8) years of continuous service.
6. Under the Constitution that governs Dandenong Market Pty Ltd (DMPL), Clause 9.1 provides that the number of company directors shall be not less than two (2) nor more than five (5). It further provides that the Shareholder (Council) may, by resolution, appoint a person as a Director for a term up to three (3) years.



7. It also allows for a Director who has reached the end of the term of their appointment to be eligible for re-appointment, provided that their total continuous term of appointment as a director is not more than nine (9) years.
8. DMPL currently operates with five (5) Director positions. The purpose of this report is to recommend the reappointment of one Director for a further three (3) years under the rules of the DMPL Constitution.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

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

Asset Implications

11. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

12. Identify if there are any legal or risk implications.

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

14. A gender impact assessment is not required.

Community Consultation

15. As this is a reappointment the position of Director has only been discussed with the Chairperson of DMPL and the General Manager Dandenong Market.

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

16. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Safe and peaceful community.
 - Education, training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities.
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.



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

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

Legislative and Policy Obligations

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

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

Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber at 7.44pm.

MINUTE No.287

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council re-appoints Mr Chad Hermesen as a Non-Executive Director of Dandenong Market Pty Ltd for a further three (3) years commencing 24 March 2026 and concluding on 23 March 2029.

CARRIED 7 / 0

Cr Jim Memeti returned to the Chamber at 7.45pm.



4.3.2 Audit and Risk Committee – Appointment of External Committee Members

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Corporate Development
Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPOINTS Mr Ian Sargent for a three (3) year term as external independent member of Council's Audit and Risk Committee commencing 27 January 2025 until 27 January 2028; and**
2. **APPOINTS Ms Natalie MacDonald for a two and a half (2.5) year term as external independent member of Council's Audit and Risk Committee commencing 27 January 2025 until 27 June 2027.**

Executive Summary

1. Council's Audit and Risk Committee had previously comprised of three (3) independent external members (appointed by Council) and two (2) Councillor representatives.
2. Two (2) independent external vacancies on the Committee have arisen with the recent resignation of one member and the addition of a new position created with the recently adopted Charter in November 2025. This report recommends that Council appoints two (2) new external members to fill these vacancies; Ms Natalie MacDonald for a two and a half (2.5) year term and Mr Ian Sargent for a three (3) year term on the Audit and Risk Committee

Background

3. The Audit and Risk Committee and its Charter establishes a framework for the effective oversight of finance and risk management for Council. The Committee also plays an important role in Council delivering on the financial management principles in the *Local Government Act 2020*.
4. The Audit and Risk Committee Charter provides for membership to include:
 - One (1) independent Chair that shall be annually appointed by Council;
 - Three (3) independent Members; and
 - Two (2) Councillors.
5. Quorum for the Audit and Risk Committee Meetings requires at least three (3) members of the Committee be present comprising two (2) external members and one (1) Councillor.
6. Council has recently undertaken a comprehensive recruitment process to fill the current vacancies and now seeks approval for their appointment.



Key Issues and Discussion

7. Council's Audit and Risk Committee is comprised of three (4) external members and two (2) appointed Councillor representatives.
8. As per the Audit and Risk Committee charter, Independent members may be reappointed for two additional three-year terms subject to mutual agreement and satisfactory performance. As far as possible, terms of appointment will be staggered to ensure membership retirement dates ensure that only one member retires at a single point in time. The maximum continuous term of an external member shall be nine years.
9. Two (2) vacancies have arisen on the Committee following the resignation of Geoff Harry and the creation of an additional external member position.
10. Prior to commencing recruitment, an assessment of skills required by the Committee was undertaken to identify specific key areas of focus for recruitment. This identified that emphasis should be placed on Financial Management and Corporate Strategy, with complementary skills across fraud, procurement, compliance and corporate governance.
11. Following the interview process it is recommended that Mr Ian Sargent and Ms Natalie MacDonald be appointed to the (two) vacant external member positions.
12. In terms of the respective backgrounds of the two (2) recommended candidates, the following summary is provided.
13. Ms Natalie MacDonald expertise is in governance, risk management, and strategic oversight, making her highly suited for an Audit and Risk Committee role. Her career spans senior executive positions where she led large-scale service delivery, enterprise risk frameworks, and major reform programs across public sector and higher education environments. Ms MacDonald has served on a number of Commonwealth and State boards, not-for-profit, superannuation and research boards. Ms MacDonald is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and holds a Masters in both Business Administration and Commerce (Professional Accounting).
14. Mr Ian Sargent is an experienced finance professional having held the position of Chief Financial Officer at various major state government entities. In addition to finance, he has had executive accountability for risk, internal audit, strategy and planning and people and culture. Mr Sargent is a certified practicing accountant, currently an independent member of the IBAC and Victorian Ombudsman Audit and Risk Committees and holds a Bachelor of Business and Master of Applied Finance.
15. Council also formally recognises the contributions made by the retiring external member and immediate past Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, Geoff Harry.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

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

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

Operating Budget Implications

17. There is an additional expense that will be absorbed into the existing budget.

Asset Implications

18. This item does not affect any existing assets.



Legal/Risk Implications

19. There are no legal or risk implications with this report.

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

21. The two (2) vacant positions on the Audit and Risk Committee were advertised on Council's website, Australian Institute of Company Directors and Women on Boards websites.

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

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

- Not Applicable

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

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

Legislative and Policy Obligations

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

- The Overarching Governance Principles of the Local Government Act 2020.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

MINUTE No.288

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council:

1. **APPOINTS Mr Ian Sargent for a three (3) year term as external independent member of Council's Audit and Risk Committee commencing 27 January 2025 until 27 January 2028; and**
2. **APPOINTS Ms Natalie MacDonald for a three (3) year term as external independent member of Council's Audit and Risk Committee commencing 27 January 2025 until 27 January 2028.**

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.3.3 LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee Minutes

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services
Attachments: 1. LGBTIQ A+ Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes 11 November 2025 [4.3.3.1 - 6 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES the Draft Minutes of the meeting for the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

Executive Summary

1. At the Council meeting held 23 April 2018, Council resolved in part to *invite Advisory Committees and Reference Groups to submit meeting minutes for Council endorsement*. This resolution also allowed interested Councillors (and those that attend these Committees and Reference Groups) to speak to the meeting about items discussed at these meetings.
2. This report recommends that the Draft Minutes of the LGBTIQ+ meeting held on 11 November 2025 as provided in Attachment 1 to this report be noted by Council.

Background

3. Greater Dandenong Council is represented on a wide range of Committees, Reference Groups and Advisory Groups which frequently reflect the interests of individual Councillors in serving the broader community in their role. A full listing of these appointments is confirmed each November at Council's Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is available via Council's website.
4. The resolution of Council made on 23 April 2018 provides for Minutes of meetings held by Advisory Committees or Reference Groups to be submitted to Council for information purposes and for noting. To ensure they are provided to Council in a timely manner, Minutes of these Advisory Committees or Reference Groups are submitted to Council typically in a draft form (in that they have not yet been adopted by the relevant Committee). If significant material changes occur when they are adopted by the Advisory Committee or Reference Group, then those particular Minutes would then be resubmitted to Council for noting.
5. As such, Draft Minutes are provided as Attachment 1 to this report.
6. There are no financial implications associated with the development and submission of this report.



Links to Community Vision and Council Plan

7. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Safe and peaceful community.
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
 - Mind, body and spirit.
8. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:
 - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
 - A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
 - A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

9. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
 - The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

MINUTE No.289

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Melinda Yim

That Council NOTES the Draft Minutes of the meeting for the LGBTIQ+ Advisory Committee as provided in Attachment 1 to this report

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.3.4 Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee (MAPSAAC) Minutes

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services
Attachments: 1. Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee (MAPSAA C) Minutes 11 November 2025 [4.3.4.1 - 4 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES the Draft Minutes of the meeting(s) for the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee (MAPSAAC) as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

Executive Summary

1. At the Council meeting held 23 April 2018, Council resolved in part to *invite Advisory Committees and Reference Groups to submit meeting minutes for Council endorsement*. This resolution also allowed interested Councillors (and those that attend these Committees and Reference Groups) to speak to the meeting about items discussed at these meetings.
2. This report recommends that the Draft Minutes of the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee meeting held on 11 November 2025 as provided in Attachment 1 to this report be noted by Council.

Background

3. Greater Dandenong Council is represented on a wide range of Committees, Reference Groups and Advisory Groups which frequently reflect the interests of individual Councillors in serving the broader community in their role. A full listing of these appointments is confirmed each November at Council's Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is available via Council's website.
4. The resolution of Council made on 23 April 2018 provides for Minutes of meetings held by Advisory Committees or Reference Groups to be submitted to Council for information purposes and for noting. To ensure they are provided to Council in a timely manner, Minutes of these Advisory Committees or Reference Groups are submitted to Council typically in a draft form (in that they have not yet been adopted by the relevant Committee). If significant material changes occur when they are adopted by the Advisory Committee or Reference Group, then those particular Minutes would then be resubmitted to Council for noting.
5. As such, Draft Minutes are provided as Attachment 1 to this report.
6. There are no financial implications associated with the development and submission of this report.



Links to Community Vision and Council Plan

7. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Safe and peaceful community.
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
 - Mind, body and spirit.
8. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:
 - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
 - A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
 - A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

9. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
 - The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

MINUTE No.290

Moved by: Cr Melinda Yim

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That Council NOTES the Draft Minutes of the meeting(s) for the Multicultural and People Seeking Asylum Advisory Committee (MAPSAAC) as provided in Attachment 1 to this report.

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.3.5 Draft Minutes of Advisory Committee Meetings

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Community Strengthening
Attachments:	1. Draft Minutes of Arts Advisory Board Meeting - 20 November 2025 [4.3.5.1 - 3 pages] 2. Draft Minutes of Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting - 11 December 2025 [4.3.5.2 - 3 pages] 3. Draft Minutes of Disability Advisory Committee Meeting - 15 December 2025 [4.3.5.3 - 3 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES:

1. **Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Arts Advisory Board held on 20 November 2025 (per Attachment 1);**
2. **Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting held on 11 December 2025 (per Attachment 2); and**
3. **Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Disability Advisory Committee Meeting held on 15 December 2025 (per Attachment 3).**

Executive Summary

1. At the Council meeting held 23 April 2018, Council resolved in part to *invite Advisory Committees and Reference Groups to submit meeting minutes for Council endorsement*. This resolution also allowed interested Councillors (and those that attend these Committees and Reference Groups) to speak to the meeting about items discussed at these meetings.
2. This report recommends that the Draft Minutes of the following Advisory Committee meetings be noted by Council:
 - a. Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Arts Advisory Board held on 20 November 2025 (per Attachment 1);
 - b. Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting held on 11 December 2025 (per Attachment 2); and
 - c. Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Disability Advisory Committee Meeting held on 15 December 2025 (per Attachment 3).

Background

3. Greater Dandenong Council is represented on a wide range of Committees, Reference Groups and Advisory Groups which frequently reflect the interests of individual Councillors in serving the broader community in their role. A full listing of these appointments is confirmed each November at Council's Meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and is available via Council's website.



4. The resolution of Council made on 23 April 2018 provides for Minutes of meetings held by Advisory Committees or Reference Groups to be submitted to Council for information purposes and for noting. To ensure they are provided to Council in a timely manner, Minutes of these Advisory Committees or Reference Groups are submitted to Council typically in a draft form (in that they have not yet been adopted by the relevant Committee). If significant material changes occur when they are adopted by the Advisory Committee or Reference Group, then those particular Minutes would then be resubmitted to Council for noting.
5. As such, Draft Minutes are provided as attachments to this report.
6. There are no financial implications associated with the development and submission of this report.

Links to Community Vision and Council Plan

7. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Safe and peaceful community.
 - Embrace diversity and multiculturalism.
 - Mind, body and spirit.
 - Art and culture.
8. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:
 - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
 - A city that respects and celebrates diversity, our history and the arts.
 - A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

9. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. The applicable obligations considered and applied are:
 - The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
 - The *Gender Equality Act 2020*.
 - Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.



MINUTE No.291

Moved by: Cr Melinda Yim

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council NOTES:

- 1. Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Arts Advisory Board held on 20 November 2025
(per Attachment 1);**
- 2. Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Positive Ageing Advisory Committee Meeting held
on 11 December 2025 (per Attachment 2); and**
- 3. Draft Minutes of the meeting for the Disability Advisory Committee Meeting held on
15 December 2025 (per Attachment 3).**

CARRIED 8 / 0

DRAFT



4.3.6 Leave of Absence - Cr Alice Phuong Le

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council GRANTS a leave of absence to Cr Alice Phuong Le for the period 6 February 2026 to 6 March 2026 (inclusive) which includes the Council Meeting of 16 February 2026 and NOTES Cr Le's apology for this meeting.

Executive Summary

1. Councillor (Cr) Alice Phuong Le requests a leave of absence from 6 February 2026 to 6 March 2026. This leave of absence is inclusive of the scheduled Council Meeting of 16 February 2026.

Background

2. This report is submitted in accordance with Clause 4.5.2 of the Council's Governance Rules, which state that any Councillor may request a leave of absence in writing submitted to the Chief Executive Officer or Mayor and state the dates they require the leave and the reason for which it is sought.
3. Further, under section 35(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must grant any reasonable request for leave.
4. The leave of absence will include:
 - the scheduled Council Meeting of 16 February 2026 and the Pre-Council Meeting before this meeting;
 - the scheduled Councillor Briefing Sessions of 9 February, 23 February and 2 March 2026; and
 - any further Councillor Briefing Sessions or meetings organised during the requested period of absence.
5. This leave of absence is requested for personal reasons.

MINUTE No.292

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That Council GRANTS a leave of absence to Cr Alice Phuong Le for the period 6 February 2026 to 6 March 2026 (inclusive) which includes the Council Meeting of 16 February 2026 and NOTES Cr Le's apology for this meeting.

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.3.7 Leave of Absence - Cr Isabella Do

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council GRANTS a leave of absence to Cr Isabella Do for the period 27 January 2026 to 16 March 2026 (inclusive) which includes the Council Meetings of 27 January, 16 February and 16 March 2026.

Executive Summary

1. Councillor (Cr) Isabella Do requests a leave of absence from 27 January 2026 to 16 March 2026. This leave of absence is inclusive of the scheduled Council Meeting of 27 January, 16 February and 16 March 2026.

Background

2. This report is submitted in accordance with Clause 4.5.2 of the Council's Governance Rules, which state that any Councillor may request a leave of absence in writing submitted to the Chief Executive Officer or Mayor and state the dates they require the leave and the reason for which it is sought.
3. Further, under section 35(4) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must grant any reasonable request for leave.
4. The leave of absence will include:
 - the scheduled Council Meeting of 27 January, 16 February and 16 March 2026 and the Pre-Council Meeting before these meetings;
 - the scheduled Councillor Briefing Sessions of 9 February, 23 February and 2 March and 9 March 2026; and
 - any further Councillor Briefing Sessions or meetings organised during the requested period of absence.
5. This leave of absence is requested for personal reasons.

MINUTE No.293

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Rhonda Garad

That Council GRANTS a leave of absence to Cr Isabella Do for the period 27 January 2026 to 16 March 2026 (inclusive) which includes the Council Meetings of 27 January, 16 February and 16 March 2026.

CARRIED 8 / 0



4.3.8 List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Integrity, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors [4.3.8.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 1 December 2025 to 9 January 2026 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

Executive Summary

1. Consistent with Council resolutions regarding registered incoming correspondence addressed to the Mayor and Councillors, Attachment 1 to this report provides a list of this correspondence for the period 1 December 2025 to 9 January 2026.

MINUTE No.294

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Loi Truong

That the listed items for the period 1 December 2025 to 9 January 2026 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 8 / 0



5 NOTICES OF MOTION

5.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 16 - CHANGE COUNCIL MEETING DAYS

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Integrity, Legal & Risk

Author: Cr Alice Phuong Le

Preamble

This proposal is made in the interests of good governance, procedural fairness, transparency, and improved decision-making quality.

Currently, the Monday meeting schedule places Councillors at a structural disadvantage due to the following compelling reasons:

1. Excessive Weekend Workload:
2. Councillors are required to attend a high volume of community events, emergency responses, stakeholder meetings, resident engagements and ceremonial duties over weekends. These are not optional duties, but core responsibilities of the role;
3. Operational and Administrative Impracticality
4. Council agendas and supporting reports are often complex, highly technical, and lengthy. The limited time between the release of agenda papers and the Monday meeting is insufficient for proper analysis, consultation and due diligence;
5. Risk to Governance Standards
6. Insufficient preparation time increases the risk of:
 - Reduced scrutiny of officer reports
 - Lower quality of debate
 - Potential governance errors
 - Perceived lack of transparency or accountability;
7. Impacts on Decision Quality
8. Major planning, financial, infrastructure and community welfare decisions require focused time for research, reflection and cross-checking — which is realistically not achievable on an already overloaded Monday;
9. Work-Life Sustainability and Performance
10. The current timetable contributes to unsustainable workloads, fatigue and reduced performance capacity. Effective governance requires Councillors to be well-rested, focused and fully prepared;
11. Alignment with Professional Governance Best Practice
12. Many Victorian councils schedule meetings mid-week to allow for:
 - Proper review of documents;
 - Stakeholder consultation;
 - More measured and informed decision-making; and



13. Improved Community Outcomes

14. Moving the meeting to Tuesday will improve the quality of outcomes for residents by ensuring decisions are based on thorough review, stronger debate, and higher levels of preparedness.

Motion

That Council RESOLVES to amend the Council meeting schedule by changing the regular weekly Council meeting day from Monday to Tuesday, effective as soon as practicable.

Moved by:

MOTION LAPSED FOR WANT OF A MOVER AND SECONDER

DRAFT



5.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO. 17 - RESCISSION MOTION IN RELATION TO DANDENONG COMMUNITY HUB

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures
Author: Cr Rhonda Garad

Rescission Motion

That Council rescinds its decision carried at the Council Meeting of 8 December 2025 in relation to Dandenong Community Hub – Concept Design (Minute No. 275):

“That Council:

1. **APPROVES** the Dandenong Community Hub concept be redesigned to be comparable in size and budget to the Keysborough Hub, while maintaining all the core requirements set out in the 2021 Council resolution;
2. **APPROVES** the completion of the co-design process, acknowledges the valuable contribution of the co-design participants and support the plan to use these insights as key inputs into the ongoing architect’s work;
3. **APPROVES** to implement an accelerated program to better position the project for attracting the necessary state /federal government funding advocacy; and
4. **DIRECTS** the officers to explore options for public private partnership opportunities including air rights above this project area.”

Pursuant to clause 4.8.20 of the Governance Rules, the alternate motion detailed below will be considered by Council only if the rescission motion is carried.

Alternate Motion

That Council:

1. Does not proceed with adoption or rejection of the current Concept Design at this time; and instead
2. **REQUESTS** officers to prepare a brief, evidence-based report (cost below \$5,000, using existing internal resources where practicable) prior to any further Council decision, addressing the following matters:

(a) Updated Children’s Services Needs Analysis – Central Dandenong

That the report includes:



- **current and projected demand for early years and children's services in Central Dandenong, taking into account:**
 - **recent State Government service changes, including funded three-year-old kindergarten rollout and changes in utilisation of long day care versus integrated services;**
 - **demographic projections arising from major residential developments currently approved or under construction, including:**
 - **Capital Alliance housing developments (600+ dwellings);**
 - **the Dandenong Market precinct redevelopment and associated residential uplift;**
 - **the ongoing replacement of mid-century single dwellings with multi-unit developments;**
- **an assessment of service gaps, waitlists, and future timing of need (short, medium and long term); and**
- **confirmation that the existing Council building housing children's services has reached end-of-life, including risks associated with deferral.**

(b) Funding Pathways for the Children's Services Component

That the report identifies realistic external funding opportunities, including but not limited to:

- **Victorian Government early years infrastructure funding streams;**
- **timing alignment between staged delivery and funding rounds; and**
- **any requirements that would influence design, staging, or co-location.**

(c) Refined Costing of the Current Concept Design

That Council be provided with more detailed cost estimates, including:

- **separation of costs by major components (community hub, children's services, and open space/playground);**
- **identification of assumptions underlying previous ballpark figures; and**
- **a clear explanation of key cost drivers and sensitivities.**

(d) Staging Options

That officers provide at least three viable staging options, including:

- **Stage 1 – Community Hub core facilities;**
- **Stage 2 – Children's Services component (subject to demand confirmation and funding);**
- **Stage 3 – Playground and associated public realm works; and**

Outline for each option indicative cost ranges, operational implications, and flexibility to respond to changing demand over time.

- 3. NOTES that this information is required to ensure compliance with sections 9(2)(b), (d), (f), (g), (h) and (i) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, and Council's obligations in relation to financial management, community engagement, and responsible asset planning.**



MINUTE No.295

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That Council rescinds its decision carried at the Council Meeting of 8 December 2025 in relation to Dandenong Community Hub – Concept Design (Minute No. 275):

“That Council:

- 1. APPROVES the Dandenong Community Hub concept be redesigned to be comparable in size and budget to the Keysborough Hub, while maintaining all the core requirements set out in the 2021 Council resolution;**
- 2. APPROVES the completion of the co-design process, acknowledges the valuable contribution of the co-design participants and support the plan to use these insights as key inputs into the ongoing architect’s work;**
- 3. APPROVES to implement an accelerated program to better position the project for attracting the necessary state /federal government funding advocacy; and**
- 4. DIRECTS the officers to explore options for public private partnership opportunities including air rights above this project area.”**

LOST 4 / 4

THE MAYOR EXERCISED HER CASTING VOTE AGAINST THE MOTION

For - Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Jim Memeti, Cr Loi Truong and Cr Melinda Yim.

Against - Cr Phillip Danh, Cr Bob Milkovic, Cr Sean O'Reilly and Cr Sophie Tan.



6 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Cr Rhonda Garad left the Chamber at 8.13pm.

Comment

Cr Melinda Yim

Since the last meeting I attended the following events:

On Saturday 24 January 2026, I participated in the Greater Dandenong Fun Run, Walk and Roll event with Cr Rhonda Garad.

On Monday 26 January 2026, I attended a dinner hosted by the Federation of Cambodian, Lao and Vietnamese Associations, together with Cr Sean O'Reilly, Cr Loi Truong, Cr Alice Phuong Le, and Members of Parliament Meng Heang Tak and Eden Foster. It was a wonderful celebration.

Cr Jim Memeti left the Chamber at 8.14pm.

Comment

Deputy Mayor Cr Phillip Danh

As this is the first Council meeting for 2026, I want to reflect on the summer period and outline Council's priorities for the year ahead.

This summer was extremely challenging for many in our community, particularly for people of faith. We witnessed distressing incidents, including an alleged attack targeting a local Imam, and the tragic event in Bondi in December. Our Jewish community continues to carry trauma and today is also International Holocaust Memorial Day. I share a story told to me by a close friend of Jewish ancestry: after the Bondi attack, his father recalled how their grandparents fled the Holocaust and viewed Australia as the "Golden Land"—a place of hope, dignity, and safety.

While recent events have shaken confidence, we have also seen extraordinary acts of courage and unity. A Muslim Australian risked his life to stop the attacker. Lifeguards ran into danger to rescue others. Communities of all backgrounds came together in solidarity. I am proud of our Interfaith Network and the many organisations within Greater Dandenong that stand against hate and division. As the Network recently stated, "Only through friendship and unconditional loving kindness can hatred be overcome." Hate has no place in Australia.

Australia Day also prompted reflection on our strengths: democracy, multiculturalism and the generosity of our people. It was inspiring to see the pride of our award recipients and new citizens at yesterday's ceremony.

Looking forward, 2026 will be significant. Council must continue delivering essential services well—collecting rubbish on time, maintaining clean streets, fixing local roads and filling potholes. When we deliver consistently, residents have one less worry, especially during a cost-of-living crisis. These basics are essential and must remain a shared priority of all Councillors.



This year offers a major opportunity to advocate to the Victorian Government in the lead-up to the State election. Our community needs safer local roads, upgraded community facilities, stronger support for young people and those experiencing homelessness, and long-term planning for population growth. We must ensure that the interests of Greater Dandenong residents are strongly represented.

Comment

Cr Loi Truong

Since the last meeting I attended the following events:

On Sunday 25 January 2026, I attended the Springvale Lunar New Year Festival opening.

On Monday 26 January 2026, I attended the Australia Day Awards and citizenship ceremony, later that evening I attended an Australia Day celebration hosted by the Federal Chinese Festival Association.

Comment

Cr Bob Milkovic

Over the past six months I have observed a significant improvement in the number of reports about potholes, rubbish and other maintenance issues. I thank Council officers for their efforts. While occasional potholes still appear, especially during wet weather, overall service delivery has been strong and residents have noticed the improvement

Cr Rhonda Garad and Cr Jim Memeti returned to the Chamber at 8.22pm.

Comment

Mayor Cr Sophie Tan

Since the last Council meeting I have attended the following events:

On Tuesday 9 December 2025 I attended Cambodian Association of Victoria Senior Citizens end of year celebration, later that day I attended City of Greater Dandenong Budget Community Consultation - Community Feedback Session.

On Wednesday 10 December 2025, I attended the Mayoral and Councillor Taskforce Supporting People Seeking Asylum meeting and later that evening I attended the Citizenship Ceremony.

On Saturday 13 December 2025, I attended Christmas Carols at The Castle by Sri Lankan German Technical Training Institute Old Boys' Association of Australia (SLGTTIOBA).

On Wednesday 17 December 2025, I attended Springvale Neighbourhood House Annual Award Ceremony.

On Thursday 18 December 2025, I attended Springvale Shopping Centre Management Office end-of-year celebration.

On Friday 19 December 2025, I attended Cornerstone Community Christmas Luncheon.

On Sunday 28 December 2025, I attended Nuer Community Cultural Day celebration.

On Wednesday 31 December 2025, I attended Greater Dandenong Council's New Year's Eve celebration in Dandenong Park, this was highly successful, with more than 35,000 attendees, which was a large increase compared to last year. The only concerns raised by residents related to traffic congestion. Improved traffic management should be considered for next year's event.

On Saturday 3 January 2026, I attended Tribute to the Defenders of Cambodia hosted by CAV.



On Tuesday 6 January 2026, I attended a meeting with the Minister for Environment, Hon Steve Dimopoulos, to discuss dumped rubbish.

On Saturday 10 January 2026, I attended Theophany Eve celebration hosted by the Association of Ukrainians in Victoria.

On Sunday 11 January 2026, I attended 100th birthday celebration for Bill Warner, City of Greater Dandenong Living Treasure and former City of Springvale Mayor.

On Sunday 18 January 2026, I attended Tamil Pongal Festival hosted by the Vic Tamil Cultural Association.

On Thursday 22 January 2026, I attended Ramadan Night Market – VIP Stakeholder Dinner hosted by the Bright Community Organisation.

On Friday 23 January 2026, I met and received blessings from visiting Venerable Monks from Cambodia.

On Saturday 24 January 2026, I attended Table Tennis Australia National Invitational.

On Sunday 25 January 2026, I attended an Australia Day celebration hosted by the Cambodian Association of Victoria.

On Monday 26 January 2026, I attended 2026 Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony, I congratulate all award nominees and recipients and warmly welcome our 100 newest citizens.

Cr Jim Memeti

During the holiday period, a resident raised concerns with me regarding Kirkham Road, Dandenong South. Kirkham Road is a long stretch intersecting with Hammond Road, one of the major roads in the area.

From Hammond Road to Kashava Grove, there are four speed humps. However, in the opposite direction, from Hammond Road to Dandenong–Frankston Road, there are no speed humps despite the presence of a primary school along that section. This raises significant safety concerns.

The roundabout in this area has been described as one of the worst in Greater Dandenong. Trucks often mount the nature strip and occasionally the footpath, increasing the risk to pedestrians. During an inspection earlier today, I also observed a traffic sign that was upside down and requires urgent repair. I request that an officer attend the location tomorrow to correct it.

I would like Council to undertake community consultation with residents and the school regarding the installation of one or two speed cushions between Kirkham Road and Dandenong–Frankston Road. Children cross this route daily, assisted by a school crossing supervisor, and traffic volumes have increased since vehicles were diverted from Webster Street to Kirkham and Hammond Roads. School resumes tomorrow and this matter has become urgent.

I understand this request has come with little notice, but it is important that Council reviews the safety issues in this area.

Cr Bob Milkovich left the Chamber at 8.24pm.



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

We met with the Level Crossing Removal Project authority on site today and are aware of the issues raised. We will work with our team and the Level Crossing authority to investigate improvements.

Cr Loi Truong left the Chamber at 8.26pm.

Comment

Cr Jim Memeti

I would also like to acknowledge the success of the recent fireworks event at Dandenong Park. When this building opened in 2014, Harmony Square events attracted about 3,000 people. Attendance has now grown to more than 30,000. With such strong community participation, we need to consider traffic impacts and future event capacity, particularly if numbers reach 40,000–50,000.

As many attendees appear to come from neighbouring municipalities such as the City of Casey, there may be opportunities for future partnership discussions.

Finally, I wish all students returning to public schools tomorrow the very best for the 2026 school year, I am sure many parents will be glad to see classes resume

Cr Bob Milkovich returned to the Chamber at 8.27pm.

Comment

Cr Rhonda Garad

Happy Australia Day for yesterday. I also acknowledge that the day is considered Invasion Day by many in our community and that it carries deep trauma and historical significance.

On Saturday 24 January 2026, Cr Yim and I attended the Parkrun partnership event, which saw an excellent turnout from participants of all ages. I commend the volunteers who devote significant time to running this weekly activity.

That evening, Mayor Tan and I attended the international table tennis tournament at the Oasis Centre, featuring elite male and female athletes competing over three days, with the Chinese Ambassador and other dignitaries in attendance.

Cr Loi Truong returned to the Chamber at 8.29pm.



Question**Cr Rhonda Garad**

Following discussions with the Table Tennis Club, I remain concerned that they have not received clarity from Council regarding future use of the facility once the pool is decommissioned. They advise that they have no certainty about ongoing access, alterations, or arrangements once the site changes. As the pool is due to close within a year, the club urgently requires confirmation about its future. I request that Council outline what decisions are still required to resolve this matter.

Response**Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer**

Council is committed to supporting the Table Tennis Club. Significant work has been undertaken, and I will arrange for Ms Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening, to meet with the club to ensure they are fully informed of current progress.

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer tabled a listing of responses to questions taken on notice/requiring further action at the previous Council meeting. A copy of the responses is provided below.

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COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
08/12/25 CQT1	Cr Rhonda Garad	Fireworks Policy I would appreciate a briefing report on Council's fireworks policy.	Executive Director City Futures	16/12/2025	Initial response 08/12/2025: Officers will prepare a briefing note for Councillors on fireworks regulations and policy. Further response 16/12/2025: No further action required. COMPLETED
08/12/25 CQT2	Cr Rhonda Garad	Dandenong Table Tennis Centre The residents who manage the table tennis centre have not been given any time frame or clarity of what is happening with the building and if they will have continuity of their tenure.	Executive Director Community Strengthening	06/01/2026	Initial response provided by Chief Executive Officer, Jacqui Weatherill 08/12/2025: I will provide a briefing note to all Councillors outlining the work undertaken by our recreation team. Further response 06/01/2026: Officers from the Sport and Recreation Team met with the leadership of Dandenong Table Tennis Association and Table Tennis Australia, just prior to Christmas, to discuss the future of their facility at the Oasis Leisure Centre. While officers cannot formally commit to the future of the existing table tennis facility, due to site and budget constraints, it was made clear by officers that we are actively investigating options to retain the future of this facility. A commitment was made to the club at this time, that there will be an active engagement process with the club once officers have a clear understanding of the technical and design requirements to retain the building.
					Officers intend to continue to build the relationship with the Table Tennis Club and ensure consistent engagement on the future of their facilities. COMPLETED
08/12/25 CQT3	Cr Sean O'Reilly	Letter from Mayor Can we write a letter of congratulations to Springvale Rise Primary School as being nationally recognized for being among the most improved schools in NAPLAN results.	Mayors EA	19/01/2026	Initial response 08/12/2025: Yes, we can <u>organise</u> this. Further response 19/01/2026: The letter was sent on the 22 December 2025. COMPLETED
08/12/25 CQT4	Cr Sophie Tan	Ownership of old CFA building Dandenong This building has been vacant for 12 months and has now attracted squatters, can this be investigated and owners contacted?	Executive Director City Futures	18/12/2025	Initial response 08/12/2025: We will investigate the vacant building. Further response 18/12/2025: Council is aware of the site and has advised Victoria Police and the owner on multiple occasions regarding ongoing issues associated with squatters. The site has been assessed as unsafe and presents a high risk for officers to enter due to antisocial behaviour. However, Council has issued Building Notice requiring the building to be brought into compliance to the owner. COMPLETED

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

2 / 2



7 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was considered.

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8 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

8.1 CONFIDENTIAL ITEM - PERSONNEL MATTER

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services

Attachments:

ATTACHMENTS 1 & 2 CONFIDENTIAL

ATTACHMENT 3 CONFIDENTIAL AND PRIVILEGED

These attachments are deemed confidential under s 3(1)(f) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. It contains personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

Officer Recommendation

That, under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) Council:

1. **RESOLVES** to hear this item in camera on the grounds that the information contained within the report is deemed confidential under section 3(1)(f) of the Act; and
2. **NOTES** that the information is deemed confidential because it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

Executive Summary

1. Under section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act), a Council Meeting must remain open to the public unless Council considers it necessary to close the meeting because a circumstance specified in section 66(2) applies.
2. If a Council determines that a meeting is to be closed to the public to consider confidential information, Council must record in the Minutes of the meeting the grounds for determining to close the meeting to the public by reference to grounds specified in the definition of confidential information in section 3(1) of the Act and an explanation of why the specified grounds apply.
3. The contents of this report are considered confidential on the grounds that it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

MINUTE No.296

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That, under section 66(2) of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) Council:

1. **RESOLVES** to hear this item in camera on the grounds that the information contained within the report is deemed confidential under section 3(1)(f) of the Act; and
2. **NOTES** that the information is deemed confidential because it relates to personal information, being information which if released would result in the unreasonable disclosure of information about any person or their personal affairs.

CARRIED 8 / 0



MINUTE No.297

Moved by: Cr Rhonda Garad

Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly

Council moves to adjourn the Meeting for five (5) minutes.

CARRIED 8 / 0

Councillors discussed the matter and noted that either the Mayor or Deputy Mayor would initiate the Council's Internal Resolution Procedure to enable the matter to be addressed.

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9 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 8.53pm.

Signature

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