



Minutes

Council Meeting

Monday 16 February 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.



(03) 8571 1000



council@cgd.vic.gov.au



greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au



TTY: 133 677

Speak and listen: 1300 555 727

Online: relayservice.gov.au



TIS: 13 14 50



Acknowledging
Bunurong Country

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1	MEETING OPENING	8
1.1	OPENING OF MEETING BY CHAIR	8
1.2	ATTENDANCE	8
1.3	ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND	9
1.4	OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION	9
1.5	CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS	11
1.6	DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST	11
2	OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1	12
2.1	DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING	12
2.1.1	Documents for Sealing.....	12
2.2	STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS	14
2.2.1	Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – January 2026.....	14
3	PUBLIC QUESTION TIME	15
4	OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2	20
4.1	PROCUREMENT	20
4.1.1	Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services	20
4.2	POLICY AND STRATEGY	31
4.2.1	Q2 Quarterly Performance Report October - December 2025	31
4.3	OTHER	34
4.3.1	Naming the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre	34
4.3.2	Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly, Canberra ACT	38
4.3.3	Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Activity Report	41
4.3.4	Australian Local Government Association Draft Notice of Motions.....	44
4.3.5	List of Registered Correspondence to Mayor and Councillors.....	47
4.3.6	Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre Council Meetings...48	
5	REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS	52



6	URGENT BUSINESS	59
7	CLOSE OF BUSINESS	60

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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 Isabella Do (LoA), Cr Lana Formoso (LoA), Cr Rhonda Garad, Cr Alice Phuong Le (LoA), Cr Loi Truong.

Councillors Present

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

Officers Present

Jacqui Weatherill, Chief Executive Officer; Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures; Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening; Yuri Guzman, Chief Customer and Information Officer; Michael Tonta, Manager Governance, Integrity, Legal & Risk; Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services; Kirsten Geri, Acting Chief Financial Officer.

MINUTE No.298

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

That Council GRANTS a Leave of Absence to Councillor Lana Formoso for the Council Meeting 16 February 2026.

CARRIED 6 / 0



1.3 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL CUSTODIANS OF LAND

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

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

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

1.4 OFFERING OF PRAYER, REFLECTION OR AFFIRMATION

All remained standing as Reverend Christos Kastaniotis, a member of the Christian Faith, read the following:

¹ Endow the king with your justice, O God, the royal son with your righteousness.

² May he judge your people in righteousness, your afflicted ones with justice.

³ May the mountains bring prosperity to the people, the hills the fruit of righteousness.

⁴ May he defend the afflicted among the people and save the children of the needy; may he crush the oppressor.

⁵ May he endure^[a] as long as the sun, as long as the moon, through all generations.

⁶ May he be like rain falling on a mown field, like showers watering the earth.

⁷ In his days may the righteous flourish and prosperity abound till the moon is no more.

(Skip)

¹² For he will deliver the needy who cry out, the afflicted who have no one to help.

¹³ He will take pity on the weak and the needy and save the needy from death.

¹⁴ He will rescue them from oppression and violence, for precious is their blood in his sight.

¹⁵ Long may he live!

May gold from Sheba be given him. May people ever pray for him and bless him all day long.

¹⁶ May grain abound throughout the land; on the tops of the hills may it sway. May the crops flourish like Lebanon and thrive^[c] like the grass of the field.

¹⁷ May his name endure forever; may it continue as long as the sun. Then all nations will be blessed through him,^[d] and they will call him blessed.

¹⁸ Praise be to the Lord God, who alone does marvellous deeds.

¹⁹ Praise be to his glorious name forever; may the whole earth be filled with his glory.

Amen and Amen.



Dear heavenly Father,

Thank you for this psalm of David and how it envisions what a good king should be like. We thank you Lord for our council members, that they are upright people of good standing and a sincere desire to see good outcomes for the Dandenong community. We pray Lord that you will give them deep wisdom to make good decisions for the benefit of the people they represent.

I will now pray the Lord's prayer, please feel free to join in if you know it.

Our Father in Heaven,

Hallowed be your name,

Your kingdom come, your will be done

On Earth as in Heaven

Give us this day our daily bread,

And forgive us our sins,

As we forgive those who sin against us,

Lead us not into temptation

But deliver us from evil,

For the Kingdom, Power and Glory are yours

Now and forever,

Amen"

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1.5 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Meeting of Council held 27 January 2026.

Recommendation

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 27 January 2026 be confirmed.

MINUTE No.299

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic

That the Minutes of the Meeting of Council held 27 January 2026 be confirmed.

CARRIED 6 / 0

1.6 DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Nil.

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2 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 1

2.1 DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

2.1.1 Documents for Sealing

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

Officer Recommendation

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

Executive Summary

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

Item Summary

2. There is 1 item being presented to Council's meeting of 16 February 2026 for signing and sealing as follows:

- a) Prosecutions Officer - Zorica NIKOLIC

An Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation, Greater Dandenong City Council under s 224 of *the Local Government Act 1989* – appoints the officer an authorised officer for the administration and enforcement of the *Building Act 1993*, the *Country Fire Authority Act 1958*, the *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, the *Environment Protection Act 2017*, the *Fire Rescue Victoria Act 1958 formerly known as the Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act 1958*, the *Impounding of Livestock Act 1994*, the *Local Government Act 1989*, the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008*, Part 14 of the *Residential Tenancies Act 1997*, the *Road Management Act 2004*, the *Road Safety Act 1986*, the *Sex Work Act 1994*, Parts 2 and 3 of the *Subdivisions Act 1988*, the *Summary Offences Act 1966*, the *Tobacco Act 1987*, the *Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal Act 1998*, the Regulations made under each of those Acts, the local laws made under the *Local Government Act 1989* or the *Local Government Act 2020*, and any other Act, Regulation, local law or delegated legislation which relates to the functions and powers of the Council.



MINUTE No.300

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic

That the listed documents be signed and sealed.

CARRIED 6 / 0

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2.2 STATUTORY PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2.2.1 Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – January 2026

Responsible Officer: Executive Director City Futures
Attachments: 1. Planning Delegated Decisions Issued – January 2026
[2.2.1.1 - 9 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 January 2026.
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.301

Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic

Seconded by: Cr Phillip Danh

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

CARRIED 6 / 0



3 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

Question

Nam Minh, Noble Park

Sandown Racecourse breached their permit requirements on Friday 13 February 2026 there was noise before 9am and 5pm and on Saturday 14 February 2026 after 5pm.

Can you revoke their permit?

The questioner provided further detail regarding their complaint directly to Council and Council officers

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

For Council to investigate this we require you to submit a formal complaint through the correct channels, you will need to show evidence in your complaint, then we will get our planning compliance team to investigate

Question

Lisa, Noble Park

How much money has the Council spent on legal advice for the CEO in regard to Cr Garad?

Why is the Council funding the legal fees of the CEO in this matter?

Response

Marjan Hajjari, Executive Director Strategy and Corporate Services

The VCAT matter initiated by Cr Garad was against both the City of Greater Dandenong as a whole and the CEO. Council's legal costs for defending the matter are estimated at \$6,943 for fees incurred up to 30 January 2026.

Council has an obligation to defend claims made against it and CEO as its principal officer, and we engaged external legal representation to do so.

We welcomed Cr Garad's decision to withdraw the VCAT application on 30 January 2026, two working days before the matter was scheduled for a directions hearing. Our focus continues to be on delivering Council services to the Greater Dandenong community.

Question

Jannali Barty, Dandenong

My car was hit on Hammond Road for the third time in 18 months while parked on the street. Since my property does not have parking, I am forced to park on the road. I cannot afford to pay the excess fee for car repairs.

I have already spoken to the Dandenong Police about the two previous accidents and they are aware of the many car accidents on Hammond Road involving parked cars.

However, due to a shortage of police officers in Greater Dandenong they cannot increase their presence there. They also mentioned that speeding is an issue on Hammond Road, but they cannot address it because of their limited resources.

I am asking if Council can consider installing speed bumps, lowering the speed limit or even painting parking bays on the street on this road.

Is there anything you can do to make this safer for me and my fellow residents, this would be greatly appreciated?



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Thank you for your question, and I note that our officers have already responded directly to you with greater detail on this matter and provided a response in November last year as well.

To summarise, traffic volumes on Hammond Road are expected to fluctuate significantly over the course of the year as the Webster Street Level Crossing Removal Project works continue.

Temporary measures during works will be considered alongside the Level Crossing project team, and Council will review Hammond Road following completion of the project to determine appropriate longer term outcomes.

Question

Kim Handley, Dandenong

For many years residents have complained to Council about the issues of parking around the mosque on Dalgety Street in Dandenong.

Over the years Council has repeatedly responded they will monitor the situation, but this has not improved, and with the mosque's expansion without additional parking the issue is only getting worse for residents.

One thing Council can do is paint parking space lines on Dalgety Street, Canberra Avenue and Hammond Road.

As Council has monitored this situation for so many years without achieving any improvement for residents will council finally do something for its residents and paint these parking lines on the mentioned streets?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Both Dalgety Street and Canberra Avenue are currently subject to parking restrictions which are only applicable during periods when the mosque is operating.

Marked parking bays cannot be installed in locations where parking is prohibited at certain times of day as this confuses drivers.

Traffic volumes on Hammond Road are expected to fluctuate significantly over the course of the year as the Webster Street Level Crossing Removal Project works continue, and for short periods during the year additional traffic lanes may be required.

Council will review Hammond Road following completion of the project to determine appropriate longer term outcomes, and marking parking bays or lanes at this time will be considered.



Question

Leanne Parr, Keysborough

In 2005 the then Victorian premier Labor leader Steve Bracks announced the creation of Eastlink and the Dandenong bypass.

When announcing the Dandenong bypass, it was also announced after completion the next stage would be a continuation from the south Gippsland highway onto the Monash freeway.

This state premier promise was made over 20 years ago and still Dandenong residents and workers are still struggling with traffic issues due to this not being delivered as promised.

Can Council explain as this has not been delivered in the past 20 years what it will do to ensure Labor's promise is kept and this project is delivered?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Council is not aware of any current plans by the Victorian Government to deliver the extension of the Dandenong bypass in the short term, though it remains part of their longer-term plan for the arterial road network.

Council has formally advocated to the Victorian Government seeking expedited delivery of this project over the last decade, as well the Westall Road extension on the same arterial road corridor. Significant benefits to Dandenong, Dandenong South and the broader region would be realised if these projects were delivered.

Question

Phillip Malone, Noble Park

I am writing to formally request a review of the current parking restrictions at Parkfield Reserve, specifically the car park accessed via Ellendale Road.

Following the implementation of three-hour weekday limits at the Dunblane Road car park last year, it appears that the issue of long-term vehicle occupancy has simply migrated to the Ellendale Road side.

There are currently at least four vehicles consistently parked there day and night, appearing to be either abandoned or used for long-term residency. This significantly limits the availability of spaces for legitimate park users.

Will the Council be implementing the same three-hour parking restrictions on the Ellendale Road side to ensure consistency? Furthermore, will there be regular patrols to issue notices to these vehicles to prevent the continued misuse of this public space?

I look forward to your response.



Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Council would be happy to consider parking restrictions within the reserve car park on Ellendale Road. As with the restrictions in the Dunblane Road car park, the parking restrictions would be developed within and subject to consultation with affected stakeholders to minimise the impact on their use of the car park.

Question

Phillip Malone, Noble Park

Part of the Parkfield Master Plan included the construction of a BBQ area near the new Playground. Is that still the plan and if it is, is there any time frame on when that might be finished?

As a resident of the area that visits the park daily, you can see how the amazing transformation of the park has brought many from the local community to use the park and having a picnic/BBQ area (as purposed in the Master Plan) seems like a great step in providing facilities to bring our diverse community together!

Is there any plans to complete the sealed walking track around the Parkfield oval, especially between the Dunblane car park and the oval?

Since the upgrades to the reserve, the use of the area, especially for walking has increased a lot and having a safe, sealed track all the way round seems like it is needed before winter and possible rains make it harder to walk over the grass or be forced to walk through the car park which can be a slight be tricky when it is being used heavily.

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

Both the BBQ area and walking track form part of the Parkfield Reserve Master Plan, and as such are intended to be completed over the life of the Master Plan.

At this time there are no confirmed timeframes for the completion of these two projects, however Council will continue to nominate appropriate projects when external funding opportunities arise to secure funding for these initiatives.

While these works do not currently have construction date, I am pleased to advise that since the adoption of the Master Plan, Council has invested significantly in Parkfield Reserve including the expansion of the sports oval, new car park, new cricket nets, new playground, tree planting and most recently the construction of three new tennis courts.

Question

Scott Peters, Dandenong

A current and former Mayor made an election promise that if they were re-elected they would have the footpath sealed on Webster Street after Webster Street was closed off and the under-path walkway was achieved.

Both criteria were achieved last year so can Council please provide a start date on this project?



Response**Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Council officers are currently working on a number of matters with the Webster Street Level Crossing Removal Project and are hopeful that these discussions will result in contribution to delivery of this project.

Any residents seeking an update on this project in coming months are advised to contact our traffic engineers directly via our RoadSafety@cgd.vic.gov.au e-mail.

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4 OFFICERS REPORTS - PART 2

4.1 PROCUREMENT

4.1.1 Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director City Futures
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">CONFIDENTIAL REDACTED - Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services Tender Evaluation Report Confidential [4.1.1.1 - 17 pages] This report contains an attachment which is deemed confidential under s 3(1)(g) of the <i>Local Government Act</i> 2020. It contains private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that relates to trade secrets; or, if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage.

Officer Recommendation

That Council **AWARDS** the Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services to the following service providers:

- **Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance Services to Active Tree Services (ABN 56 002 919 299) as a Lump Sum Contract supplemented by Schedule of Rates for a four-year term, commencing 16 March 2026 to 15 March 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$6,422,158.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance Services to Treeserve (ABN 87 169 334 712) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a two-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2028. The estimated total contract spend for the full 2-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$1,607,790.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part C: Tree Planting and Establishment to Melbourne Treeworks (ABN 34 649 538 152) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a 2-year term, commencing 16 March 2026 to 15 March 2028. The estimated total contract spend for the full 2-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$1,754,200.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part D1: Arboricultural Consultancy, to a panel of 5 providers, to Homewood Consulting (ABN 17 113 595 430), Xylem TreeCare (ABN 13 640 958 532), Tree Dimensions (ABN 45 139 982 639), C&R Ryder Consulting (ABN 95 601 897 929) and Bay Tree Services (ABN 20 675 404 618) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a four-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$132,000.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part D2: Tree Root Management, to a panel of 2 providers, to Rootcontrollers Hydrox Australia (ABN 32 065 581 133) and Bay Tree Services (ABN 20 675 404 618) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a four-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$464,000.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall; and**



- **Part D3: Tree Health, to a panel of 3, to Xylem TreeCare (ABN 13 640 958 532), Melbourne Tree Care (ABN 22 655 319 949) and ArborCo (ABN 23 606 192 545) Australia as a Schedule of Rates contract for a 4-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$40,000.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall.**

Executive Summary

1. Council is required to deliver Tree Maintenance Services across the municipality to mitigate risk, to maintain a healthy and resilient urban forest and to comply the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance Regulations) 2020. Tree Maintenance Services provide for the inspection, pruning, planting and establishment of trees throughout the municipal district on specified frequencies or as required.
2. The existing contracts for these services are outlined below:
 - Contract 1718-16 Tree Supply, Maintenance & Establishment was awarded in 1/12/2017 and is due to expire on 15/03/2026.
 - Contract 1920-28 Reactive Tree Maintenance was awarded on 1/5/2020 and is due to expire on 30/4/2026.
 - Contract 2324-27 Programmed Tree Pruning Services was awarded on 14/10/2024 and expired on 13/12/2025.
3. A tender process has been undertaken to ensure continuity of service delivery across the municipality. Council Officers advertised a tender, Contract 2526-06, on Friday 5 September 2025 for the ongoing provision of Tree Maintenance Services.
4. Council officers have evaluated the submissions received for Contract 2526-06. Preferred tenders have been determined after considering and assessing financial factors, resourcing, methodology, experience, social, local and environmental factors, receiving clarifications and undertaking interviews. The Tender Panel recommends the following tenderers are awarded the corresponding contract parts:
 - Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance - Active Tree Services
 - Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance – Treeserve
 - Part C: Tree Planting and Establishment - Melbourne Treeworks
 - Part D1 Arboricultural Consultancy - a panel of 5 consultants - Homewood Consulting, Xylem Treecare, Tree Dimensions, C&R Ryder Consulting and Bay Tree Services
 - Part D2 Tree Root Management – a panel of 2 contractors - Rootcontrollers Hydrox Australia and Bay Tree Services
 - Part D3 Tree Health - a panel of 3 consultants – Xylem Treecare, Melbourne Tree Care and ArborCo Australia
5. The tender panel identified that a 4-year term for parts A, and D; and a 2-year term for parts B and C, provided cost stability and predictability, reduced procurement overheads, greater knowledge retention/data gathering, stronger partnership and performance, incentives for long- and medium-term improvements and market competitive pricing.



Background

6. Contract 2526-06 has been developed to ensure Council has the appropriate resources and expertise on hand to effectively mitigate risk, comply with relevant legislation, respond to seasonal workloads and continue to maintain and enhance Councils urban forest. Specifically, these services include:
- Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance - provision of Programmed Tree Maintenance Services on Council Managed Land throughout the Municipal District. The revised specification is a data driven quantified two-year, 22-month street tree inspection and pruning program based upon monthly zones and workloads, including a one-year inspection, and pruning program for trees located under high voltage power lines and a strong focus on compliance with regulations and monitoring and reporting with performance indicators.
 - Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance - provision of Reactive Tree Maintenance Services on land throughout the Municipal District including road reserves, parks and Council properties and sites where Council manages trees for State Authorities. Council will direct the contractor on reactive tree maintenance work orders arising from 2500-3000 customer requests per annum, including storm damage, proactive inspection programs, 24/7 call out response and normal service operations.
 - Part C: Tree Planting and Establishment – provision of tree planting and establishment through a strategic annual planting program of street and park trees. Approximately 2,000 new trees planted per annum and the subsequent establishment maintenance required for 2 years thereafter.
 - Part D: Specialist Tree Services – contains three parts each with its own specialised panel of contractors, required to mitigate risk, provide expert advice and to ensure the long-term health of Councils Urban Forest.
 - Part D1: Arboricultural Consultancy – provision of specialist arboricultural consultants to provide a range of expertise in the management of Council's urban forest.
 - Part D2: Tree Root Management - provision of specialist arboricultural contractors to undertake directed root excavation, reporting, root pruning, and root barrier installation and maintenance.
 - Part D3: Tree Health Services - provision of specialist arboricultural consultants to undertake directed management of pest and disease in Council's urban forest.

Key Issues and Discussion

Specification Development

7. In preparation to tender, an operational service review was undertaken to ensure all areas of service provision were considered. This consisted of benchmarking service delivery with other Councils, obtaining feedback from the current service providers and analysing the market conditions and Councils tree data. This review led to the realignment and restructure of tree management functions and the development of specifications for the following services.
- Part A Programmed Tree Maintenance
 - Part B Reactive Tree Maintenance
 - Part C Tree Planting and Establishment
 - Part D Specialised Services



- Part D1: Arboricultural Consultancy
 - Part D2: Tree Root Management
 - Part D3: Tree Health Services
8. The realignment of tree management functions and analysis of data led to a quantified and deliverable approach to service delivery, with a strong focus on monitoring and reporting, compliance with regulations and the inclusion of robust performance metrics. Key services areas have been supplemented with schedule of rates to provide Council with the ability to flex and redeploy services to address the removal of dead and dangerous trees and to address peak workloads associated with seasonal variations and the increase in extreme weather events associated with climate change.
 9. To ensure best-value outcomes for Council, tenderers were invited to submit pricing for two, four, or six-year contract terms. Evaluation planning considered factors such as cost stability and predictability, reduced procurement overheads, enhanced knowledge retention and data gathering, stronger partnerships and performance, incentives for medium- and long-term improvements, and market-competitive pricing to determine the preferred option for each contract part.
 10. To undertake the evaluation and assessment of the schedule of rates component of the tender evaluation, workload indicators were developed and utilised to assist in comparing rates and to arrive at an estimated annual value.
 11. To determine the appropriate workload indicators, three years of data was collated and averaged to arrive at estimated workload indicators. Consideration was given to the how these rates will be applied; a detailed data analysis of Council's Tree Asset Management System (Forestreet) in conjunction with historical, reactive tree maintenance works and tree planting & establishment data was used to finalise the workload indicators.

Probity

12. In accordance with Councils Procurement Policy a probity plan is required where the value of a procurement is greater than \$5,000,000 (exc GST). To mitigate risk, a Probity Plan was developed prior to tender, and an external, independent Probity Auditor was appointed to review and report on tender evaluation in accordance with the probity plan.
 - A Probity Advisor was also engaged throughout the tender process. The evaluation panel were provided with a probity briefing, and the Probity Plan was followed to ensure compliance. To further mitigate risk, all tenders have been evaluated by four senior Council officers through a three-stage tender evaluation process consistent with the Probity Plan. Appendix 1 – Confidential attachment provides a detailed analysis of the tender evaluation.

Tender Evaluation Process.

13. The first stage provided a list of preferred tenders that conformed to Council's minimum requirements, the second stage evaluated tenders against the non-price criterion, with the third stage evaluating on price, unit rate comparison and value add services. Tenders were assessed in accordance with the following criteria:
 - Methodology
 - Resourcing
 - Relevant Experience Local, Social & Environmental
 - Price
14. Short listed/preferred tenderers were assessed on the following critical compliance criteria:
 - Compliance with OH&S, Environment and Insurance
 - Financial Capacity of the Organisation Business



15. On conclusion of the evaluation, tenderers were shortlisted and the evaluation panel proceeded with in person interviews, assessment of contract departures, financial and OHS and Environmental assessments and reference checks.

Outcome of Tender Evaluation Process

16. Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance - Active Tree Services were identified as the preferred tenderer at the conclusion of the detailed evaluation process. The tender evaluation resulted in an 'very good' proposal scoring of the tender evaluation criterion.
- Active Tree Services have been in business for 50 years with 29 years of experience in local government contracts, offering comprehensive expertise in tree management through data analysis, best-practice methodologies, efficiency initiatives, and a safety-first approach.
 - The company is Rapid Global compliant and certified to ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental), operates as carbon neutral, and maintains a strong environmental focus. They contribute 10% of profits to charity and made a strong commitment to employing local staff and sourcing consumables and service equipment locally for the duration of the contract.
 - Active Tree Services are national company with depth and the ability to provide Council with the ability to flex and redeploy service during peak workloads and extreme weather events. Based on the tender evaluation, Active Tree Services can provide a scalable service and have demonstrated the capacity, capability, and experience to meet all contractual obligations and are recommended as the preferred tenderer, with the ability to commence on 16 March 2026.
17. Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance – Treeserve were identified as the preferred tenderer at the conclusion of the detailed evaluation process. The tender evaluation resulted in an 'very good' proposal scoring of the tender evaluation criterion.
- Treeserve have been in business for 12 years prior to re branding, in business for 29 years in total. A local business based in Dandenong South, Treeserve currently delivery reactive tree maintenance programs across 16 Local Government areas in Victoria.
 - The company demonstrates a strong commitment to the local community, with 40% of materials, 100% of plant servicing, and 10% of consumables sourced locally. Treeserve has a proven track record in providing a scalable service including staff and resources for after-hours work delivering a reliable 24/7 response service and providing resources during peak workloads and in response to severe weather events.
 - The company is Rapid Global compliant and certified to ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental). Based on the tender evaluation, Treeserve has demonstrated the capacity, capability, and experience to meet all contractual obligations and is recommended as the preferred tenderer, with the ability to commence on 1 May 2026.
18. Part C: Tree Planting and Establishment - Melbourne Treeworks were identified as the preferred tenderer at the conclusion of the detailed evaluation process. The tender evaluation resulted in an 'very good' proposal scoring of the tender evaluation criterion.
- Melbourne Treeworks have been in business for 33 years, typically focused on tree pruning works they have recently moved into tree planting & establishment services for several other local governments within the south-east delivering similar and smaller scale tree planting & establishment services.



- The company has considerable knowledge, industry experience and expertise in tree supply, planting and establishment. Work practices and methodology ensure minimal environmental impacts with a strong commitment and contribution to the local community of 15% labour, 65% plant and equipment and 40% materials being of local content. Melbourne tree works gave commitment to establishing a works depot based within Greater Dandenong.
 - They are Rapid Global compliant and in the process of obtaining third party quality and environmental accreditation. Based on the tender evaluation, Melbourne Treeworks has demonstrated the capacity, capability, and experience to meet all contractual obligations and is recommended as the preferred tenderer, with the ability to commence on 16 March 2026.
19. Part D1 Arboricultural Consultancy - a panel of five consultants - Homewood Consulting, Xylem Treecare, Tree Dimensions, C&R Ryder Consulting and Bay Tree Services.
- Homewood Consulting have been operating nationally and within Local Government for 22 years with a wide range of technology and report writing systems in place. Homewood have accredited environmental systems, (Rapid Global compliant ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental) and are committed to carbon offsetting and biodiversity enhancement.
 - Xylem has been providing detailed reporting to State and Local Governments for a period of 20 years. They have extensive experience in the development of broad scale vegetation management plans and report writing. They will utilise and update data within Councils tree data base Forestree. Safety, Quality, and Environmental systems were to the requested standards.
 - Tree Dimensions are highly qualified consulting company. They have a wide range of plant, technology and equipment to produce high standard reports. Tree Dimensions will utilise Councils Forestree tree data base and are well experience within the legal fields of arboriculture and have similar Local Government contracts in place and are Rapid Global compliant ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental).
 - C&R Ryder Consulting is a business that offer a wide range of consultancy and arboricultural services. Currently working within several Local Government areas with similar contracts. Rapid Global compliant. Safety, Quality, and Environmental systems were to the requested standards.
 - Bay Trees has been active within the arboricultural industry for over 20 years with similar current Local Government contracts. They display a commitment to the local community of 20% material and 50% plant being of local content. They provide social employment opportunities. Promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Rapid Global compliant. Safety, Quality, and Environmental systems were to the requested standards.
20. Part D2 Tree Root Management – a panel of two contractors - Rootcontrollers Hydrox Australia and Bay Tree Services.
- Rootcontrollers Hydrox Australia have been in business for 24 years with similar Local Government contracts currently in place. There is a commitment to the local community of 75% material, labour 5% being of local content. They also provide social employment opportunities and are Rapid Global compliant ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental).



- Bay Trees has been active within the arboricultural industry for over 20 years with similar current Local Government contracts. They display a commitment to the local community of 20% material and 50% plant being of local content. They provide social employment opportunities. Promoting diversity and inclusion in the workplace. Rapid Global compliant. Safety, Quality, and Environmental systems were to the requested standards.

21. Part D3 Tree Health - a panel of 3 consultants - Xylem Treecare, Melbourne Tree Care and ArborCo Australia

- Xylem Treecare has been providing services to State and Local Governments for a period of 20 years. They have extensive experience in the development of broad scale tree data and vegetation health management systems. Their submission also provided additional tree health services. Safety, quality, and environmental systems were to the requested standards.
- Melbourne Tree Care has similar current Local Government contracts in place. They provide benefits to the local community through 50% materials and 25% plant being of local content. Melbourne Tree Care have adequately experienced and qualified long-term staff while being Rapid Global compliant ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental) certified.
- ArborCo Australia has 30 years' experience providing service to Local Government. They will provide local community commitment of 28% plant and 20% supervision as part of their service delivery. Rapid Global compliant ISO 9001:2015 (Quality) and ISO 14001:2015 (Environmental). There are policies/procedures/initiatives in place to promote engagement with Social Enterprises.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

22. 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

23. The delivery of Tree Maintenance Services can be met within existing recurrent expenditure budgets. There will be nil financial impact resulting from the award of this contract. The contract includes a fixed lump sum component (Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance) and schedule of rates for (Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance, Part C: Tree Planting & Establishment and Part D: Specialist Tree Services), providing flexibility in the scale and scope of service delivery.

24. Estimated contract spend has been calculated using established workload indicators, ensuring alignment with budget allocations.



	Contract Term (years)	Total Contract Amt (GST excl.)
01 2657 1500 2532. Contractor Works - Reactive Tree Maintenance		
Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance Services	2	1,607,790
Part D1: Arboricultural Consultancy	4	132,000
Part D2: Tree Root Management	4	464,000
Part D3: Tree Health	4	40,000
TOTAL		2,243,790
01 2657 1500 2561. Contractor Works - Tree Planting & Establishment		
Part C: Tree Planting & Establishment	2	1,754,200
TOTAL		1,754,200
01 2657 1500 2564. Contractor Works - Program Tree Maintenance		
Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance	4	6,422,160
TOTAL		6,422,160

25. While actual workloads may fluctuate due to seasonality and demand, Council officers will diligently manage the financial position to ensure all works remain within the approved budgets. The budget framework above has been designed with flexibility, allowing for variations in some services throughout the year. This is supported by the schedule of rates, which provides a scalable pricing structure to accommodate changes in workload without compromising financial control or service delivery.

26. Based on best value principles, the tender panel identified that a 4-year term for parts A, and D; and a 2-year terms for parts B and C, provided best value to Council including cost stability and predictability, greater knowledge retention/data gathering, stronger partnership and performance, incentives for long- and medium-term improvements and market competitive pricing.

Asset Implication

27. 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

28. To ensure the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information, a Probity Plan was developed and adhered to, consistent with Councils Procurement Policy. An independent, external Probity Auditor was engaged to review and report on probity as part of tendering Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services.

29. Council has an obligation to ensure vegetation is maintained in accordance with the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance Regulations) 2020 as defined within section 84 of the Electricity Safety Act 1998. Regarding public lands, Section 84C of the Act specifies, that a Council responsible for the management of public land in an area declared under section 81, is responsible for the keeping of the whole or any part of a tree situated on the land clear of an electric line.



30. Energy Safe Victoria (ESV) are the regulating body, from 27 June 2022, ESV can issue infringement notices to the “Responsible Person” that fails to comply with their responsibilities for ensuring trees are kept clear from electric lines as required by clause 3(1) of the Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance. The provision of Part A Programmed and Part B Reactive Tree Maintenance Services will assist in mitigating risk and ensuring compliance with the regulations.
31. If these services were not provided, Council’s street trees would not be maintained in accordance with the Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance Regulations) 2020 as defined within the Electricity Safety Act and Councils Electric Line Clearance Management Plan 2025/26. This would expose Council to a high level of risk including ongoing liability, community dissatisfaction and non-compliant vegetation resulting in infringements issued by regulating bodies.

Environmental Implications

32. Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services ensures that Councils trees form a healthy, vibrant, and resilient urban forest that is well-managed, protected, delivering lasting benefits to the community.
33. Each urban tree in Greater Dandenong is part of an urban forest population that helps to provide shade, absorb air pollution, filter stormwater, provide habitat and improve the character and feel of Greater Dandenong’s streets and parks. Natural shade from trees play an important role in urban cooling providing protection during periods of hot weather, especially in areas of high heat vulnerability.
34. The Tree Maintenance Services contract will assist in achieving the objectives outlined in Greater Dandenong’s *Greening Our City - Urban Tree Strategy 2018-28*.

Community Consultation

35. There was no requirement for community consultation. Councils Community Engagement Policy has been reviewed. Under exemptions, community engagement will not occur in circumstances which relate to operational matters, confidential or commercial in confidence information, or when Council must make emergency or safety related decisions. Given the operational nature of Contract 2526-06, community consultation was not sought.

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

36. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Sustainable environment.
37. This report is consistent with the following strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29:
 - A green city committed to a sustainable future.



Legislative and Policy Obligations

38. 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:

- Electricity Safety (Electric Line Clearance Regulations) 2020
- Electric Line Clearance Management Plan
- Code of Practice for Electric Line Clearance
- Electricity Safety Act 1998
- The Overarching Governance Principles of the *Local Government Act 2020*.
- Climate Change and Sustainability.
- Related Council Policies, Strategies or Frameworks.

DRAFT

**MINUTE No.302****Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh****Seconded by: Cr Sean O'Reilly**

That Council AWARDS the Contract 2526-06 Tree Maintenance Services to the following service providers:

- **Part A: Programmed Tree Maintenance Services to Active Tree Services (ABN 56 002 919 299) as a Lump Sum Contract supplemented by Schedule of Rates for a four-year term, commencing 16 March 2026 to 15 March 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$6,422,158.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part B: Reactive Tree Maintenance Services to Treeserve (ABN 87 169 334 712) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a two-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2028. The estimated total contract spend for the full 2-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$1,607,790.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part C: Tree Planting and Establishment to Melbourne Treeworks (ABN 34 649 538 152) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a 2-year term, commencing 16 March 2026 to 15 March 2028. The estimated total contract spend for the full 2-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$1,754,200.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part D1: Arboricultural Consultancy, to a panel of 5 providers, to Homewood Consulting (ABN 17 113 595 430), Xylem TreeCare (ABN 13 640 958 532), Tree Dimensions (ABN 45 139 982 639), C&R Ryder Consulting (ABN 95 601 897 929) and Bay Tree Services (ABN 20 675 404 618) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a four-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$132,000.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall;**
- **Part D2: Tree Root Management, to a panel of 2 providers, to Rootcontrollers Hydrox Australia (ABN 32 065 581 133) and Bay Tree Services (ABN 20 675 404 618) as a Schedule of Rates contract for a four-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$464,000.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall; and**
- **Part D3: Tree Health, to a panel of 3, to Xylem TreeCare (ABN 13 640 958 532), Melbourne Tree Care (ABN 22 655 319 949) and ArborCo (ABN 23 606 192 545) Australia as a Schedule of Rates contract for a 4-year term, commencing 1 May 2026 to 30 April 2030. The estimated total contract spend for the full 4-year term is up to, with a maximum value of \$40,000.00 exc GST subject to rise and fall.**

CARRIED 6 / 0



4.2 POLICY AND STRATEGY

4.2.1 Q2 Quarterly Performance Report October - December 2025

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services
Attachments:	1. Q2 Quarterly Performance Report October - December 2025 [4.2.1.1 - 77 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council NOTES the Q2 2025-26 Quarterly Performance Report (per Attachment 1), which outlines Council's progress against the performance targets outlined in the Council Plan 2025-29 for the period 1 October to 31 December 2025 and the Financial Report for the period 1 July to 31 December 2025.

Executive Summary

1. The Greater Dandenong City Council provides a performance report against organisational objectives and its financial position on a quarterly basis. The reporting procedures and systems in place provide Councillors and the community with the opportunity to monitor progress against Council Plan indicators. This ensures that all resources are managed effectively and accountably. Council will be kept informed of the financial position on a quarterly basis, as is the current practice.

Background

2. Council formally adopted the Council Plan 2025-29, Annual Plan 2025-26 and Budget 2025-26 on Monday 23 June 2025. The Mid-Year Budget was adopted by Council on 8 December 2025.
3. The Council Plan 2025-29 outlines the vision and objectives of the Council. This document guides service delivery, innovation and good governance, and provides the foundation for Council's Integrated Planning Framework. The Council Plan also guides the budget, service delivery priorities and the continuous improvement of our services.
4. The Council Plan 2025-29, Annual Plan 2025-26, and Budget 2025-26 are made available to residents through the Customer Service Centres, libraries and on Council's website at www.greaterdandenong.vic.gov.au

Key Issues and Discussion

5. The Quarterly Performance Report provides a summary of key highlights for the quarter against the Council Plan, Budget and the capital works program.
6. Progress against performance targets is outlined in the following components of the attachment to this report:
7. Part A – Annual Plan progress details the achievements for the Council Plan strategic objectives from the Council Plan 2025-29 for the period 1 October – 31 December 2025.
8. Part B – The Financial Report is designed to inform Councillors of the results of operations for the 1 July – 31 December 2025. The budget information contained in this report reflects the Mid-Year Budget as adopted by Council on 8 December 2025.



9. The financial report incorporates a set of Financial Statements and a Directorate Analysis of financial performance by Business Unit. The following are contained in the attachment:

- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement
- Capital Expenditure Statement
- Management Accounting Result
- Capital Expenditure Report
- Investment Report
- Directorate Analysis

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

10. 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

11. For the year ending 31 December 2025, Council achieved a surplus operating result of \$7.53 million which is \$2.83 million better than year to date budget. The main factors contributing to this result comprise favourable variances in:

- Operating income (\$549,000 favourable)** – Mainly due to higher income in user fees, primarily parking ticket machine fee income (\$469,000).
- Operating expenditure (\$2.28 million)** – As a result of lower expenditure in Employee costs (\$3.07 million) and Materials and services (\$3.31 million), partly offset by two non-budgeted, non-cash fixed asset accounting adjustments (Asset write offs (\$3.85 million) and prior year capital expenditure unable to be capitalised (\$364,000)).

12. Refer to Sections B1 and B2 of the report for more detailed commentary on the key variances.

Asset Implications

13. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

16. A gender impact assessment is not required.



Community Consultation

17. There was no requirement for community consultation.

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

18. 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.
- Sustainable environment.
- Mind, body and spirit.
- Art and culture.

19. 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

20. 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.



4.3 OTHER

4.3.1 Naming the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre

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

Officer Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE ‘Oasis Pools and Wellbeing Centre’ and ‘Oasis Aquatics and Wellbeing’ as two possible alternate names for the new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre; and**
- 2. APPROVES taking these names to open community consultation for 30 days, with a view to bringing a preferred name back to Council for formal consideration for adoption, and then seeking formal registration with Geographic Names Victoria.**

Executive Summary

1. A range of qualitative and in-depth community engagements were undertaken with community members from various demographics. The Bunurong Land Council was also engaged to provide name options or words that could be used in the new facility.
2. Across all community groups, of all ages, there was overwhelming support for retaining the word Oasis, from the current Dandenong Oasis centre that is being replaced by the new centre. The word Oasis is regarded as a strong signifier of the experience to be had within the centre. The name is regarded as easy to remember, say and spell. We heard that the tradition of this name and its long-standing connection to this place and this community are very important, and not to be lost.
3. The variation from the current facility name of ‘Dandenong Oasis’ to ‘Oasis Pools and Wellbeing’ or ‘Oasis Aquatics and Wellbeing’ signals that it is a new facility, while maintaining a connection to the old facility. ‘Pools’ or ‘Aquatics’ explains that there are multiple pools inside, for various purposes. ‘Wellbeing’ emphasises the goals of getting more people more active, more often, and creating strong community connections. These goals are at the centre of this once-in-a generation investment by Council, for the Greater Dandenong community.
4. Council is the naming authority and will make the decision on the name. However, it is important that the proposed name with two variations) is also put to the wider community for comment before the decision. This is also a requirement for the name to be registered with Geographic Names Victoria.
5. It is proposed to take the two variants, ‘Oasis Pools and Wellbeing’ and ‘Oasis Aquatics and Wellbeing’ to the wider community for comment, for 30 days. This consultation would be accompanied by an explanation of how this name was arrived at, including the prior community engagement activities.
6. After research and consultation with Elders, the Bunurong Land Council also provided two words for consideration in naming the facility or part of the facility. They proposed the words Nawunharr and Nawi. However, these names were not selected as the first preferred name for the centre.



Background

7. It is critical that the name of the new facility supports practical, contemporary marketing in a competitive commercial environment, to contribute to the financial sustainability of the centre.
8. A thoughtfully chosen name will also reinforce the centre's identity and foster a sense of community pride and ownership among residents.

Key Issues and Discussion

9. A broad community consultation was undertaken to gather community sentiment about the old Dandenong Oasis facility and the new Dandenong wellbeing centre under construction. From this, a long list of names was developed.
10. These names were tested with various focus groups including:
 - Broad community, including representatives from local service providers
 - Current members of Dandenong Oasis
 - New Parents Group
 - Young People from Amplify
 - Staff from Council, and South East Leisure (including some who are local residents).
11. Across all community groups, of all ages, there was overwhelming support for retaining the use of the word Oasis.
12. The community feedback was very strongly focused on retaining a great name in Oasis, and recognising the tradition, connection and sense of belonging attached to this word. We heard support for variants including Oasis+ or Oasis 2.0. However, non-alphabetical characters are not possible to include under the Naming Rules.
13. Oasis has been a very successful name for a treasured community facility. Oasis has not had nicknames or been shortened to an acronym. It is short and memorable. Using this word will capitalise on existing brand recognition, while providing an opportunity to celebrate and promote the new centre.

Geographic Names Victoria

14. The Naming Rules set out the rules for naming roads, features and localities. The Naming Rules provide that:

A feature is considered to be a unique geographical place or attribute that is easily distinguished within the landscape. For example, a feature can be a mountain, watercourse, building, prominent structure or park.¹
15. The Registrar strongly encourages that councils seek registration of names of features to ensure that the names comply with the Naming Rules. It is regarded as important that feature names are unambiguous and recorded in VICNAMES, which is "the definitive data source for geographical names information and is distributed regularly to ... emergency service, postal and spatial information and mapping agencies."
16. In principle support has been received from Geographic Names Victoria for the proposed name of 'Oasis Pools and Wellbeing,' based on an assessment that the name complies with the Naming Rules for places in Victoria.

¹ Naming Rules, p35.



17. While we have undertaken detailed, thoughtful and in-depth consultation with various community groups, it is still important that the wider community has an opportunity to comment on the name before it is formally considered for adoption by Council. It is also a requirement from Geographic Names Victoria that this consultation is for a minimum of 30 days.

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. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

21. These naming rules are the statutory guidelines provided for under section 5 of the [Geographic Place Names Act 1998](#); they are therefore mandatory for all naming authorities in Victoria, including councils. They apply to all government-owned or administered roads, features (natural or otherwise) and localities.

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

23. The interests of men and women have been carefully considered in the design of the facility. The name 'Oasis Pools and Wellbeing' does not have a gendered background or impact. Including 'wellbeing' in the name would reinforce the key objective of getting more people more active, more often, including women and girls. Both 'Oasis' and 'Nawi' have strong connections to place and tradition in this community.
24. As per the Gender Equality Act 2020 a gender impact assessment is required any time a 'policy', 'program', or 'service' that 'directly and significantly affects the public' is developed or updated. There is a renewed emphasis on considering significant (historic) women's contributions in naming roads and localities. We did not consider that the name of a historic person would meet other desirable characteristics of the name, such as being short, memorable and marketable, so no significant people (women or men) were considered as name options.



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

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

- Mind, body and spirit.

26. 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

27. 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.304

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That Council:

1. **APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE 'Oasis Pools and Wellbeing Centre' and 'Oasis Aquatics and Wellbeing' as two possible alternate names for the new Dandenong Wellbeing Centre; and**
2. **APPROVES taking these names to open community consultation for 30 days, with a view to bringing a preferred name back to Council for formal consideration for adoption, and then seeking formal registration with Geographic Names Victoria.**

CARRIED 6 / 0



4.3.2 Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly, Canberra ACT

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

Officer's Recommendation

That Council:

1. **APPROVES** the attendance of all interested Councillors, at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23 to 25 June 2026;
2. **APPROVES** the attendance of the Chief Executive Officer (or her nominated delegate) at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23 to 25 June 2026; and
3. **RECEIVES** a report from the Councillor delegates on their attendance at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly in August 2026 Council Meeting.

Executive Summary

1. This report seeks approval of all interested Councillors plus the Chief Executive Officer (or their nominated delegate) to attend the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23 – 25 June 2026.

Background

2. The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) is the national peak advocacy body for Local Governments. The ALGA's work includes, but is not limited to, the establishment of national policy and extensive liaison and lobbying with departments, Ministers and other parliamentarians at the Commonwealth level to achieve better outcomes for local communities.
3. Council has been represented at previous National General Assemblies (NGA) in Canberra. Previous attendees have found the conference insightful and valued the networking with national inner-city municipalities and access to Federal Members and Ministers.

Key Points / Issues / Discussion

4. The NGA provides a valuable opportunity for councils to learn from and share insights with Local Governments across Australia. The focus of the 2026 NGA, "Stronger Together: Resilient. Productive. United," highlights the importance of building resilience, enhancing productivity, and strengthening unity across the sector. This theme supports discussions on how local governments can work collaboratively to address national challenges and contribute to stronger community outcomes. The conference program will feature a range of high-profile and engaging speakers who will explore what underpins effective collaboration and how these principles can be applied to support stronger, more connected communities.
5. Further information can be found at [NGA 2026](#).



Financial Implications

6. The estimated cost per delegate is approximately \$3,100, consisting of:
 - a. Early Bird Registration (by 30 April 2026): \$999;
 - b. Attendance at General Assembly Dinner: \$200;
 - c. Accommodation for 3 nights (4 star): \$700;
 - d. Flights (economy): \$700; and
 - e. Incidentals (taxis/meals): \$500.
7. These costs can be covered from the Council's operational budget.

Community and Stakeholder Consultation

8. No community or stakeholder consultation is required.

Links to the Community Vision and Council Plan

9. This report is consistent with the principles in the Community Vision 2040.
10. This report is consistent with the Council Plan 2025-29 strategic objective of:
 - A socially connected, safe and healthy city.
 - A city of accessible, vibrant centres and places.
 - A Council that demonstrates leadership, responsible use of public resources, and a commitment to investing in the community.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

11. 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.305

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic

That Council:

- 1. APPROVES the attendance of all interested Councillors, at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23 to 25 June 2026;**
- 2. APPROVES the attendance of the Chief Executive Officer (or her nominated delegate) at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23 to 25 June 2026; and**
- 3. RECEIVES a report from the Councillor delegates on their attendance at the Australian Local Government Association 2026 National General Assembly in August 2026 Council Meeting.**

CARRIED 6 / 0

DRAFT



4.3.3 Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Activity Report

Responsible Officer: Manager Governance, Legal & Risk
Attachments: 1. ARC Biannual Activity Report September 2025 Word Native [4.3.3.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council RECEIVES, for information, the Greater Dandenong City Council's Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report dated December 2025 (per Attachment 1), which describes the activities of the Committee (including its findings and recommendations) for meetings held Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 FY26.

Executive Summary

1. Under the *Local Government Act 2020*, the Audit and Risk Committee is required to table a report on its activities to Council twice per year. This bi-annual report covers the Committee's work for the meetings held on 12 September 2025 and 5 December 2025 and aligns with the Committee's Annual Work Plan in terms of the cyclical nature of its work.
2. The ARC must provide a copy of each report to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting.
3. The Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee attended the Councillor Briefing session held on 9 February 2026 to provide Councillors with an update and opportunity to ask questions and discuss matters of interest/relevance.

Background

4. Section 54(5) of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires that the Audit and Risk Committee tables a bi-annual report to Council.
5. The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) plays an important role in providing oversight of Greater Dandenong Council's governance, risk management, internal control practices, internal and external audit functions. This oversight mechanism also serves to provide confidence in the integrity of these practices.
6. Section 53(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020* stipulates that a Council must establish an ARC. The City of Greater Dandenong's ARC comprises two Councillors and three independent members. The ARC meets at least four times per year.
7. This report covers the Committee's work for the meetings held on 12 September 2025 and 5 December 2025 and aligns with the Committee's Annual Work Plan in terms of the cyclical nature of its work.
8. The report outlines the key activities carried out by the Committee during the period.



Key Issues and Discussion

9. The report recommends that Council notes the Audit and Risk Committee Performance Report.

Governance Compliance

Human Resource Implications (consider Workforce Planning and Service Statements)

10. The list of prescribed human rights contained in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* has been reviewed. It is considered that the proposed actions contained in this report present no breaches of, or infringements upon, those prescribed rights.

Conflicts of Interest Disclosure

11. The Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and Council officers who prepared this report have no general or material conflict of interest to declare.

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

Operating Budget Implications

12. Other than the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and Council officer time in preparing this report, there are no financial and resource implications associated with this report.

13. The sitting fees payable to independent members of the Audit and Risk Committee are provided for within the Governance Department's operational budget

Asset Implications

14. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

15. The Audit and Risk Committee, pursuant to Sections 54(4) and (5) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, is required to prepare a biannual Audit and Risk Committee report describing the Committee's activities and provide a copy of both reports to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting

Environmental Implications

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

Community Consultation

17. There was no requirement for community consultation.

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

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

- Not Applicable

19. 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

20. 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.306

Moved by: Cr Jim Memeti

Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic

That Council RECEIVES, for information, the Greater Dandenong City Council's Audit and Risk Committee Biannual Report dated December 2025 (per Attachment 1), which describes the activities of the Committee (including its findings and recommendations) for meetings held Quarter 1 and Quarter 2 FY26.

CARRIED 6 / 0

NB: It was noted that Cr Jim Memeti attended the 12 September 2025 Audit & Risk Committee meeting. The attachment to this report has been updated accordingly.

6. Meeting Attendance

Member	12 September 2025	5 December 2025
Geoff Harry (Chair)	Attended	Not Applicable
Suzanne Thoraval	Attended	Attended
Michael Shatter (Chair)	Attended	Attended
Mayor Jim Memeti	Attended	Not Applicable
Mayor Sophie Tan	Not Applicable	Apology
Cr Rhonda Garad	Attended	Attended



4.3.4 Australian Local Government Association Draft Notice of Motions

Responsible Officer:	Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services
Attachments:	1. Draft Notice of Motions for Australian Local Government Association (ALG A) NGA [4.3.4.1 - 5 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That Council ENDORSES the proposed motions to the 2026 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Attachment A.

Executive Summary

1. ALGA has called for members to submit motions to be considered for adoption at its annual National General Assembly to be held in Canberra from 23-25 June. Officers have proposed motions, subject to Council endorsement.
2. Endorsed motions must be submitted through ALGA's online portal no later than 11.59 pm AEST on Friday 27 February 2026.

Background

3. ALGA National General Assembly - The Australian Local Government Association is the peak national body for local government, representing 537 councils nationwide. Formed in 1947, the ALGA is a federation of member state and territory associations.
4. Its mission is to achieve outcomes for local government through advocacy with impact, and maximise the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of councils and their communities.
5. Membership is comprised of state and territory local government associations, including the Municipal Association of Victoria.
6. Convened annually by ALGA, the National General Assembly is the peak annual event for Local Government, attracting over 800 Mayors and Councillors each year.
7. The National General Assembly provides a unique opportunity for Local Government to engage directly with the Federal Government to develop national policy and to influence the future direction of our councils and our communities.
8. The theme for the 2026 ALGA National General Assembly is 'Stronger Together: Resilient. Productive. United.'

Key Issues and Discussion

Proposed motions to the 2026 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) – (refer to Attachment 1 for full details)

9. **Motion 1** – Social housing and enabling infrastructure contribution mechanism.
10. **Motion 2** – Increasing Modern Methods of Construction (MMC) of housing delivery through reform of the National Construction Code.
11. **Motion 3** - Exempt Councils from increased tax liabilities when rezoning land for social and affordable Housing.
12. **Motion 4** – Establish a national definition of social housing and affordable housing.



13. **Motion 5** - A coordinated, measurable, whole-of-government strategy to prevent and end homelessness.
14. The proposed Notice of Motions support the City of Greater Dandenong 2025-29 Council Plan priority to increase quality, affordable and social housing options with short-term and long-term options to improve supply and provide support to those on low incomes.
15. The motions also support the 2025-26 Annual Plan action to undertake advocacy to advance strategies to reduce poverty and improve social equity in Greater Dandenong.

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 are no financial implications associated with this report.

Asset Implications

18. This item does not affect any existing assets.

Legal/Risk Implications

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

Environmental Implications

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

Gender Impact Assessment

21. A gender impact assessment is not required.

Community Consultation

22. There was no requirement for community consultation.

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

23. This report is consistent with the following principles in the Community Vision 2040:
 - Safe and peaceful community.
24. 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

25. This report has considered Council's legislative and policy obligations (where applicable) as outlined in the Report Considerations section detailed in the front of this Agenda. 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.307

Moved by: Cr Phillip Danh

Seconded by: Cr Bob Milkovic

That Council **ENDORSES** the proposed motions to the 2026 National General Assembly of the Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) Attachment A.

CARRIED 6 / 0

DRAFT



4.3.5 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 [4.3.5.1 - 2 pages]

Officer Recommendation

That the listed items for the period 11 January 2026 to 30 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 11 January 2026 to 30 January 2026.

MINUTE No.308

Moved by: Cr Melinda Yim

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That the listed items for the period 11 January 2026 to 30 January 2026 provided in Attachment 1 to this report be received and noted.

CARRIED 6 / 0



4.3.6 Report on Matters Discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre Council Meetings

Responsible Officer: Executive Director Strategy & Corporate Services

Attachments: Nil

Officer Recommendation

That Council **RECEIVES** and **NOTES** the information contained in this report.

Executive Summary

1. As part of Council's ongoing efforts to improve transparency in Council processes, matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be of a confidential nature) are reported on at Council meetings.
2. The matters listed in this report were presented to Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings during the period 8 December 2025 – 2 February 2026.

Background

3. The Executive Team and associated staff at Greater Dandenong City Council host Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meeting on a regular basis (weekly) to inform Councillors about the work officers are undertaking, share information, obtain feedback and discuss strategies and options for current and future work.
4. To ensure transparency in this process matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings (other than those matters designated to be confidential under the *Local Government Act 2020*) are reported on at Council meetings. This report represents matters discussed at the Councillor Briefing Sessions & Pre-Council Meetings during the period 8 December 2025 – 2 February 2026.

Matters Presented for Discussion

Item		Councillor Briefing Session/Pre-Council Meeting
1	<p>General Discussion Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update on success of Carols Event; b. Attendance of Councillors attending Community Budget Briefing Session; c. Update on Capital Investment program; and <p>Agenda items for the Council Meeting of 8 December 2025.</p>	<p>Pre-Council Meeting (PCM) – 8 December 2025</p>



2	Ramadan Night Market Councillors were briefed on the upcoming Ramadan Night Market event, including critical actions needed to ensure a safe and compliant 2026 event.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 January 2026
3	Naming the Dandenong Wellbeing Centre Councillors were briefed on the proposed alternatives for Naming Dandenong Wellbeing Centre, options for undertaking formal community consultation and whether the preferred name should be registered with Geographic Names Victoria (GNV). Officers outlined the naming approach, community and stakeholder engagement, and feedback from GNV and the Bunurong Land Council.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 January 2026
4	General Discussion <ol style="list-style-type: none">Infosum and Councillor Newsletter to be merged into a single weekly distribution from February 2026;Agenda update provided regarding a confidential item;Australia Day Awards and Citizenship Ceremony arrangements; and Agenda items for the Council Meeting on 27 January 2026.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 19 January 2026
5	General Discussion Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items: <ol style="list-style-type: none">Housing and homelessness campaign; and Agenda items for the Council Meeting of 27 January 2026.	Pre-Council Meeting (PCM) – 27 January 2026
6	Activity Centres Program Update - Department of Transport and Planning Councillors were briefed on the Activity Centres Program Update by Department of Transport and Planning, including the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none">State Government's 'Train and Tram Zone Activity Centres Program'.Key points discussed included the identification of four Greater Dandenong centres (Springvale, Noble Park, Yarraman and Dandenong).the program's aim to increase density through greater building heights.the commencement of planning and upcoming consultation phases; andDTP's timeline to complete the project by mid-2026, subject to the Minister for Planning.	Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 2 February 2026



7	Domestic Animal Management Plan Councillors were briefed on the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2025–29, including its purpose, consultation outcomes and proposed improvements. The briefing also outlined the Plan's strategic direction, responses to key community concerns and targeted actions across seven focus areas to improve safety, welfare and regulatory outcomes over the next four years.	<i>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 2 February 2026</i>
8	<i>Council Business Cycle 2026 Overview</i> Councillors were briefed on the 2026 Councillor Briefing Session schedule, including the revised structure commencing in February 2026. Discussions covered the separation of strategic and business-focused briefings to improve long-term planning and support better decision-making for Council Meetings. Councillors also noted that Learning and Development sessions will be scheduled on the fourth Monday of each month, with further details to be provided in a separate paper.	<i>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 2 February 2026</i>
9	<i>Policy Review Program Overview for 2026</i> Councillors were briefed on the Policy Review Program Overview for 2026, including the updated process for managing Council policies. Discussions covered the incorporation of all policy matters into the 2026 Meeting Forward Plan to provide earlier visibility and structured input, improvements to transparency, consistency and compliance with governance and legislative requirements, and the allocation of time in each Strategic Briefing Session for consideration of policies requiring adoption, readoption or abolition.	<i>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 2 February 2026</i>
10	<i>Multi-Employer Enterprise Agreement</i> Councillors were briefed on the Multi-Employer Enterprise Agreement, including progress, key issues and potential impacts. Discussions covered the status of negotiations involving Greater Dandenong and seven partner Councils, key claims and bargaining strategies, opportunities arising from collaborative negotiation, and risks such as possible industrial action and resulting service delivery disruptions.	<i>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 2 February 2026</i>
11	<i>General Discussion</i> Councillors and Council officers briefly discussed the following items; a. Relocation of Table Tennis facilities; and Agenda items for the Council Meeting of 16 February 2026.	<i>Councillor Briefing Session (CBS) – 2 February 2026</i>



Apologies

5. Councillor Lana Formoso, Councillor Jim Memeti and Councillor Loi Truong submitted apologies for the Councillor Briefing Session on 8 December 2025.
6. Councillor Isabella Do, Councillor Lana Formoso, Councillor Jim Memeti and Councillor Loi Truong submitted apologies for the Councillor Briefing Session on 2 February 2026.

Legislative and Policy Obligations

7. Section 9 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (LGA2020) states that a Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles.
8. Reporting on matters discussed at Councillor Briefing Sessions and Pre-Council Meetings gives effect to the overarching governance principles (in particular, section 9(i) of the *Local Government Act 2020*) in that the transparency of Council actions and information is ensured.

MINUTE No.309

Moved by: Cr Bob Milkovic

Seconded by: Cr Jim Memeti

That Council RECEIVES and NOTES the information contained in this report.

CARRIED 6 / 0

DRAFT



5 REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/DELEGATED MEMBERS AND COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS

Question

Cr Sean O'Reilly

My question concerns the Council property at 1–3 Lightwood Road, Springvale. There have been several recent changes to parking restrictions and the parking permit system at this site. Regular users have raised concerns with me that numerous infringements have been issued.

After reviewing the arrangements, it appears that the current permit system assumes that the same vehicles will use the area regularly, which is not the case for many visitors to the site.

I request that the Director review the current parking permit system, noting that many users are not regular attendees. I also ask to be involved in identifying potential solutions.

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

We are aware of the situation and the number of infringements issued. If any individual believes they have been unfairly fined, they may lodge an appeal, and we will assess it through our standard process.

In the meantime, I am happy to work with you to gather further information and develop permanent options.

Comment

Cr Melinda Yim

Happy Lunar New Year to everyone. Lunar New Year officially begins tomorrow and marks the Year of the Fire Horse.

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

On Tuesday 3 February 2026, I volunteered with the Kindness Community at the Hemmings Skate Park.

On Tuesday 10 February 2026, I attended the official opening of the W. J. Turner Reserve lighting upgrade with Mayor Cr Sophie Tan. Four new LED lighting towers have been installed.

I have also attended the Dandenong Park Run, which runs every Saturday at 8am at Dandenong Park.

On Sunday 15 February 2026, I celebrated and observed the opening of the Springvale Lunar New Year Festival with Mayor Sophie Tan and many Councillors.

I would like to conclude my report by again encouraging volunteers to participate in the Parkrun every Saturday at 8am at Dandenong Park and in the Kindness Community every Tuesday at Hemmings Skate Park.



Question**Deputy Mayor Cr Phillip Danh**

Along Cyril Grove, Noble Park in my ward, which runs parallel to the Eastlink Freeway and is separated by a large fence, rubbish dumping is occurring behind the trees between the residential area and the freeway.

I understand that the hotspot crews operate on a designated route. My question for the Director is whether the crews can periodically visit Cyril Grove, Noble Park to clean the area.

Response**Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures**

Yes, I will arrange for the teams to inspect the area. For inclusion in the hotspot program, it is helpful for community members to report illegal dumping through Customer Service or via the Snap Send Solve app.

This provides adequate data for identifying hotspot locations. I will ensure the teams inspect the site.

Comment**Deputy Mayor, Cr Phillip Danh**

I will also provide written information.

I would like to congratulate Drina, also known as Noble Park United, on their recent tournament success.

Nearby, the Noble Park Tennis Club will open their newly refurbished courts this Sunday. It is one of the first projects completed since my election, and it is wonderful to see the hard work of volunteers resulting in upgraded facilities that the community is already enjoying.

Regarding sport, I have had the privilege of joining Cr Yim at the weekly Park Runs in Dandenong. I do not enjoy running, but I made a commitment to participate and I continue to attend.

I also wish the community a happy Lunar New Year, particularly following the Springvale Festival held yesterday. Greater Dandenong made a significant contribution to the event.

Recently, the Borneo Night Market was held in Dandenong Park, which showcased our community's strengths. I strongly believe in activating open spaces to provide opportunities for residents to engage beyond work and obligations.

The Ramadan Night Markets are approaching and I look forward to their commencement this Thursday. They are an excellent opportunity to showcase our multicultural community.

I also attended the Eden Foster Community Barbecue last week with the Mayor. This was a genuine opportunity for residents to meet their elected representatives. Engagement can sometimes be challenging due to cultural and language barriers, but the turnout was large and diverse and the feedback was valuable. These interactions strengthen our understanding of community needs.



Question

Cr Jim Memeti

I am following up on a question previously raised by a resident regarding Hammond Road, Dandenong. I travel along Hammond Road, Dandenong daily and there now appears to be significantly more cars parked on both sides of the road. One of the requests was to paint designated parking bays.

Was a response provided regarding whether parking bays can be painted and is this something that can be delivered quickly, or will it require more time?

Response

Sanjay Manivasagasivam, Executive Director City Futures

As we are currently working with the Level Crossing Removal Project, several temporary measures have been implemented in the area. As works are still underway, we do not intend to implement permanent changes at this time. We will continue to monitor the situation and once the project is complete, we will consider permanent options, including line marking.

Comment

Cr Jim Memeti

Thank you for that. The last time I counted, there were more than seventy cars parked between Webster Street and Kirkham Road. As the volume of parking has grown, it is important for lines to be marked so people understand where they may safely park.

I would also like to congratulate SABA on holding another successful Lunar New Year Festival, which is always a significant event on the City of Greater Dandenong calendar. I wish our community a Happy New Year — *Xin Nian Kuai Le*, *Chúc Mừng Năm Mới*, and *Gōng Hè Fā Cái*. I hope some of you understand what I have said, but in any case, Happy Lunar New Year in three different languages.

The Ramadan Night Market begins on Thursday and we look forward to its second year. Last year's event was extremely successful and expectations are even higher this year. The Bright Community Organisation has been working tirelessly and this year's event will run for sixteen nights over four weeks.

I would also like to acknowledge the commencement of the NPL season last week. Football or soccer is very popular in Greater Dandenong. Our municipality has more football clubs than any other in Victoria.

Finally, tomorrow is the Independence Day of Kosovo. I would like to acknowledge and wish all members of our community who celebrate this day a very happy Independence Day.



Question

Cr Bob Milkovic

I have received reports from several residents regarding behaviour at Tirhatuan Park, Dandenong North. Some people have been disposing of hot coals on the grass and into stormwater drains.

This is unsafe, especially on hot days, as the grass is dry and the park is bordered by houses. Although the number of people doing this appears to be small, it poses a significant fire risk.

Is it possible to install signage to discourage this behaviour and remind visitors of the dangers?

This question was taken on notice.

I attended Serbian Statehood Day yesterday. There was a ceremony in Harmony Square, Dandenong followed by a larger celebration at Federation Square, Melbourne. It was the first time the event had been held there, and it drew a large crowd, including dignitaries such as Julian Hill MP and several State MPs. I thank everyone who attended and wish those celebrating a very happy Serbian Statehood Day.

Comment

Mayor Cr Sophie Tan

I have been very busy since the last Council meeting and attended the following events:

On Wednesday 28 January 2026, I attended GSEM (Greater South East Melbourne) Mayors briefing session.

On Friday 30 January 2026, I attended an Australia Day dinner event hosted by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association Victoria.

On Saturday 31 January 2026, I attended Afghan Culture Day at Dandenong Park, hosted by the Afghan Youth Association of Australia and the Afghan community in the Southeast, later that evening I also attended SEMVAC (South Eastern Melbourne Vietnamese Association Council) Fundraising Dinner and Annual General Meeting.

On Sunday 1 February 2026, I attended the Ceremony of Thanksgiving (for the end of the Year of the Snake) hosted by the Teo Chew Chinese Association of Vic.

On Tuesday 3 February 2026, I attended Flag raising ceremony in Harmony Square, celebrating Sri Lankan Independence Day.

On Friday 6 February 2026, I attended Dandenong West Primary School Assembly to present student leadership badges.

On Saturday 7 February 2026, I attended Santhom Soccer and Volleyball Match at Tatterson Park, later that evening I participated in a Community BBQ for Noble Park residents hosted by Eden Foster MP.

On Monday 9 February 2026, I attended Sod-turn ceremony to mark the commencement of construction the new Dandelion housing development. This major project is set to deliver 70 high quality homes in Dandenong, in partnership with Homes Victoria as part of the Victorian Government's \$5.3 billion Big Housing Build, Seventy per cent of the dwellings will be allocated to social housing, with ten per cent for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents. Completion is expected mid next year.

On Tuesday 10 February 2026, I attended the Official opening for the WJ Turner Reserve Lighting Upgrade funded with contributions from both Council and the Victorian Government. This upgrade benefits clubs and residents who use the reserve.



On Wednesday 11 February 2026, I was privileged to attend Noble Park Community Centre morning tea to raise funds for those recently affected by the Victorian bushfires.

On Saturday 14 February 2026, I attended the Big Summer Read Finale at Springvale Library, It was wonderful to see many children participating again this year.

Later that day I attended a Chinese New Year celebration (Year of the Horse) hosted by the Cambodian Chinese Friendship Association of Victoria.

On Sunday 15 February 2026, I attended 2026 Springvale Lunar New Year Festival Opening Ceremony (Year of the Horse) hosted by SABA (Springvale Asian Business Association).

I congratulate SABA on their 34th anniversary of running this major event. This year's event was cooler than last year and again drew a large crowd. I wish everyone a Happy Lunar New Year, the Year of the Fire Horse, and wish our community peace, prosperity, good health, and good fortune.

Later that evening I attended a Community BBQ hosted by Hon Julian Hill MP and Hon Gabrielle Williams MP.

On Monday 16 February 2026, I attended Silverton Primary School Assembly to present Grade 6 leaders with their 2026 Captain badges.

Question

Mayor Cr Sophie Tan

My first question concerns anti-social behaviour around Clow Street, opposite the market and near KFC. Several men have been behaving improperly in this area, and students walking home have reported feeling unsafe. Could this matter please be investigated?

My second question concerns traffic issues in King George Parade, Dandenong. Cars parking on both sides of the street making it difficult for drivers to travel through and for residents to park. Residents have requested that Council explore widening or narrowing the street to improve access?

My final question relates to ongoing illegal dumping at the corner of McPherson and Power Street, Dandenong. Could this be investigated?

These questions were taken on notice.

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



COUNCILLOR QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE/REQUIRING FURTHER ACTION

Date of Council Meeting	Question Asked By	Subject & Summary of Question	Responsible Officer	Date of Completion	Summary of Response
27/01/26 CQT1	Cr Jim Memeti	<p>Safety Concerns on Kirkham Road, Dandenong South</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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.</p> <p>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–</p>	Executive Director City Futures	06/02/2026	<p>Initial response 27/01/2026:</p> <p>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.</p> <p>Further response 6/02/2026:</p> <p>As a result of the Webster Street Level Crossing Removal Project, there are a number of issues which have been exacerbated by additional traffic on Kirkham Road.</p> <p>The most significant safety risks identified have been at the intersection between Kirkham Road and Frankston Dandenong Road. This location has been of concern to Council for a number of years, and Council has previously advocated to the Victorian Government for full signalisation of the intersection. The additional traffic volumes have resulted in a significant increase in the number of unsafe movements occurring here. Council officers have been assisting the Level Crossing Removal Project team with their investigation into temporary measures at this intersection, which would both reduce the unsafe manoeuvres. If their preferred proposals (including some turn bans) are implemented, then this may also significantly reduce traffic volumes on Kirkham Road. It is anticipated consultation and implementation of changes at the intersection will occur within a few weeks.</p> <p>The roundabout at Bryants Road has suffered some additional damage due to larger trucks</p>

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		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.			<p>driving through the residential areas at this location (i.e. turning to and from Bryants Road). Grant funding through the Victorian Governments Safe Local Roads and Streets Program has been obtained by Council to install traffic calming measures on Bryants Road. Consultation with Bryants Road properties has been undertaken to determine suitable treatment types and delivery of this infrastructure will occur in 2026. It is anticipated that these treatments will have a significant impact on truck volumes making the manoeuvres which have been damaging the roundabout.</p> <p>Whether any further traffic calming measures are required on Kirkham Road will be determined through detailed assessment of the conditions following completion of the Webster Street Level Crossing Removal Project.</p> <p>The section of Kirkham Road in question is part of the high frequency Smartbus route, which impacts the type of treatments which could be appropriately installed on the street, and speed humps / cushions similar to Kirkham Road west of Hammond Road are unlikely to be appropriate.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">COMPLETED</p>



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27/01/26 CQT2	Cr Rhonda Garad	<p>Dandenong Table Tennis Centre 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.</p>	Executive Director Community Strengthening	13/02/2026	<p>Initial response provided by Chief Executive Officer, Jacqui Weatherill 27/01/2026: Council is committed to supporting the Table Tennis Club. Significant work has been undertaken, and I will arrange for Peta Gillies, Executive Director Community Strengthening, to meet with the club to ensure they are fully informed of current progress.</p> <p>Further response 13/02/2026: 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.</p> <p>Officers advised that due to site and budget constraints, they are actively investigating options to retain the future of this facility, subject to future council approval.</p> <p>A commitment was made to the club 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, likely early 2026.</p> <p>Officers intend to continue to build the relationship with the Table Tennis Club and ensure consistent engagement on the future of their facilities.</p>

COMPLETED

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6 URGENT BUSINESS

No urgent business was considered.

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7 CLOSE OF BUSINESS

The Meeting closed at 7.51pm.

Signature

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