



# Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday 9 July 2019  
Commencing at 7:00pm

Council Chamber  
Hobsons Bay Civic Centre  
115 Civic Parade, Altona

**HOBSONS  
BAY CITY  
COUNCIL**



## THE COUNCIL'S MISSION

We will listen, engage and work with our community to plan, deliver and advocate for Hobsons Bay to secure a happy, healthy, fair and sustainable future for all.

## OUR VALUES

Respectful

Community driven and focused

Trusted and reliable

Efficient and responsible

Bold and innovative

Accountable and transparent

Recognised

Council acknowledges the peoples of the Kulin nation as the Traditional Owners of these municipal lands and waterways, and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

### Chairperson:

Cr Jonathon Marsden (Mayor)

Strand Ward

### Councillors:

Cr Angela Altair

Strand Ward

Cr Peter Hemphill

Strand Ward

Cr Tony Briffa

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Sandra Wilson

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Colleen Gates

Wetlands Ward

Cr Michael Grech (Deputy Mayor)

Wetlands Ward

Sanjay Manivasigasivam  
Acting Chief Executive Officer  
Hobsons Bay City Council

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## **AGENDA**

### **1 Council Welcome and Acknowledgement**

The Chairperson will welcome members of the gallery and acknowledge the people of the Kulin Nation as the traditional owners of this land.

### **2 Apologies**

The Chairperson will call for apologies received from Councillors who are unable to attend this meeting.

Council has previously granted Cr Angela Altair leave of absence.

### **3 Disclosure of Interests**

In accordance with sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors are required to disclose a "conflict of interest" in a decision if they would receive, or could be reasonably perceived as receiving a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

In accordance with section 79B of the *Local Government Act 1989* Councillors who consider that they have a personal interest that is in conflict with their public duty in relation to a matter may, if they do not have a conflict of interest as described above, apply to Council to be exempted from voting on the matter.

Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.

### **4 Minutes Confirmation**

#### **4.1 Ordinary Council Meeting**

Confirmation of the minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting of the Hobsons Bay City Council held on 25 June 2019 (copy previously circulated).

### **5 Councillors' Questions**

### **6 Public Question Time**

Public question time provides an opportunity for the public to ask questions related to items on the agenda of the Council meeting or any other matter within Council's responsibility. Questions must be put in writing and received by 12pm on the day of the Council meeting.

## **7 Petitions/Joint Letters**

### **7.1 Petition - Request to Ban Single-Use Plastic Products**

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

**Councillor Portfolio:** Environmental Sustainability - Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson

**Appendices:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To receive a petition, containing 136 signatories to date, requesting Council to ban single-use plastic products on beaches and in parks.

#### **Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- 1. Receive and note the petition requesting Council to ban single-use plastic products on beaches and in parks.**
  - 2. Receive a further report on this matter at a future Council Meeting.**
- 

### **Report for Briefing and Council Meeting**

#### **Summary**

The electronic petition coordinated via the Change.org website was received on 24 June 2019.

The petition requests Council to:

- ban single-use plastic and/or products on Altona and Williamstown Beach as well as in parks within Hobsons Bay
- promote waste-free alternatives around the community with the use of posters in hubs such as the library, train stations and community centres

## 7.2 Petition - Climate Emergency Declaration

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

**Councillor Portfolio:** Environmental Sustainability - Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson

**Appendices:** Nil

### Purpose

To receive a petition requesting Council to declare a climate emergency.

### Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **Receive and note the petition requesting Council to declare a climate emergency.**
  2. **Receive a further report on this matter at a future Council Meeting.**
- 

### Summary

The petition, coordinated in both electronic form via Change.org and a hard copy, was received by Council on 2 July 2019.

Of the 681 signatures collected, 293 are residents of Hobsons Bay.

The petition reads as follows:

“We ask the Mayor and Councillors of Hobsons Bay City Council to declare a climate emergency with the following actions:

1. Declare that we are in a state of CLIMATE EMERGENCY that requires urgent action by all levels of government, including local councils.
2. Immediately review the Hobsons Bay City Council Council Plan and Greenhouse and Adaptation strategies and plans to take URGENT ACTION to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, contribute a fair share to the drawing down of the excess carbon in the atmosphere and respond STRONGLY to the impacts of climate change.
3. Encourage other governments to declare a CLIMATE EMERGENCY.”

## 8 Business

### 8.1 Office of the Chief Executive

#### 8.1.1 Chief Executive Officer - Report on Operations

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Not applicable

**Appendices:**

- 1 Chief Executive Officer - Report on Operations - June 2019
- 2 AOC - Environmental Sustainability Portfolio Advisory Committee 2 May 2019
- 3 AOC - Integrated Transport Portfolio Advisory Committee 15 May 2019
- 4 AOC - OCM 11 June 2019
- 5 AOC - Newport Substation and Waste and Litter Strategy Discussion 13 June 2019
- 6 AOC - CBS 18 June 2019
- 7 AOC - OCM 25 June 2019
- 8 AOC - Truganina Explosives Reserve Advisory Committee 26 June 2019
- 9 AOC - CBS 2 July 2019

#### Purpose

To provide Council with a regular update from the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) on the recent initiatives and projects undertaken as well as the performance results achieved.

#### Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **Receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations, including details of recent issues and initiatives undertaken by the organisation.**
2. **In accordance with section 80A(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989* incorporate into the minutes of this meeting the written Record of Assembly of Councillors held on 2 May, 15 May, 11 June, 13 June, 18 June, 25 June, 26 June and 2 July 2019.**

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#### Summary

The attached CEO's Report on Operations provides councillors and community a regular update from the Chief Executive Officer on key initiatives, projects and performance.

#### Discussion

The purpose of this report is to inform Council and the community of recent issues, initiatives and projects undertaken across Council and the municipality. This report is provided on a monthly basis.

## Strategic Alignment

Council provides a wide range of services to the community of Hobsons Bay as well as developing and delivering actions to ensure community assets are maintained and service the needs of the community. Each month this report highlights these activities, initiatives and projects and provides a high-level performance summary.

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

### **Priority 6: An accessible and connected community.**

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

#### **Goal 4: A Council of excellence**

- 4.3 Provide excellent customer service whilst ensuring all our communications are clear and easy to understand

## Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.



## **8.2 Corporate Services**

### **8.2.1 Policy Review - Civic Receptions, Condolences and Community Recognition and Awards**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Not applicable

**Appendices:**

- 1 Civic Receptions Policy - July 2019
- 2 Condolence Policy - July 2019
- 3 Community Recognition and Awards Policy - July 2019

#### **Purpose**

To review Council's policies regarding Civic Receptions, Condolences and Community Recognition and Awards.

#### **Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- 1. Revoke the Civic Receptions Policy dated 29 May 2012.**
  - 2. Revoke the Condolence Policy dated 29 May 2012.**
  - 3. Revoke the Community Recognition and Awards Policy dated 24 April 2012.**
  - 4. Adopt the amended Civic Receptions, Condolence and Community Recognition and Awards Policies as attached.**
- 

#### **Summary**

The Civic Receptions, Condolence and Community Recognition and Awards Policies were developed to provide Council with the ability to publicly recognise the significant contribution and achievements of its residents.

#### **Background**

##### **Civic Receptions Policy**

In certain circumstances the Council may wish to recognise outstanding community service or other significant achievements by an individual or group by holding a civic reception.

A civic reception may be held for:

- exceptional achievement in sport, the arts, charitable endeavours and community service
- commemorative events that celebrate significant occasions of importance to the local community
- official Delegations recognising a Sister City relationship or other overseas or interstate delegations

**Condolence Policy**

At times it will be appropriate for Council to acknowledge the passing of persons who have made a significant contribution to the community or the City of Hobsons Bay by sending a letter of condolence.

**Community Recognition and Awards Policy**

This policy provides Council with an opportunity to celebrate significant community achievements and milestones. From time to time Council will determine that it is appropriate to recognise the achievements of its residents and publicly celebrate those achievements by awarding a formal Certificate, or in the case of birthdays and wedding anniversaries, sending a letter from the Mayor.

**Discussion**

The attached policies have been reviewed in accordance with good governance practice.

These policies continue to meet Council's needs and support the administrative processes for the conduct of civic receptions, sending of condolences and acknowledging the contributions and achievements of the Hobsons Bay community.

Some minor administrative updates have been made to the policies to include the definition of key terms and specification of their scope.

**Strategic Alignment**

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

**Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection**

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

**Goal 4: A Council of excellence**

- 4.2 Be a more efficient and effective organisation by having a strong focus on continuous improvement, innovation, strategic planning and responsible financial management

**Policy and Previous Council Reports**

Council adopted a policy on the staging of civic receptions on 18 April 2000 and last reviewed the policy on 29 May 2012.

Council's Policy for sending condolences was adopted on 2 March 2004 and last reviewed on 29 May 2012.

The Community Recognition and Awards Policy was previously considered by Council on 9 July 1996, 9 March 1999 and 24 April 2012.

**Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

Not applicable.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

Administrative costs associated with the implementation of each of these policies can be accommodated within existing budgets.

## **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

The Condolence policy provides Council with the opportunity to acknowledge the death of persons who have made a significant contribution to the community or the City of Hobsons Bay in an appropriate manner.

The Civic Receptions Policy allows Council to recognise outstanding community service or other significant achievements by an individual or group by holding a civic reception.

The Community Award and Recognition Policy promotes and recognises significant community achievements and aims to foster greater pride in Hobsons Bay and the achievements of our residents.

## **Consultation and Communication**

Relevant Council officers were consulted in the review of these policies.

## **Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 8.2.2 Local Government Bill 2019

**Directorate:** Corporate Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Not applicable

**Appendices:** 1 Local Government Bill 2019 – Councillor Feedback

### Purpose

To present to Council a summary overview of the six new reforms proposed to the Local Government Bill 2019.

### Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **Make a submission to the State Government on the proposed new reforms to the Local Government Bill 2019 by 17 July 2019.**

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### Summary

In June 2016 the State Government released a directions paper 'Act for the future – Directions for a New Local Government Act'. This was followed in December 2017 by the release of the Exposure Draft of the Local Government Bill 2018 (the LG Bill).

The LG Bill proposed to repeal and replace the *Local Government Act* 1989 (the Act) with a modern, principle based legislative framework for the establishment and administration of Local Government in Victoria. The Bill was then introduced into the Victorian Parliament, however lapsed when Parliament expired before the November 2018 Victorian election.

The Draft Bill 2018 has subsequently evolved into the Local Government Bill 2019. The new Bill includes six new reform proposals designed to further improve and strengthen the 2018 Bill. The six reforms consider reforming electoral laws, making councils more accountable to their communities between elections, improving Councillor behaviour and lifting standards by the introduction of mandatory training for candidates.

The new reforms proposed by the State Government are currently available for community comment and submissions until 5pm, Wednesday 17 July 2019. Feedback received will inform changes to the Local Government Bill 2019 before the Minister for Local Government takes the final Bill into Parliament later this year.

### Background

#### The Reform Process

The *Local Government Act* 1989 reform process responds to calls from the local government sector for legislative reform after over 100 amending acts have resulted in hundreds of individual amendments to the Act in the past 25 years.

The Act was reviewed in four stages to ensure the local government sector and wider community were engaged in creating and shaping the new Bill.

**Stage 1** Issues were identified, research papers were commissioned and an advisory committee was formed.

- Stage 2** Reform ideas were explored. Six technical working groups made up of local government specialists explored a range of options at 10 community forums held around the State.
- Stage 3** A detailed examination of specific policy directions occurred. Resulting in a Directions Paper being released in June 2016 which outlined 157 potential reform directions. Responses to these included 333 written submissions and direct feedback in 18 community forums involving Mayors, Council Chief Executive Officers (CEOs) and community members. Further work was then undertaken in technical working groups and meetings with key stakeholder groups from the sector and the community.
- Hobsons Bay City Council submitted feedback on the Directions paper in June 2016.
- Stage 4** the State Government released an Exposure Draft of the proposed Bill in December 2017. Extensive briefings and public meetings were held to socialise the Exposure Draft. 190 submissions were received and analysed in the process of preparing a final Bill for Parliament.
- Hobsons Bay City Council submitted feedback on the Exposure Draft in March 2018.

Following consultation, the 2018 Bill was introduced into the Victorian Parliament, proposing significant changes to how councils are governed. The Bill lapsed when Parliament expired before the November 2018 Victorian election and the 2018 Bill has now evolved into the Local Government Bill 2019.

## Discussion

The new reforms consider reforming electoral laws, making councils more accountable to their communities between elections, improving Councillor behaviour and lifting standards by the introduction of mandatory training for candidates.

There are six new reforms proposed to be included in the Local Government Bill 2019:

1. Simplified franchise
2. Electoral structures
3. Training
4. Donation reform
5. Improved conduct
6. Community accountability

### 1. Simplified franchise

It is proposed to make Council electoral rolls more closely aligned with the State electoral roll. Voters whose only entitlement is as an owner or lessee of a property in the municipality will be required to lodge an enrolment form to vote in that municipality's election if they want to. This change will take place over two election cycles, 2020 and 2024, to ensure the community has time to understand the proposed change.

### 2. Standardised electoral structures

Representative structures and election processes are to be simplified and made consistent. It is proposed to move to a single consistent model of single member wards, unless it is impractical to subdivide a Council into wards. This more closely reflects the way members of Parliament are elected and increases Councillors' accountability to local communities,

fostering true 'local government'. This model also ensures that all Councillors are elected under the same system with equal vote shares within their municipality.

### 3. Training

#### i. Candidate training

It is proposed to introduce new requirements on candidates and Councillors to improve competency, skills and transparency. The State Government has identified that people nominating as candidates in local Council elections sometimes have a limited understanding of the role they are putting themselves forward for. Concerns also exist about candidates' understanding of the level of commitment required to undertake the role of Councillor. In addition, many people don't understand what a Councillor can legally do in their role.

All candidates for Council elections will be required to undertake mandatory training as a condition of their candidature. The VCE will reject any nominations that fail to demonstrate that they have undertaken relevant training. The nature of the mandatory training will be the subject of further consultation with the local government sector.

#### ii. Councillor induction training

This proposal will require the Chief Executive Officer to arrange Councillor Induction training for all Councillors within six months of being elected. If a Councillor fails to undertake the training within the specified time, their allowance will be withheld until such time the Councillor has taken the training, at which point their allowance will be refunded.

### 4. Donation reform

A number of recent changes to the electoral campaign donation arrangements in Victorian Parliamentary elections will be extended to local government elections. It is proposed that Council election donations from a single donor be limited to \$1,000 per donor (\$4,000 for City of Melbourne) and foreign donations will be prohibited.

Controlling electoral donations and gifts will improve the integrity and transparency of the donations process. This will increase community confidence in Council decision making by making sure that decisions are made purely on merits.

The gift disclosure threshold of \$500 is proposed to be reduced to \$250 and all gifts, including campaign donations, are to be included in a publically available Gift Register.

### 5. Improved conduct

#### i. Codes of Conduct

Under this proposal, the 2019 Bill will no longer include the Councillor Conduct Principles (Model Code). Instead it will require each Council to adopt a Councillor Code of Conduct that includes the standards of conduct prescribed in the Regulations. The standards will define specific acts and omissions of behaviour that apply to all Councillors in all Councils.

Councils will retain discretion to include additional material in their codes (but not to the standards of conduct). The standards of conduct will be developed in consultation with the local government sector and the community.

#### ii. Arbitration process

The arbitration process will become a legislated process managed by the Principal Councillor Conduct Registrar (PCCR) rather than requiring each Council to develop and adopt its own process.

The 2019 Bill will specify that the internal arbitration processes will include: the appointment of an arbiter by the PCCR from a pre-approved list of qualified arbiters; an application fee that will be refunded at the end of the arbitration process unless the application is deemed frivolous, vexatious, misconceived or lacking in substance; and arbiters being empowered to directly impose minor disciplinary penalties, such as requiring an apology or imposing a one-month suspension.

6. Community accountability

i. Disqualification

It is proposed to make Councillors more accountable through stronger sanctions for serious conduct violations. Councillor Conduct Panels hear allegations of serious misconduct against Councillors. Serious misconduct can relate to bullying, conflicts of interest, improper direction of Council staff, disclosing confidential information, sexual harassment or failing to comply with an arbitration process.

If a panel makes a finding of serious misconduct against a Councillor twice within eight years, that Councillor will be automatically disqualified. A disqualified Councillor will be ineligible to contest another Council election for the next four years.

ii. Community initiated Commission of Inquiry

It is proposed to create a second pathway for a Commission of Inquiry above the powers proposed in the 2018 Bill. Under this pathway, the Minister must appoint a Commission of Inquiry into a Council on receiving a petition signed by eligible voters in the municipal district, whose total numbers are greater than 25 per cent of the total enrolment number on the voters' roll prepared at the Council's most recent general election.

Before the Commission of Inquiry proposes to make an adverse finding, that Councillor must have an opportunity to respond to those matters. The Commission must consider the response before making the finding.

The process for petition will be set through regulations. Briefly, an application for a petition will be made to the VEC accompanied by the prescribed fee. This application will require specific information including a statement of up to 200 words providing grounds for why a petition is sought. Applications will be limited to people who are enrolled or entitled to be enrolled on the voters' roll for the municipal district.

The VEC will provide a copy to the Council named in the petition for a response of up to 200 words. The VEC will provide public notice of the petition and include the relevant response, if any. The applicant and nominated representatives will be allowed to collect signatures to the petition for 60 days from the date of the public notice.

Implementation

The 2019 Bill proposes that the provisions of the Bill commence in stages to enable councils to implement the changes effectively and orderly. The government has indicated that support and guidelines would be provided to assist councils during the transition. The implementation support will be tailored to the timeframe and nature of the change and continue beyond implementation as a continuous improvement approach. If enacted, the provisions of the Bill would be implemented in stages up until late 2021.

The State Government welcomes feedback on these proposed reforms before 17 July 2019.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

### Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

#### Goal 4: A Council of excellence

- 4.1 Collaborate with all levels of government, service providers, not for profit organisations and the private sector to address the concerns of our community

## Policy and Previous Council Reports

A report on the Review of the Local Government Act 1989 was presented at the Ordinary Meeting held 13 September 2016. At that meeting Council considered and moved to make a submission to the State Government's Local Government Act Review Directions Paper - Act for the Future, which included 157 proposed directions in 10 major reform directions to be considered in the review of the Act.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held 13 March 2018 a report on the Local Government Bill – Exposure Draft was considered and Council made a submission to the State Government on the proposals then being considered.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk

The purpose of the new Local Government Act is to improve the democracy, accountability and service delivery of Victoria's Councils.

The Local Government Bill 2019 provides the legislative framework that establishes Council roles and powers and has been informed by extensive and open engagement with Councils, the wider community and specific stakeholders by the State Government.

The Local Government Bill 2019 is expected to be introduced into the Victorian Parliament in 2019. The Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 requires a statement of compatibility to be prepared for all Bills introduced into Parliament.

## Financial and Resource Implications

There are no direct financial or resource implications in preparing this report or in drafting the submission, however, once the new Act commences, additional resources will be required to meet some of the statutory requirements in the short term.

## Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts

The Local Government Bill 2019 proposed reforms seek to improve community confidence, improve Councillor conduct, improve service delivery and foster a strong local democracy by making Councillors directly accountable to their community. To date, all consultation and communication has been driven by the State Government.



## **Consultation and Communication**

The new Bill has been developed through extensive consultation by the State Government with the Victorian community, Councils and peak bodies and builds on the reforms presented in 2018. To date, all consultation and communication has been driven by the State Government.

## **Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## **8.3 Sustainable Communities**

### **8.3.1 Newport Structure Plan Deferral**

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

**Councillor Portfolio:** Planning - Cr Tony Briffa and Cr Michael Grech

**Appendices:** Nil

#### **Purpose**

To provide an update on the progress of the draft Newport Structure Plan.

#### **Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- 1. Note the progress of the Draft Newport Structure Plan.**
  - 2. Defer consideration on the adoption of the Draft Newport Structure Plan pending the results of the Heritage Gap Study.**
  - 3. Write to all submitters and advise them of Council's decision.**
- 

#### **Summary**

At the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) on 14 May 2019 Council resolved to defer the consideration of the Newport Structure Plan to the OCM on 9 July 2019. Council noted a Heritage Gap Study for the structure plan area was to commence (as resolved by Council at the OCM of 12 March 2019), to identify any individual places and precincts that may be of heritage significance.

The Heritage Gap Study has commenced. Consideration of the Draft Newport Structure Plan will now be deferred until the study has been finalised.

#### **Background**

The current Newport Local Structure Plan was prepared in 1999. Based on current development pressures in Newport and surrounding areas, Council instigated a review of the Plan. Substantial background research and work was undertaken to address the gaps and update the Plan including economic and market feasibility, access and mobility, urban design guidelines, heritage, social impacts and consultation with community, stakeholders and authorities.

The Draft Newport Structure Plan was exhibited over seven weeks during July and August 2018. Council considered the submissions received at the OCM on 13 November 2018 and 11 December 2018. Since this time officers have reviewed submissions and made a number of recommended changes to the draft Newport Structure Plan, including commencing the Heritage Gap Study.

Council has a comprehensive existing Heritage Study which identifies over 3,000 properties of heritage significance throughout the municipality. The Heritage Study is a reference document which identifies land affected by the Heritage Overlay. As part of the development

of the Newport Structure Plan, it was identified that there may be some gaps in the existing Heritage Study, particularly in Newport West. This resulted in a decision to undertake a Heritage Gap Study.

## Discussion

In response to the Council resolution on 12 March 2019, a heritage expert has been appointed to undertake the Heritage Gap Study. The Heritage Gap Study will form a part of the formal planning scheme amendment to implement the Newport Structure Plan. If the heritage study identifies any key changes, amendments will be made to the Newport Structure Plan.

It is important to note that the Heritage Gap Study will not automatically result in changes to zoning to properties. It may, however, result in a Heritage Overlay and / or additional development controls being applied. If so, these would need to go through a future planning scheme amendment and panel process to implement the recommendations into the planning scheme.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

### Priority 1: Visionary, vibrant, accountable urban planning

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

### Goal 3: A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place

- 3.1 Work with all levels of government, key stakeholders and the community to ensure urban development is appropriate and considers neighbourhood character and heritage

## Policy and Previous Council Reports

Council was updated on community consultation findings at the OCM on 16 December 2014.

Council considered the Plan at the OCM on 10 July 2018 and resolved to undertake community consultation.

At the OCM on 13 November 2018, Council acknowledged all submissions and sought a further report to consider next steps.

At the OCM on 11 December 2018, Council considered all submissions received and recommended changes to the Draft Newport Structure Plan.

At the OCM on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to defer consideration of the Newport Structure Plan to the 14 May Ordinary Council Meeting. The Newport Structure Plan was then deferred to the 9 July 2019 Ordinary Council Meeting.

The Newport Structure Plan aligns with State policy direction set out in Plan Melbourne, Victorian Urban Design Guidelines, Better Apartment Design Standards, new residential zones and Victoria's 30-year Infrastructure Strategy.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk

The Newport Structure Plan was prepared in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and was guided by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Practice Note 58: Structure Planning for Activity Centres and Practice Note 60: Height and Setback Controls for Activity Centres. The practice notes set out reasons for structure planning in activity centres, the policy context and possible inputs and outputs of the process.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The preparation and exhibition of the Newport Structure Plan was funded within the existing operational budget. The cost of the initial Heritage Gap Study will be \$60,000. If it is identified that individual Heritage Citations are required this is likely to cost approximately \$5,000 per citation.

## Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts

The Newport Structure Plan has taken into account a range of environmental, social and economic issues. It aims to encourage environmental principles and environmentally sustainable design in future development as well as promote sustainable travel choices.

It sets out recommendations for housing, business mix, economic and retail requirements for Newport to ensure a viable and economically sustainable future.

## Consultation and Communication

Consultation was undertaken throughout the preparation process including at the outset in 2014 and during the draft plan review in 2018. Consultation included a range of measures to engage, inform and seek feedback from the community, stakeholders and relevant authorities. On several occasions, Council officers met with submitters to clarify issues raised including two meetings after the consultation period in November and December 2018. Following on from OCM on 9 March 2019, Council officers met with residents on 10 April 2019 and 29 May 2019 to further discuss concerns in relation to the Newport Structure Plan.

If the Newport Structure Plan is adopted in future, an amendment will be prepared, and formal exhibition (including community consultation) of a planning scheme amendment will occur as required by the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. The amendment would implement the land use planning actions within the final Newport Structure Plan.

## Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 8.3.2 Adoption - Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025

**Directorate:** Sustainable Communities

**Councillor Portfolio:** Environmental Sustainability - Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson

**Appendices:**

- 1 Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 - Community Consultation Report
- 2 Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025
- 3 Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 - Funding Source

### Purpose

To present the Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025, following community consultation, to Council for adoption.

### Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. **Note the submissions received following the public consultation of the Draft Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025.**
2. **Note the changes made to the Draft Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 in response to submissions.**
3. **Adopt the Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025.**
4. **Write to submitters to thank them for their contributions and inform them of Council's decision.**

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### Summary

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to place the Draft Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 (draft strategy) out for public consultation for six weeks.

Consultation took place between 13 March and 24 April 2019 with a number of methods used to encourage the community and stakeholders to provide feedback. Consultation included face to face discussions at five pop up locations throughout the municipality, as well as the Environmental Sustainability Portfolio Advisory Committee. An online survey on Council's Participate website and postal and email submissions captured further community feedback. The reach included:

- 52 Community members participating in face to face feedback and engagement
- 97 separate submissions received from 87 community members
- 9,295 community members reached through Council e-newsletters
- 41,384 people across 13 Facebook posts, directly engaging with approximately 5,000 community members. The highest single Facebook post reached an audience of 11,778 users

Overall there was strong support from the community for Council's strategic direction and specific actions, particularly in relation to the introduction of food waste recycling services. Themes that emerged during public consultation included:

- the importance of resource recovery
- strong interest and support for ongoing community education and engagement
- enhancing the efficiency of Council's waste and litter collection services
- highlighting various enforcement methods and improvements to current operational practices

The majority of submissions made by the community supported the proposed actions of the draft strategy which resulted in minimal changes. However, some amendments have been made to the final Waste and Litter Management Strategy 2025 (the strategy) as follows:

- a new action to improve waste and resource recovery for multi-unit and mixed use developments, town houses, industrial and commercial developments
- a review of the proposed food waste recovery service to become a trial of collection systems in 2019, as a precursor to expanding the service across the municipality
- the funding source and approximate cost of each action of the strategy

## Background

Local governments provide direct waste and litter services to the community. Council's waste and recycling services include garbage, recycling, garden waste and hard waste collections to households and some businesses within Hobsons Bay. Council also provides litter bin collections, street sweeping, stormwater management, beach cleaning and seaweed removal. In addition, Council delivers community awareness raising and behavioural change activities.

Policy changes, improvements to technologies and ongoing research requires councils to continually review their services, programs and strategic plans. Council's Waste and Litter Management Plan 2012-17 has been reviewed. A background paper was developed to inform the draft strategy. The background paper established baseline data and highlighted Federal and State Government strategic objectives, initiatives of the community, key achievements of Council, the strategic context and the waste and litter profile of Hobsons Bay.

The strategy aims to deliver innovative and collaborative solutions to waste and litter management in Hobsons Bay, and focuses on waste and litter issues that Council directly controls. It focuses on waste reduction/avoidance, reuse, recycling and resource recovery rather than disposal to landfill. It includes targets, as well as monitoring and reporting mechanisms, and was developed in alignment with relevant national, State and local policy.

## Discussion

A consultation report highlighting key themes and a summary of feedback during the public exhibition is provided at Appendix 1. It includes an analysis of all strengths, gaps and challenges raised by each submitter along with comments on amendments to the draft strategy. Several common themes were identified from community feedback. These include:

- The importance of resource recovery. Community perceptions are consistent with the actions within the draft strategy. Fewer than 4 percent of submissions did not support some of the actions relating to resource recovery (e.g. container deposit systems).

There is strong support for a food waste resource recovery system within Hobsons Bay. Other prominent examples among responses included providing recycling drop off points and extending current electronic waste collection services.

- Enhancing the efficiency of Council's waste and litter collection services. More than 87 per cent of respondents made no comment or objection to trialling variations to recycling systems, exploring the introduction of smaller garbage bins and expanding on opportunities to increase public place recycling. There was also minimal feedback received on Council's proposal to explore bin standardisation. Although the community demonstrated strong support for implementing a food waste recovery service, concerns were expressed about implementing it without changing the collection schedule. Council will undertake trials of food waste recovery, including new collection schedules, as a precursor to expanding the service across the municipality.
- Strong interest and support for ongoing community engagement and education. Provision of multi-lingual content and engagement with the commercial sector were highlighted as some areas for improvement. Feedback on specific methods of education have been considered and will be built into Council's waste and litter engagement practices were applicable.

Other themes that emerged during the consultation included enforcement, communication and improvements to current operational practices. See Appendix 1 for a detailed analysis.

As a result of the engagement process it became clear that Council can do more to promote the services and the activities Council provides. Council is already undertaking a number of actions suggested by community feedback in the waste and litter area.

The majority of submissions made by the community supported the proposed actions of the draft strategy which resulted in minimal changes. Following community consultation, some minor amendments have been made to the actions of the strategy including:

- a new action to improve waste and resource recovery for multi-unit and mixed use developments, town houses, industrial and commercial developments
- a review of the proposed food waste recovery service to become a trial of collection systems as a precursor to expanding the service across the municipality
- the funding source and approximate cost of each action of the strategy

The strategy, provided in Appendix 2, includes the following five goal areas:

- reduce and recover food waste
- strengthen community behaviour change
- enable resource recovery facilities and support local economies
- a cleaner Hobsons Bay
- a Council of excellence in waste and litter management

The strategy includes a range of actions. Key actions include:

- trialling a food waste recovery service, to commence in 2019
- empowering the community to develop and deliver innovative community led waste and litter projects
- continuing community education on single use plastic and food waste avoidance

- developing a policy to phase out single use products in Council's operations
- looking into ways that Council can incentivise resource recovery of the community
- investigating food waste recycling options for the commercial sector
- preparing a Drainage Asset Management Plan reviewing opportunities to capture more litter from the drainage network
- seeking alternatives to landfill
- exploring alternative fuels in waste, recycling and litter collection service fleet
- advocating for industry product stewardship specifically the introduction of container deposit legislation
- trial variations to recycling systems including the introduction of larger recycling bins
- explore methods to reuse our seaweed
- trial container deposit systems

Waste and resource recovery targets have been proposed in the strategy. The strategy will be monitored yearly with a final evaluation report prepared for Council and the community in 2025 including an overview of targets, qualitative and quantitative measures and actions that have been completed.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

### Priority 5: Activate sustainable practices

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

### Goal 3: A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place

- 3.4 Maintain a clean city and encourage the community, business and industry to reduce, reuse and recycle

## Policy and Previous Council Reports

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to endorse the draft strategy for six weeks public exhibition.

## Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk

There are no legal and statutory ramifications, *Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006* implications or risk associated with the strategy. Council is not required to prepare a waste and litter management strategy but it is good practice to do so. It provides the evidence for action and resource allocation and supports Council's advocacy activities and finding applications for projects.

## Financial and Resource Implications

The preparation and exhibition of the draft strategy was funded within existing operational budgets. The funding source and approximate cost of all actions have been outlined in the strategy. Many actions that arise from the strategy will be funded through Council's waste



service charges and waste management financial reserve. In addition, the waste service charge will fund waste and recycling services and community waste education programs. General rates will fund litter bin and dumped litter collections, litter traps, street sweeping, seaweed collections and beach cleaning. Alternative funding sources might include the Victorian Government's Sustainability Fund or other funding mechanisms.

There are specific actions of the strategy that will require separate funding consideration and decision making before they proceed, these are highlighted in the strategy. Appendix 3 outlines the approximate costs, funding source and funding status of each action of the strategy.

## **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

The proposed actions of the strategy aim to avoid, reduce, reuse, recycle and appropriately manage waste and litter in Hobsons Bay. The strategic direction of the strategy also aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions associated with landfilling.

## **Consultation and Communication**

The Community Engagement Framework 2015 guided the development and delivery of the public consultation of the draft strategy. Consultation was undertaken for six weeks from 13 March to 24 April 2019. Community members and stakeholders were informed of their opportunity to provide feedback on the draft strategy through a media release, publication in the Around the Bay newsletter, Council e-newsletters and notification through Council's on hold message. Council also ran a social media campaign which consisted of 13 Facebook posts. It reached over 41,300 people and engaged approximately 5,000 Facebook users. The best singular post reached a target audience of 11,778 and generated 788 comments, likes, reactions and shares.

Five pop up stalls were hosted across the municipality and Council received 11 verbal submissions across all sites. A project page on Council's Participate website generated 278 visits and 68 submissions. Email submissions also captured community feedback. Council received 97 separate submissions from 87 community members through all channels (face to face, survey, and email submissions). Council also engaged with the Environmental Sustainability Portfolio Advisory Committee. The full consultation report is provided in Appendix 1.

## **Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

### 8.3.3 Progress Report Year Three - Hobsons Bay Events and Festivals Plan 2016-21

<b>Directorate:</b>	Sustainable Communities
<b>Councillor Portfolio:</b>	Arts, Culture and Tourism - Cr Angela Altair and Cr Colleen Gates
<b>Appendices:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1 Events and Festivals Plan Year 3 Progress Report - List of permit applications</li><li>2 Events and Festivals Plan Year 3 Progress Report - Table of funded events including details of support provided</li><li>3 Events and Festivals Plan Year 3 Progress Report - Table of funded or produced events by category and criteria</li></ol>

#### Purpose

To report on the progress and outcomes of the Hobsons Bay Events and Festivals Plan 2016-21 during the period July 2018 to June 2019 and note the priorities for 2019-20.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Note the progress and outcomes of the Hobsons Bay Events and Festivals Plan 2016-21.**

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#### Summary

Through the Hobsons Bay Events and Festivals Plan 2016-21 (the plan), Council enables a strong and diverse events program which showcases the city, entertains our community and provides opportunities for collaboration, connection and capacity building. This report highlights the achievements of the Plan during the period July 2018 – June 2019 with actions undertaken across a range of work in line with its goals, values and themes.

#### Background

Successful events can build cultural identity, social cohesion and connection and can enable a celebration of sense of place, providing a greater understanding of where we live. Investment in events can support the local economy, attract visitors and encourage their return, which can benefit local business and organisations.

Council has a number of roles in relation to events and festivals. These include the assessment and approvals of events that take place on public or Council managed land, providing advice on requirements, appropriate use of land, compliance information and coordinating stakeholders and authority approvals. Council has an advisory and facilitation role, providing a central point of contact for event organisers, monitoring and evaluating event impacts and providing support and capacity building to the community. Council provides support through funding and in-kind contributions to events which help meet Council goals and is sometimes an event producer.

## Discussion

Hobsons Bay is home to a diverse and expanding calendar of events that contribute to making the city a great place to live and visit. The Plan provides direction for the support, management and development of events and festivals in Hobsons Bay and is established across three goals:

- Goal One - To strengthen and support events that enhance our community
- Goal Two – To strengthen tourism and economic outcomes
- Goal Three – To effectively manage event impacts

During 2018-19, Council provided funding assistance to event producers through application to the Local Events and Festivals Fund and Major Events Sponsorship programs as well as an open round in support of Small Short Lead requests. Application details were promoted widely to cultural, community and sporting groups, recurrent producers and other interested groups. Applications were assessed by representatives of various areas across Council on criteria of capacity and capability, community benefits and outcomes, economic and tourism benefits and outcomes, dispersion (location and/or time of year) and contribution to a diverse events calendar for the city.

In 2018-19, 51 events were supported through these programs with support given to events and festivals that relate to the arts, cultural programming, community celebration, major sporting events and special events that showcase the city and some of its defining characteristics. These included local initiatives such as the Vernon Street Festival, Vietnamese Moon Festival and Slow Fish Festival, to major events of regional and State significance such as the WOW Challenge and Open Water Swim, Bay Classic Series cycling, Miss Gay and Miss Transsexual Australia and the U15 Lacrosse National Championships.

Opportunities to leverage benefits from connections with State festivals such as the Melbourne Food and Wine Festival and National Trust Heritage Festival produced local programs through partnerships with special interest groups, local businesses and program development and delivered Eat Drink Westside and Heritage Hobsons Bay.

Work in support of the plan included the production of 11 events, including Movies by the Bay and Summer Sounds events in Altona, Laverton, Seabrook and Williamstown and a 10 day winter activation, Neon Dog Park in Nelson Place, Williamstown. The events unit provided assistance to 7 civic events of significance, supporting the organisers of Anzac and Remembrance Commemoration Services and coordinated the response to the New Year's Eve mass gathering in Williamstown and Newport.

During the reporting period, 70 events applicants were assessed and received permits. These included major or complex (level 3) events such as the Williamstown Open Water Challenge, WSTC Girls Secondary Sport Triathlon, Surf Lifesaving Victoria Junior Carnival, Altona and Endemol Shine filming of Australian Ninja Warrior in Spotswood.

Workshops were held in Events and Risk Management Planning and Events Promotion and Marketing to help build the capacity of community events organisers to deliver events.

See Appendix 1 for a summary of actions that helped deliver the Plan and a list of events which were funded, supported, produced or issued with permits during the period June 2018 to July 2019.

**Proposed actions for 2019-20**

Work in 2019-20 will build on the achievements to date, with plans to further develop the assessment and evaluation tools to determine the social, economic and tourism benefits of investment in events and festivals. Sunset Cinema's trial of open air cinema at Commonwealth Reserve demonstrated the ability for event producers to bring value and investment to an area and Council will continue to look for appropriate opportunities. A central events register will be compiled to document all events supported or produced by Council. This will help showcase and promote particular program areas and provide opportunities for collaboration. For users of event spaces, building capacity to creating sustainable events and building capacity to respond to Crowded Places protocols and emergency planning will continue.

**Strategic Alignment**

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

**Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection**

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

**Goal 2: A great place**

- 2.4 Deliver, support and promote arts, cultural, heritage, recreational and sporting events and programs that foster a sense of belonging and contribute to the liveability of the city

**Policy and Previous Council Reports**

The Hobsons Bay Events and Festivals Plan 2016-21 was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) 15 December 2015. A report on its first year was provided at the OCM 14 March 2017. A second year report was provided at the OCM 12 June 2018.

**Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

The plan helps Council meet regulatory and statutory roles in the assessment of events, through clarity of roles and coordination of specialist assessment.

Events provide opportunities for people to participate, and often include opportunities for volunteers. Many events are complex in nature and all require adherence to a number of legislative, statutory and Council requirements.

Through the plan, Council plays a lead role in helping build the capacity of event organisers.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

The 2018-19 Action Plan has been delivered in line with Council's annual budget. The number and diversity of events within Hobsons Bay is growing steadily and demand for Council support and funding is increasing. The funding process enables Council to better review and assess event needs and provides the opportunity for new events to emerge. Funding allocations are provided in Appendix 1. Council allocates \$190,000 across its three annual categories with \$15,000 available for additional operational support.

## Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts

Events and festivals foster a strong sense of community and cultural identity, connect people and provide opportunities to experience and participate. Responses to a public survey as part of the development of the Plan, indicated that 97 per cent of respondents believe that Council should play a role in supporting events and festivals, with 95 per cent stating that events and festivals can be beneficial to the city, for its residents and visitors.

Some parts of the city have event locations in high demand at various times of the year, drawing event producers who can add value to the sector. Examples being Commonwealth Reserve Williamstown, Logan Reserve and Pier Street precinct in Altona, and Seaworks which has drawn approximately 100,000 visitors during the year to events, markets and programs. Council aims to influence and support events that enable dispersion of impacts and benefits throughout the city and throughout the year.

## Consultation and Communication

Council promoted events through the production and distribution of five editions of the Hobsons Bay Events Booklet (around 3,500-5,000 copies of each edition are published), through listings on Council's events calendar, its communications channels, social media and regular Hobsons Bay arts and events e-newsletters.

Major events are regularly promoted through tourism channels and are pitched to a wide range of metropolitan publications and social media contacts. Council produced materials including e-fliers, short film, visitor services, information bags are provided to event organisers including conference producers.

The plan and its actions were developed following extensive community and event producer consultation.

Event organiser feedback is actively encouraged through a formal debrief process and through capacity building sessions for community organisers who have input into the workshop calendar.

## Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 8.4 Infrastructure and City Services

### 8.4.1 Aquatic Strategy - Final Adoption

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Active and Inclusive Communities - Cr Michael Grech and Cr Peter Hemphill

**Appendices:**

- 1 Hobsons Bay Aquatic Strategy 2019-2030
- 2 Draft Aquatic Strategy Public Exhibition Feedback Summary

#### Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Aquatic Strategy Final Report.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Adopt the Aquatic Strategy Final Report.**
  2. **Acknowledge the feedback received during the public exhibition of the Draft Aquatic Strategy.**
  3. **Write to all submitters to thank them for their contribution.**
  4. **Establish a Stakeholder Reference Group to guide the Bruce Comben Reserve Aquatic Centre Feasibility Study.**
- 

#### Summary

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to place the Draft Aquatic Strategy (draft strategy) on public exhibition for four weeks between 1 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The public exhibition period was later extended to close on 5 May 2019 to allow additional time for the community to provide feedback. The public exhibition period was widely promoted with existing users and members of Council's aquatic facilities and the Hobsons Bay Community.

In total, 1,140 people visited the combined draft strategy page on Council's Participate website, 76 people completed an online survey, nine submissions were received and approximately 45 people attended the three community drop in sessions during April 2019.

The feedback received during the public exhibition period has been considered and has informed the updated Aquatic Strategy (the strategy) (Attachment 1) that is presented for adoption.

#### Background

The strategy commenced in 2018 and has been developed to meet our community's current and future aquatic facility needs. The strategy considers the upgrade and renewal needs of the existing facilities, and provides a plan to deliver aquatic facilities and services for our future population growth. To achieve this vision, the strategy recommends the provision of

two major (district level) aquatic centres, one to service the east of the municipality and one to service the west.

The first priority is to undertake a feasibility study and design for a new aquatic centre at Bruce Comben Reserve to service the west of Hobsons Bay. This is considered the highest priority due to the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre nearing the end of its useful life. The feasibility study for the new facility at Bruce Comben Reserve will also include investigations into a new water play and youth facility at McCormack Park to replace the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre.

A long term priority in the plan is to undertake an expansion project at Bayfit Leisure Centre to include facilities that are found in a contemporary facility.

## Discussion

The public exhibition period of the draft strategy was from 1 April 2019 to 5 May 2019. A summary of the feedback received is included as Attachment 2. Key themes that emerged from feedback received on the draft strategy include:

- the proposed aquatic facility at Bruce Comben Reserve and its impacts on the Cooraminta Children's Centre and traffic within the area
- replacement of the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre
- future Bayfit Leisure Centre redevelopment project
- the provision of a 50m pool in Hobsons Bay

All feedback received during the public exhibition period has been reviewed. Following careful consideration of the feedback, a high level response to the key themes is provided below:

### Bruce Comben Reserve

Council officers have met with Staff of Cooraminta Children's Centre and tenant sport clubs at Bruce Comben Reserve to discuss the draft strategy to understand their needs. The updated strategy provides a list of key principles that respond to their concerns and will guide the development of an aquatic facility at Bruce Comben Reserve. A Stakeholder Reference Group will be established to guide the feasibility study on the aquatic facility at Bruce Comben Reserve. Membership on this reference group will include representatives from Cooraminta, tenant sports club and the local community.

The following key design principles have been developed to guide the Western Aquatic Centre at Bruce Comben Reserve:

- provide a modern aquatic and early years facility
- there will be continuity of early years' service provision onsite
- there will be continuity of service provision onsite for tenant sports clubs
- the centre will be designed consistent with Universal Design Principles and Female Friendly Guidelines
- this design will include change facilities for school groups, people with disabilities and families

- the design will respond to potential residential safety and amenity impacts including traffic concerns

#### Traffic Impact – Central Avenue

Traffic concerns particularly on Central Avenue in Altona Meadows were raised during the public exhibition period. In response to traffic concerns, Council will use the strategy as an advocacy tool to VicRoads for the duplication of Central Avenue and improvements to the Point Cook Road and Princess Freeway Interchange.

#### The Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre

The Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre is nearing the end of its useful life. A new water play and youth facility will replace the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre. Council will work with the Laverton Community to develop the water play area and the youth facility on the site.

#### Provision of a 50m pool

There was feedback received during the public exhibition period requesting the provision of a 50m pool. For a facility with a 50m pool to be successful and financially viable, a catchment of 100,000+ people is required. In Hobsons Bay, a facility location to achieve this catchment cannot be achieved therefore the provision of a 50m pool has not been included. In close proximity to Hobsons Bay, there are other 50m pools located at AquaPulse, Hoppers Crossing, Maribyrnong Aquatic Centre, Maribyrnong and Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, Albert Park.

The feedback has informed the updated strategy that is presented for adoption.

### **Strategic Alignment**

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

#### **Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection**

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

#### **Goal 1: An Inclusive, Resilient and Healthy Community**

- 1.2 Deliver, support and facilitate projects and programs that encourage equity and diversity so everyone can reach their full potential
- 1.3 Ensure all community members will have access to quality community, sport and recreation facilities, cultural experiences and open spaces to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle

The strategy is also closely aligned to the Council Plan 2017-21 and its endorsement by Council has been listed as a 2018-19 major initiative.

### **Policy and Previous Council Reports**

Discussions about a strategy were raised at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 28 February 2017, where Council resolved to undertake a review of aquatic services that incorporated a strategic study into the future operations of the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 14 November 2017, Council resolved to undertake the Hobsons Bay Aquatic Strategy 2019-2030 which will assess general aquatic provision in



Hobsons Bay and neighbouring municipalities including options for redevelopment of the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre.

Two Councillor Briefing Sessions have been delivered on the strategy. Details include:

- Councillor Briefing Session on 3 July 2018, Council received a presentation on the Strategy Background and Consultation Report
- Councillor Briefing Session on 4 December 2018, Council received a presentation on Aquatic Facility provision options

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to place the draft strategy on public exhibition and receive a further report to consider feedback and endorse the strategy. A further Councillor Briefing Session occurred on 18 June 2019 to provide a summary of the feedback received during the public exhibition period of the draft strategy.

### **Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

The completion of the strategy has involved the inspection of facilities and a review of previous facility audits to ensure issues of compliance, statutory obligation and risk have been considered and will be addressed with future facility upgrade priorities.

### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The strategy is being delivered by the Active Communities Department, with assistance from sports planning specialists. Short term (1-2 years), medium (3-5 years) and long term (6-10 year) priorities have been identified with cost estimates to implement the strategy.

An estimated total project cost to implement the strategy is \$65M. A funding strategy will be developed with the implementation of each project within the strategy which will include a combination of funding from the State Government, Federal Government and Public Private Partnerships.

The estimated annual maintenance costs assessment for works included as part of the strategy is \$1.5M

### **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

Council has obligations under the *Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* to seek, protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing. The provision of facilities that encourage the community to participate in sporting, recreational and community activities is a fundamental role of Council.

Recreation and leisure facilities make a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of the community. Participation in physical activity is associated with better physical health and improved social, emotional and psychological wellbeing.

The strategy has been developed to guide the future planning and aquatic facilities to meet the current and future needs of the community. Aquatic facilities provide a range of values and benefits for communities including:

- health and fitness services allowing people to enjoy the benefits of physical activity
- the provision of safe and welcoming spaces, supporting social inclusion and a sense of connection for all members of the community
- opportunities to participate for recreation, competition or sport

- community development that contributes to the development of social capital, helping to create links in a community
- positive impacts on physical and mental wellbeing
- water safety/education and water confidence programs that can reduce the incidence of drownings in the community
- fostering community pride.

These values and benefits have consistent themes with guiding principles, goals and strategies outlined in Council's Sport and Recreation Strategy 2014.

## Consultation and Communication

Following endorsement of the draft strategy, a comprehensive public exhibition period was undertaken from 1 April 2019 to 5 May 2019. The draft strategy and Summary Report was available on Council's Participate website with a survey for the community to provide their feedback. Links to Participate were promoted by Bayfit and Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre to centre members and visitors. It was also promoted through Council's social media platforms and other community newsletters and publications.

Three drop in sessions occurred during the public exhibition period for the general community to discuss the draft strategy:

- Hobsons Bay Civic Centre on 8 April 2019
- Bruce Comben Reserve on 10 April 2019
- Hobsons Bay Civic Centre on 29 April 2019

Approximately 45 people attended the three community drop in sessions, and by the completion of the public exhibition period 76 people completed an online survey and nine additional submissions were received.

The development of the strategy also included feedback from a community consultation period that was held between March and April 2018.

The following surveys including response numbers were completed:

- resident/household survey (233 responses)
- Bayfit user survey (329 responses)
- Laverton Swim and fitness Centre user survey (136 responses)

The surveys were widely promoted through Council's Participate website, Council's social media platforms and via Centre managers to gain feedback from facility members. The following additional engagement activities were also undertaken during this consultation period:

- a series of workshops and interviews with Councilors and Council officers
- interviews with Aquatic Centre managers
- 25 stakeholders were invited to an interview with 14 organisations providing feedback

The Active and Inclusive Communities Portfolio Advisory Committee (PAC) were consulted throughout the development of the strategy. A presentation on the Background and

Consultation Summary Report and draft strategy when it was on public exhibition were provided. The PAC supported the draft strategy whilst providing the following comments as feedback for consideration:

- liaison required with Cooraminta Children's Centre
- traffic management required for Bruce Comben Reserve and surrounds
- liaison required with existing tenants of Bruce Comben Reserve
- 50 metre pool to be located within the municipality
- function/conference area for Bruce Comben Reserve
- other indoor sports to be considered including sports such as squash
- consulting suites like physiotherapy to be included

The feedback received was considered with all feedback received during the public exhibition period of the draft strategy.

### **Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## **8.4.2 Response to Petition - Request to Reconsider the Demolition of the Cooraminta Children's Centre**

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Active and Inclusive Communities - Cr Michael Grech and Cr Peter Hemphill

**Appendices:** Nil

### **Purpose**

To advise Council of the proposed actions to be undertaken in response to the petition regarding the Cooraminta Children's Centre and the Hobsons Bay Aquatic Strategy.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council:**

- 1. Establish a Stakeholder Reference Group that will guide the Bruce Comben Reserve Aquatic Centre Feasibility Study.**
  - 2. Advise the lead petitioner of the outcome.**
- 

### **Summary**

A petition with 565 signatures has been received requesting that Cooraminta Children's Centre (CCC) is not impacted by the implementation of the Aquatic Strategy.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to place the Draft Aquatic Strategy on public exhibition. Within the Draft Aquatic Strategy, a new aquatic facility is proposed at Bruce Comben Reserve on the existing footprint of the CCC. Whilst a new Early Year's facility was included in the new aquatic facility concept, the scale and detail of the proposal caused concern for the Cooraminta community.

Council officers met with representatives from CCC to discuss the Draft Aquatic Strategy in more detail. As part of the updated Aquatic Strategy prepared for Council adoption, the concept plan for a new aquatic facility at Bruce Comben Reserve has been removed and replaced with key principles to guide the feasibility and design of a new facility onsite. One of the key principles is to ensure there is continuity of an Early Years' service at Bruce Comben Reserve throughout the development of the new aquatic facility.

Furthermore, a Stakeholder Reference Group is recommended to be established with representatives from CCC, tenant sports clubs from Bruce Comben Reserve and local residents to help guide the Bruce Comben Reserve Aquatic Facility Feasibility Study.

### **Background**

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to place the Draft Aquatic Strategy on public exhibition for four weeks between 1 April 2019 and 30 April 2019. The public exhibition period was later extended to close on 5 May 2019 to allow additional time for the community to provide feedback. Following the completion of the public exhibition period, Council received a petition on 14 May 2019.

Following the conclusion of the public exhibition period, Council officers met with the Director and some staff from CCC to further discuss their concerns. As a result, CCC and Council agreed to work together to progress the future facility at Bruce Comben Reserve. As a result of these positive discussions, CCC submitted their petition with a covering letter which included the below details:

*“While Cooraminta CC Inc. still have concerns over the proposed Aquatic centre, we agree in principle with the following points:*

- 1: A consultative committee will be formed with all parties affected by this proposal.*
- 2: That the Cooraminta CC Inc. will be involved in the entire process and be the approved Provider for the Early Years’ Service on Bruce Comben Reserve.*
- 3: That Cooraminta CC Inc. preferred option is to stay where we are currently and to have the facility façade upgraded.*
- 4: Should it be deemed that the current facility is not appropriate and will in fact be demolished, then Cooraminta CC Inc. will stay where it is until a new Early Years facility is built and we move to the new premises.”*

The petition was signed by 565 people and was hosted online via change.org.

## Discussion

All feedback received during the public exhibition period of the Draft Aquatic Strategy has been reviewed and carefully considered. The contents of the petition and the covering letter have also been considered. Below is a response to the key points raised in the covering letter of the petition submitted by CCC:

**Item 1:** A consultative committee will be formed with all parties affected by this proposal.

A Stakeholder Reference Group will be established to guide the feasibility study on the aquatic facility at Bruce Comben Reserve. Membership on this reference group will include representatives from CCC, tenant sports club and the local community.

**Item 2:** That the Cooraminta CC Inc. will be involved in the entire process and be the approved Provider for the Early Years’ Service on Bruce Comben Reserve.

As a representative on the Stakeholder Reference Group, CCC will be involved at key points throughout the process including the development of the feasibility study, detailed designs and implementation of a new centre at Bruce Comben Reserve. CCC’s current 3 year licence expires in December 2019. While licences are normally only renewed every three years, given the redevelopment of an early years facility is part of the Bruce Comben Reserve aquatic centre, Council is prepared to confirm in advance the extension of CCC’s licence for the duration of the design and development of the new aquatic centre.

**Item 3:** That Cooraminta CC Inc.’s preferred option is to stay where we are currently and to have the facility façade upgraded.

**Item 4:** Should it be deemed that the current facility is not appropriate and will in fact be demolished, then Cooraminta CC Inc. will stay where it is until a new Early Years facility is built and we move to the new premises.

Within the updated Aquatic Strategy for Council adoption, the concept plan for Bruce Comben Reserve Aquatic Facility has been removed and replaced with key principles that will guide the facility development. The following key design principles have been developed to guide the Western Aquatic Centre at Bruce Comben Reserve:

- provide a modern aquatic and Early Years facility
- there will be continuity of Early Years' service provision onsite
- there will be continuity of service provision onsite for tenant sports clubs
- the centre will be designed consistent with Universal Design Principles and Female Friendly Guidelines
- this design will include change facilities for school groups, people with disabilities and families
- the design will respond to potential residential safety and amenity impacts including traffic concerns

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

### Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

#### Goal 1: An Inclusive, Resilient and Healthy Community

- 1.2 Deliver, support and facilitate projects and programs that encourage equity and diversity so everyone can reach their full potential
- 1.3 Ensure all community members will have access to quality community, sport and recreation facilities, cultural experiences and open spaces to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle

The Aquatic Strategy is closely aligned to the Council Plan 2017-21 and its endorsement by Council has been listed as a 2018-19 major initiative.

## Policy and Previous Council Reports

Discussions about an Aquatic Strategy were raised at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 14 February 2017, where Council resolved to undertake a review of aquatic services that incorporated a strategic study into the future operations of the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre.

At Ordinary Council Meeting on 14 November 2017, Council resolved to undertake the Hobsons Bay Aquatic Strategy 2019-2030 which will assess general aquatic provision in Hobsons Bay and neighbouring municipalities including options for redevelopment of the Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 12 March 2019, Council resolved to place the Draft Aquatic Strategy on public exhibition and receive a further report to consider feedback and endorse the Aquatic Strategy. A Councillor Briefing Session on 18 June 2019 provides a

summary of the feedback received during the public exhibition period of the Draft Aquatic Strategy.

## **Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

The completion of the Aquatic Strategy has involved the inspection of facilities and a review of previous facility audits to ensure issues of compliance, statutory obligation and risk have been considered and will be addressed with future facility upgrade priorities. As part of the feasibility study, a more detailed assessment of CCC will be completed to understand its condition to determine if its remaining lifespan is consistent with the predicted lifespan of a new aquatic facility.

## **Financial and Resource Implications**

An estimated total project cost to implement the Aquatic Strategy is \$65M. A funding strategy will be developed with the implementation of each project within the Aquatic Strategy which will include a combination of funding from State Government, Federal Government and Public Private Partnerships.

The first priority of the Aquatic Strategy is the development of a feasibility study to investigate the development of a new facility at Bruce Comben Reserve. Funding to undertake this project is allocated in Council's 2019-20 Capital Works Program.

## **Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

Council has obligations under the *Health and Wellbeing Act 2008* to seek, protect, improve and promote public health and wellbeing. The provision of facilities that encourage the community to participate in sporting, recreational and community activities is a fundamental role of Council.

Recreation and leisure facilities make a significant contribution to the health and wellbeing of the community. Participation in physical activity is associated with better physical health and improved social, emotional and psychological wellbeing.

## **Consultation and Communication**

Council officers met with the President and Director of CCC to provide them with an overview of the Draft Aquatic Strategy prior to the public exhibition period.

Following endorsement of the Draft Aquatic Strategy, a comprehensive public exhibition period was undertaken from 1 April 2019 to 5 May 2019. The Draft Aquatic Strategy and Summary Report was available on Council's website Participate with a survey for the community to provide their feedback. Information was also provided to CCC for their communication and distribution to families during the public exhibition period. Links to Council's website Participate were also promoted by Bayfit and Laverton Swim and Fitness Centre to centre members and visitors. It was also promoted through Council's social media platforms and other community newsletters and publications.

Following the completion of the public exhibition period, officers again met with the Director of CCC on 2 May 2019 to discuss the draft plan in more detail. As a result of this discussion, CCC prepared a covering letter to accompany their petition when it was presented to Council.

## **Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest**

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act* 1989 requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.



### 8.4.3 HD Graham Reserve - Adoption of the Final Master Plan

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Active and Inclusive Communities - Cr Michael Grech and Cr Peter Hemphill

**Appendices:** 1 HD Graham Reserve Master Plan

#### Purpose

To update Council on the HD Graham Reserve Final Master Plan (the Master Plan) which includes identification of appropriate locations for the future development, and seek approval to adopt the Master Plan.

#### Recommendation

**That Council:**

- 1. Approve the HD Graham Reserve Master Plan.**
- 2. Write to the submitters to thank them for their contribution and advise them of Council's decision.**

---

#### Summary

A draft of the Master Plan was presented to the community in March 2019 via a range of communication methods, including on-line and on-site information sessions. The feedback received via these processes has been reviewed and a number of modifications to the Master Plan have been proposed in response.

Based upon the feedback received, two changes to the draft Master Plan have been made.

1. The proposed soccer fields to reconfigure the layout so that the fields and associated lighting infrastructure are further away from neighbouring residences. In the draft Master Plan upon which the feedback was received, the lights proposed were at least 40 metres from residential boundaries. Under the proposed reconfiguration, this would increase to 110 metres.
2. It is proposed that a smaller BMX facility is added in the vicinity to cater for more users, including family groups being catered for with the proposed new play space. The proposed facility is intended only as a small-scale extension of the existing facility that increases opportunities for use, particularly by children.

#### Background

HD Graham Reserve is a 19.1 hectare site in Altona Meadows, which acts as the entrance to the Truganina Park, the 100 Steps of Federation, and Cheetham Wetlands. The sites design is based on a Master Plan that was completed in 2000 (document attached). The Master Plan was developed by Council as a continuation of the Altona Landfill Master Plan after the closure of the Altona landfill in February 1998.

The HD Graham Reserve is bordered by Truganina Park, the former Altona landfill to the south, Queen Street to the north, residential properties along the western side of the reserve and the Laverton Creek floodway on the east. HD Graham Reserve is on Crown Land which

is zoned Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) and Council acts as the Committee of Management.

The aim of the Master Plan is to guide future development in an ecologically sustainable and responsible manner, consistent with Council's current policies, strategies and plans. The Master Plan is to respond to current and future community aspirations and needs, as well as the existing and potential future users of the site.

## Discussion

The following table lists the key items/themes that have been identified by the Master Plan and the proposed responses to them.

**Pedestrians** - Increasing vehicle movements through the site due to recreation facility developments has the potential to reduce pedestrian amenity.

### Proposed responses

- creation of pedestrian priority crossing points in safe and convenient locations
- formalisation of an accessible pedestrian path network accessing the whole site
- improved links between Queen Street and the facilities and destinations in Truganina Park (including the 100 Steps of Federation)

**Biodiversity** - The site includes and adjoins indigenous vegetation and valuable habitat. There is an opportunity for these assets to be highlighted, expanded, and better integrated into the function of the site.

### Proposed responses

- creation of vegetated buffers around significant areas to help protect them and to reduce public risk (e.g. of limb drop on old trees)
- creation of path circuits and viewing nodes (including interpretive signs) to encourage visitors to engage with the natural features of the site
- identification of a site for a potential Wetland Education Centre subject to feasibility investigations (reflecting a community-initiated proposal)
- identification of areas where additional areas of indigenous vegetation and habitat can be established on the site

**Recreation Opportunities (Playing Fields)** - The site includes large and underutilised mown grass areas, providing an opportunity for recreational use by the community.

### Proposed responses

- proposal for flexible playing fields, able to be used by a number of different sports
- a toilet/change facility to support the playing fields. The facility will reflect that this will not be home to clubs, but will be an overflow venue to be used predominantly for training
- a focus upon playing fields for training will help address congestion issues that would accompany regular weekend use (given the high levels of use of the stadium on weekends, which will increase when the stadium is expanded)

- training fields will require lights. The proposal maximises the distance between the lights and neighbouring residents to reduce light spill impacts

**Recreation opportunities (skate & BMX)** - There is opportunity to expand and improve the existing successful skate and BMX facility.

Proposed responses

- provision of additional shade in locations where it is most needed
- identification of opportunities to expand the existing skate facility
- addressing the surface issues with the existing BMX jumps facility that is currently limiting its use
- opportunity to create less challenging BMX elements to cater for a wider range of users

**Recreation (Play Space)** - There is currently no substantial play space at the site. There is opportunity to provide play facilities to complement other site uses.

Proposed response

- a new play space is proposed close to the part of the skate facility that is frequented by younger users, expanding the play offerings for families in this area. This location is also visible from the main road (advertising its presence to potential users and providing surveillance to discourage anti-social behaviour), close to access paths and car parking, close to the existing neighbouring primary school and easily accessed from the stadium.

**Water** - Council strategies have a strong focus upon improving sustainability outcomes within the municipality. These water initiatives supplement the biodiversity proposals in reflecting these strategic goals.

Proposed responses

- incorporation of permeable paving for selected car parking, as identified in the stadium development plans
- investigation of the use of recycled water from the neighbouring water treatment facility to irrigate the proposed playing fields
- proposals to incorporate swales and raingardens to capture and treat water runoff and irrigation overflow, to avoid negative impacts upon existing vegetation and water bodies

A community proposal for a Wetland Education Centre has been considered as a part of the Master Plan preparation. The location identified by the community group for the centre is in the south-eastern corner of HD Graham Reserve. Further investigations need to be undertaken to determine the viability of this location within the HD Graham Reserve and for the establishment of the Wetland Education Centre. The location is ideal for a viewing point and interpretative signs, with views to both Laverton Creek and the constructed wetland.

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

**Priority 4: Proactive enrichment, expansion and conservation of the natural and urban environment**

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

**Goal 3: A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place**

- 3.2 Deliver and maintain well-designed, accessible and environmentally sustainable community assets

**Policy and Previous Council Reports**

Several Council plans and policies have been considered in the development of the Master Plan including the Sports Facility Needs Analysis, Open Space Strategy and Hobsons Bay 2030.

**Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

The HD Graham Reserve site formed a part of the Truganina Explosives Reserve between 1901 and 1962 which has resulted in contamination of the site. A number of investigations have been undertaken at the site focussed upon specific locations associated with proposed works. These investigations have identified contamination issues including volatile organic compounds and asbestos. Works at the site resulting from Master Plan recommendations will require additional investigations and contaminated soil management plans.

**Financial and Resource Implications**

The cost estimate for the implementation of the Master Plan is \$6.6M which includes the design development, sportsground development, sports pavilion, shared pathway network, landscaping, BMX and skate park upgrades, a new play space, water sensitive urban design initiatives, site remediation and preparation. This Master Plan can be delivered over the next three financial years as per the five year Capital Works Program.

The construction of the Wetland Education Centre and the wetland have not been costed. A feasibility investigation into the Wetland Education Centre is scheduled for 2019-20 and costs would be determined as a part of this feasibility. It is anticipated, if both the Wetland Education Centre and wetland development are deemed feasible a range of external authorities and community groups would partner to achieve these items.

**Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts**

In November 2007, Council committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions from its own operations to become carbon neutral by 2020 and also assisting the local community to do the same by 2030. Strategies to achieve these goals include reducing energy use through sustainable design of new buildings and infrastructure, integrated water cycle management, water sensitive urban design and sustainable landscapes. Council's commitment to these goals has been considered through the development of the Master Plan.

Specific environmental sustainability initiatives included in the Master Plan include the collection, treatment and reuse of stormwater, increased vegetation and areas for habitat protection and Environmental Sustainable Development principles will be applied through the implementation of the works from the Master Plan.

## Consultation and Communication

Community consultation was undertaken through Council's community engagement website, Participate. Participate which attracted over 1,300 visitors whilst presenting the Draft Master Plan to the community and encouraged feedback through an online survey. The online survey received a total of 51 responses, with 47 respondents residing within Hobsons Bay.

Respondents were also given the opportunity to provide comments on the Draft Master Plan through Council's website Participate and a total of 50 comments were received regarding the range of recommendations presented in the draft Master Plan. Of these comments:

- 4 stated their support for the draft Master Plan
- 19 supported the potential future Wetland Education Centre
- 3 expressed concerns around the proposed sporting fields
- 7 supported the proposed sporting fields
- 11 expressed their support for the environmental initiatives
- 1 supported the proposed viewing areas
- 2 supported the proposed walking paths

Community drop-in sessions were held at the Altona Sports Centre on 20 March 2019 and 23 March 2019. The purpose of these sessions was to promote awareness of the draft Master Plan and to provide an opportunity for Council officers to have informal discussions with users/visitors to the reserve. Approximately 30 people attended each session.

## Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates.

Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## 8.4.4 West Gate Tunnel Update Report

**Directorate:** Infrastructure and City Services

**Councillor Portfolio:** Integrated Transport - Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson

**Appendices:** Nil

### Purpose

For Council to receive and note the current status report on the West Gate Tunnel Project (the Project) and associated initiatives and advocacy activities.

### Recommendation

**That Council:**

1. Receive and note the current status report on the West Gate Tunnel Project.
- 

## Report for Briefing and Council Meeting

### Summary

The purpose of this report is to provide Council with an update on the current status of the Project across a range of aspects in accordance with the governance and decision making framework including property impacts and transactions. The status of Council's committed advocacy activities that specifically relate to the Project, the Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package and the Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study are also included within this report.

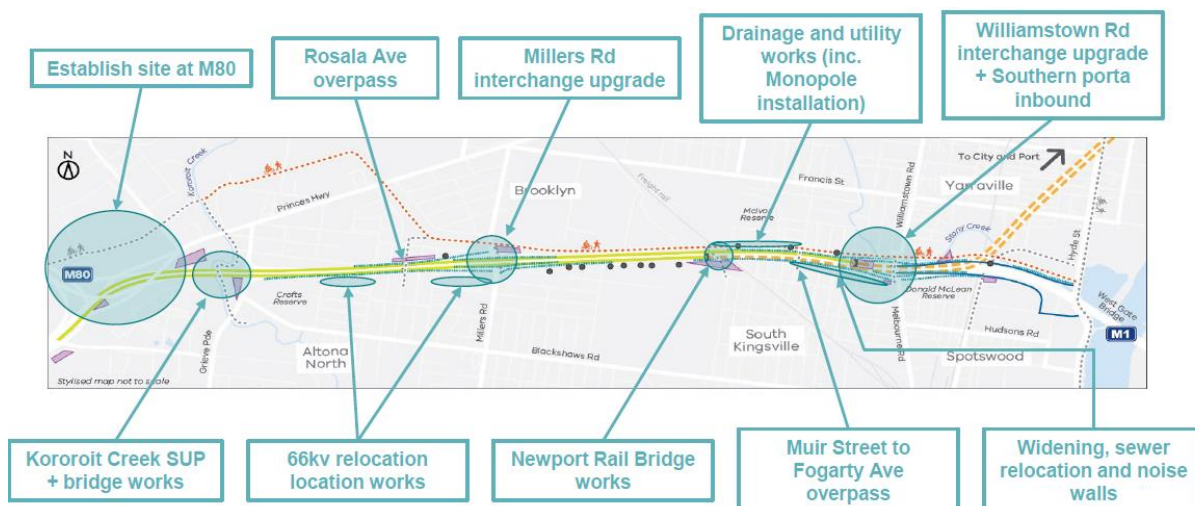
Construction works are well advanced on the Project. The CPB Contractors and John Holland Joint Venture (JV) and West Gate Tunnel Authority (WGTA) continue to seek Council's input into specific project design, community outcomes and approval to access Council land and infrastructure.

### Background

Council has received a number of reports on the development and planning process associated with the Project. As it progresses through the construction phase regular status reports will continue to be provided. This report provides an update on current Project activities, items submitted by the WGTA/JV for Council approval, Council advocacy activities, governance arrangements including communications and engagement and capital works to be undertaken by Council as a result of the Project.

### Discussion

The following figure outlines the current Project related activities along the West Gate Tunnel section:



**Figure 1**

### **Construction Activity**

Current construction activity being undertaken by the JV in the western section is focused in the areas highlighted on Figure 1 and as outlined below:

- works to widen the West Gate Freeway (WGF) between Chambers Road and Grieve Parade and new noise walls
- construction of retaining walls, bridge structural works including excavations and piling at various locations
- 66KV powerline relocations along southern edge of freeway – now working in Paringa Road.
- construction of two pedestrian overpasses
- Kororoit Creek and Newport Rail bridge widening works
- Millers Road and Williamstown Road bridge structure widening and traffic lane switches, adjusting the alignment of the freeway to allow preparation for the inbound tunnel entry
- the outbound (southern) tunnel portal site
- assembly of the Tunnel Boring Machines (TBMs) for commencement of tunnelling in coming months

Over the next few months, works will commence for the Southern portal site establishment and utilities relocation at the end of New and Watson Street, South Kingsville. Initial works include vegetation removal (refer Figure 2 below) and relocation of utility services.



**Figure 2**

To facilitate West Gate Freeway widening and noise wall works, a work zone is to be established outside the southern noise wall between Williamstown Road and The Avenue (refer to Figure 3 below). This will require the closure of road ends to local traffic – from Abbott Street to Le Fevre Street – from which site vehicles will access/egress the site. The primary site access point will be from JV's compound on Cullen Court. Another access/egress point on the western side of the site will connect to The Avenue. Intermediate access/egress points will be active via the truncated roads. Due to the nature of the works, the footpaths linking the truncated roads must close, although the Muir Street/Wembley Ave footbridge will remain open.

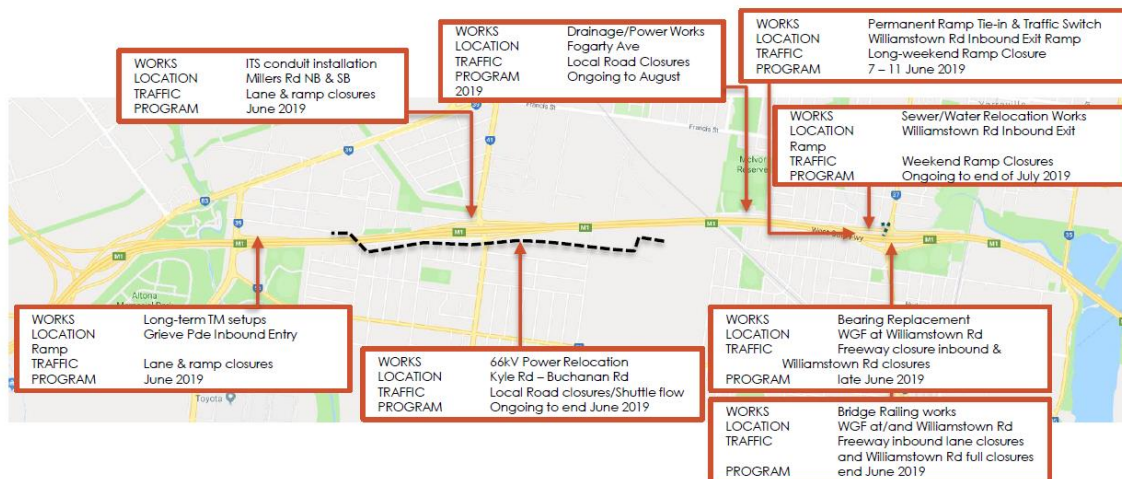
**Figure 3**



### **Construction Traffic Impacts**

Some night time and freeway ramp closures have been programmed with detailed Traffic Management and Communications Plans (The Plans) to be implemented in the lead up to the closures. Figure 4 below highlights the current and upcoming traffic impacts and work locations between Hyde Street and the M80 interchange.

Further details are available at: <http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/constructionupdates/>



**Figure 4**

Recent community concerns have been received by Council in regard to the construction truck activity in residential streets in Spotswood and South Kingsville and some damage caused by trucks in the road verge along Beevers Street, Altona North.

Residents of Ferguson Street, Spotswood have raised concerns about the number of trucks using the street - the damage to the road and trucks idling in front of the properties before entering the compound /construction site. The JV has taken action to address this and will repair the damage when JV have completed use of the street for access for the noise wall construction. Further monitoring of the JV activities in the area will be undertaken.

### **Council Advocacy**

Throughout the design and now construction stages, officers have where possible negotiated outcomes and improvements consistent with the adopted Council position to optimise beneficial community outcomes. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been established between Council and the Authority to reflect the organisational roles and responsibilities and to support the ongoing resources from the State Government to support Officers in project delivery for the term of the Project.

### **Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package**

This Package was endorsed at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 13 February 2018 and is supported by the State Government through a \$5M contribution and \$2.86M Council contribution. The status of the Sports and Open Space Enhancement Package (The Package) is as follows:

Item	Status
Duane Reserve, Brooklyn - improvements and lighting upgrade	Concept plans were available for community consultation in June 2019 with an information session held on 15 June. A summary on the feedback will be provided in the next update report.  Detailed design will be undertaken in the next two months and construction completion in early 2020.
Brooklyn Reserve improvements	
Rowan Avenue Reserve, Brooklyn improvements	
Pipeline Reserve, Brooklyn (included following initial community feedback)	
WLJ Crofts Reserve, Altona North Master Plan and Works	Community consultation including drop-in sessions undertaken in June. Target completion date of works December 2020.
Donald McLean Reserve, Spotswood Master Plan Review and Works	As for WLJ Crofts Reserve above. Target completion date of works June 2020.

The Plans will include all infrastructure elements within these Reserves and provide detailed designs for the respective pavilions. The WGTA are engaged in this planning process to ensure impacts as a result of the Project are factored into the designs and consideration given to construction timelines.

### Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study

Council has commenced, with the Department of Transport, the development of an Integrated Transport Plan for Hobsons Bay to be funded by the State Government. The project consultant, WSP, has now been appointed and a Draft Transport Issues and Background Paper defining issues and opportunities previously identified by the community and respective agencies has been prepared as a guide for community engagement.

The Hobsons Bay Transport Planning Study, to be completed by early-mid 2020, will consist of three key deliverables:

1. An evidence based transport study to be used as a working document
2. An implementation plan with mutually agreed interventions to be identified by the study, and projects to proceed to a business plan for endorsement by government
3. An advocacy document for Council which will include items that may not align with current State Government policy.

As part of the Study, stakeholder agencies participated in *Movement and Place* workshops in June to help prioritise optimal transport outcomes considering transport demand and land use.

### Transport Corridor Study (Williamstown Road and Millers Road)

The Transport Corridor Study is led by VicRoads to identify and address key transport issues and impacts in the Williamstown Road and Millers Road corridors resulting from the Project, particularly the proposed increase in truck traffic.

The last meeting of the Corridor Study Group was held on 27 March 2019 with 16 shortlisted options proposed to go to the broader community for feedback and input. Council has requested that a further meeting of the Group be held to work through the evaluation and

recommendations for all the options to gain a consensus (and better understanding) of those options going forward for consultation and how the remaining options will be dealt with.

Further information on the Study can be found at:

<https://www.vicroads.vic.gov.au/newsmedia/2018/changing-traffic-movement-through-melbournes-growing-innerwest>

### **Community Liaison Group**

The last Community Liaison Group (CLG) meeting was held on 19 June 2019 and included an update on the construction activities and planned works. A CLG workshop on proposed landscape design and possible offset planting locations was held on 5 June 2019.

Approximately 3000 trees are available for offset planting. Additional locations suggested outside the Project area in Hobsons Bay include:

- tree planting along Hyde Street to Francis Street and around Simcock Avenue
- Donald McLean and Crofts Reserves
- more trees along the freeway southern boundary between Melbourne and Millers Roads
- Avenue Reserve
- Pipeline Reserve
- Hosken Reserve and along Kororoit Creek

The Plan will now be amended to show the draft offset planting locations. Key actions from the workshop include:

1. JV to review removal of trees around Kororoit Creek required for shared use path (SUP) construction between Geelong Road and Grieve Parade
2. JV to advise Friends of Lower Kororoit Creek about consultation with Indigenous representatives regarding the Indigenous garden north of the freeway at Kororoit Creek (near the blue stone bridge).
3. JV to review opportunity for any additional safety treatments at the cycling path intersection along Kororoit Creek – just before the blue stone bridge.
4. JV to review opportunity to connect the current maintenance track at the edge of Kororoit Creek (below the location of the proposed truck turnaround bay) with the new SUP.
5. Transurban to advise if surveillance cameras on West Gate Freeway would capture the Kororoit Creek path on either side of the bridge
6. Opportunity to have CLG members input into a priority list for landscaping offsets with Council.
7. JV to prepare a landscape communications plan including factsheets to be available to the community which will include Federation Trail in Brooklyn (Pipeline Reserve).

Further information on the CLG including copies of meeting notes can be found at:

<http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/clg/>

### **Traffic Management Liaison Group**

The last meeting of the Traffic Management Liaison Group was held on 5 June 2019 where an update on various traffic management aspects of the Project was provided. Traffic monitoring across the network continues and no major issues identified. The ongoing pedestrian access difficulties at the Millers Road interchange were discussed and additional monitoring to occur.

Upcoming traffic impacts are included in Figure 2 above and the following link:

[www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/travel disruptions](http://www.westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/travel disruptions).

**Business Involvement Plan Progress**

The Project has social and economic requirements and targets to support local businesses and provide local employment opportunities. An Industry Capability Network has been established with Hobson Bay businesses invited to participate. An online trader directory has been in place since last year, and the JV Business Engagement team have been working closely with the Economic Development team at Council connecting local businesses to workers.

**Community Involvement and Participation Plan**

A Community Involvement and Participation Plan (CIPP) is being developed by WGTA which includes a state funded grants and partnership program to fund community led social legacy outcomes and initiatives, e.g. capital projects, community programs and events. The governance structure, available funding and proposed implementation plan is being finalised. The CIPP, expected to be announced in the near future, is proposed to operate over the life of the Project.

The Project is working closely on the public interface for the CIPP with Maribyrnong City Council and Hobsons Bay City Council and are finalising details in regards to the categories and funding. The funding program will be available in various rounds that will occur through the project construction. The governance structure and proposed implementation plan is being finalised and an announcement expected soon prior to inviting applications from relevant community based clubs and organisations.

Council has agreed to promote and support this program through:

- providing information sessions
- providing a grant writing workshop
- promoting the program on its web/social media through sharing the CIPP links (which are yet to be established)
- providing a small assessment group that provides recommendations back to the Project on successful applications

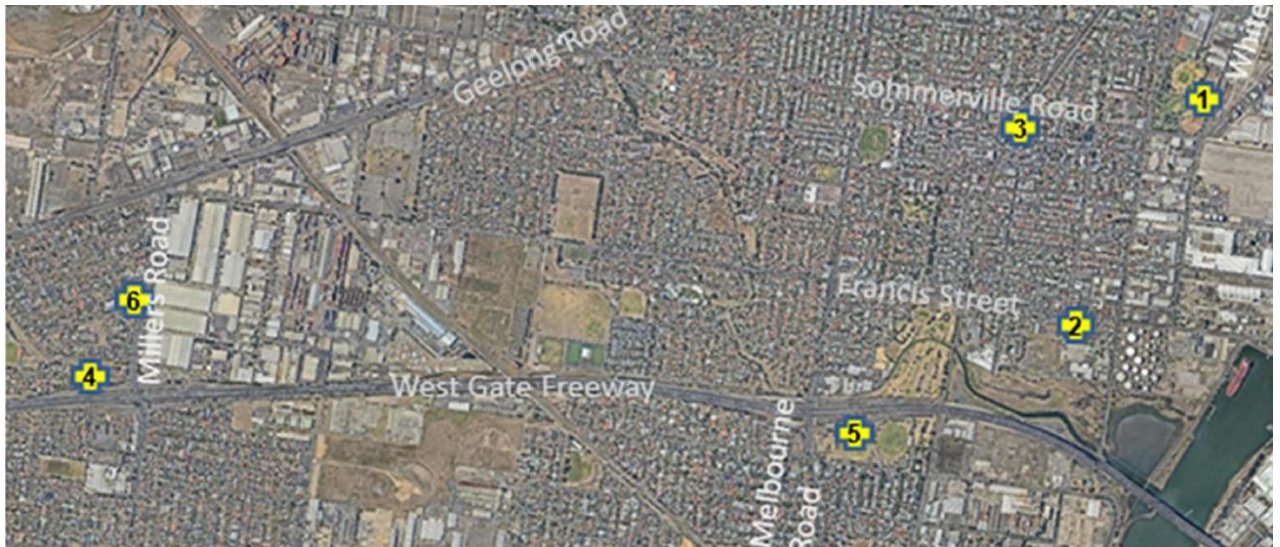
**Inner West Air Quality Community Reference Group**

The Inner West Air Quality Community Reference Group (The Group) provides community members the opportunity to provide community insight and input to future improvements for air quality in the inner west. The Group has an initial term of 12 months (to the end of 2019).

The meeting of the Group on Monday 3 June 2019 discussed the report content, format and chapter headings. The meeting of the Group held on 24 June 2019 included a panel discussion on the Project's ventilation air pollution control.

Further information can be found at: <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/sustainability/inner-west-air-quality-reference-group>

Air quality monitoring for the project has been established at six Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations (AAQMS) to develop a baseline of data from current local conditions (see below). This baseline will be used to measure any changes once the project tunnel opens in 2022. Monitoring will continue for up to 5 years following opening. The latest available report is for March 2019 which recorded a total of 2 exceedances of the target emission levels for PM10. The February 2019 monitoring report recorded 7 exceedances.



**Figure 5 - Project AAQMS site locations**

Results from the temporary AAQMS established within the Project area are available at: [Tunnel ventilation and air quality](#).

## Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses the following priorities of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision:

Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

Priority 3: Growth through innovation, access to local jobs, technology and education

Priority 6: An accessible and connected community

This report specifically addresses the following goals and objectives of the Council Plan 2017-21:

### Goal 1: An inclusive and healthy community

- 1.3 Ensure all community members will have access to quality community, sport and recreation facilities, cultural experiences and open spaces to encourage a healthy and active lifestyle

### Goal 2: A great place

- 2.5 Work with all levels of government and other stakeholders to improve our transport network and to address gaps and capacity in public transport, our roads, foot paths and cycle routes

### Goal 3: A well designed, maintained and environmentally sustainable place

- 3.2 Deliver and maintain well-designed, accessible and environmentally sustainable community assets



**Goal 4: A Council of excellence**

- 4.1 Collaborate with all levels of government, service providers, not for profit organisations and the private sector to address the concerns of our community

**Policy and Previous Council Reports**

On 26 August 2016 Council adopted the updated Hobsons Bay Position and Recommendations for the Western Distributor Project. The adopted position included Hobsons Bay Project Requirements, Principles, Objectives and Performance Measures for the Western Distributor Project.

The Principles are:

1. An efficient, integrated and sustainable transport network outcome.
2. Positive liveability, amenity and community wellbeing outcomes.
3. An environmentally responsible project.
4. A genuine commitment to consult with the community.
5. A value for money outcome.
6. Planning for future growth.

Several Council policies and strategies were considered in the establishment of the adopted position on the Project and have been considered to inform the design and Environment Effects Statement (EES). Council has received numerous reports regarding officer assessments of the Project design development, community engagement and advocacy activities undertaken in response to the Project.

**Legal/Statutory Obligations/Risk**

Legal and statutory obligations and risks have been identified throughout Council's review and input to the Project. These obligations and opportunities will continue to be monitored and assessed.

A report and formal submission on the preferred design and EES was adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting on 27 June 2017. This report considered legal, risk and statutory obligations for the Project. A statutory process for the acquisition of Council land has commenced.

The latest available Independent Reviewer and Environmental Auditor's report on the Project can be viewed at:

[http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/347026/WGTP-IREA-audit-report-March-August-2018.pdf](http://westgatetunnelproject.vic.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/347026/WGTP-IREA-audit-report-March-August-2018.pdf)

**Financial and Resource Implications**

Significant Council officer time has been committed in responding to the Project requests for advice, information and comment. Design packages are still being reviewed and frequent requests are being received now that construction is underway.

An MOU has been established between Council and the WGTA to reflect the organisational roles and responsibilities and also to support the ongoing resources from the State Government in support of Council officers in project delivery for the term of the Project.

## Environmental/Social/Economic Impacts

The environmental, social and economic impacts of the Project to the Hobsons Bay community have been described in detail through the EES and will be monitored and mitigated through the implementation of the Environmental Performance Requirements (EPRs) for the Project. Local procurement, jobs and business development is a project objective as described in the Business Involvement Plan section above.

## Consultation and Communication

The Project includes a detailed consultation and communication process. The Project EPR requires the development of a Communications and Community Engagement Plan which links closely with the proposed EPR's requiring a Traffic Monitoring and Management Plan, Business Involvement Plan and CIPP.

Notifications to directly impacted areas prior to works commencing have been ongoing. Council has been assisting in sharing information on planned traffic disruptions through its website and social media. Complaints received by Council in relation to construction activity have been minimal. Recent communications have been undertaken in relation to impacts resulting from the current underground power works and with the Brooklyn community, Donald McLean and WLJ Crofts Reserves Sports Clubs in conjunction with the improvement plan development.

The Project Community Engagement team has had conversations with residents about the noise attenuation program for front-facing properties on Millers Road between the West Gate Freeway and Geelong Road and are finalising a review of noise modelling, taking into account the local noise results collected. Property owners will be contacted shortly by the Project to discuss next steps.

## Officer Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* requires members of Council staff and persons engaged under contract to provide advice to Council, to disclose any direct or indirect interest in a matter to which the advice relates. Council officers involved in the preparation of this report have no conflict of interest in this matter.

## **9 Delegates Report**

**Directorate:** Corporate Services

### **Purpose**

To consider reports by Councillors who have been appointed as delegates to Council and community committees.

### **Recommendation**

**That Council receive and note the recent Delegates Report.**

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### **Delegates Report - RoadSafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council Inc**

**Councillor Delegate: Cr Sandra Wilson**

**Date of Meeting: 19 June 2019**

Council recently undertook works to install new street lighting on roads within the Brooklyn area to improve pedestrian and road safety. This includes new lighting on Corrigan Avenue, Stenhouse Avenue, Eames Avenue, Nolan Avenue, Cypress Avenue and Heather Avenue.

Works are also underway to complete speed management works in Challis Street, Newport and Grieve Parade, Altona. These works will aim to reduce the speed on these important roads and to improve overall road and pedestrian safety.



**Delegates Report - Environmental Sustainability Portfolio Advisory Committee****Councillor Delegate: Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson****Date of Meeting: 2 May 2019**

The third meeting of the Environmental Sustainability Portfolio Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on 2 May 2019. The meeting focused on two projects.

The first was the Coastal Management Plan (CMP). The PAC was invited to provide input into the development of the CMP through a hands-on workshop to identify key issues along the foreshore of Hobsons Bay and highlight opportunities for the future. The feedback provided will be considered as part of the community engagement process.

The second was the development of a Local Food Production Strategy (the strategy). An overview of key features of the strategy was provided, and a range of models that could potentially be implemented in Hobsons Bay were outlined. Members of the PAC discussed potential models and key issues that they would like addressed as part of the strategy. Some key issues that emerged include: growing food to enhance social cohesion; reducing food bills; increasing employment with local businesses dedicated to growing food; enhancing green spaces; and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Some issues arose such as managing land contamination and any requirements for zoning.

The group recommended next steps could include: community consultation, applying appropriate models (e.g. agrihoods and fruit forests), and undertaking an audit of Council and Crown land to identify potential food growing areas.

**Delegates Report - Integrated Transport Portfolio Advisory Committee****Councillor Delegate: Cr Jonathon Marsden and Cr Sandra Wilson****Date of Meeting: 15 May 2019**

The third meeting for the Integrated Transport Portfolio Advisory Committee (PAC) was held on 15 May 2019.

The group worked together to discuss the transport advocacy priorities for 2019. Current priorities are the Melbourne Metro 2 and upgrades to Grieve Parade as the preferred truck route.

Key issues in relation to Melbourne Metro 2 included: whether the scope was too broad by including the freight rail link and the Altona Loop and if this weakened the impact; highlighting the need to focus on population growth in the west; how the project links to the Suburban Rail Loop; and an alternative station location closer to Spotswood where space is less constrained. It was reported that the focus of the technical work going forward is to highlight the strategic importance of the rail link for Melbourne's west and for Council to join with other councils to advocate for funds to be allocated in the next State and Federal Budgets.

Other priority advocacy areas discussed include a bus network review, level crossing removals, parkiteers, shared trails, including a safe crossing of Laverton Creek, and the reconfiguration of the Point Cook Road interchange. Feedback was provided on the value of establishing a set of principles, similar to those developed by Council for the Level Crossing Removal Authority, due to their ability to support ongoing advocacy on the issue.

A presentation was given on electric vehicles and Council's approach to promoting them within the local community. Council is progressing projects to provide electric vehicle charging stations in each Council ward beginning with charging stations at the Council offices in Altona to be delivered by the end of June.

Specific feedback was provided on the importance of encouraging charging stations at the planning level (already required to be considered for two or more dwellings as part of the Environmentally Sustainable Development Policy). In addition, Council should consider other models, including joining with the private sector to install charging stations and providing guidance to the community on what can be done to retrofit charging stations into older dwellings.

**Delegates Report - Smart City Portfolio Advisory Committee****Councillor Delegate: Cr Angela Altair and Cr Peter Hemphill****Date of Meeting: 30 May 2019**

The Smart City Portfolio Advisory Committee was provided with an overview of Council's recent partnership with ThinXtra Pty Ltd, an Internet of Things (IoT) network provider who will assist Council and the community to deliver Smart City initiatives. Also discussed were a number of case studies demonstrating how IoT has been used across Australia to support Smart City projects within the local government setting.

Committee members participated in a brainstorming activity to identify opportunities for how the use of a business grade IoT network provided by ThinXtra could help address challenges and opportunities relevant to Hobsons Bay, such as flooding and air quality monitoring. Finally, a round table discussion was conducted to seek feedback and input from the committee members, leveraging their specialist knowledge and unique points of view on how best Council may continue the journey toward a smarter, more sustainable and liveable city.

## **10      Supplementary Public Question Time**

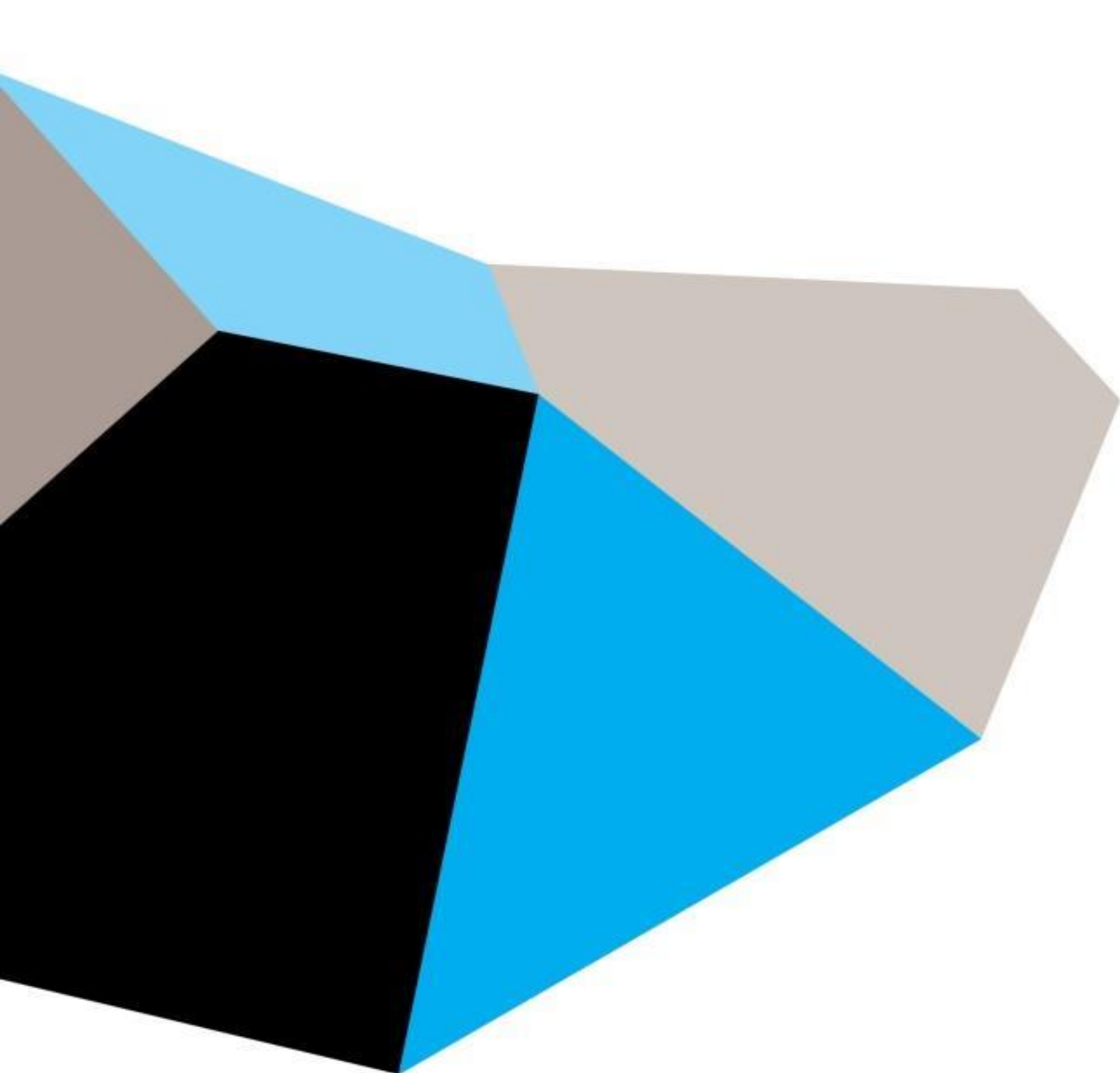
Supplementary public question time provides an opportunity for the public to ask questions directly related to items on the agenda that have arisen during the evening's proceedings.

Where it is not possible to provide a response during the meeting, a written response to the question will be provided promptly.

Written public questions received during the Council meeting that are not related to items on the agenda will be taken on notice and responded to in writing by the appropriate Council officer, or referred to the next Ordinary Council meeting for a public response if so requested by the questioner.

## **11      Urgent and Other Business**





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