



Council Meeting Agenda

Tuesday 12 October 2021
Commencing at 7.00 PM

Virtual Meeting

HOBSONS
BAY CITY
COUNCIL



OUR 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 Bunurong People 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 Daria Kellander (Deputy Mayor)

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Tony Briffa JP

Cherry Lake Ward

Cr Peter Hemphill

Strand Ward

Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud

Strand Ward

Cr Matt Tyler

Wetlands Ward

Cr Diana Grima

Wetlands Ward

Aaron van Egmond
Chief Executive Officer
Hobsons Bay City Council

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1 Council Welcome and Acknowledgement

The Chairperson will welcome members of the gallery and acknowledge that Council is gathered on the traditional land of the Bunurong People of the Kulin Nation and offers its respect to elders past and present.

2 Virtual Meeting Protocols

Due to current COVID-19 restrictions, this Council Meeting is being conducted virtually in accordance with subsection 4.6 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules, and will be livestreamed on the Council website at <http://webcast.hobsonsbay.vic.gov.au>

2.1 Voting Method

Voting will be conducted by show of hands, as in the Council Chamber.

2.2 Absence From Meeting

If a Councillor leaves the meeting at any time for any reason other than for a conflict of interest, the Councillor will stand to indicate their intention to leave and then walk away.

If a Councillor needs to leave the meeting due to a declared conflict of interest, the Chairperson will remove the Councillor from the virtual meeting until the matter under discussion has been resolved. The Chairperson will then invite the Councillor back into the meeting.

If a Councillor cannot be seen or heard due to technical issues and cannot carry on as a participant in the meeting, the meeting will continue as long as a quorum remains.

If the quorum is lost, the meeting will be adjourned until the quorum can be returned.

The time that any Councillor leaves and returns to the meeting will be recorded in the minutes regardless of the reason for absence.

3 Apologies

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

4 Disclosure of Interest

In accordance with sections 127 and 128 of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose a general or material conflict of interest. A conflict of interest must be disclosed in accordance with rule 15.3 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules.

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

5 Confirmation of Minutes

5.1 Confirmation of Minutes

Confirmation of the minutes of the Council Meeting of Hobsons Bay City Council held on 14 September 2021 (copy previously circulated).

6 Councillor Questions

7 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 before the Council Meeting.

8 Petitions and Joint Letters

8.1 Petitions and Joint Letters Received

8.1.1 Petition - Make Ferguson Street Safe for Pedestrians

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Governance Officer
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	Nil

Purpose

To receive a petition containing 245 signatories, requesting that Council and VicRoads make improvements to pedestrian safety along the Ferguson Street corridor in Williamstown North.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Receives and notes the petition in relation to pedestrian safety along the Ferguson Street corridor in Williamstown North.**
- 2. Receives a further report on this matter at a future Council Meeting.**

Summary

The petition was received on 29 September 2021 and acknowledged on 30 September 2021. It has been reviewed and confirmed to meet the minimum eligibility requirement of 25 valid signatories in accordance with the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules and can therefore be accepted and dealt with by Council.

The cover letter noted that copies were also sent to VicRoads and the Hon. Melissa Horne MP, Member for Williamstown.

The petition reads as follows:

“We, the undersigned, petition Hobsons Bay City Council and VicRoads to improve pedestrian safety along the Ferguson Street corridor.

Families of the Williamstown community, petition Hobsons Bay City Council and VicRoads to address the dangers to pedestrians on Ferguson Street and nearby Melbourne Road.

We, the below signed, petition Council to address this matter of community safety including:

- install a safety barrier such as bollards on corner of Melbourne Rd and Ferguson St to stop vehicles mounting curb (especially on Explorers Early Learning Childcare Centre corner). Staff and Families at the centre have frequently seen cars, utes and trucks moving through the intersection at speed including near misses at the

roundabout. We are concerned it is only a matter of time before a vehicle mounts the curb which has high pedestrian traffic including many children.

- Create a crossing for pedestrians to safely cross Melbourne Rd near Ferguson St Roundabout. Crossing Melbourne Road is incredibly difficult particularly with children or mobility aids. Many families travel from Williamstown North or North Williamstown Station down Ferguson St and find it difficult to navigate across Melbourne Rd which does not have a pedestrian crossing or signals.
- Address high levels of vehicles not stopping for pedestrian crossings on Ferguson St by improving driver visibility (particularly the crossing outside Explorers Early Learning Childcare Centre/ Senior Citizens Centre and the three crossings at the Ferguson St / Douglas Pde roundabout)."

9 Business

9.1 Office of the Chief Executive

9.1.1 Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations

Directorate:	Office of the Chief Executive
Responsible Officer:	Executive Assistant to the Chief Executive Officer
Reviewer:	Chief Executive Officer
Attachments:	1. CEO Report on Operations [9.1.1.1 - 46 pages]

Purpose

To present the Chief Executive Officer's (CEO's) Report on Operations.

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the Chief Executive Officer's Report on Operations, including details of recent issues and initiatives undertaken by the organisation.

Summary

The attached CEO's Report on Operations provides Councillors and community with a regular update from the CEO 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. The report is provided on a monthly basis.

In accordance with rule 10.7.1 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules, Council maintains records of meetings attended by Councillors in the CEO's Report on Operations to ensure transparency and equity of information. A summary of meetings for the period between 1 September 2021 and 30 September 2021 is provided in this month's report.

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 priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection.

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 4: A Council of excellence

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

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* 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.

9.2 Corporate Services

9.2.1 Adoption of the Council Plan 2021-25

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Coordinator Legal and Performance Reporting Services
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. September 2021 - What We Heard Report - Council Plan 2021-25 [9.2.1.1 - 4 pages]2. Council Plan 2021-25 [9.2.1.2 - 39 pages]

Purpose

To provide information on the outcome of the public exhibition of the Draft Council Plan 2021-25 and to adopt the proposed Council Plan 2021-25, incorporating the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the LG Act 2020).

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Notes the consultation undertaken and considers the feedback received.
2. Thanks the community for their active engagement and input over the past nine months to support the development of the Council Plan 2021-25.
3. Adopts the Council Plan 2021-25.

Summary

The Council Plan (the Plan) is developed every four years in accordance with legislative requirements in the LG Act 2020. The Plan is based on Council's planning framework that aligns the community's vision (Hobsons Bay 2030) to the future planning, development, allocation of resources and provision of services for the Hobsons Bay community.

The Draft Council Plan 2021-25 was placed on public exhibition from 11 August 2021 until 8 September 2021. Ninety-seven people visited the Council Plan page on Participate Hobsons Bay and seven comments were received. The comments and Council's responses remain visible to anyone who visits the Participate page.

Feedback generally aligns with the direction of the plan and has been reflected across the key strategic objectives and priorities proposed. There have been some minor editorial changes to correct typos.

Background

Council has a legislative requirement to prepare and approve a Council Plan by 31 October 2021. The Plan is guided by the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision and its six priorities. Under section 90 of the LG Act 2020 the Council Plan must outline: the strategic direction of

Council, strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction, strategies to achieve the objectives, strategic indicators for monitoring achievements and a description of Council's initiatives and priorities.

In developing the Plan, Council followed a deliberative engagement process in accordance with the Hobsons Bay Community Engagement Policy 2021. Several alternate community engagement processes were used to engage and encourage community participation.

The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan is required to be adopted by 24 October 2021. Council officers worked with the Department of Health throughout the development of the Plan to ensure Council was satisfying the health and wellbeing requirements under section 26(2) and section 27 of the *Public Health and Wellbeing Act* 2008. An exemption was sought from the Department of Health and was approved in September 2021.

Discussion

Following the Council Meeting on 10 August 2021, the Draft Council Plan 2021-25 was placed on public exhibition via Participate Hobsons Bay from 11 August 2021 to 8 September 2021. The project page was visited by 97 people, with seven comments being posted. (See Attachment 1 for full details of comments and responses).

The community support Priority 2.4a (the virtual power plant solar project) and Priority 2.4c (increasing the uptake and use of electric vehicles across the municipality). Residents were also supportive and pleased that Priority 2.1 "Increase resource recovery and reducing landfill across Council's waste services and improve the customer experience of waste services" had been included.

The community would like Council to advocate for the reinstatement of the Paisley train station in Altona North and increased bike storage at stations to encourage and support sustainable transport. Advocacy of these two community priorities has been addressed in The Plan, Priority 4.1c "Advocate to State Government for delivery of key public transport improvements such as Melbourne Metro 2 delivery, new train station in Altona North, full bus review for entire municipality and improved services at existing train stations".

Another comment posted wanted assurances that the Altona Meadows Library refurbishment would not affect the current level of service. Council's reply confirmed that although the refurbishment plans are yet to be finalised, ensuring that there is minimal disruption to the delivery of popular community programs and services is a key priority of the project team. The Altona Meadows Library refurbishment is an Initiative listed in the Plan and as such will be reported on at regular intervals.

A comment responding to the urban planning priorities of the Plan remarked that the community would be disappointed if Hobsons Bay lost its neighbourhood character and heritage to high rise living. Council's reply acknowledged the importance of protecting the valued neighbourhood character and is introducing changes to the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme to ensure that future housing growth is directed to the right locations. One initiative in Objective 4 of the Plan is implementation of the Open Space Strategy 2018-28. This is Council's key strategic document that will guide the provision, protection, planning, design and management of open space in Hobsons Bay.

Finally, a common thread in the community's feedback was the request for more reporting on Council's key projects, including the output and efficiencies from the virtual power plant project, landfill figures and electric vehicle uptake. Priority 5.1 of the Plan is focused directly

on improving the quality of Council's communication and raising the community's awareness of Council's projects and delivery times.

Overall, the feedback was supportive and therefore no significant changes were required to the Draft Council Plan 2021-25.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

This report relates to all priorities within the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision.

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 4: A Council of excellence

Objective 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.

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

Objective 4.4: Actively seek the community's views by providing a range of opportunities for the community to contribute to Council's decision making.

Policies and Related Council Documents

The Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision was developed in 2017 through extensive consultation with the Hobsons Bay community and is operationalised into actions through the Council Plan. Each Council Plan until 2030 will show how Council will work towards achieving the community's vision for Hobsons Bay.

The Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision review was noted at the 10 August 2021 Council Meeting.

The Draft Council Plan 2021-25 (with an incorporated Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan) was placed on public exhibition for four weeks from 11 August 2021 to 8 September 2021 following the 10 August 2021 Council Meeting.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The development of the Council Plan is necessary to meet legislative requirements as set out in section 90 of the LG Act 2020.

Council is also required to develop a Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan in accordance with section 27 of the PHW Act. The Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan has been integrated into the Council Plan 2021-25. An exemption from producing a standalone Health and Wellbeing Plan was approved by the Department of Health in September 2021.

A review of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision was undertaken as part of the community deliberative engagement in line with section 88(4) of the LG Act 2020.

Financial and Resource Implications

The development of the Council Plan was achieved within existing operational budgets. The implementation will be achieved by way of the department business plans, major initiatives and initiatives as assigned in the annual budget.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The Council Plan aims to strengthen the natural, built, social and economic environments within Hobsons Bay, as articulated within the key strategic objectives.

Consultation and Communication

Council engaged with the community between January and September 2021 to gather their feedback on the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision and to hear the community's ideas about what Council should be focusing on over the next four years.

Council held 11 facilitated community workshops. Six were themed on the topics of environment and sustainability, youth, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, seniors, connectivity and amenity, sports and recreation; the other five were ward workshops held across the Wetlands ward, Strand ward, and Cherry Lake ward. To encourage participation Council offered both online Zoom and face-to-face workshops. In total, 51 community members participated, suggesting 159 ideas that represent the priorities that the participants wish Council to address over the next four years.

The five-day lockdown in February 2021 and ongoing social gathering limitations meant much of the community were reluctant to attend live events. Three workshops were postponed and then cancelled due to low registrations; these were diversity in the community, business, disability and access.

In February, Council distributed return-paid postcards to 40,000 households and businesses to provide the opportunity to hear what the community had to say. This was the most popular engagement method for participation: 816 postcards were returned and 3,248 ideas were suggested to help shape the Council Plan 2021-25. Council also set up market stalls at the Altona Beach Market and Altona Meadows Farmers Market where 90 people engaged with Council officers. The Spotswood and Williamstown farmers markets were cancelled due to COVID-19 restrictions.

During March, Council developed a Schools Engagement Toolkit for the Council Plan and distributed it to every primary and secondary school in the municipality. The kit contained pre-written newsletter content and graphic art images along with an offer for a Council officer to visit the school and work with a class to discuss the future of Hobsons Bay. Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden visited Altona Meadows Primary School to meet their new student sub-committees and hear their thoughts about what Council should be focusing on over the next four years. The uptake of this initiative was limited as schools were focused on student welfare and resettling students after extended periods of remote learning during 2020.

Over four weeks during March and April, 40 Council officers from the Corporate Services Directorate took part in the "Hitting the Streets campaign". This involved the officers travelling to 14 different public locations across the municipality to ask members of the

community to participate in a quick three-minute survey. Fifty-nine sessions were held, 479 people were surveyed and 1,190 ideas were collected.

Throughout the engagement period, digital promotion of the engagement opportunities included 42 posts on Facebook with an average reach of 1,575 per post, LinkedIn, Twitter, signature banner on Council staff emails, on-hold messages and displays on the roadside on variable message sign boards. Updates and an online survey were available on Participate Hobsons Bay and a media release and advertising were placed in the Hobsons Bay and Maribyrnong Star Weekly newspaper.

By the end of April, Council had engaged with 1,477 members of the community and received 4,887 ideas. The five most common ideas from the feedback were for Council to advocate to responsible agencies on community issues, improve parks and gardens, create better public spaces, maintain and improve city amenities, and improve pedestrian accessibility and safety.

Public health and wellbeing stakeholders were invited to participate in an online survey between 7 and 17 July 2021 to provide further input on health and wellbeing priorities, identify their roles, identify opportunities to connect and partner or advocate with Hobsons Bay City Council in the future. Twenty-one responses were received from 19 organisations including the Victorian Government, health and wellbeing networks, women's health organisations, community health organisations and local groups.

Community members and stakeholders had a further opportunity to provide feedback during the public exhibition period from 11 August until 8 September 2021. Ninety-seven people visited the Council Plan page on Participate Hobsons Bay posting seven comments. The comments and subsequent responses by Council officers were and remain visible on Participate Hobsons Bay.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.2.2 Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Chief Financial Officer
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	1. Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 [9.2.2.1 - 44 pages]

Purpose

To adopt the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31.

Recommendation

That Council adopts the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 attached to this report, in accordance with section 91 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Summary

Council's recommended Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 is provided as an attachment to this report and is presented for adoption.

The Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 provides for operating surpluses each year. Operational surpluses do not include Council's significant investment in capital expenditure and are required to fund current and future commitments, including the Ten Year Capital Works Program.

The Financial Plan as presented has been slightly amended since it was proposed and advertised for public comment. The audited financial results for 2020-21 have been incorporated into the first year of the Financial Plan. No other changes have been required.

Background

Council adopted its Annual Budget 2021-22 (for the current financial year and the subsequent three financial years) on 29 June 2021. This forms the basis for years 2021-22 to 2024-25 of the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31.

The deliberative consultation conducted through the Annual Budget process is directly linked to and helped form the development of the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31.

The Proposed Financial Plan 2021-22 was placed on public exhibition between 13 August and 10 September 2021. No submissions were received as a result of this community engagement process.

Discussion

The six key objectives that underpin the Financial Plan are: financial sustainability, comprehensive financial inclusion, informed decision making, contained operational expenditure, exploration of all funding sources and provision of community infrastructure.

The plan includes the following Policy Statements (Strategic Actions):

- achieve strong operational surpluses to ensure that there is adequate funding available for current and future capital works as well as other ongoing and future commitments
- consider all funding sources to reduce the high dependence on rates and become more financially self-reliant by prioritised pursuit of own source revenue opportunities
- improve employee productivity as labour costs are the biggest discretionary operating expenditure item for Council
- ensure enough cash is being generated from operations to fund new assets
- ensure sufficient spending on asset renewal and Council's asset base
- increase the amount of funding currently available for capital works
- ensure there are no immediate issues with repaying short-term liabilities as they fall due
- ensure loan commitments can be repaid from own source revenue, including interest and principal, as they fall due

Each Policy Statement includes a number of performance measures and targets. The plan provides ten year forecasts for each of the performance measures, based on the assumptions described in the plan and minimal changes to the way Council currently operates. Some of the targets are aspirational and are a “call to action” that challenges the status quo and encourages Council to review the way it operates by investigating different approaches that could lead to improved financial performance.

The strategic actions provide direction to Council on improving performance measures where current forecasts are not meeting targets. The strategic actions are expected to improve financial performance and the forecasts outlined in the plan.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

This report relates to all priorities within the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision.

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 4: A Council of excellence

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

Policies and Related Council Documents

The Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 is aligned to the Annual Budget 2021-22, which forms the basis for the first four years of the plan.

The Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 is also aligned to the Ten Year Capital Works Program, which has been reduced in line with current financial limitations, outlined in the

plan. Council is working to reduce this funding gap, but some capital projects in future years remain unfunded for now.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The new *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to adopt a financial plan in the format, manner and form prescribed by the regulations. The plan must be developed or reviewed by 31 October in the year following a general election.

The Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 has been developed to be more than just a plan to meet the legislative requirements. Prior to the introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council was already developing a strategic Long Term Financial Plan. The Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 is a combination of the legislative requirements and the previous strategic Long Term Financial Plan.

Financial and Resource Implications

The Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31 provides for operating surpluses each year. Operational surpluses do not include Council's significant investment in capital expenditure and are required to fund current and future commitments, including the Ten Year Capital Works Program.

After funding capital works and other non-operational or non-cash items, balanced Available Funding Results have been calculated each year, which assist to ensure Council's ongoing financial sustainability. There is a shortfall in the funding available for the Ten Year Capital Works Program, so the program has been reduced in line with the current financial limitations to ensure that Council remains financially viable over the duration of the plan.

The Financial Plan Statements present ten year forecasts on the comprehensive income statement, balance sheet, statement of changes in equity, statement of cash flows, statement of capital works and statement of human resources. The forecasts are again based on the assumptions described in the plan and minimal changes to the way Council currently operates.

Two alternative modelling scenarios are included in the plan. These are examples that highlight how increasing own-source revenue outside of rates and/or decreasing expenditure could be used towards funding additional capital works to reduce the existing funding gap. Alternatively, Council could choose to redirect this revenue into operational expenditure within the priority service areas of Council.

The Financial Plan is intended to provide guidance, rather than commit Council to a future financial direction. It is based on a point in time and acknowledges that Council will continue to review the way it operates which will impact on future financial outcomes. Council will therefore re-evaluate its financial performance, position and direction on an ongoing basis, including through the normal quarterly financial reporting and annual budget processes.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Environmental, social and economic impacts have been considered throughout the development of the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31.

Consultation and Communication

The deliberative consultation conducted through the Annual Budget process is directly linked and helped form the development of the Financial Plan 2021-22 to 2030-31. This consultation was undertaken in accordance with Council's Community Engagement Policy.

Both documents were developed with the needs of the community at their centre. Despite the challenges encountered in a unique pandemic environment, submissions and ideas from residents, local groups and organisations were included in the budget and Financial Plan, either in full or as a modified version.

Further engagement was also recently conducted on the Financial Plan as the community was invited to be involved in finalising the plan. Engagement and communication activities included content published on the Participate Hobsons Bay webpage, an online form for submissions, social media posts to promote the Financial Plan and the consultation period, latest news item on Council's website, media release, a paid public notice in the local newspaper and inclusion in Council's Around the Bay publication in the local newspaper. No submissions were received as a result of the most recent engagement processes and the public exhibition period, which closed on 10 September 2021.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.2.3 Instruments of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer and Members of Staff - 2021 Update

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Coordinator Governance and Information Management
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Instrument of Delegation - Council to Chief Executive Officer - 25 August 2020 [9.2.3.1 - 4 pages]2. S6 Instrument of Delegation - Council to Members of Staff - 25 August 2020 [9.2.3.2 - 90 pages]

Purpose

To review the Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff in accordance with section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the LG Act 2020), noting that the current Instrument of Delegation to the CEO (adopted 25 August 2020) remains in force until the Victorian Premier declares the cessation of the State of Emergency.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Pursuant to section 11(7) of the *Local Government Act 2020* reviews all delegations that are still in force, within 12 months of the general election.
2. As a result of this review, agrees to hold over any amendments to the current Instruments of Delegation until the cessation of State of Emergency.
3. Agrees that in accordance with item 2.6 of the current Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer, a Council report revoking these delegations will be brought to the next available Council Meeting following the cessation of the State of Emergency.
4. Requires that in circumstances where the CEO is to enact delegated authority beyond previous delegation limits, the CEO will undertake consultation with Council, noting individual Councillor concurrence or dissent, prior to the exercise of such delegation.

Summary

Subsection 11(7) of the LG Act 2020 requires Council to review within 12 months of a general election all delegations made under section 11 which are still in force, causing a report to be brought to the October Council Meeting in order to comply with this requirement.

However, Council's current Instrument of Delegation to the CEO notes that it is to remain in force until the Victorian Premier declares the cessation of the State of Emergency and a report revoking this delegation is brought to the next available Council Meeting.

The State of Emergency is due to cease on 15 December 2021.

In accordance with item 2.6 of the current Instrument, a report revoking the current delegations will be prepared for the first meeting of 2022.

Background

The delegations to the CEO and to Council staff were last reviewed and updated by Council on 25 August 2020.

The Instrument of Delegation to the CEO recognises that certain functions and duties are conferred on the CEO under section 11 of the *Local Government Act 2020*. These are specified in the Instrument along with any conditions and limitations.

The Instrument of Delegation reflects a model by which Council makes a comprehensive delegation to the CEO who then sub-delegates to relevant staff. The CEO will execute delegations to other officers as required, to ensure good decision-making practices and the effective facilitation of Council business.

As some legislation does not expressly provide for sub-delegation, it is necessary for Council, by resolution, to delegate directly to officers through the S6 Instrument of Delegation – Members of Staff.

Discussion

In accordance with section 11(7) of the LG Act 2020, Council must review, within the period of 12 months after a general election, all delegations which have been made under this section and are still in force.

Legal advice obtained has supported the approach that Council keep its current Instrument of Delegation to the CEO in force until 15 December 2021 and that a report revoking this delegation be brought to the next available Council Meeting in February 2022, to avoid signing a new Instrument in October 2021 and again in February 2022.

While the delegation to staff does not have the same clause keeping it in effect until the State of Emergency ceases, both delegations are reviewed together so it will also remain in force until February 2022.

The current Instrument of Delegation to the CEO was prepared by Macquarie Lawyers in March 2020 at the commencement of the COVID-19 pandemic and in direct response to the declaration of the State of Emergency. Council endorsed the revised Instrument at a Special Meeting on 31 March 2020.

One of the conditions of the 31 March 2020 instrument and the current instrument, requires in circumstances where the CEO is to enact delegated authority beyond previous delegation limits, the CEO will undertake the agreed consultation process with Council, noting individual Councillor concurrence or dissent, prior to the exercise of such delegation. For the record, the CEO has not been required to enact any extended delegated authority since the commencement of the 31 March 2020 Instrument.

The 31 March 2020 Instrument was subsequently reviewed and endorsed by Council on 25 August 2020.

The current Instrument of Delegation to the CEO (25 August 2020) restricts and limits the CEO's powers regarding:

- awarding contracts exceeding the value of \$3,500,000
- making local laws
- approving the Council Plan
- adopting the budget
- appointing delegates to external organisations
- taking any action which is required by law to be done by Council resolution.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

This report does not relate to a specific priority of the Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision.

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 4: A Council of excellence

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

Policies and Related Council Documents

The delegation to the CEO was last reviewed and endorsed by Council on 25 August 2020.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

Section 11(1) of the LG Act 2020 allows Council, by instrument of delegation, to delegate to its CEO or a member of a delegated committee certain powers, duties or functions under the LG Act 2020 or any other Act.

Under section 47(1) of the LG Act 2020, the CEO is empowered to delegate a power, duty or function of Council other than the power of delegation to a member of Council staff.

Consultation and Communication

As previously discussed, the current Instrument of Delegation to the CEO was prepared by Macquarie Lawyers in March 2020 at the commencement of the COVID-19 pandemic and in direct response to the declaration of the State of Emergency. Council endorsed the revised Instrument at a Special Meeting on 31 March 2020.

The Instrument was subsequently reviewed and endorsed by Council on 25 August 2020.

Any contracts awarded under delegation will continue to be reported within the CEO's monthly Report on Operations to ensure transparency to Council and the community.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.2.4 Audit and Risk Committee Update - August 2021 and Bi-Annual Report

Directorate:	Corporate Services
Responsible Officer:	Audit and Risk Advisor
Reviewer:	Director Corporate Services
Attachments:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Audit and Risk Committee Meeting Minutes - 25 August 2021 [9.2.4.1 - 7 pages]2. Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report (September 2020 - June 2021) [9.2.4.2 - 5 pages]

Purpose

To update Council regarding issues considered at the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 25 August 2021.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Notes the matters considered by the Audit and Risk Committee at the meeting held on 25 August 2021.**
2. **Receives and notes the Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report (September 2020 – June 2021).**

Summary

This report provides an update of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 25 August 2021 to ensure that Council is informed of the activities of the Audit and Risk Committee. It provides Council with an opportunity to explore any issues that have been considered.

Also included in this report is the Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report, in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* (LG Act 2020). It is the first such report under the new LG Act 2020.

Background

The Hobsons Bay City Council Audit and Risk Committee is an independent Committee of Council. The Committee comprises three independent members and two Councillors. The Chairperson is an independent member who has the casting vote. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer are non-voting members.

The Committee meets at least quarterly throughout the year and has a Charter that addresses responsibilities that include risk management, control frameworks, external accountability, legislative compliance and internal and external audits.

The Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report meets the reporting requirements to Council as mandated by the LG Act 2020 pursuant to section 54(5) and importantly provides

Council with a summary of the matters that the Committee has addressed in the reporting period in discharging its responsibilities under its Charter.

Discussion

The 25 August 2021 meeting addressed the following items:

- Draft Financial Report and Draft Financial Statement
- VAGO Closing Report and VAGO Management Letter
- Interim Financial Report – Year ended 30 June 2021
- the Chief Executive Officer's update
- outstanding audit recommendations
- Internal Audit Program including completed audit report
- risk management update, highlighting the risk executive summary, a general update on recent issues and an insurance report
- cash and investment balances as at 31 July 2021

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 4: A Council of excellence

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

Policies and Related Council Documents

The Audit and Risk Committee operates in accordance with the Hobsons Bay Audit and Risk Committee Charter 2020.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

As an independent Committee of Council, appointed by Council pursuant to section 53 of the LG Act 2020, the Audit and Risk Committee is not a delegated committee as defined by the Act.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter has been developed having regard to Audit Committee – A Guide to Good Practice for Local Government, which was issued in January 2011 by the Minister of Local Government and the Victorian Auditor General's report Audit Committee Governance of August 2016 (including the Standing Directions of the Minister for Finance 2016).

It is a requirement under section 54(5) of the LG Act 2020 that the Audit and Risk Committee prepare a biannual audit and risk report which is to be provided to the Chief Executive Officer for tabling at the next Council meeting.

Financial and Resource Implications

Not applicable.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Not applicable.

Consultation and Communication

The Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Report was reviewed and endorsed by Council's Audit and Risk Committee at the meeting held on 25 August 2021.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.3 Sustainable Communities

9.3.1 COVID-19 Community Support Package Update

Directorate:	Sustainable Communities
Responsible Officer:	Manager People and Culture
Reviewer:	Director Sustainable Communities
Attachments:	Nil

Purpose

To endorse the COVID-19 Community Support Package 5 for inclusion in the 2021-22 financial year.

Recommendation

That Council endorses the COVID-19 Community Support Package 5 for inclusion in the 2021-22 financial year.

Summary

Over the past 18 months the COVID-19 pandemic has had significant social, financial and economic consequences for the community, business and on the delivery of Council's services.

A number of support packages have already been delivered. The Annual Budget 2021-22, adopted in June 2021, was premised on expectations across the community at the time that the period of severe lockdowns during the pandemic was drawing to an end. The budget included Community Support Package 4 (\$2 million), which was designed to provide relief to Hobsons Bay community members most affected during the pandemic.

However, given the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 and ongoing lockdowns since that time, additional support has been identified via the new Community Support Package 5. The package includes additional community support provided within existing operational budgets, support requiring additional operational expenditure and the waiver of fees for business and sporting clubs dealing with Council. It is anticipated that further support packages may be required as the roadmap to reopening unfolds.

Background

Since March 2020, federal and state government actions to limit health impacts have included six extended lockdown periods, restrictions on work activities, and closure of services and facilities across the state.

The pandemic has impacted the community in varying ways. Assessing and understanding its effects was crucial to developing an appropriate response which met community needs. Engaging closely through information exchange forums, existing networks and through social media provided insight into primary concerns, and allowed Council to respond to

emerging needs, updating relevant policies, and informing the content of each Community Support Package.

Council has delivered three Community Support Packages with a combined value of \$7.8 million since early 2020, in response to community and economic needs. In addition to pivoting and reshaping almost all services to deliver in a COVID-19 context (e.g. virtual libraries, customer service, maternal and child health, planning applications, and so on), the first three Community Support Packages delivered a variety of initiatives:

- Hobsons Bay Business has Heart Outdoors
 - extended outdoor trading areas to minimise the impact of capacity restrictions
 - 43 activation sites with 193 businesses participating
 - community feedback has been overwhelmingly positive, with 96 per cent of survey respondents in favour of the initiative
 - work is underway to determine whether and how the program might be ongoing
- The Hobsons Bay Business has Heart program
 - offered grants, marketing, and communications advice to local businesses
 - distributed grants to 58 businesses who presented 20 activations including live music, a pop-up market and pop-up cinema
 - a further 37 businesses received support to deliver online campaigns and improve their marketing and communications reach
- the Make It Happen grants program has delivered \$760,000 of funding, with 109 applications supported in a quick-release monthly process
- sporting clubs have benefited from rental rebates, fee waivers, and assistance with utility bills
- library services migrated to online, including for example the delivery of 5,600 items through the Book a Book service and 18,281 through click and collect

In June 2021, Council's Annual Budget 2021-22 confirmed in June 2021 included Community Support Package 4, estimated at a value of an additional \$2 million, with delivery currently underway. This brings Council's additional COVID-19 response investment and commitments to date to \$9.8 million. Package 4 includes:

- \$1.35 million in targeted rate reductions for those who need it most, including rate waivers and reductions (\$900,000) and interest free rate deferrals and payment plans (\$450,000)
- an allocation of \$650,000 for support to target groups continuing to be impacted most by the pandemic, including targeted business support, youth employment support, a contribution to Make It Happen Hobsons Bay Recovery and Reconnection Grants program and support for artists and the creative community

Discussion

Since the 2021-22 Budget was adopted in late June, severe restrictions and lockdowns have returned and are having a significant impact on the community. As a result, additional support for the community has been identified via this Community Support Package 5. This new package has an estimated additional cost of \$1.028 million. This will bring Council's direct investment in COVID-19 community support to \$10.8 million.

Community Support Package 5 includes:

- further support for businesses, including an extension to the waiver of food (\$530,000) and health (\$40,000) registrations and the waiver of footpath trading permit fees (\$120,000) for the 2021-22 year
- rent relief to eligible tenants of Council buildings, at this stage estimated to be in the order of \$100,000
- a proposed \$100,000 for an innovation and collaboration event to support local businesses pivot to take advantage of new and changing opportunities, with additional grants to support new and emerging business ideas
- extension of the current sporting club ground allocation fees waiver and electricity bills (\$85,000) to support sporting clubs
- additional support to the Arts via a program of live outdoor music across the municipality, which will enable more local artists to be engaged (\$50,000)

This is in addition to ongoing pivoting of Council services to the community during lockdown, such as delivering services virtually or via click and collect. Council has also further supported the community through collaboration with local GPs and the Victorian Government. This includes the establishment of the temporary Vaccine Surge Centre in partnership with Altona North Medical Clinic, Western Suburbs Badminton Association and the Victorian Government, with staff redeployed to assist with administration of the centre. To date this surge centre has delivered thousands of additional vaccinations to the Hobsons Bay community.

Recent consultation with local trader groups indicates support for the fee waivers and business supports. There is also demand for more council support for local shopping strips and suburbs to share messages with their local communities. This can be done with business support resources from Community Support Package 4.

The extended Community Support Package would be an additional cost to Council of an estimated \$1.028 million. The package is able to be funded by additional rates revenues not anticipated in the 2021-22 Budget. This extension to the budget is not within Council's normal practices and is requested due to the extraordinary situation faced by the community during another extended lockdown.

Likely need for future support

At the time of this report there is a great deal of uncertainty about the ongoing impacts of COVID-19. Burnet Institute modelling which is behind much of the Victorian Government's planning and roadmaps shows a wide range of potential case hospital loads in the coming months. It anticipates COVID-19 cases peaking at anywhere from around 2,000 to 10,000 per day at some stage in December 2021. The actual trajectory of caseloads and timeframes will be dynamic and impacted by vaccination rates, community compliance with restrictions, and a range of other factors.

The Australian Government's recent announcement that COVID-19 income support relief will cease when the population reaches 80 per cent vaccination rates (anticipated at some stage in November) is also likely to have a big impact on service need in the community at the same time that case loads are peaking.

It is therefore very likely there will be a need for more and different types of support from Council and other tiers of government and other parties across the community, in the coming months. It is difficult to anticipate exactly what these needs will be, but at the time of writing we are already experiencing far higher demand for relief and support services than at any

other time during the pandemic, and it is likely we will reach a point where current service providers are unable to meet demand.

Council is working with other tiers of government and with other providers (such as Laverton Community Integrated Services (LCIS) which provides emergency food relief) to prepare for a range of options in different scenarios. To date these needs have been met through a combination of existing council resources, state government grants, and the resources of community providers such as LCIS. If there is a significant increase in demand, there will be a need for all players including Council to revisit funding and resourcing arrangements.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 1: An inclusive and healthy community

Objective 1.5: Understand the current and future needs of our community, and work to ensure those most vulnerable in our community are safe and have equitable and timely access to the support they need.

Goal 2: A great place

Objective 2.3: Support the growth of our local economy, and encourage business investment that creates and maintains local jobs.

Community Support Package 5 extends the support within Community Support Package 4, which was included in the Annual Budget 2021-22.

Policies and Related Council Documents

The Hobsons Bay Financial Hardship Policy 2020 provides a framework for financial relief due to unexpected events.

The Hobsons Bay COVID-19 Financial Assistance Policy 2020 provides direction to consider financial hardship caused by COVID-19.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

An ongoing collaborative approach has ensured that financial, reputational, legal, and business risks were considered and various opportunities for community input allowed informed, democratic decision making by Council at Council meetings.

Financial and Resource Implications

Community Support Package 4, included in the Annual Budget 2021-22 and estimated at \$2 million, was designed to provide relief to Hobsons Bay community members most affected during the pandemic.

This additional Community Support Package 5 complements community support that is provided within existing operational budgets. This includes business support, the establishment of a Vaccination Surge Centre, extension of community learning and service centre programs, the ongoing Hobsons Bay Community has Heart program and a further focus on children and families.

The package also includes community support that requires additional operational expenditure for business (\$100,000) as well as arts and creative experience support (\$50,000). Council's income will be impacted as a result of Community Support Package 5. This includes an extension for the remainder of 2021-22 of previous fee waivers for traders dealing with Council, including food (\$530,000), health (\$40,000) and footpath trading permit fees (\$122,000). The waiver of sports clubs' ground allocation fees and electricity bills will also be extended (\$85,000) and rent relief will be provided to eligible tenants of Council buildings (\$100,000).

The extended Community Support Package as outlined in this report would be an additional cost to Council of an estimated \$1.028 million. The package would be funded by additional rates originally raised as a result of an increase to the value of properties, above what was predicted across the municipality, since the budget was adopted.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

COVID-19 restriction measures affected business health, leading to diminished consumer spending, a surge in unemployment, business closures, cancellation or postponement of events and projects, operational changes, and delay or cancellation of hiring and investment plans. The pandemic has had significant impacts upon the mental health and wellbeing of people. This affects all segments of the population and is particularly detrimental to members of social groups in the most vulnerable situations.

It is noted that social and economic impacts are evolving and are not fully known. Council will need to continue to analyse the effects of the pandemic, stay close to analysis, and listen to information coming through community and business channels.

Consultation and Communication

A Community Support Package Focus Group was formed to recommend to Council how best to distribute the most recent \$2 million package. The focus group recommendations in relation to targeted rate relief and community program support were included within the Annual Budget 2021-22.

Councillors and the Executive and Senior Leadership teams have all been involved in identifying the new Community Support Package 5. Council will engage with business and the community in the design and delivery of the support.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.4 Infrastructure and City Services

9.4.1 Endorsement of Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville

Directorate:	Infrastructure and City Services
Responsible Officer:	Manager Active Communities and Assets
Reviewer:	Director Infrastructure and City Services
Attachments:	1. Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville [9.4.1.1 - 105 pages]

Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of the Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville (Attachment 1).

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville.**
- 2. Supports the immediate commencement of the Better Places model in Brooklyn and Altona North.**

Summary

Following a successful pilot program in Laverton, the Better Places model has been applied to Spotswood and South Kingsville. The aim of this model is to develop a shared vision with and for the Spotswood and South Kingsville community.

The Place Guide for Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville (the Place Guide) has been developed to guide future investment into Spotswood and South Kingsville and provide opportunities for the community to become more actively involved in the project delivery process. The Place Guide describes the consultation process undertaken throughout the project, how the vision, key themes and principles have been developed, and summarises the 16 place projects that have been identified to achieve a shared vision for Spotswood and South Kingsville.

The Draft Place Guide was adopted at the 30 June 2021 Council Meeting and was placed on public exhibition for six weeks. Following feedback from the community, the Place Guide has been updated for Council's final consideration.

Background

The Better Places model is focused on a design-led and place-based approach to projects. It helps provide a clear vision and understanding of the elements required to make better places, and therefore provides better outcomes for the community.

It is about moving to a more collaborative and multi-disciplinary approach that moves away from the traditional model of delivering projects as “pieces” to an approach where the whole “place” is considered and driven by a community vision for the suburb. It focuses on innovation with the aim to deliver better outcomes for the community.

Spotswood and South Kingsville have varied neighbourhood characters, transitioning from the industrial areas to the east to the mixed use and varied densities of central Spotswood, through to the more suburban character of South Kingsville.

The Better Places model is an innovative approach to planning projects and working with the community. This approach encourages the community to take greater ownership of their neighbourhoods by being actively involved in steering the future direction of their suburb.

Discussion

At the 30 June 2021 Council Meeting, the Draft Place Guide was endorsed to be placed on public exhibition for six weeks. The public exhibition period was also used to provide an opportunity for the community to nominate which of the 16 “Place Projects” they would like to be involved with throughout future design stages. To help profile the 16 projects, a dedicated Better Places website (www.better-places.com.au) was also established.

A total of 250 comments and suggestions were received on the Draft Place Guide with the feedback being overwhelmingly positive. Nearly every project received suggestions in some way. Some were minor details that can be addressed within the design stage of the relevant project while others were quite large and resulted in the below amendments to the updated Place Guide:

- **Project 3: Hidden Histories** will focus on the collection and cataloguing of stories. How these stories are interpreted in the identified locations will be left open for the project team, local leaders' group, and community to decide once all the options are clear. The rollout of historical street signs has been removed as a deliverable.
- **Project 4: Better Placed for Future Industries** – as a project name this sparked some concern within the community. Although the intent of this project is to help attract new and diverse commercial and lighter industries into the area the word “industries” has been highlighted as problematic. The project is now called Better Placed Future Industries and Business to make the project intent clearer.
- **Project 14: Better Community Places** has been updated to specifically nominate the RSL as an underutilised community asset. It will gather a team to work closely with the RSL management to better integrate the facility into the community for the benefit of everyone.

A three-year program has been developed that will see all 16 projects either delivered or fully designed and ready for further funding, meaning that for those larger ambitious projects such as the GreenLine Project, Council has budgeted to undertake the feasibility studies, consultation, and design of the development so that the project is ready for implementation subject to funding.

Key projects that will begin immediately include:

- Streets For People
- The GreenLine Project
- Local Leaders Focus Group
- Future Industries Action Group
- Love Our Parks

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

Priority 2: Community wellbeing and inter-connection

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

Priority 6: An accessible and connected community

Council Plan 2017-21

Goal 1: An inclusive and healthy community

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

Goal 2: A great place

Objective 2.2: Celebrate and promote the diversity of our community.

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

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

Policies and Related Council Documents

The Place Guide has taken the following documents into consideration:

- Activity Centres Strategy 2019
- Hobsons Bay Open Space Strategy 2018
- Sports Facility Needs Analysis 2018

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

During consultation with the Spotswood and South Kingsville community, public safety issues with the road network were raised and have been responded to in Project 5: Streets for People. The aim of this project is to lead the shift throughout the area to create streets where people feel safe. This will be completed by reducing vehicle speeds and through traffic and undertaking works that make the village and neighbourhood streets feel safer and more usable for pedestrians and cyclists.

Both Project 6: The GreenLine Project and Project 7: Missing Links have pedestrian and cyclist safety as a key focus area to ensure more people within the community are encouraged to move this way as an alternative to vehicles.

Financial and Resource Implications

The 16 projects listed within the Place Guide provide a project description, examples for inspirations and next steps which describe the key initiatives proposed to be undertaken to take the projects from a vision to a reality. A Place Project Delivery and Action Plan has also been developed to identify timeframes associated with the planning, design, and implementation and funding for each project.

In Council's 2021-22 Capital Works Program, \$200,000 has been allocated to assist with the implementation of fast-tracked projects and the design of future projects identified within the Place Guide.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

The Place Guide acknowledges environmental, social, and economic values and opportunities with Spotswood and South Kingsville. The proposed projects focus on improving and greening of the natural environment, improving public spaces to encourage residents to socialise, play and interact with each other more often, and enhancing local village areas with opportunities for people to connect with each other.

Consultation and Communication

The Place Guide provides a summary of the community consultation that has been completed throughout the delivery of the project. The Better Places Spotswood and South Kingsville project commenced with key stakeholder group workshops that were undertaken in November 2020. Concurrently, the community was also asked to share their thoughts and ideas on three key themes of love, change and any ideas they might have to improve the area into the future. Over 3,200 responses were received as part of this consultation process.

Based on the initial input received, four key themes with potential projects and initiatives were developed as part of a Draft Vision Summary document that was published for community comment and feedback from 22 February to 29 March 2021. Throughout this consultation process, a flyer with a returnable survey was sent out the community via a letter box drop, three face to face community drop-in sessions were held and the supporting documentation was all available on Participate Hobsons Bay. In total, 683 people visited Participate and 171 surveys were received.

The Draft Place Guide was on public exhibition from 30 June to 11 August 2021. Throughout the public exhibition period, 1350 people visited Participate Hobsons Bay or www.better-places.com.au, 250 comments and suggestions were received on each of the 16 proposed projects and over 60 people indicated that they would like to be involved in the project's implementation phase.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.4.2 Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan

Directorate:	Infrastructure and City Services
Responsible Officer:	Manager Active Communities and Assets
Reviewer:	Director Infrastructure and City Services
Attachments:	1. Coastal and Marine Management Plan [9.4.2.1 - 94 pages]

Purpose

To adopt the Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan (CMMP).

Recommendation

That Council:

1. **Adopts the Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan.**
2. **Writes to all submitters to acknowledge their contribution.**
3. **Writes to the Minister of Energy, Environment and Climate Change seeking approval of the Hobsons Bay Coastal and Marine Management Plan.**

Summary

At the Council Meeting on 9 March 2021, Council resolved to place the Draft CMMP on public exhibition between 15 March 2021 and 16 April 2021.

In total, 977 people visited the Draft CMMP page on Participate Hobsons Bay, 35 people completed an online survey, about 50 people in total attended the three community drop-in sessions, and over 660 comments were received on social media polls relating to topics of interest. Feedback from stakeholder groups and agencies engaged throughout the development of the plan was also received.

All feedback received during the public exhibition period has been considered and has informed the updated CMMP (Attachment 1) that is presented for adoption.

Background

The Hobsons Bay foreshore extends from Stony Creek Backwash near the West Gate Bridge in Spotswood to Skeleton Creek in Altona Meadows. The management of the foreshore is a shared responsibility between Hobsons Bay City Council, and other stakeholders including the Bunurong Land Council, Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Parks Victoria, Melbourne Water, and the Port of Melbourne.

The development of the CMMP commenced in late 2018 and included broad consultation with the community and stakeholders in early 2019. The introduction of the *Marine and Coastal Act 2018* though resulted in a pause of CMMP development, while related policies were adopted and implemented. Work to develop the CMMP resumed in early 2020.

The CMMP has been developed to provide a strategic direction that guides the future management, use, development and protection of Hobsons Bay's coastal and marine environments for the next ten years. This plan will ensure that the community can continue to enjoy using Hobsons Bay's beaches and open public spaces along the coast and be assured that these areas will be protected well into the future against increasing pressures from urban growth and a changing climate and environment.

Discussion

The Draft CMMP was placed on public exhibition for five weeks from 15 March 2021 to 16 April 2021. The public exhibition period was hosted on Participate Hobsons Bay and widely promoted on Council's social media platforms. In response, 35 people completed surveys, about 50 people attended three drop-in sessions and 660 responded to social media polls on Facebook and Instagram.

Key themes identified by the community include:

- reduce litter and pollution entering Port Phillip Bay
- increase enforcement of dogs on beaches and tree vandalism in coastal areas
- improved public safety along the shared trail
- increased environmental protection.

The social media polls asked three questions:

- Do you think there should be more trees and vegetation planted along our foreshore? (91% answered yes)
- Do you think we have managed to effectively balance everyone's interests, uses, and values when managing our coastline? (74% answered yes)
- Do you want to be involved in helping to deliver some of our CMMP actions? (72% answered yes)

The development of the CMMP has also been guided by engagement with Victorian Government agencies and key stakeholders that include the Bunurong Land Council and the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council. Feedback on the Draft CMMP from these organisations was received and has informed the below updates in the CMMP:

- updated wording that reflects the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation as the Registered Aboriginal Party for Hobsons Bay
- additional context to emphasise greater alignment with the *Marine and Coastal Policy* 2018
- increased acknowledgement of the marine environment
- further context on the importance of enhancing and protecting sensitive areas along the coast
- improved linkages to other agency projects and strategies

All feedback received has informed the updated CMMP that is presented for adoption. Once adopted by Council, the CMMP will be submitted to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for ministerial approval.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

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

Council Plan 2017-21

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

Objective 3.3: Protect and enhance our coastal environment, biodiversity and natural areas in partnership with major stakeholders and the community.

Other Council Strategy

The CMMP will be integrated into existing plans and strategies, with several actions being primarily delivered through other planning mechanisms including the Urban Forest Strategy 2020, the Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22, and the Open Space Strategy 2018-28.

Furthermore, the CMMP has been developed concurrently with the Climate Change Plan to ensure actions particularly in coastal areas are aligned.

Policies and Related Council Documents

The Hobsons Bay Asset Management Policy 2017 is an overarching document that confirms Council's commitment to best practice asset management and provides principles for sound asset investment decision making. The policy provides a long-term planning framework to help manage Council's Asset Portfolio. The principles within the Asset Management Policy have helped guide future investment priorities along the Hobsons Bay foreshore.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

Coastal management reform in Victoria is led by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and has included the release of several pieces of legislation, policies, and guidance material over recent years. The CMMP has been structured to align closely with these coastal and marine legislation guidelines and government policies.

Financial and Resource Implications

The CMMP is being delivered by the Active Communities department with assistance from coastal planning specialists. Actions within the CMMP have been prioritised as short-term, medium-term, or long-term.

Many actions within the CMMP are included either within existing staff time, in support of the delivery of other Council strategies, or are included with current projects in Council's Draft Ten Year Capital Works Program.

The funding allocations for projects in foreshore areas within Hobsons Bay are summarised below:

Priority	Timeframe	Cost Estimate
Short	0-2 years	\$22 million
Medium	3-5 years	\$7 million
Long	6-10 years	\$2 million
Total		\$31 million

The above figures represent the estimated total project costs. External funding has been received to support the delivery of some short-term projects and will be pursued for future works in the Capital Works Program.

The above funding allocations include projects within the below programs:

- Foreshore Renewal and Upgrade
- Community Parks and Playgrounds
- Pier Street Stage 4 and Esplanade Closure
- Biodiversity Strategy
- Gross Pollutant Trap Program
- Bridge Renewal Program
- Car Park Renewal Program
- new Cultural Heritage program
- Shared Trails Renewal Program
- Community Submissions

The above funding allocations do not include:

- Elm Tree Management Program
- Urban Forest Strategy

Environmental, Social and 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 managed environments and infrastructure that encourage the community to participate in recreation activities is a fundamental role of Council.

Coastal and marine areas are valued, and facilities exist to allow enjoyment of the environmental, social, cultural, recreational, and economic benefits of the coast.

Actions within the CMMP will help improve the resilience of Council's coastal and marine areas to pressures and future changes, which could include natural hazards such as coastal erosion, climate change impacts such as sea level rise, and population growth.

Consultation and Communication

Following the adoption of the Draft CMMP at the Council Meeting on 9 March 2021, the plan was placed on exhibition, with feedback and input being sought from the community and key internal and external stakeholders. The public exhibition period was promoted to the local community through Participate Hobsons Bay, Council's social media platforms and direct email messaging to local groups and stakeholders. The broader community engagement included pop-up events at three foreshore locations, social media polls and a survey hosted on Participate Hobsons Bay.

The community consultation process to develop the CMMP has been extensive and included three key stages:

- Stage 1: Broad community consultation (early 2019)
- Stage 2: Have your say on proposed management initiatives (September 2020)
- Stage 3: Draft CMMP on public exhibition (March/April 2021)

The community consultation process was supplemented with two rounds of workshops with Victorian Government agencies and key stakeholders that informed the Draft CMMP. These same stakeholders also had the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft CMMP. Feedback on the Draft CMMP was received from Victorian Government agencies and stakeholders including the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation, DELWP, Parks Victoria, Better Boating Victoria, Port of Melbourne and the Victorian Marine and Coastal Council.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.4.3 Draft Road Management Plan 2021

Directorate:	Infrastructure and City Services
Responsible Officer:	Coordinator Strategic Asset Management
Reviewer:	Director Infrastructure and City Services
Attachments:	1. Draft Road Management Plan 2021 [9.4.3.1 - 30 pages]

Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement to place the Draft Road Management Plan 2021 (the Draft RMP) on public exhibition.

Recommendation

That Council:

- 1. Places the Draft Road Management Plan on public exhibition for four weeks from 13 October 2021 to 10 November 2021.**
- 2. Receives a further report to adopt the Road Management Plan at a future Council Meeting.**

Summary

The RMP has been developed to meet the legislative requirements of the *Road Management Act 2004* (the RM Act). Council is the Road Authority for municipal roads in which this RMP applies to the maintenance and operational activities of municipal roads.

The RMP identifies responsibilities, inspection regimes, defect intervention standards, response times and management systems required to manage civil liability as well as demonstrate that the Council, as the road authority, is responsibly managing the road assets under its control. Assets covered under this plan include the road pavement and surface, kerb and channel as well as footpaths on the road reserve.

Council is required by legislation to review the RMP at prescribed intervals. A review has been carried out and an updated Draft RMP has been produced; an amendment to intervention levels and inspection frequencies is not recommended and changes only include minor administrative updates. The Draft RMP will be placed on public exhibition for four weeks to obtain feedback from the community.

Background

Council is responsible for the management of 433km of roads. The RM Act provides the opportunity for councils to develop an RMP to establish a management system to prioritise road functions.

In accordance with Sections 50 and 52 of the RM Act, the purpose of this RMP is to:

- establish a management system for the road management functions of Council which is based on policy and operational objectives and available resources

- specify the relevant standards or policies in relation to the discharge of duties in the performance of those road management functions
- detail the management systems that Council proposes to implement in the discharge of its duty to inspect, maintain and repair public roads for which Council is responsible.

Under the RM Act, Council must in accordance with the regulations conduct a review of its road management plan at prescribed intervals. The Road Management (General) Regulations 2016 states that Council must review its road management plan during the same period as it is preparing its Council Plan.

Discussion

A review of Council's RMP was undertaken by Infrastructure and City Services Directorate in accordance with the RM Act and the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016.

The review was conducted on the standards of inspection and maintenance for the road and footpath assets including inspection frequencies, defects intervention levels, response times, and maintenance actions. The RMP was developed based on operational objectives and recognises resource limitations in undertaking the necessary levels of service and performance targets outlined in the RMP. The levels of service set up in the RMP are expected to meet user needs and community expectations or day-to-day maintenance of the assets.

Implementation of the RMP involves a rigorous risk-based approach to the management and inspection of the road and footpath network. Inspection frequencies and defect response times will vary based on the level of risk and criticality rating of "High", "Medium" and "Low". "High" criticality rating roads and footpaths are those located near and adjacent to activity centres, schools, parks, foreshore and other high serviced areas. These locations will be inspected more frequently with earlier defect response times to ensure asset risks are appropriately managed.

The benchmarking process found that the updated trip hazard and depression intervention level are consistent with levels of neighbouring councils:

LGA	Intervention Level
Hobsons Bay City Council	>25mm
Maribyrnong City Council	>25mm
Brimbank City Council	>25mm
Wyndham City Council	>30mm

Following this review, only minor administrative updates have been made. The RMP will be placed on public exhibition for four weeks to obtain feedback from the community. A future report will be presented to Council that considers feedback from the community with the recommendation to adopt the final RMP.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

Priority 6: An accessible and connected community

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

Policies and Related Council Documents

The inaugural RMP was first adopted by Council in November 2004 with subsequent revisions in December 2006, June 2009, November 2013, April 2018, and April 2020.

Implementation of the RMP will be in accordance with the principles set out in the asset management policy for maintaining assets.

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

A review of Council's RMP 2020 was undertaken in accordance with the RM Act and the Road Management (General) Regulations 2016.

The RM Act provides the opportunity for councils to develop a RMP to establish a management system to prioritise road functions. Sections 50 and 52 of the Act outline the purpose of the RMP.

Financial and Resource Implications

Implementation of the RMP activities will be funded by the Infrastructure and City Services operating budget.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Council's strategic asset management approach has positive environmental, social and economic impacts. Long term asset planning and timely maintenance of infrastructure assets ensure there is ongoing provision of facilities that are safe, accessible, and fit for purpose for present and future communities.

Consultation and Communication

The RMP will be placed on public exhibition for four weeks to obtain feedback from the community. The public exhibition period will be hosted on Participate Hobsons Bay and will be advertised through Council's social media channels.

As part of the RMP revision process internal consultation has been undertaken with service managers and key officers responsible for the implementation of the RMP and ongoing management of the roads and footpaths.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

9.4.4 Trust for Nature Covenant - Maidstone Street Grassland, Altona

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Responsible Officer: Senior Coordinator City Services

Reviewer: Director Infrastructure and City Services

Attachments:

1. Deed of Covenant for the Conservation of Land - Lot 1 on Plan of Subdivision 347451E [9.4.4.1 - 31 pages]
2. Deed of Covenant for the Conservation of Land - Reserve 1 on Plan of Subdivision 737058H [9.4.4.2 - 19 pages]

Purpose

To authorise the affixing of Council's Common Seal to two separate Trust for Nature – Deeds of Covenants (the Deeds) for sites at 210 Maidstone Street and 240-242 Maidstone Street, Altona.

Recommendation

That Council, in accordance with section 18 of the Hobsons Bay Governance Rules, authorises the affixing of the Common Seal for two separate Deeds of Covenant for sites at 210 Maidstone Street and 240-242 Maidstone Street, Altona.

Summary

Council currently manages three offset sites around the Maidstone Street Grassland in Altona. One site is currently protected through a Trust for Nature covenant, and the adjoining two properties are still waiting for these deeds to be executed as a requirement of their Offset Management Plans (OMPs).

Council is responsible for a number of grassland reserves within the municipality and has previously completed the actions of a 10-year OMP at the Horsburgh Drive Grassland, which is home to the critically endangered golden sun moth (*Synemon plana*). This site is now a reference site for ecological consultants, providing accurate timing for flight surveys across the state.

A Trust for Nature covenant will protect these sites into perpetuity and provide Council with ongoing technical support, information and mechanisms for latest management techniques of grassland systems.

Background

Before a property is developed, it must be assessed for native vegetation values of both state and federal significance. Where these values exist on site, the Victorian Native Vegetation Clearing regulations require the development of an OMP. Similar vegetation, either on title or within the state, must then be secured for long term protection and management. Additionally, this plan must be fully funded by the developer.

Where properties have value to both the local community and biodiversity, Council has opportunities to manage these funded systems as sites of biological, educational and social significance.

Hobsons Bay was once broadly covered in the grassland vegetation of the Western Basalt Plains prior to European settlement, which is now listed as critically endangered by both the Victorian and Australian governments.

An OMP is developed for the prospective site by an ecological consultant through in-field surveys and assessments, which in this case on title at 210 and 240-242 Maidstone Street, Altona. This fully funded 10-year OMP identifies all the known threats and treatments required to remove those threats. The actions must improve the biodiversity values of the property over those 10 years known as habitat gains.

A Trust for Nature covenant is prepared by an officer utilising the information provided through the OMP. The deed is then submitted to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) for approval. Once the Deed and OMP have received DELWP's approval they are sent to Council for execution.

Discussion

Approval has been obtained from DELWP for both these sites and accordingly the Deeds are now with Council for execution, and now awaiting execution at this stage.

All Deeds are required to be approved by the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change. Once approval has been given, both the Deed and the OMP will be registered on the Certificate of Title.

After the Deed is registered with the Titles Office, a Trust for Nature Stewardship Officer will commence site visits. Stewardship visits occur in years 1, 4, 7 and 10 of the offset period.

Strategic Alignment

This report specifically addresses priorities from the following strategic documents:

Hobsons Bay 2030 Community Vision

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

Council Plan 2017-21

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

Objective 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.

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

Objective 3.3: Protect and enhance our coastal environment, biodiversity and natural areas in partnership with major stakeholders and the community.

Hobsons Bay Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22

Objective 2 – Actively reduce the threat posed by pest plant and animals on biodiversity within Hobsons Bay.

2.1 – Continue core pest plant control at Council managed conservation reserves as per site management plans.

Objective 3 – Actively enhance the connectivity of conservation areas.

3.1 - Identify areas of priority for increasing connectivity and bio links both within the municipality and across the region. This may include – keeping offsets within the municipality where they would contribute to biodiversity.

Objective 5 – Enhance land use management practices for biodiversity protection.

5.2 – Strengthen the protection of native grasslands within the local planning scheme by investigation Environmental Significant Overlays for the increased protection of sites with high value vegetation.

Policies and Related Council Documents

Hobsons Bay Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22

Legal/Statutory Obligations and Risk

The requirements within the agreed OMP are legally binding.

During the development of the Hobsons Bay Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22 community members involved in workshops voiced their concerns on the continued removal of intact remnant grasslands across the state and within Hobsons Bay. Best practice grassland management greatly reduces the potential of further reputational risk within the community.

The Offset site at 210 Maidstone Street was created as a result of development on a portion of the same land by Maidstone Street Joint Venture in 2015-2016. A condition of the planning approval was that the offset site be handed over to Hobsons Bay City Council for management along with funding of \$197,643 to cover 10 years of management and the Trust for Nature fees.

The Offset site at 240 Maidstone Street was from project on Council land, being the Laverton Storm Water Harvesting site. Instead of securing an offset in another municipality, Council secured its own grassland. Funds are made available in Council's operational budget for the management of these grasslands in accordance with the Offset Management Plan.

Financial and Resource Implications

The Trust for Nature covenant requires a one-off payment of \$12,000 including GST for each site.

The fully costed and funded Offset Management Plan supports the actions over the ten years provided by the developer to Council, and the improved habitat gains will raise the biodiversity value of these sites.

Following the ten years of funded management actions, the sites should be mostly self-sustaining and maintenance will be reduced. The sites will continue to provide vital ecological services that contribute to biodiversity both locally and at a nationally significant level.

Environmental, Social and Economic Impacts

Without the vested long-term management of remnant grassland systems, there will be a further decline of biodiversity values within Hobsons Bay. This systematic breakdown of natural spaces will further reduce the long-term genetic viability of indigenous flora and fauna and may lead to local extinctions if these last remaining grasslands are mismanaged.

New research is demonstrating that grasslands are extremely important when it comes to mitigating the risk of climate change by its capture of carbon.

Consultation and Communication

Council engaged with the community as part of the development of the Hobsons Bay Biodiversity Strategy 2017-22. At this time the community voiced concerns about the continued removal of intact remnant grasslands across the state and Hobsons Bay.

These Deeds seek to mitigate the long-term damage caused by the removal of grasslands.

Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act* 2020 requires members of Council staff to disclose any general or material conflict of interest in matters to be considered at a Council meeting.

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

10 Delegate Reports

Purpose

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

Recommendation

That Council receives and notes the recent Delegate Reports.

Western Melbourne Tourism Board

Directorate: Sustainable Communities
Councillor Delegate: Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud
Date of Meeting: 13 August 2021

Cr Pamela Sutton-Legaud attended the Western Melbourne Tourism Board meeting.

Key items discussed include:

- update from Victorian Tourism Industry Council (VTIC) including insights on the overall state of the city's visitor economy sector and an update on discussions with the Victorian Government on organisational reform for Greater Melbourne
- Draft Western Melbourne Tourism Strategy including it being essential that WMT's role and ability to influence outcomes is made clear in order to effectively measure the success of the strategy
- PRIME mentoring program is being delivered by WMT with VTIC support and offers \$5,000 worth of one-on-one business mentoring and upskilling support to ten businesses, including two Hobsons Bay businesses
- the need for support for businesses not just over coming months while vaccination rates increase but beyond that in a sustainable and flexible form

RoadSafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Delegate: Cr Diana Grima

Date of Meeting: 18 August 2021

RoadSafe Westgate Update

RoadSafe Westgate provided the following update at the 18 August 2021 meeting:

As part of the Mobile Billboard Road Safety Program, during the month of August road safety messages were focused around Young Drivers and in the month of September the road safety messages will be focusing around about Hoon Behaviour.

The Looking After Our Mates sessions have been postponed due to COVID-19 lockdown.

Due to COVID-19 protocols no Royal Auto Care Victoria Years Ahead or Senior Driver Expo sessions are planned for the 2021-22 financial year.

Funding has been approved for the 2021-22 Local Media Road Safety Campaign with the campaign to be focused around the road policing operations conducted during long weekends and holiday periods.

Hobsons Bay City Council Update

Hobsons Bay provided updates on the following key activities carried out in August 2021:

Grant applications for road safety improvements under Blackspot and Transport Accident Commission programs have been submitted.

The Draft Northern Local Area Movement Plans are currently out for public exhibition.

Procurement for the purchase of two VMS signs for speed management around schools is being finalised.

Other Member Council Updates

Officers from Maribyrnong City Council provided an update on Road Safety Around School program which is currently on hold due to the COVID-19 lockdown. They are working on a range of grant applications to improve road safety, particularly for pedestrians.

Officers from Melton City Council provided updates that child car restraint fitting and safety checks were being organised at the Bridge Road Children's and Community Centre. They also provided an update on their social media campaign to promote the Band Together Road Safety Campaign.

Officers from Wyndham City Council provided updates on internal workshops to inform on the Draft Wyndham Integrated Transport Strategy. They also discussed grant applications and the progress on Council's Active Travel Program.

Metropolitan Transport Forum

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Delegate: Mayor Cr Jonathon Marsden

Date of Meeting: 1 September 2021

Mr Neil France, Infrastructure Advisor, Networks & Planning from Infrastructure Victoria, explained the detailed modelling undertaken by Veitch Lister Consulting.

Mr France also discussed the decline in public transport patronage and airport related travel. He spoke about the consequences of these movement changes, including that vehicle speeds have dropped noticeably in inner metropolitan areas, and there was also a noticeable shift to private vehicle use in the CBD (away from public transport). He spoke about considerations influencing the drop in public transport, and two scenarios for future travel distributions – involving more active transport, and more flexible work. Mr France then discussed infrastructure provisions, and potential government collaboration and leadership opportunities.

Mr Peter Kartsidimas, Director Networks & Planning from Infrastructure Victoria, introduced Victoria's Infrastructure Strategy 2021–2051. He noted it includes 94 recommendations but focused on the transport-related items for this meeting.

The long-term challenges require a move to zero emission vehicles and the need for modern technology to be incorporated in personal transport options. Mr Kartsidimas spoke about managing urban change and the need to better integrate transport and land use planning, including how existing infrastructure can be better harnessed for growth and productivity.

RoadSafe Westgate Community Road Safety Council

Directorate: Infrastructure and City Services

Councillor Delegate: Cr Diana Grima

Date of Meeting: 15 September 2021

RoadSafe Westgate Update

As part of the Mobile Billboard Road Safety Program, during the month of September road safety messages were focused around hoorn behaviour and in October the road safety messages will be focusing on speeding motorists.

The Looking After Our Mates sessions have been postponed due to COVID-19 lockdown.

Due to COVID-19 protocols no Royal Auto Care Victoria Years Ahead or Senior Driver Expo sessions are planned for the 2021-22 financial year.

Hobsons Bay City Council Update

Delivery of Black Spot Program and Transport Accident Commission projects are currently being progressed. Most of the projects are either at functional design/engagement or ready for construction stage.

The final public exhibition of Draft Northern Local Area Movement Plans is currently open and scheduled to close on September.

Other Member Council Updates

Officers from Maribyrnong City Council, Melton City Council and Wyndham City Council provided an update on road safety projects, the Draft Wyndham Integrated Transport Strategy and grant projects.

11 Notices of Motion

No notices of motion were received.

12 Urgent Business

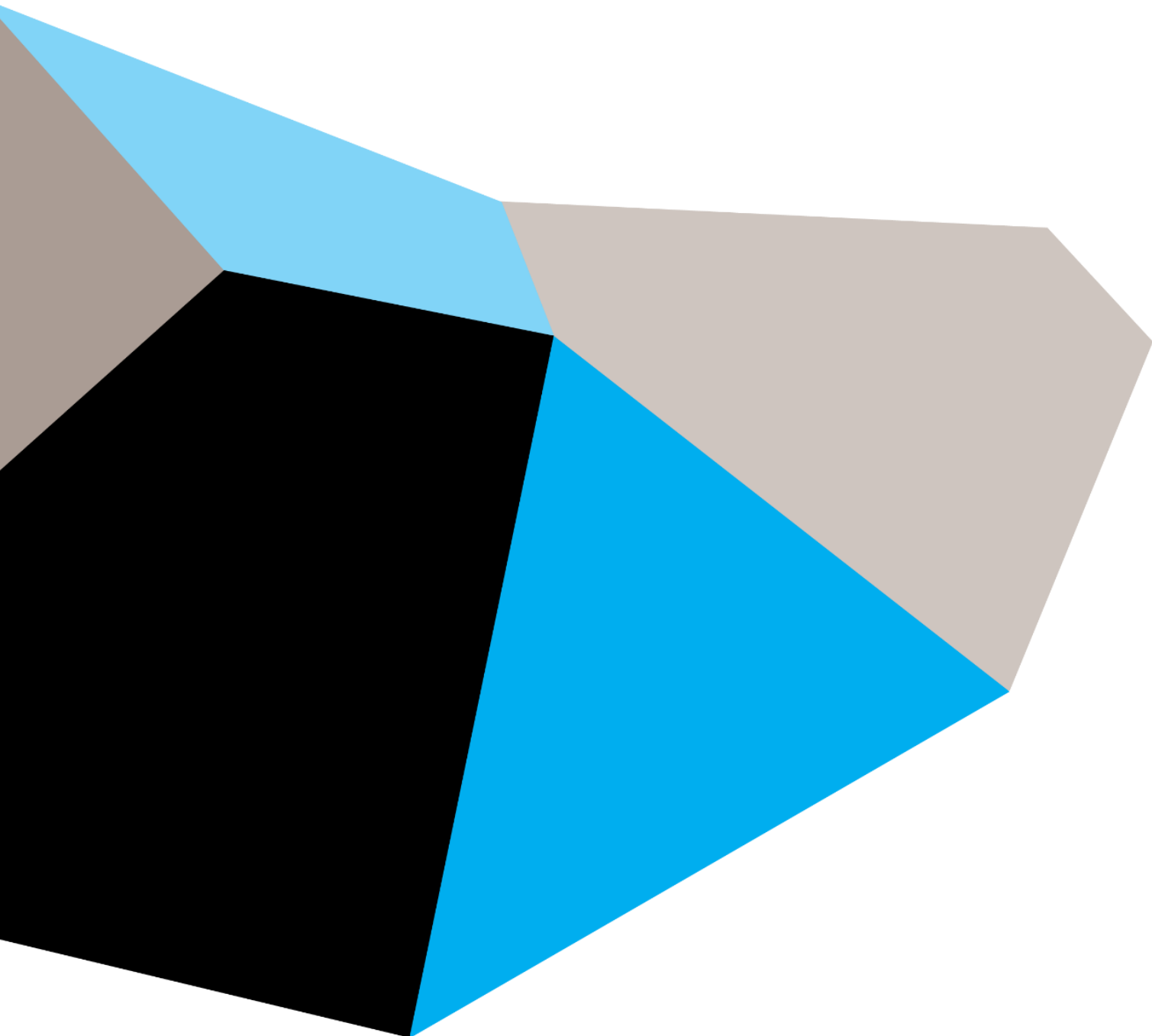
13 In Camera Business

Recommendation

That Council considers the confidential report(s) listed below in a meeting closed to the public in accordance with section 66(2)(a), section 3(1)(a) and section 3(1)(g) of the *Local Government Act 2020* as it relates to private commercial information and information that was confidential information for the purposes of section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989*:

13.1 Review of Confidential Status of In Camera Council Reports

14 Close of Meeting



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