

**MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chamber, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 26 August 2019.**

## **Order of Business**

### **PRESENT**

Cr Mark Radford, Mayor, Cr David Grimble, Cr Les Power, Cr John Robinson

### **ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

Sunil Bhalla, Chief Executive Officer; Graeme Harrison, Director Corporate Services; John Martin, Director Infrastructure Services; Angela Murphy, Director Development Services; Kevin O'Brien, Director Community Wellbeing; Sue Frankham, Governance Officer; Diana McDonald, Co-ordinator Governance.

Jade Bate	Bev Bell	David Bowe	Alex Darling	Lisa Davidson
Kath Dumesny	Jenny Grimble	Noel Hopper	Neville McIntyre	Fletcher Mills
Glenn Ryan	Jill Taylor			

### **1. PRAYER**

Chairman, Cr Mark Radford recited the following pledge on behalf of all Councillors:

Almighty God, we pledge ourselves to work in harmony for, the social, cultural and economic well-being of our Rural City. Help us to be wise in our deliberations and fair in our actions, so that prosperity and happiness shall be the lot of our people. AMEN

### **2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY STATEMENT**

Chairman, Cr Mark Radford read the following Acknowledgement of Country Statement:

The Horsham Rural City Council acknowledges the five Traditional Owner groups of this land; the Wotjobaluk, Wergaia, Jupagalk, Jaadwa and Jadawadjali people. We recognise the important and ongoing place that all Indigenous people hold in our community.

We pay our respects to the Elders, both past and present, and commit to working together in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect for the benefit of the broader community and future generations.

### **3. OPENING AND WELCOME**

Chairman, Cr Mark Radford formally welcomed those in attendance to the meeting. The Mayor advised the public that the Council meeting will be recorded to maintain an audio archive.

### **4. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cr Pam Clarke, Cr Alethea Gulvin and Cr Josh Koenig.

#### **Council Resolution**

#### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That the apologies be accepted.

CARRIED

**5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS**

Nil

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES**

**Recommendation**

That the minutes emanating from the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 22 July 2019 be adopted.

**Council Resolution**

**MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr David Grimble**

That the minutes emanating from the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 22 July 2019 be adopted.

CARRIED

**7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Nil

## 8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

### SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS

#### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Standing Orders be suspended for Public Question time.

CARRIED

*The time being 5.33pm, the Council meeting was suspended.*

#### **Public Question from Neville McIntyre, McKenzie Creek**

##### **Question 1:**

During the Performing Arts Centre Debate, Council made a commitment to local shopkeepers and retail outlets to provide ample parking, especially in Roberts Avenue, Pynsent, Wilson and Firebrace Streets. It is hard enough to find a park in these streets now, let alone when there is a function in the Town Hall. Parallel parking will remove two thirds of the parking spaces in these streets.

How does Council expect to get around the number of car spaces VCAT requires for this area?

##### **Response from Angela Murphy, Director Development Services**

In accordance with the VCAT decision, Council has been monitoring the car parking availability prior to and after the Town Hall redevelopment. These car parking surveys indicated that 30% of parking is unoccupied at the busiest time of the year. It should be noted, VCAT is not the responsible authority for car parking. The future needs of car parking is the responsibility of Council.

The proposal for parallel parking will be subject to further assessment, engagement and detailed design as part of future stages of the City to River. However, Firebrace Street is Horsham's premier retail street and evidence suggests that improvement of pedestrian spaces can increase activity and economic viability of shopping precincts. The vision for Firebrace Street is to create a vibrant and active place to shop, visit and live and the parallel parking may form part of a future design.

##### **Supplementary question:**

Why should shopkeepers be denied these parks just to put in a bike track each side? In the last 10 days, I've been in town every day and I haven't seen a bike in the CBD area.

##### **Response from Angela Murphy, Director Development Services**

Proposal for parallel parking which includes active transport will be the subject of further consultation and discussion.

**Question 2:**

Regarding Sunil's comments in Friday's paper.

How does Council expect ratepayers to commit to such a wide ranging River Project without proper costing? Has Council forgotten the Glasshouse – the Port Macquarie Council without costing thought the Glasshouse would only cost around \$6 million in the end costing \$66 million – 11 times more.

Without costing, why will this Council's future River Plans be any different? As a ratepayer, I want to know how much this will cost before this plan has even been looked at?

**Response from Angela Murphy, Director Development Services**

This project has the purpose of setting a long term vision for Horsham that aims to improve liveability and economic resilience for Horsham and the Wimmera Region. The next phase of the project will be to identify projects in order of priority, undertake detailed costings for the priority projects, and source government grants for these projects in conjunction with Council funding. By endorsing the plan, Council is simply committing to undertaking further detailed work, including further engagement and detailed costings in order to identify and secure funding opportunities. The plan will provide a 'bank' of projects Council can then draw on in order to take advantage of funding opportunities as they arise.

**RESUME STANDING ORDERS****Council Resolution****MOVED Cr John Robinson, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Standing Orders resume.

CARRIED

*The time being 5.40pm, the Council meeting resumed.*

## 9. OFFICERS REPORTS

### 9.1 HORSHAM AQUATIC CENTRE - OUTDOOR POOL EXTENDED HOURS

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Stefanie Jones	<b>Director:</b>	Kevin O'Brien
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator Recreation & Open Space Planning	<b>Directorate:</b>	Community Wellbeing
<b>Department:</b>	Arts, Culture and Recreation	<b>File Number:</b>	F06/A12/000001

#### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

#### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

#### Appendix

Nil

#### Purpose

To approve the continuation of the Horsham Aquatic Centre outdoor pool extended hours' trial of 2018/19.

#### Summary

- A petition to extend the hours of the Horsham Aquatic Centre outdoor pool was taken to Council on 5 March 2018. Operational hours were extended during the shoulder seasons from 6am to 8pm.
- A short survey was conducted from 4 to 24 June 2019 to assess the usage and success of the trial.
- Sport and Recreation Victoria funding agreement for the current upgrade of the outdoor pool to a wet deck, supports projects which increase programming and participation.
- Current works completion will impede on the contracted season opening dates.

#### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Implement the extended hours of the outdoor pool for the 2019/20 summer season based on the 2018/19 summer season opening times.
2. Revise the existing Cold Water Policy to only come into effect after 8am with the outdoor pool to remain open from 6am to 8am during the season irrespective of ambient temperature.
3. Note the Cold Water Policy does not apply in #1 shoulder season (November/December) due to delay in pool opening.
4. Note the Cold Water Policy does apply during #2 shoulder season (February/March).

**Council Resolution**

**MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council:

1. Implement the extended hours of the outdoor pool for the 2019/20 summer season based on the 2018/19 summer season opening times.
2. Revise the existing Cold Water Policy to only come into effect after 8am with the outdoor pool to remain open from 6am to 8am during the season irrespective of ambient temperature.
3. Note the Cold Water Policy does not apply in #1 shoulder season (November/December) due to delay in pool opening.
4. Note the Cold Water Policy does apply during #2 shoulder season (February/March).

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

A petition to extend the hours of the Horsham Aquatic Centre outdoor pool was taken to Council on 5 March 2018 and operational hours were extended during the shoulder seasons from 6am to 8pm.

The following resolution was passed at the Ordinary Meeting of Council held on 5 March 2019.

#### **10.4.4 Petition Received Requesting the Horsham Aquatic Centre Outdoor Pool Open All Day During Summer**

*Moved Cr Grimble, Seconded Cr Radford that –*

- 1. Council trial an extension of the Shoulder Season hours #1 (3<sup>rd</sup> week in November until the end of December and Shoulder Season #2 (February to end of March) for the 2018/19 Outdoor Pool Season to be the same hours as the current January outdoor pool hours.*
- 2. The outdoor pool is operational in the shoulder season when the forecast temperature for Horsham the day before (as per the Bureau of Meteorology website) is 24 degrees and above.*
- 3. Council refers an amount of \$8,609.84 to the 2018/19 Budget for this trial.*
- 4. A future report is provided to Council on the outcome of the trial.*
- 5. The action of Council be communicated to the community and the petitioners.*

The Outdoor Pool Wet Deck project, funded by Sport and Recreation Victoria (SRV), is currently in the construction phase. This project is due to be completed by 6 December 2019. These works will delay the normal summer season opening date as per the contract.

A short survey was conducted from 4 to 24 June 2019 to assess the usage and success of the trial. There were 140 responses. Key outcomes:

- 65.71% of respondents used the outdoor pool during the extended hours.
- 70.5% of respondents agree with the Cold Water Policy.
- 76.26% of respondents believe there is a benefit in having the outdoor pool opening hours extended permanently.
- Many respondents who swim during all-weather/temperature, voiced concerns regarding the last minute implementation of the Cold Weather Policy affecting regular morning swimming times.

The initial Cold Water Policy and temperature mark was developed by benchmarking against other aquatic centres/outdoor pool sites. The Cold Water Policy was effective during the entire 2018/19 summer season.

### Discussion

**Wet Deck Project:** Guidelines of the SRV funding agreement for the upgrade of outdoor pool to a wet deck include increased programming and participation. Given the upgrade of the outdoor pool, we expect to see higher usage and should encourage greater programming and participation of the outdoor pool.

**Cold Water Policy:** There are many regular outdoor pool users who swim between 6am to 8am. Their main concerns were the closure of the pool due to the Cold Weather Policy coming into effect based on the ambient temperature and not the water temperature. As per the existing policy, the pool is closed at ambient temperatures below 24 degrees irrespective of the ambient temperature the day before, for example, the day before could have been 35 degrees and therefore the water temperature could still be warm the following morning.

Due to the wet deck project delaying the #1 shoulder-season opening by two weeks from 22 November 2019 to 6 December 2019, it is advised that the Cold Water Policy does not apply during the #1 shoulder season. This allows full access for public use after project completion.

**Pool Usage 2018/19 Season – Totals:**

Operating hours 18/19															
	6am	7am	8am	9am	10am	11am	12pm	1pm	2pm	3pm	4pm	5pm	6pm	7pm	8pm
November	2	1	6	2	6	28	25	26	11	1	27	27	25	3	0
December	48	29	42	56	58	83	146	160	213	158	188	193	96	80	0
January	52	46	70	92	171	199	132	182	296	216	256	205	131	88	10
February	21	29	19	35	562	85	53	43	86	62	178	150	99	190	2
March	15	20	31	38	43	54	31	44	91	117	161	134	120	102	5

The outdoor pool was closed for 14 days in total over the shoulder season.

**Financial Implications**

Council referred the amount of \$8,609.84 to the 2018/19 budget for this trial. There were 729 attendances during the extended hours. Operational staffing costs during extended hours for the 2018/19 season were calculated at \$11.81 per head.

YMCA have increased their wages by 3% for the 2019/20 financial year. The budget for the extended hours including a 3% increase for the 2019/20 summer season equates to \$8,868.14.

In addition to the YMCA contract for the 2019/20 financial year, \$5,000 has been set aside in the 2019/20 budget to accommodate for the outdoor pool extended hours. By supporting the trial extension as proposed, an additional \$3,668.14 needs to be allocated for total YMCA contract payments, noting the contract payment will be reduced if the outdoor pool is closed under the Cold Weather Policy.

**Links to Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2019 – 2023 Council Plan

Goal 1 – Community and Cultural Development

**Consultation/Communication**

A survey was conducted by Horsham Rural City Council and distributed to all existing Horsham Aquatic Centre members and advertised publicly.

Recommendations have been developed in conjunction with Sam Winter, YMCA Horsham Aquatic Centre, Centre Manager.

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

Due to the upgrade wet deck project to the existing outdoor pool delaying the opening of the season and the recorded patron usage during the 2018/19 summer season within the extended hours, it is recommended that Council continue providing increased access through the extension of hours to the outdoor pool for the 2019/20 summer season in line with the recommendations outlined in this report. It is recommended that extended hours are re-evaluated at the end of the 2019/20 summer season.

## 9.2 DELEGATIONS UPDATE

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Diana McDonald	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator Governance	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Governance and Information	<b>File Number:</b>	F19/A12/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

Reason: Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

Reason: Nil

### Appendix

Council to Staff Delegation (**Appendix “9.2A”**)

Council to Staff Delegation – changes only (**Appendix “9.2B”**)

### Purpose

To approve updates to Council's delegations to staff with changes arising from the Maddocks Lawyers delegation service and for any new and changed position titles or responsibilities that have occurred.

### Summary

- Background information with respect to delegations generally
- This update includes the Maddocks Lawyers update from June 2019
- Listing of the legislation that has had some change from the recent Maddocks Lawyers update.

### Recommendation

That Council exercise of the powers conferred by section 98(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and the other legislation referred to in the instrument of delegation (**Appendix “9.2A”**).

Horsham Rural City Council (Council) resolves that:

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
2. The instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.
3. On the coming into force of the instrument, all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked.
4. The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr John Robinson, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council exercise of the powers conferred by section 98(1) of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) and the other legislation referred to in the instrument of delegation (**Appendix "9.2A"**).

Horsham Rural City Council (Council) resolves that:

1. There be delegated to the members of Council staff holding, acting in or performing the duties of the offices or positions referred to in the Instrument of Delegation to members of Council staff, the powers, duties and functions set out in that instrument, subject to the conditions and limitations specified in that Instrument.
2. The instrument comes into force immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument.
3. On the coming into force of the instrument, all previous delegations to members of Council staff (other than the Chief Executive Officer) are revoked.
4. The duties and functions set out in the instrument must be performed, and the powers set out in the instruments must be executed, in accordance with any guidelines or policies of Council that it may from time to time adopt.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

Powers to Council are granted through Part 1A of the Act which defines the Charter for Local Governments. This states the purpose of Local Government, its objectives, role, functions and powers. Under Section 3F, Council's powers are defined and are essentially very wide in nature. Section 3F (1) states *"Subject to any limitations or restrictions imposed by or under this Act, a Council has the power to do all things necessary or convenient to be done in connection with the achievement of its objectives and the performance of its functions"*.

Because these powers are very wide, Council cannot operate by means of passing a resolution every time that it wishes to act. So, for day-to-day operations, Council needs others to make decisions and act on its behalf.

Under Section 98 (1) of the Act, a Council may by instrument of delegation delegate to members of its staff any power, duty or function of a Council under the Act "or under any other Act". Other Acts, however, may have provisions relating to delegation also. If there is any conflict in delegation or authorisation between Acts, then those relevant to the more Specific Acts will prevail over the General Acts.

Council cannot, however, delegate:

- The power of delegation
- The power to declare a rate or charge
- The power to borrow money
- The power to approve expenditure not contained in a budget approved by Council
- The power, duty or function of the Council under Section 223 of the Act
- Any prescribed power.

Any delegation made under Section 98(1) of the Act, to a member of staff or to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) must be made by a resolution of Council.

Under Section 98(2) and (3) of the Act, the Chief Executive Officer is specifically given the power to delegate to any member of the Council staff any power, duty or function of their office other than the power of delegation.

Delegations made by the Chief Executive Officer to members of staff do not need to be made via a resolution of Council. They do, however, need to be maintained in a register.

Under Section 98 (4) of the Act, Council must keep a register of delegations to members of Council staff. As new legislation is adopted or amendments made to existing legislation, delegations will change.

Under Section 98(5) of the Act, delegations may be made to individual persons, or to the holder of an office or position. Council has always taken the approach to delegate to the position wherever possible, rather than the individual staff member.

Section 98 (6) of the Act requires Council to review delegations within 12 months of a general election, however, regardless of this statutory requirement, delegations should be made carefully and reviewed regularly to ensure:

- Decision-makers are clearly identified
- Accountability and responsibility is clearly identified
- Conditions, limitations and guidelines are well documented
- Precision in the making of decisions that will be defensible under legal scrutiny.

Some Acts contain specific powers of delegation to persons other than the Chief Executive Officer. In these cases, there is a presumption that a power of delegation cannot be sub-delegated in the absence of express authority to do so, hence, Council must delegate these items direct to individual staff members.

Under the *Building Act 1993*, Municipal Building Surveyors (MBS) may also delegate their powers to other officers. This is therefore not a delegation by Council but by the MBS to staff and is signed-off by the MBS.

Council may also delegate powers to Special Committees established under Section 86 of the Act or Section 188 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. Each committee must have an Instrument of Delegation that clearly articulates the nature of the delegation, and any conditions or limitations under which the delegation is to be exercised.

In summary, there are five delegation types:

A. Delegations of Council:

1. Council to Chief Executive Officer
2. Council to Staff
3. Council to Special Committees

B. Delegations by others:

4. Chief Executive Officer to Staff\*
5. Municipal Building Surveyor to Staff

\*The Chief Executive Officer to Staff delegation also includes a section on Miscellaneous and Administrative powers which are best described as operational in nature and do not arise out of specific legislation.

Council has put in place detailed guidelines that help staff understand their obligations and responsibilities when it comes to exercising a delegated power. Each staff member receives a copy of their individual delegations and they are reminded to read and understand the guidelines for the exercising these delegated powers.

## **Discussion**

Council manages its delegations by subscribing to a service from Maddocks Lawyers which provides Council with amendments to existing legislation and updates on new legislation. These updates are usually received on a six monthly basis and as such, an update was received in June 2019, which takes account of legislative changes since November 2018.

## A. DELEGATIONS OF COUNCIL

### 1. Delegation to the Chief Executive

The delegation to the Chief Executive Officer was updated in October 2017 and there were no further updates at this point in time.

### 2. Delegations from Council Direct to Staff

There is one amendment that impacts on delegations from Council to Staff:

- Section 185L has been added to the *Local Government Act 1989*, to clarify the ability of a Council's Chief Executive Officer to declare and levy a cladding rectification charge.

Details of all of the delegations from Council to Staff are shown in **Appendix "9.2A"**. A list of changes to responsibilities and any new delegations are provided in **Appendix "9.2B"**.

### 3. Delegation to Special Committees

There are no changes to the delegations to Special Committees.

## B. DELEGATIONS BY OTHERS

### 1. Delegations from Chief Executive Officer to Staff

Under Section 98 (2) and (3) of the Act, the Chief Executive Officer is specifically given the power to delegate to any member of the Council staff any power, duty or function of their office other than the power of delegation. These delegations have also been updated but do not need to be made by resolution of Council, so have not been attached to this report.

The Acts/Regulations that have had some amendment are as follows:

- *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (Vic)
- *Puppy Farms and Pet Shops Act 2017* (Vic)
- *Metropolitan Fire Brigades Act 1958* (Vic)
- *Planning and Reporting Amendment Regulations 2019* (Vic)
- *Local Government Planning and Reporting Regulations 2014* (Vic)

### 2. Delegation Municipal Building Surveyor to Staff

Some minor changes have been made to the delegation by the MBS to staff under the *Building Act* and *Building Regulations 2018*.

## Financial Implications

The financial impact of the review of delegations is limited to staff time and the cost of the Maddocks Lawyers delegation service which has been included in the 2019/20 budget.

## Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

2019-2023 Council Plan

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

**Consultation/Communication**

The attached delegations have been updated using the Maddocks Lawyers delegation service, with consultation with relevant Council Officers and from feedback from Councillors.

**Risk Implications**

The risk to Council of having inadequate instruments of delegation is that actions are carried out without appropriate authority and therefore are subject to be challenged in a court of law.

Also, the fact that a delegation has been made, does not affect the Council's powers in relation to the issue concerned. A delegate's decision (once made) is taken to be the decision of the Council itself. The Council can therefore find itself bound by a decision which it may not itself have made. This risk is mitigated by having in place appropriate policies and guidelines under which delegation should be exercised. Guideline G04/004 (Delegations and Authorisations to Members of Council Staff) has been put in place to address this issue and was reviewed in 2017 by the Executive Management Team.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

This update takes into account legislative changes which were assented to, or made, after 15 November 2018, which affects Council's powers, duties and functions.

### 9.3 COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY 2019

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Susan Surrige	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator Community Relations and Engagement	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Governance and Information	<b>File Number:</b>	F14/A05/000001

#### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

#### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

#### Appendix

Summary Report 2019 Community Satisfaction Survey (**Appendix "9.3A"**)

#### Purpose

To receive and note the results of the 2019 Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey and planned follow-up actions.

#### Summary

- Reporting of the summarised results from the 2019 Community Satisfaction Survey.
- Reporting of planned actions to address matters raised through the survey.

#### Recommendation

That Council receive and note the 2019 Horsham Rural City Council Community Satisfaction survey results and planned actions to improve the community's satisfaction.

#### Council Resolution

##### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council receive and note the 2019 Horsham Rural City Council Community Satisfaction survey results and planned actions to improve the community's satisfaction.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

Horsham Rural City Council has again participated in the Local Government Community Satisfaction survey. The survey is co-ordinated by Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) on behalf of Victorian Councils and was undertaken by JWS Research. The survey provides Council with some of the key performance indicators required under the Planning and Reporting Regulations (2014). The survey included compulsory questions and Council selected two additional free text questions and one tailored question with regard to sealed local roads.

The survey is conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing, which is a representative random probability survey of residents aged 18+ years, and seeks to target the surveys to the gender and age profile of the community. The survey is undertaken from publicly available phone records, including up to 40% mobile phone numbers, to cater to the diversity of residents in the Council, particularly young people. Sixty-three of the 79 Councils across the State participated in this 2019 survey, with the other 16 Councils choosing to conduct their own alternative surveys.

Four hundred completed interviews were achieved from 1 February to 30 March 2019. Horsham has been classified for the purposes of this year's survey as a Regional Centre which includes Bendigo, Geelong, Latrobe, Mildura, Wangaratta, Warrnambool and Wodonga.

The main objective of the survey is to assess the performance of Council across a range of measures, and to seek insight into ways to provide improved or more effective service delivery.

### Discussion

#### Core Measures

Council's core measures compared to the previous year, Regional Centres and State-wide averages are shown in the following table.

J00758 Community Satisfaction Survey 2019 – Horsham Rural City Council

#### Summary of core measures



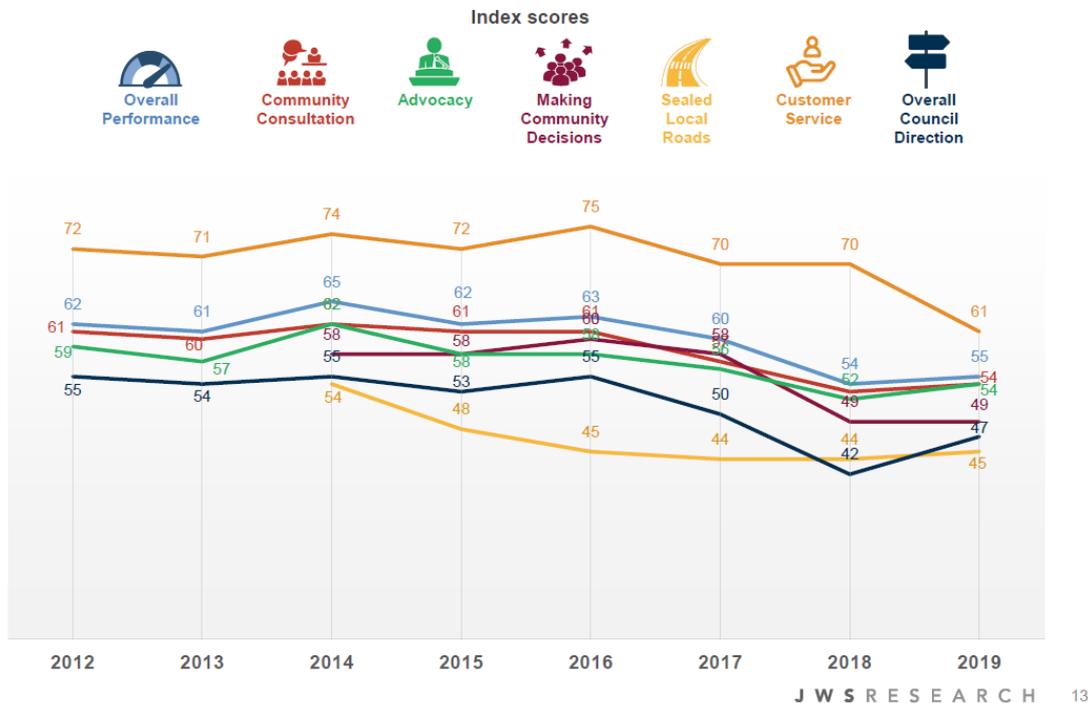
Performance Measures	Horsham 2019	Horsham 2018	Regional Centres 2019	State-wide 2019	Highest score	Lowest score
Overall Performance	55	54	58	60	Women	Rural Area
Community Consultation (Community consultation and engagement)	54	53	54	56	Aged 18-34 years	Rural Area. Aged 50-64 years
Advocacy (Lobbying on behalf of the community)	54	52	54	54	Women	Rural Area
Making Community Decisions (Decisions made in the interest of the community)	49	49	52	55	Women	Rural Area
Sealed Local Roads (Condition of sealed local roads)	45	44	57	56	Aged 65+ years	Rural Area
Customer Service	61	70	72	71	Women, Aged 50-64 years	Rural Area
Overall Council Direction	47	42	52	53	Aged 18-34 years	Rural Area

J W S R E S E A R C H 14

The graph below details trends over time for Horsham Rural City Council in each of the core performance areas.

J00758 Community Satisfaction Survey 2019 – Horsham Rural City Council

### Summary of core measures



This graphically highlights the downward trend from 2016-2018, but also highlights that the downward trend has stopped in 2019 with increases in performance ratings for all areas except customer service.

The survey report (**Appendix "9.3A"**) provides detailed analysis for each of the Core Measures, with key points noted below.

#### 1. Overall Performance

The overall performance index score of 55 for Horsham has increased one index point from 2018. Whilst not a significant improvement, the 2019 results at least halts declining satisfaction trends from 2016 to 2018.

Key overall performance matters to note:

- Horsham's overall performance is rated significantly lower than the Regional Centre and State-wide averages and is 10 index points lower than the peak result of 65 achieved in 2014
- The lowest performance scores in all seven areas were received from the Rural Area and in terms of Community Consultation, rural residents in the age bracket 50-64 years
- The highest performance scores were received from women
- Residents in the 'Rural Area' rated overall performance much lower than the Council average and 12 index points lower than residents in the 'Horsham area'
- Women have rated overall performance significantly higher than the Council average, whilst men have rated performance significantly lower; with a large 11 point gap between the two genders.

Overall Performance rating for 2019, ranks Horsham the same or better than the average for Regional Centres and State-wide in the following demographics: women, residents of Horsham and residents aged 65+. Of particular note is the increase in approval by women with a 3 index point increase from 2018 to 2019. This could be related to the fact that women's issues have been in the spotlight over the past 12 months, ie, Kalkee Road Children's and Community Hub, immunisations, violence against women. Council has been proactive in this space which may be reflected in the good result from women.

Conversely, there has been a 2 point decrease in satisfaction from male respondents and a 6 point decrease from resident's living in rural areas.

## 2. Community Consultation

Horsham scored 54 index points for community consultation and engagement in the 2019 Survey. This is the same as other Regional Centres and two below the State-wide average of 56. Council rated highest in this core area in the 18-34 age bracket (59 index points). The areas of concern were from older people (aged 50-64) with an index rating of 47 and rural residents with the performance rating dropping from 51 in 2018 to 47 in 2019.

## 3. Advocacy

Survey results show a performance rating for advocacy and lobbying that is consistent with other Regional Centres and State-wide averages and the index point ranking is up two from 2019. Performance was rated significantly higher by women than rural residents and males.

## 4. Making Community Decisions

The survey indicates that, whilst Horsham's rating for this measure has remained the same as last year, with no further decline, Horsham still sits well below the State-wide and Regional Centres performance ranking in this area.

It is of concern that rural respondents rate Council's community decision making 15 index points below the State-wide average. It is important to note that the rural performance rating was historically around 55, then dropped to 44 in 2018 and 40 in 2019. Both years impacted by the rural rates issue.

## 5. Sealed Local Roads

Survey data once again shows that local roads are the area that our resident's feel Council perform most poorly. This has been a consistent trend with the overall point score for Horsham Rural City Council sitting at around 45 since 2016. The condition of rural roads is a significant problem that Council needs to continue to address.

An additional question in the 2019 Survey asked participants to nominate which roads were of particular concern to them. The following table summarises the responses which shows 105 of the overall 227 roads mentioned were in fact VicRoads roads which is 46% of the total.

Sum of Instances	
Council	95
Unsure	27
Vicroads	105
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>227</b>

VicRoads roads mentioned as specific problems were Blue Ribbon/Kalkee Road, Dimboola Road/Baillie Street (Western Highway) and Dooen Road (Henty Highway).

Council roads that were mentioned more than once are listed in the following table:

	Sum of Instances
Brimpaen Laharum Rd	5
River Rd	2
Bennett Rd	2
Geodetic Rd	2
Horsham Wal Wal Rd	2
Lower Norton Nurrabiel Rd	2
Mount Talbot Rd	2
Churchill Rd	2
Wavell St	2
Edward st	2
Jenkinson St	2

## 6. Customer Service

Customer Service, despite having a significant decrease in satisfaction levels, is by far Council's best performing category, with 53% of respondents rating customer service as good or very good.

J00758 Community Satisfaction Survey 2019 – Horsham Rural City Council

## Customer service rating



2019 customer service rating (index scores)

	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Regional Centres	72▲	72	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
State-wide	71▲	70	69	70	72	71	71
Women	65	72	76	78	74	76	72
50-64	65	66	67	73	67	69	67
65+	64	67	73	76	80	85	68
Horsham Area	64	70	71	78	74	77	n/a
Other	63*	73	81	73	59	88	n/a
Horsham	61	70	70	75	72	74	71
35-49	60	67	67	75	71	80	73
Men	57	67	64	72	71	72	66
18-34	57	78	76	75	69	66	74
Rural Area	52	67	66	67	72	65	n/a

Q5c. Thinking of the most recent contact, how would you rate Horsham Rural City Council for customer service? Please keep in mind we do not mean the actual outcome but rather the actual service that was received.

Base: All respondents who have had contact with Council in the last 12 months.

Councils asked state-wide: 63 Councils asked group: 8

Note: Please see Appendix A for explanation of significant differences.

\*Caution: small sample size < n=30

The table above provides insight into the trends in performance rating for customer service over time together with an analysis of the demographic cohorts. Council has performed well in this area of the survey, at or around the Regional Centre and State-wide averages from 2012 to 2018. Results for 2019 show a significant decrease in index points from 70 to 61. Whilst all demographics have noted a decrease in rating for customer service, the most significant dips are from rural respondents (-15 points), residents aged 18-34 (-21 points), men (-10 points).

Analysis provided by JWR Research consultant Mark Zuker indicated that a drop of this size is unlikely to be related to service provision unless there are elements of customer service that have changed significantly since 2018. Mark suggested that the problem could be an 'outcome issue' rather than a 'direct customer service issue', ie, certain groups of residents are not happy with outcomes or council decisions.

Possible issues impacting this result are, the changes to the after-hours phone service provision with all calls after hours being answered and triaged by a private provider, also the community debate around farm rates over an extended 6 month period, which was at the forefront of community discussions during February 2019 when this survey was undertaken.

## 7. Overall Council Direction

Council's performance on this measure increased significantly from 42 in 2018 to 47 in 2019. Overall 56% of respondents stayed about the same, 15% said that Council had improved in this area and 22% said that Council had deteriorated. Rural residents were least satisfied with Council's direction.

### **Other Survey Findings**

#### A. Council Contact and Communication Methods

Contact with Council has seen an overall positive increase over the past seven years. The 2019 score of 58 is the same as other regional Councils and just below the State-wide average of 61. Contact noted by rural areas was high, which once again could be related to the rates engagement.

The survey asked questions specifically relating to preferred forms of communication – how people like Council to communicate information to them.

J00738 Community Satisfaction Survey 2019 – Horsham Rural City Council

#### **Communication summary**



<b>Overall preferred forms of communication</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Newsletter sent via mail (23%)</li> </ul>
<b>Preferred forms of communication among over 50s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advertising in local newspapers (24%)</li> </ul>
<b>Preferred forms of communication among under 50s</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Social media (26%)</li> </ul>
<b>Greatest change since 2018</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>NEW ADDITION IN 2019:</b> Social Media (15%)</li> </ul>

These results indicate that newsletters via email is the preferred form of communication overall, with people under 50 preferring social media and those over 50 preferring advertising in the local media. These survey results support Council's new E-newsletter.

#### B. Best Things About Council

The survey asked a free text response question – what is the one best thing about Council? The two highest ranking responses were Parks and Gardens (11%) and Customer Service (10%)

#### C. Areas That Council Should Improve

The survey asked a free text response question – what does Council most need to do to improve its performance? The highest response areas were Community Consultation (16%), Sealed Road Maintenance (15%) and Rates – too expensive (10%).

### **Summary Analysis**

JWS Research consultant Mark Zuker provided a briefing on the 2019 survey results to the Executive Management Team, Department Managers and Councillors.

#### Key positives

- Overall positive trends – Following a steady decline between 2016-2018, the 2019 survey indicates that this declining trend has been arrested.
- Trends and results are similar to our Regional Centres group – except for roads and customer service.
- Customer service, despite negative downturn, is our highest scoring measure and the area that Council has performed most strongly overall (index score of 61), followed by lobbying, consultation and engagement (index scores of 54 each). It was also identified as the second best thing about Council.

#### Key issues to be addressed

- There are two areas of performance that are significantly below the State average: sealed local roads and making community decisions.
- There is an obvious Rural *versus* Urban Horsham distinction in responses with the Rural area clearly unsatisfied with Council's performance.
- Significant decline in satisfaction with Customer Service.
- Rural area results have scored Council down in all areas across the board, thus impacting overall results.
- Communications with men in rural areas in particular is a key theme.
- Mark's Zuker's comment - "Results suggest a protest about something".
- Mark Zuker's comment - "The 11-point difference in performance scores between women and men is quite a big gap and one we don't usually see".

The community debate around farm rates – over a six-month period prior to and during the February 2019 satisfaction survey appears to have impacted significantly on the 2019 Community Satisfaction Survey results. The adoption of the new rates strategy for 2019/20 onwards should alleviate this area of concern.

***Future Actions*****Rural Roads**

Key message – we have heard your feedback and are acting and advocating on your behalf.

1. Council will use the survey data on two fronts:
  - Inform VicRoads of the survey results and key problem roads
  - Inform the community that Council is advocating on these roads to VicRoads.
2. Engage with the community on the Rural Roads Network Plan. This plan will be developed in 2019 and requires intensive engagement with rural communities as part of the process. This plan will form the basis of rural road maintenance in the future.

**Community satisfaction in rural areas**

3. Continue to roll-out the new format for Community Conversations. The recent community meetings at Toolondo and Wartook received good feedback from participants.
4. Continue to keep the community informed of the new Rates Strategy.

**Customer Service**

Key message – we strive for excellent customer service at all times and customer service is the responsibility of all staff.

5. Roll-out the revised Customer Services Charter and Customer Service Standards. Ensure all staff are familiar with the charter and understand their responsibilities.
6. Ensure staff are appropriately using their calendars, phone messaging and the customer request system.
7. Educate all staff on the importance of relaying all information that impacts the public to customer service staff.
8. Planning/Building Departments to investigate the implementation of an on-line booking service for individual consultations, which will assist with efficient use of resources and provide a more comprehensive response to customer enquiries.
9. Implement a rotation system through the customer service area for all staff as an opportunity to learn more about the scope and function of the customer service team.
10. Ensure that staff also receive the Council E-Newsletter.
11. Implement plans for improved facilities in the Customer Service area that will provide an enhanced physical environment and more privacy for customers.
12. Investigate the use of the Staff Directory to include a brief description of “what we do” to assist with customer service enquiries.
13. Ensure that all staff are aware of Council’s Complaint Management Policy and their obligations for managing complaints.
14. Undertake a review of the after-hours phone service.

**Further considerations**

15. Investigate the development and use of a representative household panel – to be available as a community based sounding board for key strategic issues.
16. Investigate ways to improve public relations and positive marketing of council plans, strategies, projects and services.

**Financial Implications**

The survey participation costs of \$12,140 (inc GST) were included as part of the 2018/19 Council Budget.

**Links to Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2019-2023 Council Plan

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

Four-year Outcomes:

- 4.1 Continuously improve communication and engagement with the community through effective consultation
- 4.4 Achieve high standards of organisational performance

**Consultation/Communication**

The full survey results are quite detailed in terms of demographic breakdown and content and are available to Council through a portal. The summary report has been attached (**Appendix “9.3A”**) for public information. The Councillors, Executive Management Team and Departmental Managers have had an individual briefing with the survey provider JWS Research and discussed the results.

**Risk Implications**

The measures of Community Engagement and Overall Council Performance are included on the Know Your Council website for comparison with all other Councils across the State. The inclusion here presents a reputational risk to Council if the poor performance is not addressed.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

Dealing with these high level issues of community perceptions of Council are challenging. The survey results appear to have been impacted by the debate around Council’s Rating Strategy. The finalisation and rollout of the new Rating Strategy for 2019/20 should support an improvement in this area. Whilst the negative trend in overall performance experienced from 2016-2018 has levelled off, continued poor satisfaction levels from rural residents particularly around local sealed roads and making community decisions is cause for reflection. Council and Officers will continue to address these issues through implementing the proposed actions.

## 9.4 POLICY REVIEW – RATES AND CHARGES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP POLICY

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Teagan Harvey	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator Revenue	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Finance	<b>File Number:</b>	F27/A08/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy (**Appendix “9.4A”**)

### Purpose

To adopt the revised Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy (**Appendix “9.4A”**).

### Summary

Minor changes have been made to the Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy, including:

- Changes to the Policy Owner from Manager Finance to Co-ordinator Revenue
- The addition of clearer review dates stating that ratepayers will not be required to reapply each quarter.

### Recommendation

That Council adopt the revised Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy.

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council adopt the revised Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

The current Rates and Charges Financial Hardship policy was adopted by Council on 25 March 2019. At that meeting, Council resolved that the policy undergo further review in relation to the timelines and the process by which we handle hardship applications.

### Discussion

A review of the Rates and Charges Financial Hardship policy has now been undertaken and section 4.2 of the policy has been revised to clarify that applicants do not need to reapply each quarter, however, the applications will be reviewed by rating staff each quarter to check if their circumstances have changed and to provide the ratepayers with an updated balance if necessary. This clarifies the actual practice that takes place and does not place undue burden on the applicant.

### Financial Implications

There are no direct costs associated with the review of this policy, only the indirect costs of staff time in undertaking this review.

### Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

2019-2023 Council Plan

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

HRCC Rating Strategy 2019-2023

### Consultation/Communication

The draft revised policy has been discussed at a Council Briefing.

### Risk Implications

Not applicable

### Environmental Implications

Not applicable

### Human Rights Implications

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

### Conclusion

Minor changes have been made to the Rates and Charges Financial Hardship policy to provide further clarity and to reflect actual practices.

## 9.5 MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL SUBMISSION – CEMETERIES

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Diana McDonald	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator Governance	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Governance and Information	<b>File Number:</b>	F19/A15/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

MAV State Council Submission – Legislative Compliance Burden on Rural Cemeteries (**Appendix “9.5A”**)

### Purpose

To endorse a Notice of Motion to be considered on the agenda of the MAV State Council Meeting to be held on 18 October 2019.

### Summary

- The MAV is calling for Notices of Motions for the MAV State Council Meeting on 18 October 2019.
- Motions are due to be submitted by 20 September 2019.
- A proposed motion is being put to advocate for a review of the ongoing management and operations of small rural cemeteries.
- This matter has State-wide significance for many rural Councils.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Endorse the MAV State Council Meeting Motion attached as **Appendix “9.5A”** to advocate for the State government to reduce the administrative and legislative compliance burden on small rural cemeteries.
2. Submit the motion to the MAV by 9 September 2019.

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council:

1. Endorse the MAV State Council Meeting Motion attached as **Appendix “9.5A”** to advocate for the State government to reduce the administrative and legislative compliance burden on small rural cemeteries.
2. Submit the motion to the MAV by 9 September 2019.

CARRIED

**REPORT****Background**

The MAV is calling for Notices of Motions for the MAV State Council Meeting on 18 October 2019. Motions are due to be submitted by 20 September 2019, however if submissions are received by 9 September 2019, they will be distributed broadly across all Councils, so they may be given due consideration prior to the State Council meeting.

MAV is committed to ensuring it is able to implement actions that support the key priorities of the sector that are of State-wide significance. Decisions of State Council constitute policy directions of the MAV and remain active until the issue is resolved.

Motions must be submitted by one Council but may be supported by other Councils.

**Discussion**

Council is proposing a motion around seeking advocacy support for dealing with the management of rural cemeteries. Horsham Rural City Council has 12 cemeteries across the municipality and is directly responsible for administering only one of these, with the other 11 being administered through individual cemetery trusts.

Council has become aware that the ability to attract and retain community members to administer and maintain small rural cemeteries is becoming challenging due to the increasing administrative burden placed on cemetery trusts, combined with decreasing population and the ageing demographic in small rural communities.

Horsham Rural City Council's submitted motion would sit under the MAV Strategic Plan Priority "Societal and Social Policy Changes".

**Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications in the making of this submission other than staff time in preparing the draft motion.

**Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2019-2023 Council Plan

Four-Year Outcomes:

- 3.3 Maintain asset management systems that will assist planning asset maintenance and capital renewal
- 3.4 Deliver works to develop and maintain Council's physical assets for long term sustainability, amenity and safety

**Consultation/Communication**

The Council Plan includes advocacy on behalf of our community.

**Risk Implications**

The ongoing maintenance and management of small local cemeteries is vitally important, however, should Council be called upon to provide direct administrative support, then it could lead to some significant additional costs to Council.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

The MAV State Council meeting offers the opportunity for Council to escalate this matter to the State level and seek a commitment for changes in the current circumstances across the State.

## 9.6 COUNCIL PLAN HALF YEARLY REPORT – 1 JANUARY 2019 TO 30 JUNE 2019

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Sue Frankham	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Governance Officer	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Governance and Information	<b>File Number:</b>	F19/A11/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

2019 – 2023 Council Plan Half Yearly Report – 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019 (**Appendix “9.6A”**)

### Purpose

To receive and note the report on progress against the four-year priorities and strategic indicators in the Council Plan for the period 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019.

### Summary

- The 2019 – 2023 Council Plan contains 19 Strategic Indicators and 129 Four-Year Priorities.
- Since the last report, a further nine Four-Year Priorities have been completed.
- Of the 129 Four year Priorities, 31 have been completed, 89 are in progress and 9 have not commenced.
- Of the 19 Strategic Indicators, seven have now been achieved.

### Recommendation

That Council note the 2019 – 2023 Council Plan half yearly report for the period 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019.

### Council Resolution

MOVED Cr John Robinson, Seconded Cr David Grimble

That the 2019 – 2023 Council Plan half yearly report for the period 1 January 2019 to 30 June 2019 be deferred to the next meeting for further consideration and discussion.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

The *Local Government Act 1989* requires all Victorian Councils to produce a four-year Council Plan which must be reviewed annually. Horsham Rural City Council has taken the approach to have a four-year rolling Council Plan that is reviewed and revised on an annual basis for the following four years. The 2019 – 2023 Council Plan was formally adopted on 24 June 2019.

The Council Plan sets the strategic direction of Council over the next four years, linking the community's vision to long-term community goals, four-year outcomes and four-year priorities for Horsham Rural City Council. It provides direction to management and includes the indicators that Council uses to deliver key outcomes.

The Council Plan contains five long-term goals:

#### **Goal 1 Community and Cultural Development**

Develop Horsham and the municipality as a diverse inclusive and vibrant community

#### **Goal 2 – Sustaining the Economy**

Lead in sustainable growth and economic development

#### **Goal 3 – Asset Management**

Meet community and service needs through provision and maintenance of infrastructure

#### **Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence**

Excel in communication, consultation, governance, leadership and responsible use of resources

#### **Goal 5 – Natural and Built Environments**

Lead in environmental best practice, create a municipality for the future and plan for the impacts of climate change

### Discussion

The 2019 – 2023 Council Plan lists 129 Four-Year priorities. During the reporting period, the following nine Four-Year Priorities have been completed:

- Goal 1, 1.2.07 – Development of positive ageing initiatives
- Goal 1, 1.2.11 – Improve presentation, lighting and walking track condition around the racecourse
- Goal 1, 1.3.02 Work with the Wesley Committee of Management to review arrangements associated with the Wesley PAC
- Goal 3, 3.4.07 – Investigate other options for the Wimmera Sports Stadium
- Goal 4, 4.2.03 – Respond to emerging risks through the strategic risk register and internal audit
- Goal 4, 4.4.06 – Review the Name and Address (NAR) database to create single name and address database
- Goal 4, 4.4.11 – Supporting training and programs relating to family violence and gender equity
- Goal 4, 4.4.12 – Support cultural awareness training and programs
- Goal 5, 5.2.04 – Complete the Wimmera River Corridor Strategy

Of the 129 Four-Year priorities, 31 have been completed, 89 are in progress and nine have not commenced (**Appendix “9.1A”**).

**Financial Implications**

Not applicable

**Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2019 – 2023 Council Plan

**Consultation/Communication**

The Council Plan was developed following an extensive consultative process.

**Risk Implications**

The likelihood of Council achieving success in fulfilling its mission and vision is greatly enhanced by the utilisation of effective planning. Ineffective planning is a significant risk to Council in terms of providing successful outcomes for the community.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

This six-monthly report provides an update on the strategic indicators and Four-Year Priorities listed in the 2019 – 2023 Council Plan.

## 9.7 QUARTERLY FINANCIAL REPORT – 30 JUNE 2019

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Zac Gorman	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Management Accountant	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Corporate Services	<b>File Number:</b>	F18/A10/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

Reason: Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

Reason: Nil

### Appendix

Quarterly Financial Report – 30 June 2019 (**Appendix “9.7A”**)

### Purpose

To receive and note the quarterly financial report for the quarter ended 30 June 2019.

### Summary

The quarterly financial report is provided in accordance with statutory requirements.

### Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending 30 June 2019.

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr John Robinson, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council receive and note the Quarterly Financial Report for the period ending 30 June 2019.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

Under Section 138 (1) of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a financial statement is to be provided to Open Council comparing actual to budget for revenue and expenditure at least once every three months.

### Discussion

The attached report (**Appendix "9.7A"**) has been prepared to provide Council with an overview of finances year-to-date and comparisons to budget in a simple, easy to read format, with commentary as required.

### Financial Implications

Staff time to compile and prepare this report is included in the 2018/19 budget.

### Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

2019 – 2023 Council Plan

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

Four Year Priority 4.4.5 – Improve performance reporting and regular management reporting across all areas of Council

### Consultation/Communication

This report, together with more extensive analysis and detail, is provided to Council each month as part of the Finance and Performance Committee agenda and to the Audit and Risk Committee on a quarterly basis.

### Risk Implications

The provision of relevant information on a regular basis is an important part of Council's internal controls and is necessary for Council to meet its obligations under Section 3 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, which ultimately makes Council accountable for the good financial management of the municipality. There is a risk that either too much or too little information is provided to Council for it to carry out this responsibility. Council must therefore ensure that it has sufficient information to be satisfied that finances are in order and that budgetary and financial planning goals are being met.

### Environmental Implications

Not applicable

### Human Rights Implications

This report complies with the rights listed in the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006.

### Conclusion

The financial report provides a summary of Council's performance against budget for the half year ended 30 June 2019.

## 9.8 COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT REVIEW

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Martin Bride	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Community Facilitator	<b>Directorate:</b>	Corporate Services
<b>Department:</b>	Governance and Information	<b>File Number:</b>	F06/A23/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

**Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Community Engagement Review Implementation Plan (**Appendix "9.8A"**)

Arnetech 'Engagement Health Check' Improvement Action List (**Appendix "9.8B"**)

HRCC Community Engagement Health Check Report (Arnetech) (**Appendix "9.8C"**)

### Purpose

To receive and note the report on the review of Council's community engagement processes, actions taken to date and further actions identified to improve community engagement.

### Summary

- Council, at its meeting on 27 August 2018, resolved to review its community engagement processes in response to the declining result around community satisfaction in the 2018 Community Satisfaction Survey.
- A review of community engagement policy and practice has been undertaken.
- An external review of Council's policy and practice has also been conducted by Arnetech.
- A detailed action list has been developed and the Community Relations and Advocacy Team are working through this list.
- Some action items have been completed whilst others are underway or yet to commence.

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the report from Arnetech into Council's Community Engagement Processes
2. Note the status of the improvement actions from both the internal review and Arnetech review.

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council:

1. Note the report from Arnetech into Council's Community Engagement Processes
2. Note the status of the improvement actions from both the internal review and Arnetech review.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

In May 2017, the Victorian Auditor-General's Office (VAGO) released an audit report that "... examined the effectiveness of community engagement and participation at the local government level ...".

The audit report overview outlined VAGO's expectations of Councils' approach to public participation that engagement "... should reflect the scale, purpose and level of public interest in the Council decision or project. Regardless of the size of the project, VAGO would expect to see documented evidence that Councils have understood and appropriately taken into account better practice principles when designing and implementing their public participation activities".

Following the Community Satisfaction Survey results from 2018, where the rating for 'Community Consultation' fell from a high of 62 in 2014 to 53 in 2018, Council conducted an internal review of its engagement policy and practices with reference to the VAGO audit undertaken in 2017. The results from this review were presented to the Executive Management Team on 20 August 2018.

Later that month, at the 27 August Council Meeting, Council resolved that a review be undertaken of Council's community engagement processes.

Independent consultants Arnetech undertook an external review of Council's community engagement policy and practices. The report from that review is attached as **Appendix "9.8B"**.

Community engagement is a challenging space with differing opinions as to what is an acceptable level of engagement for a range of varied circumstances. Council's Community Engagement Policy sets down principles to be followed (based on International Association for Public Participation IAP2 principles) and the procedure provides a range of templates for officers to utilise when establishing a community engagement plan. Like many practices, community engagement is one of continual improvement as new methods of engagement become available through new technologies and resources.

### Discussion

The internal review identified the following areas for improvement:

- Cross organisational communication and planning – Council doesn't have a central registry of engagement that is consistently used, as a result co-ordinated planning of engagement is not occurring, to enable us to avoid engagement fatigue and take advantage of projects with similar stakeholders and timelines.
- Consistency across the organisation – there are varying practices, for example, record keeping, that are not always compliant with the procedure.
- Evaluation of engagement – the procedure includes evaluation (this needs to be revised to include qualitative measures) but if evaluation is routinely taking place this is not centrally recorded and therefore isn't helping the whole organisation improve our engagement practice.
- Communicating outcomes of engagement effectively to the community – outcomes are not always explained well. What we heard, how we acted on it or if we didn't act, why not.
- Contractor compliance with our policy – all of the above points need to be considered when we have consultants conducting engagement especially evaluation and record keeping.
- Resourcing – current spend on engagement is minimal other than staff time. This means we do not use some tools that would improve our engagement. Some of the tools we do not typically have access to include high quality info graphics, animations, interactive online tools (for example, Social Pinpoint) and independent facilitators for workshops/meetings. All of these in certain circumstances would increase the quality of our community engagement.

The Arnetech review identified a number of areas for action and improvement, but the key issues can be summarised as follows:

- That regular training be provided to Elected Members about engagement.
- Ensure that the need for engagement drives the budget and time allowed for engagement and not the other way around.
- Review the Engagement Policy and Procedure: review and develop components of the Engagement Kit to build a standalone Engagement Framework and link this, and any future strategies, to the Organisational Values; Improve definitions of community and engagement.
- Council investigate digital engagement tools that would support engagement activities and provide comprehensive training to all staff who will use the digital engagement tools, to ensure consistent approach.
- Clarify the language and meanings within documents, removing the confusion between engagement and communications (this was in reference to the Council Plan but applies more broadly as well).

All of these items are included in the detailed action lists and show the status of each of item (**Appendix "9.8A"**).

Some of the key action items that are still to be completed include:

- Undertake detailed planning for all engagement during 2019/20
- Offer engagement training to Councillors
- Complete the review of the Community Engagement Policy and Procedure including engagement with the community on proposed changes.

Some positive outcomes from the community engagement review include, the use of digital tool Pozi for the engagement on the Open Space Strategy and improved compliance from contractors with the Engagement Policy. There were a number of other positive comments in relation to our policy and practices that were noted in the Arnetech report.

### **Financial Implications**

\$20,000 has been allocated in the 2019/20 budget to improve our digital engagement through the acquisition of a range of tools. Individual project budgets will need to include allocations for specific community engagement activities.

### **Links to Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2019 – 2023 Council Plan

Guiding Principles:

- Consult, engage and work transparently with the community
- Provide information to the community in a variety of formats using plain language where possible

The organisational values of Accountability and Integrity are directly linked to the reasons we engage and should guide our practice when engaging.

Council's Community Engagement Policy sets out the principles that we should follow when engaging with the community and the Community Engagement Procedure describes the steps that should be taken when planning, delivering and evaluating engagement.

**Consultation/Communication**

Community engagement needs to occur on any revised Community Engagement Policy or Procedure. The community needs to be asked as to how they want to be engaged. This was done when the current policy and procedure was developed, but community interest was low.

Given the current level of interest in this topic, it is an ideal time to seek community feedback on this important policy. A revised Draft Community Engagement Policy will be the subject of a future Council report where it will then be provided to the community for comment and feedback.

**Risk Implications**

Though not the primary purpose of the Engagement Review an effective Engagement Policy properly implemented should reduce the risk of poorly designed projects and lessen reputational risk.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

Progress has been made in improving our delivery of engagement but continuous improvement in policy, procedure and practice are required to ensure our engagement continues to meet the community's expectations and that appropriate planning and record keeping become a consistent practice across the organisation.

## 9.9 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S OPERATIONAL REPORT

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Sunil Bhalla	<b>Director:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Chief Executive Officer	<b>Directorate:</b>	Not applicable
<b>Department:</b>	Chief Executive Officer	<b>File Number:</b>	F06/A01/000001

### Officer Direct or indirect Conflict of Interest

In accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 80C:

Yes  No

Reason: Nil

### Status

Information classified confidential in accordance with *Local Government Act 1989* – Section 77(2)(c):

Yes  No

Reason: Nil

### Appendix

Letter from the Hon Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister – **Appendix "9.9A"**

### Purpose

To receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report for August 2019.

### Summary

The Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report highlights issues and outcomes affecting the organisation's performance and matters which may not be subject of Council reports or briefings.

### Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report for August 2019.

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report for August 2019 and provide an opportunity for the CEO to make any comments he would like to make in relation to the report.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

At the 24 June 2019 Ordinary Meeting of Council, it was resolved that the Chief Executive Officer provide an operational report to Council.

### Discussion

Key items of interest for the report period are summarised below.

#### *Advocacy/Funding Announcements*

**Tim Smith, MP:** The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer had a meeting with Tim Smith MP Shadow Minister for Planning and Heritage, Shadow Minister for Local Government, Shadow Minister for Housing, Shadow Minister for Population on Thursday 1 August 2019. The discussion focused mainly on Council priorities. Mr Smith also provided an insight into his agenda over this parliamentary term.

**Rotary Club of Horsham East:** The Chief Executive Officer attended the Rotary Club of Horsham East dinner on Thursday 22 August at the Glen Logan Restaurant and gave a presentation on the past twelve months as Chief Executive Officer for Horsham Rural City Council.

**Rail Minister Advocacy:** Response letter from the Hon Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister regarding Council's support for a dedicated Australian Government Rail Minister (**Appendix "9.9A"**).

#### *Community Engagement*

**Horsham Urban Transport Plan Community Workshop:** As part of the Transforming Horsham program, the community were invited to attend community workshops on Thursday 22 August 2019 at 2.30pm and 5.30pm at the Council offices to hear about community feedback via surveys and to shape directions of the Transport Plan.

**Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) CEO Meeting:** The Chief Executive Officer attended the RCV meeting in Melbourne on 25 July 2019. Mary-Anne Thomas MP, Special Adviser and Justin Burney, Project Director, Regional Tourism Review attended to receive input on the Regional Tourism review currently being undertaken by the state government.

**Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) Annual Forum:** The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer attended the RCV Annual Forum in Melbourne on Friday 16 August. The Hon Tim Pallas MP, Treasurer of Victoria opened the meeting and addressed the forum on the economic outlook and investment priorities for Victoria's regions. Other presented included The Hon Louise Staley MP, Shadow Treasurer and Shadow Minister for Economic Development and The Hon Alan Tudge MP, Minister for Population, Cities and Urban Infrastructure,

**Projects and Events**

**The Hon Michael McCormack MP, Deputy Prime Minister:** The Deputy Prime Minister and Dr Anne Webster, Member for Mallee met with Cr Grimble, the Chief Executive Officer and Council staff on Thursday 15 August 2019 at the Horsham Regional Livestock Exchange. They discussed the Livestock Exchange roof and the City to River projects.

**Horsham Croquet Club:** The Chief Executive Officer officially opened the croquet season on 22 August 2019 and played the 1<sup>st</sup> hoop which has been a “season opening” tradition for many years.

**Staff Matters**

**Procurement Training:** New staff to the organisation were provided with a training session on procurement and given an introduction to the Authority Finance System, an overview of the Procurement Policy in relation to purchasing including the Request for Quotation Processes and Delegation Limits.

**LifeApp staff survey:** A positive result with the highest number of key indicators overall. Participation increased from 30% to 37%, which is the highest response rate all year. Overall all key measures were steady or improved, with the exception of ‘resources’. The results were considered by the Executive Management Team and a focus will be placed on ‘Communication’ which overall was the metric that has the greatest room for improvement. This will include the relaunch of the Human Resources Newsletter.

**Enterprise Bargaining agreement:** Negotiations are continuing between management and the Unions towards the new agreement.

**Policy reviews:** A new tranche of policies will be discussed with the staff consultative committee on 14 August 2019, including Disciplinary processes, Equal Opportunity and Fit to Work (Drug and Alcohol).

**Financial Implications**

Not applicable

**Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies**

2019 – 2023 Council Plan

**Consultation/Communication**

Not applicable

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

This report complies with the rights listed in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*.

**Conclusion**

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report for August 2019.

## 10. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Cr Mark Radford, Mayor

- 19 July 2019 – Triple H Community Radio interview
- 21 July 2019 – “The Addams Family” Smart Artz Theatre Company production, Horsham Town Hall
- 22 July 2019 – Meeting with Jane Lawrence, Energy Democracy re Solar Farms
- 22 July 2019 – Letter of congratulations to Smart Artz Theatre Company
- 22 July 2019 – Citizenship Ceremony
- 22 July 2019 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 23 July 2019 – ABC Radio interview
- 23 July 2019 – Wimmera Mobility Group, guest speaker and rail presentation
- 23 July 2019 – Horsham Country Music Festival Meeting
- 24 July 2019 – ABC Radio interview
- 24 July 2019 – Wimmera Mail-Times Interview
- 25 July 2019 – Laneway Café Without Borders launch
- 26 July 2019 – Meeting with Jessica Grimble, Editor, Wimmera Mail-Times
- 26 July 2019 – National Tree Day promotional video
- 26 July 2019 – Wimmera Eisteddfod, Horsham Town Hall
- 27 July 2019 – City to River public display, Horsham Plaza
- 29 July 2019 – Meet Tidy Towns judge (presentation)
- 29 July 2019 – Meet two new Child Care Workers at Horsham Rural City Council
- 29 July 2019 – City to River public display, Civic Centre
- 30 July 2019 – Letter of congratulations to Chris Sounness on his appointment as Executive Officer, Wimmera Development Association
- 30 July 2019 – Teleconference with Phil Martin
- 31 July 2019 – Federation University Nursing Award Presentation
- 1 August 2019 – Visit from Tim Smith MP Shadow Minister Planning, Heritage and Local Government
- 2 August 2019 – Rotary Club of Horsham, guest speaker and rail presentation\*
- 3 August 2019 – City to River public display, Haven Market
- 4 August 2019 – Public meeting with new Horsham Ratepayers Group
- 5 August 2019 – Sheepvention Hamilton, hosted by Mary-Ann Brown Southern Grampians Shire
- 5 August 2019 – Aboriginal Advisory Committee meeting
- 5 August 2019 – Council Briefing Meeting
- 12 August 2019 – Council Briefing Meeting
- 13 August 2019 – Three media interviews re Natimuk Solar Farm
- 13 August 2019 – Horsham Probus Club, guest speaker and rail presentation\*
- 13 August 2019 – Tourism Advisory Committee meeting
- 14 August 2019 – Wimmera Australians in Retirement, guest speaker and rail presentation\*
- 15 August 2019 – Horsham Community and Police Consultative Committee meeting
- 15 August 2019 – Leadership Wimmera speaking engagement

- 15 August 2019 – Regional Cities Victoria Networking Function, Parliament House
- 16 August 2019 – Regional Cities Victoria Annual Forum, Melbourne
- 19 August 2019 – Meeting with Futureye Consultants (Iluka)
- 22 August 2019 – City to River public display, Horsham Plaza
- 22 August 2019 – Horsham Urban Transport Plan workshops x2
- 23 August 2019 – Regional Mayors Roundtable, Rainbow

*\*Rail presentations are an opportunity to explain Council's ongoing advocacy for the return of Passenger Trains to Horsham with an invitation to write letters of support to the Public Transport Minister from local community groups*

Summary from meeting with The Hon Tim Pallas MP, Treasurer, at Regional Cities Victoria Annual Forum on 16 August 2019:

- The government has a commitment to all of Victoria
- Working toward reliable road and rail
- Job creation – low unemployment is a priority
- Investing wisely
- Local business loans are available
- There is a regional payroll rate
- 50% reduction in stamp duty
- First Home Owners Grant continues
- Waste discussion continuing, levy funds are being used (Horsham story explained)
- Sporting Association Infrastructure Loans available (State pays half the interest)
- Social Infrastructure Loans available
- Promotion of Regional Victoria is important
- Councils should talk up their success stories
- Projects that are long term and provide specific jobs are encouraged
- Sell the idea – don't fixate on the "bucket" (funding source)

## **SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS**

### **Council Resolution**

#### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr Mark Radford**

That Standing Orders be suspended for Verbal Councillor Reports and Acknowledgements.

CARRIED

*The time being 6.35pm, the Council meeting was suspended.*

## **RESUME STANDING ORDERS**

### **Council Resolution**

#### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Standing Orders resume.

CARRIED

*The time being 6.39pm, the Council meeting resumed.*

**Council Resolution**

**MOVED Cr David Grimble, seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council offer its condolences to the family of the late Hon Tim Fischer acknowledging his work as a Member of Parliament and a strong advocate for regional Australia.

CARRIED

**Recommendation**

That Councillor Reports and Acknowledgements be received.

**Council Resolution**

**MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr Mark Radford**

That Councillor Reports and Acknowledgements be received.

CARRIED

**11. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil

**12. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS**

Nil

## **13. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

### **13.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – RECORD OF MEETINGS**

Council Briefing held on Thursday 18 July 2019 at 5.30pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Horsham

Council Briefing held on Monday 5 August 2019 at 5.00pm in the Reception Room, Civic Centre, Horsham

Council Briefing held on Monday 12 August 2019 at 5.00pm in the Reception Room, Civic Centre, Horsham

Refer to **Appendix “13.1A”**

### **13.2 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS**

Lease Agreement – 47 Firebrace Street, Horsham – DM Macchia

### **13.3 INWARD CORRESPONDENCE**

Nil

### **13.4 COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES**

Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Transport Group meeting held on Friday 26 July 2019 at 12.00noon in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Horsham

Western Highway Action Committee meeting held on Friday 9 August 2019 at 10.00am at the Ballarat Town Hall

Refer to **Appendix “13.4A”**

#### **Recommendation**

That Council receive and note agenda items 13.1, 13.2, 13.3 and 13.4.

#### **Council Resolution**

##### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr David Grimble**

That Council receive and note agenda items 13.1, 13.2, 13.3 and 13.4.

CARRIED

**14. NOTICE OF MOTION****14.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 174**

Given by Cr David Grimble

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham on Monday 26 August 2019.

***Council request a regular Economic Development Report is tabled on the Ordinary Council Meeting agenda.***

**RATIONALE:**

Currently, Council doesn't receive regular reporting on Economic Development activities.

Economic Development is an important function of Council and regular reporting would be beneficial for the Council, business, industry and the community.

Address a direct request from local business and industry.

---

**Cr David Grimble**

CIVIC CENTRE  
HORSHAM 3400  
21 August 2019

**Council Resolution**

**MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

Council request a regular Economic Development Report is tabled on the Ordinary Council Meeting agenda.

CARRIED

**14.2 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 175**

Given by Cr David Grimble

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham on Monday 26 August 2019.

***Council seek an independent audit of its authorisation and decision-making to commence and advance the City to River – Wimmera River precinct and central activity district (CAD) vision and masterplan against its relevant in time Council Plan.***

***The independent audit be conducted as a priority and undertaken by qualified auditors with local government experience to perform the task.***

***A closing report be provided to Council clearly stating its conclusions including any recommendations for consideration of Council.***

**RATIONALE:**

Transparent and accountable decision making is important for community confidence.

Evaluation and continuous improvement in process is good practise.

External auditing is common place and is good practise.

Minimises ambiguity or clarity whilst addressing concerns raised in the community.

---

**Cr David Grimble**

CIVIC CENTRE  
HORSHAM 3400  
21 August 2019

**Council Motion****MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

Council seek an independent audit of its authorisation and decision-making to commence and advance the City to River – Wimmera River precinct and central activity district (CAD) vision and masterplan against its relevant in time Council Plan.

The independent audit be conducted as a priority and undertaken by qualified auditors with local government experience to perform the task.

A closing report be provided to Council clearly stating its conclusions including any recommendations for consideration of Council.

LOST

**Cr David Grimble called for a division of Council*****In favour of the motion:***

Cr David Grimble

Cr John Robinson

***Against the motion:***

Cr Mark Radford (casting vote)

Cr Les Power

## 15. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr Mark Radford**

That the Council meeting close to the public to consider Confidential Matters.

CARRIED

*The time being 7.07pm, the Council meeting closed to the public.*

*The time being 7.49pm, the Council meeting opened to the public.*

## 15.2 SALE OF ARNOTT'S QUARRY, LAHARUM

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council:

1. Approve the sale of the land containing Arnott's Quarry to Mr Luke Uebergang at a price not less than the independent valuation sum.
2. Note the final price to be independently negotiated through a commercial real estate agent.
3. Note any remaining known and accessible quarry materials remain the property of Council.

CARRIED

## 15.3 REGIONAL ROADS VICTORIA – COUNCIL MAINTENANCE CONTRACT

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council approve entering into Contract 10022 with Regional Roads Victoria for the conduct of routine maintenance and inspection works on selected arterial roads, at a nominal value of \$2,355,594 over a period of three years.

CARRIED

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.



---

The Mayor, Cr Mark Radford  
Chairperson