

AGENDA

MEETING OF THE HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL

To be held on
22 November 2021

At 5.30pm

In the

Council Chamber, Civic Centre

18 Roberts Avenue, HORSHAM

PUBLIC ATTENDANCE IS PERMITTED BUT NUMBERS WILL BE LIMITED IN LINE WITH COVIDSAFE GUIDELINES.

THE COUNCIL MEETING WILL BE ACCESSIBLE ONLINE TO THE PUBLIC AND WILL BE LIVE STREAMED ON THE

HORSHAM RURAL CITY COUNCIL WEBSITE www.hrcc.vic.gov.au



Horsham Rural City
Council urban rural balance

**COUNCILLORS are respectfully requested to attend the Council Meeting
of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held on 22 November 2021
in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm**

Order of Business

PRESENT

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

1. PRAYER

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

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

Welcome to Councillors, staff, members of the public and the media. The Council meeting will be recorded to maintain an audio archive, which will be available on the Horsham Rural City Council website as soon as possible.

4. APOLOGIES

5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS

6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

Recommendation

That the minutes emanating from the Council Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.34pm on 25 October 2021 be adopted.

7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest

A Councillor who has declared a conflict of interest, must leave the meeting and remain outside the room while the matter is being considered, or any vote is taken.

Members of Staff

Under Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, officers or people engaged under contract to the Council providing a report or advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests in the matter, including the type of interest.

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CLOSE



SUNIL BHALLA

Chief Executive Officer

9. OFFICERS REPORTS

9.1 CONCEPT PLAN FOR THE CITY OVAL AND SAWYER PARK PRECINCT- STAGE 2 OF THE CITY TO RIVER MASTER PLAN

Author's Name:	Sue Sheridan and Carolynne Hamdorf	Director:	Kevin O'Brien
Author's Title:	Senior Project Manager Strategic Planning and Manager Arts, Culture & Recreation	Directorate:	Communities & Place
Department:	Arts, Culture & Recreation	File Number:	F15/A07/000017

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Stage 2 City Oval and Sawyer Park Engagement Report (**Appendix "9.1A"**)

City Oval and Sawyer Park Concept Final (**Appendix "9.1B"**)

Cost Estimate (Dons Design Drafting) (**Appendix "9.1C"**)

Purpose

To receive and note the recommendations from the Community Reference Group (CRG) and endorse the Concept Plan for the City Oval and Sawyer Park Precinct.

Summary

The report includes:

- Outcomes of the comprehensive community engagement process undertaken to seek feedback on the Concept Plan,
- Determination, prioritisation and total costs of the scope of works for the second phase of the City to River development, and a
- Request for a commitment to continue to seek further funding opportunities to achieve all the components shown in the Concept Plan, as tested with the community and supported by the CRG.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the outcomes and community sentiment captured by the City Oval and Sawyer Park Community Engagement (**Appendix "9.1A"**).
2. Receive and note the prioritisation and precinct development, as proposed by the Community Reference Group.
3. Endorse the Concept Plan for City Oval and Sawyer Park Precinct (**Appendix "9.1B"**).
- 3.
4. Seek funding opportunities from the State and Federal Governments to achieve all of the components of the Concept Plan, as presented to the community and supported by the Community Reference Group.

REPORT

Background

The City Oval and Sawyer Park Project is the second stage of the City to River Masterplan, a long term 20 year plan which aims to enhance and activate the Wimmera River Precinct and its link to the Central Activity District of Horsham. The City to River project has been divided into sub-precincts to allow projects to proceed in a staged and prioritised manner.

The Masterplan was developed in 2019, being drawn from a large number of current Council strategies and plans along with community input and engagement conducted throughout that year. The Master Plan was approved by Council in November 2019, with amendments to the Plan. Council endorsed the development of detailed concept and schematic designs for the riverfront, including identifying the site for a café and a water play area. The first stage Riverfront Activation Project was adopted by Council 21 September 2020.

This approval allowed Council staff to progress the next stage of the riverfront project which also includes a commitment of both Federal and State Government funding. Works have now commenced on Stage 1 and will be completed December 2022.

This report outlines the engagement undertaken to develop, advance and test ideas generated from the master plan to more detailed concept plans, including technical advice, assessments and community input into the plan. The Concept Plan has been tested with the CRG, key stakeholders and the public.

The community consultation process aimed to seek input and feedback from stakeholders and the community and was designed during Stage 1, adopted for Stage 2 then managed by the CRG. In summary, the engagement ran from November 2020 to September 2021, drawing on and honouring the input provided to the City to River Master Plan public consultations undertaken throughout 2019.

Transparency and accountability have guided the process with the CRG actively involved throughout. The following engagement has taken place during this time:

- Pre planning consultation undertaken with all located parties within the site, which mapped and documented current needs, facilities use, frequency of use, opportunities and issues
- Ongoing discussions with technical stakeholders and land managers including DELWP, Wimmera CMA, HRCC Building Departments and BGLC
- Discussions with potential funding body- Sports & Recreational Victoria
- Discussions with State Sporting Associations Cricket Vic, AFL Football and Netball Vic regarding standards and specifications for new infrastructure according to these sports
- Direct face to face feedback collected from the Horsham public, as part of the 'Why we live here Expo' held at Jubilee Hall from 24-29 June, (close to 300 attendees)
- Draft Concept Plan shared formally and discussed with 5 groups shown as relocating from the precinct (Pipe Band, Brass Band, Wimmera AFL, Men's Shed, St Johns Ambulance)
- Project Webpage developed on the HRCC website
- 21 'one on one' meetings undertaken with community groups invested and impacted by the proposed changes, representing 14 groups
- 6 week public consultation of the draft concept plan, which received 78 formal submissions
- Draft Concept Plans displayed at the Horsham Men's Shed, with copies available at the Brass Band and Pipe Band halls

- Copies of the Draft Concept Plan were placed on display and available at HRCC offices
- Detailed feedback from the public consultation was provided to the CRG with key changes made to the draft plan as a result
- Scheduled monthly meetings, when relevant, with the CRG who represented parties within the precinct and which commenced 21 November 2020 and will finish 28 October 2021
- Briefings to the Councillor Group, throughout the development of the draft concept plan
- Two radio interviews provided by the Chair of the CRG
- Project updates provided through the Community Notices Page in local print media
- Social Media – 18 Facebook posts and 5200 engagements.

Chaired independently, the CRG resolved and moved the following motion at its meeting on Thursday 30 September 2021:

‘That the Sawyer Park City Oval concept plan be accepted and presented to Council.’ This motion was unanimously approved.

Further motion

‘That current user groups not be disadvantaged due to the proposed redevelopment and that:

- *Users be consulted and kept informed of changes to the plan and notified of works prior to works occurring*
- *Displaced groups be rehoused in equivalent or better accommodation at no extra cost to themselves, including relocation costs and associated expenses*
- *The development not impact on the financial model and viability of the groups staying on the site.’*

This motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion

The Concept Design represents feedback gathered from stakeholders, which was documented, analysed and shared with both the CRG and Landscape Architects. The agreed plan reflects the desires, functionality and potential activation of the City Oval and Sawyer Park.

The Concept Plan (refer to **Appendix “9.1B”**) indicates the proposed Stage 2 works based on feedback gathered from the Public Engagement process.

The Plan includes the site for a new outdoor stage located on Hocking Street, second netball court and compliant netball facility and change rooms, AFL sub-regional standard change rooms and community facility, compliant grandstand, landscaping, playground and terrace seating. DELWP, Wimmera CMA, Sport and Recreation Victoria, State bodies from AFL, Vic Netball, Vic Cricket and Council’s planning department have been involved in discussions regarding these facilities.

The Budget Estimation Cost estimate (refer to **Appendix “9.1C”**) includes all the elements identified to provide a consistent and comprehensive upgrade and development of the Stage 2 Precinct. Also provided is the assumptions and exclusions.

Key Objectives

- Maintain the current sporting role of the precinct and upgrade City Oval as a premier sporting venue
- Enhance public amenity and access with improvements to the public realm thereby encouraging passive recreation and an increased diversity of users
- Develop safer pedestrian connections throughout the whole precinct including Sawyer Park, Horsham Botanical Gardens and the Riverfront
- Provide safe and generous pedestrian and cycle routes between the Central Activity District and Sawyer Park City Oval
- Improve the capacity of Sawyer Park as an events space and supplement this with additional events infrastructure at City Oval
- Recognise significance of the Cenotaph and RSL Memorial Drive and improve access and facilities
- Acknowledge the role of the Wimmera Live Steam and Model Engineering Society and improve access and integration into the precinct.

Upgrades to sporting and other facilities

Throughout the City Oval precinct multiple measures are proposed to make the precinct more accessible and to facilitate increased participation in sports across a range of codes. Facilities including; change rooms and toilets, community meeting and gathering facilities, social spaces, kitchen / canteen, storage and plant rooms, umpires rooms and First Aid will be accommodated in accordance with Sporting Association Facility Standards and guidelines for local and regional sporting events. (AFL / Netball Association Guidelines and Accessibility Standards).

City Oval

The playing surface will be widened on the short (north and south) axis to enlarge the playing area for both cricket and AFL matches. A new drain and perimeter fences (to oval and site) are proposed to replace existing drainage together with a new broadcast and timekeepers boxes, integrated into the new buildings.

Fencing to the perimeter of the City Oval will be maintained and upgraded to secure the site for licensed events and match days. Entrances into the site will be reconfigured to provide generous openings at all other times to welcome public access through the precinct. A system of retractable gates will enable easy closure of these entrances for ticketed events. Additional covered viewing areas are proposed, including a new grandstand with ramped access and roofed area.

Grandstand

Following assessment of its heritage value and limiting accessibility constraints, the Grandstand will be replaced and HRCC will investigate interpretive measures to ensure the historical and social aspects of the grandstand valued by the community are recognised. Research and oral history from stories and memories associated with the building, together with physical elements from the structure will be meaningfully and respectfully interpreted and integrated into the redevelopment. The intention at this stage is to remove the building, noting however that a further assessment will be carried out as part of the schematic design phase to ensure all relevant heritage aspects are fully considered and interpreted through specialist advice.

Maintenance area and storage Parks and Gardens maintenance storage, Grounds Keeper Store and access around the site is provided in a new Maintenance area under the new Grandstand located on Baker Street. Various upgrades to the oval surrounds including; fencing, drainage and access to the playing field - are also proposed.

Community Facility

Replacing the existing Football Club building, the Community Facility will support a wide range of gatherings. The facility will have the potential to cater for a wide variety of groups and will provide greater access to the precinct for members of the community. Several community groups are currently located on the site and have been contacted to consider appropriate relocation to alternate and workable sites.

- Horsham Football and Netball Club – to stay in the precinct
- Cricket Vic – to stay in the precinct
- Men's Shed – working with them to secure a new location
- Horsham Pipe band – looking to find a more suitable location
- Horsham Brass band – looking to find a more suitable location
- AFL Wimmera – looking to keep in the precinct
- Wimmera Live Steam and Model – remain in current location.
- St Johns – they looking for alternate locations

Community Engagement

Please refer to the Community Engagement Report (**Appendix "9.1A"**)

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The approach undertaken to develop the Stage 1 Riverfront Activation Project has been replicated for the Stage 2 City Oval Sawyer Park Precinct Plan. Feedback from Stage 1 was favourable about the work of the CRG and the process undertaken and Stage 2 has followed that model. A formal feedback survey will be undertaken with members of the CRG for Stage 2 to ascertain any improvements in the approach and process to continue to evolve how Council undertakes precinct planning in public spaces in a transparent and inclusive way.

Collaboration

The process of developing up the Concept Plan, costs and prioritisation for Council to consider has been a collaborative approach between Council staff, Vic Sport representatives and funding bodies, the CRG, the contracted Landscape Architect (Tract), stakeholders and the community. It is recognised that any one plan will not satisfy all needs and interests of the whole community, however if the majority are served well and are generally satisfied and the feedback provided improves the process, approach and plan, the CRG view this as a way forward to advance plans to the next stage.

Financial Implications

The Concept Plan developed for the City Oval and Sawyer Park has been developed in consultation with the Community Reference Group and informed by the response from the Public Engagement process. The Community Reference Group endorsed these priority projects at their meeting 30 September 2021.

Motion

'That the committee endorse the preferred sequencing as identified below:

- 1. Find a home(s) for the relocated groups – then netball courts and pavilion be constructed. Development of the playground to occur at the same time. Grandstand demolished (beams, fixtures etc stored for use in the new buildings) and the grandstand and pavilion be constructed as a linked project*
- 2. Development of the change rooms and community facility as a linked project*
- 3. Widening the oval and associated landscaping (including terraced seating)*
- 4. Development of the stage and display solutions (electronic scoreboard & displays)'*

This motion was unanimously approved.

Cost Summary

The cost plan can be summarised as follows:

	Cost (\$)
Building Works	\$ 9,021,550
External Works and Services	\$ 6,622,000
Sub-Total (excl. GST):	\$15,643,550
ESD Initiatives	\$ 250,000
Contingencies and Cost Escalation	\$ 715,212
Non-Construction Costs	\$ 397,340
TOTAL END COST (excl. GST):	\$17,006,102

Refer to **Appendix "9.1C"** for detail cost exclusions and assumptions.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Each of the adjoining streets have been adjusted to better define pedestrian and vehicular areas and to provide improved facilities for pedestrian and cycle circulation around and through the precinct.

The design of pathways and circulation, grading to suit step free access and provision of adjacent parking, is included to ensure access for all users, regardless of mobility, age or ability. Where steps are included, adjacent graded walkways are proposed.

A shared, 3m wide path for pedestrians and cyclists is proposed along Firebrace Street to the Riverfront, facilitating improved connection between the Central Activities District and the River – a key requirement under the agreed City to River Masterplan.

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan

Goal 1 – Community and Cultural Development: Develop Horsham and the municipality as a diverse, inclusive and vibrant community

Four-Year Outcomes:

- 1.1 Contribute to building a vibrant, diverse and resilient community
- 1.2 Develop a safe, active and healthy community, encouraging participation
- 1.3 Contribute to cultural activities that enhance our community
- 1.4 Develop the municipality as a desirable place to live, work and enjoy for people of all ages and abilities

Four-Year Priorities:

- 1.2.09 Activate the Wimmera River Precinct for the community and visitors (including lights and greater presentation)
- 1.2.10 Plan and progressively construct shared cycling and walking track paths along the Wimmera River – from Riverside Bridge to Horsham Weir – both sides, including improvements to lighting and other facilities
- 1.2.12 Encourage the development of a riverside café

Goal 2 – Sustaining the Economy: Lead in sustainable growth and economic development**Four-Year Outcomes:**

- 2.2 Cultivate opportunities for the municipality to prosper and pursue possibilities for new development
- 2.4 Increase visitors to the municipality
- 2.5 Promote Horsham as a regional city

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence: Excel in communication, consultation, governance, leadership and responsible use of resources**Four-Year Outcomes:**

- 4.1 Continuously improve communication and engagement with the community through effective consultation

The City to River Riverfront Precinct project links to the following Council Plans and Strategies:

- 2019 City to River Master Plan
- 2020 Sports Facilities Demand Assessment
- 2019 Open Space Strategy
- Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017–2021
- Horsham Municipal Strategic Statement
- Tourism Master Plan 2016 – 2020
- Horsham Economic Development Strategy 2017–2021
- Horsham Municipal Bicycle and Shared Path Plan 2012–2016

Risk Implications

The Concept Plan needs to be endorsed by Council so as to proceed with funding opportunities (Federal and State). If not endorsed this could put funding opportunities in jeopardy.

Damage to Council's reputation by not recognising the extensive process undertaken to develop the plan, the costs involved and the work of the CRG.

Conclusion

The undertaking by the CRG to work through a complex piece of planning and engagement has been remarkable. The process has been capably led by the Chair and the CRG team. The level of engagement, feedback and iteration through the process has set a positive benchmark for how Council can continue to undertake proactive and positive planning and engagement, even in the midst of a major global crisis.

9.2 MOBILE FOOD AND BEVERAGE TRADING VEHICLE POLICY

Author's Name:	Annie Mintern	Director:	Kevin O'Brien
Author's Title:	Co-ordinator Investment and Business Development	Directorate:	Communities and Place
Department:	Investment Attraction and Growth	File Number:	F19/A10/000001

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Mobile Food and Beverage Trading Vehicle Policy (**Appendix "9.2A"**)

Purpose

To approve the updated Mobile Food and Beverage Trading Vehicle Policy to incorporate more options for traders to be located at sites other than the roadside.

Summary

- Multiple enquiries have been received from mobile businesses requesting a location to trade on the riverfront.
- Creating a site to be available via a booking system would allow Council to provide pop-up businesses an opportunity to trade at the riverfront.
- Council permission is required prior to proceeding with a DELWP Crown land approval request.
- Locations other than the Council preferred site will be assessed on a case by case basis.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Approve the updated Mobile Food and Beverage Trading Vehicle Policy (**Appendix "9.2A"**).
2. Waive all Mobile Food and Beverage Trading Vehicle permit fees until 1 July 2022 to coincide with the next Financial Year's and fees and charges setting by Council.

REPORT

Background

Multiple enquiries have been received from businesses wanting to trade alongside the Wimmera Riverfront. The existing Mobile Food Vehicle Policy does not include any scope for trading in locations other than on the roadside and therefore there is no riverfront trading policies available for guidance and direction for these enquiries.

There is also no existing procedure available to guide staff and businesses in the decision making process with regard to mobile vehicle trading.

Discussion

The updated Mobile Food and Beverage Trading Vehicle Policy allows traders the opportunity to situate their mobile businesses in locations other than the roadside.

The location between the Horsham Rowing Club and the Apex Club known as CA 88C, Section 5, Barnes Boulevard has been utilised for mobile vehicle trading in the past and has access to amenities required for food and beverage trading and therefore has been identified as the initial site.

The creation of a site suitable for mixed trading use for mobile businesses would allow our local businesses to trade in a picturesque location, which would entice outdoor eating and drinking in a casual atmosphere.

The site will be available to businesses via a booking system, with the aim of having a multi user site hosting regular food and beverage trading which will afford the community with more outdoor options for meeting spaces and socialising.

If the Mobile Food and Beverage Trading Vehicle Policy is endorsed, a DELWP Crown land approval request will be submitted.

Options to Consider

A previous trial of a pop up mobile vendor at the river received feedback that indicated the trial would have been more successful if the proprietors had more consistent opening hours. The trial also had greater success at ticketed events where alcohol and live music were available.

Having the ability to promote the site to multiple businesses will allow for more consistent and regular activity occurring at the site.

Sustainability Implications

Nil

Community Engagement

Discussion has occurred with interested businesses.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The introduction of a multi user food and beverage vehicle trading site at the riverfront is an innovative concept, as it has not occurred in this region previously. Regular activities and events on the riverfront is a great way to activate this precinct and attract visitors to the region. This supports to development of the riverfront that is currently occurring as part of the implementation of the City to River Master Plan.

Collaboration

Internal advice from Local Laws, Building and Planning regarding liquor licensing, vendor permits and planning permits has been sought.

The City to River Project Manager has also collaborated on the policy and procedure documents.

Note – The Local Law provision will be updated when the new local law is enacted.

Financial Implications

All associated permit fees will be waived until financial year commencing July 2022 and will be presented as part of the development of the 2022-2023 budget.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

- Mobile Food Trading Vehicle Policy
- Horsham Rural City Council Plan 2021-2025: Theme 2 Liveability Horsham Rural City Council will actively work to create a healthy and connected community that is a great place to live, work invest and explore for all ages, abilities and backgrounds. Strategy 2. A destination to live, work, explore and invest.
- City to River Masterplan

Risk Implications

Nil

Conclusion

The creation of a multi user food and beverage vehicle trading site is an innovative idea that will activate the riverfront. Mobile food and beverage traders and entertainment/activity in this precinct will also create community awareness about the City to River project and its progress. Mobile food and beverage traders being situated in this location may also compliment the future café/restaurant proposed in the City to River Masterplan.

9.3 HRCC INTEGRATED STRATEGIC PLANNING AND REPORTING FRAMEWORK

Author's Name:	Kerrie Bell	Director:	Graeme Harrison
Author's Title:	Manager (Project)	Directorate:	Corporate
Department:	Governance & Information	File Number:	F14/A03/000001

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Draft HRCC Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework (**Appendix “9.3A”**)

Purpose

To adopt the HRCC Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework.

Summary

- Council's inaugural Planning and Budgeting Framework was first adopted on 5 February 2018, which provided an overview of Councils integrated approach to planning & budgeting.
- Section 89 of the *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council to adopt an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting.
- The previous Planning & Budgeting Framework has been renamed the Integrated Strategic Planning & Reporting Framework and provides a structured and consistent approach to Council's strategic planning and reporting processes.
- The draft framework shows how our strategic documents are integrated, our annual planning and reporting cycle, lists required timelines and responsible officers.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework (**Appendix “9.3A”**) which replaces the Planning and Budgeting Framework.

REPORT

Background

Prior to February 2018, Council did not have a formal framework for its strategic planning and budgeting processes. Council adopted the HRCC Planning and Budgeting Framework on 5 February 2018. This framework linked together Council's strategic planning and budgeting processes to give a structured and consistent approach to clearly define the planning and budgeting cycle in any given year.

With the introduction of the *Local Government Act 2020* (The Act), there are new requirements for Councils to take an integrated approach to strategic planning and reporting (Section 89). The revised framework provides the foundation for how this integrated approach will be undertaken at Council.

The formation of Council's annual budget is an integral part of the planning process and Budget Development Guidelines are developed each year as a separate document to specifically address the principles and stages of this process.

Discussion

The Act signals a transfer of responsibility and accountability to each individual Council and sets the framework for long-term improvement of sector good governance that considers and is responsive to local community needs.

It drives an integrated approach to planning and reporting to support strategic decision-making through:

- Recognising that planning must be holistic and driven by the community
- Providing a comprehensive view of available resources and commitments
- Enabling alignment of objectives and capabilities, and
- Supporting an understanding of medium to long-term implications of decisions on resource allocation and Council performance.

The Draft Framework has been revised to ensure that it accurately reflects the approach that council takes in developing its key strategic documents and the annual and four-year cycle that it follows.

Options to Consider

Nil

Sustainability Implications

Good strategic planning processes are the heart of a well-functioning council and part of overall good governance. It ensures that council is financially sustainable in to the future and that it considers economic, social and environmental sustainability issues in all that it does.

Community Engagement

The Community will be informed of the revised framework once adopted and it will be made publicly available on our website.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Council has innovatively had a documented integrated approach to planning and reporting since 2018. The new *Local Government Act 2020*, has now provided a legislated focus on the importance of effective planning and reporting.

Collaboration

Local Government Victoria's Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework – Resources and Webinars, were utilised to assist with this revision.

Financial Implications

Not applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan - Theme 5 Leadership - Horsham Rural City Council, will build trust and connections with the community through good governance, community consultation, accountability, transparent decision making and financial stability.

Risk Implications

Providing a well-documented strategic approach to planning and reporting supports good governance and reduces both financial and reputational risk to Council.

Conclusion

The revised HRCC Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting framework formalises our approach to addressing the requirements of The *Local Government Act 2020* section 89 and the five key strategic planning principles that Council must adhere to, which are:

- a) An integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting is to be adopted;
- b) Strategic planning must address the Community Vision;
- c) Strategic planning is to take into account the resources needed for effective implementation;
- d) Strategic planning is to identify and address the risks to effective implementation;
- e) Strategic planning must provide for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular reviews to identify and address changing circumstances.

9.4 LAND TRANSFER SOUTHBANK

Author's Name:	Tennille Ellis / Diana McDonald	Director:	Graeme Harrison
Author's Title:	Co-ordinator Property Management / (Acting) Manager Governance and Information	Directorate:	Corporate Services
Department:	Governance and Information	File Number:	99/01/13712

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Proposed Plan of Subdivision – PS843533L (**Appendix “9.4A”**)

Property Valuation (Appendix provided in the confidential report)

Purpose

To declare its intention for transfer of Council land for an electrical substation as part of a staged residential subdivision to Powercor.

Summary

- The developer has requested a land transfer to Powercor Australia Ltd re an electrical sub-station.
- The substation already occupies the land.
- This matter should have been dealt with prior to the public open space being transferred across to council from the developer but it was not.
- Now council must follow the requirements of the Local Government Act for the sale of this small parcel of land to a private company.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the request from the developer for the land transfer proposed as Reserve 1 on **Appendix “9.4A”** for the purpose of an electrical substation.
2. Note the independent market valuations for the property in the Confidential Section of this report.
3. Issue a Public Notice of the proposed transfer of land in accordance with the requirements of Section 114 the Act.
4. Following the Notice period, and if no submissions are received by Council, proceed with subdivision of the reserve to create a separately titled parcel as shown as reserve 1 in **Appendix “9.4A”**.
5. Authorise the CEO to enter into a contract of sale to transfer the land parcel to Powercor Australia Ltd for the price of \$1.

REPORT

Background

In performing its function and exercising its powers Horsham Rural City Council acquires, deals with and disposes of land. Its right to do so is confirmed by Section 114 of the Act. This provides the statutory requirements in regards to the sale or exchange of Council-owned land. It requires Council to publish notice of intention to sell land at least 4 weeks prior to the sale and undertake a community engagement process under Council's Community Engagement Policy before deciding on the sale of land.

Discussion

Council's solicitors have received a request on behalf of the Southbank Estate property developer regarding a parcel of land known as Reserve 5 on Plan of Subdivision PS449841W, being Volume 10865 Folio 412. Horsham Rural City Council is the registered proprietor for this title **Appendix "9.4A"**.

As part of the proposed Stage 12 of the Southbank Estate subdivision, the developer has requested *Application for Removal of Reserve Status* for Reserve 5, and noted intention to split the reserve to create a separate parcel for Powercor Australia Ltd. The reason for this is to have the substation, that is already there, on its own title for Powercor Australia Ltd who supply all the electricity cables that run throughout the development.

In a usual circumstance this exchange of land for power supply purposes would have occurred during the sub-division stage and before the land was passed over from the developer to Council but in this case due to the staging of development it did not occur.

The proposed parcel is an area of 52m² shown as Reserve 1, McLean Drive, Horsham bound in red on the Proposed Plan of Subdivision PS843533L in **Appendix "9.4A"**, with the balance of land in Reserve 5 being 4.347ha. The reserve land is an open space drainage reserve and is generally considered to have low property value. The proposed transfer of Council's property in McLean Drive Southbank, is intended to place the substation infrastructure on land owned by the infrastructure provider.

An independent property valuation for the section of land is attached to the Confidential Section of this report and is provided for transparency in accordance with Section 114 of the Act.

Options to Consider

Council may choose not to subdivide and transfer or sell the land parcel.

Sustainability Implications

Nil

Community Engagement

Council's Community Engagement Policy requires Council to hear comments and implement recommendations from the community on Council plans, strategies and operations for compliance with the community engagement requirements of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Part 3 – Council decision making, Division 1 – Community Accountability, Sections 55 and 56).

The public notice process and consideration of submissions supports transparent governance and an actively engaged community.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

There is currently a demand for residential land in the Horsham area. The transfer of the land will allow for additional infrastructure services to be created for further facilitate the development proposed in the Southbank Estate residential subdivision.

Collaboration

Not applicable

Financial Implications

Not applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2017-2021 Horsham Economic Development Strategy

Council Property Strategy S04/005

Community Engagement Policy C04/095

Risk Implications

- Council is required to consider all submissions prior to determining whether to proceed with the sale or transfer of land.
- Reputational risk if clear and transparent process, policy and legislative obligations are not followed

Conclusion

Formally consider the request to transfer the land at McLean Drive, Horsham, undertake the community engagement process to advertising of the intention to transfer, and if no submissions are received, proceed with the transfer as proposed.

9.5 CONTRACT 22/012 HORSHAM TOWN HALL: HERITAGE HALL FOUNDATION AND FLOOR REPLACEMENT

Author's Name:	Mazen Aldaghstani	Director:	John Martin
Author's Title:	Manager Engineering Services	Directorate:	Infrastructure
Department:	Engineering Department	File Number:	22/012

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Nil (refer to the confidential report on this subject)

Purpose

To award Contract 22/012 for the Heritage Town Hall foundations and floor replacement.

Summary

- The need to replace the Town Hall floor was identified during planning for the refurbishment works, completed in 2016.
- An investigation was conducted to determine the sub-floor conditions, to inform the budget estimate for the works.
- The tender specification was prepared taking the information from this assessment into account, and included retention of the existing floorboards which will be used subsequently as decorative features at the Town Hall.
- The request for tenders was advertised on the HRCC tender portal and was open for submissions from 29 September 2021 and closed on 21 October 2021.
- Two conforming tenders were received.
- The proposed contract amount (including provisional items) is within the budget allocation.
- The project will be conducted over two financial years to allow for the procurement and seasoning of suitable timber in this current financial year, the actual works will then be conducted next financial year.
- Details of the tender evaluation are presented in the evaluation report, attached as an appendix to the confidential report on this subject.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Award Contract 22/012 for the Horsham Town Hall Heritage Foundations and Timber Floor Replacement to Locks Constructions of Horsham for a contract sum of **\$441,800** ex GST.
2. Note that a further allocation of \$210,000 will be required to complete this project in the 2022-2023 Council budget.

REPORT

Background

The Horsham Town Hall, Heritage Hall floor was constructed more than 80 years ago and is heritage listed as part of the main complex of the Town Hall / Art Gallery building. It is currently being used on a regular basis, by a broad range of Council, community and external groups.

The timber boards have been repeatedly sanded over time, with a significant reduction in their thickness. The tongue and grooves are visible in many areas across the floor so that only polishing can be applied in future treatment and maintenance. This was also the case at the time of the major reconstruction works in 2015-2016.

Due to a history of wet and dry periods, a recent pipe leakage and the highly reactive soil under the floor, the overall floor substructure has been subjected to movement that has caused undulation to the timber boards in particular at the south end of the hall.

In late 2018, an investigation, including geotechnical testing, was carried out under the Art Gallery floor and the south end of the Heritage Hall. The source of the leak was found, treated and repaired. The investigation was limited in scope, though, as only a few small hatches were able to be cut into the floor. The potential remains that once fully opened, problems with the wall foundations may be detected, based on the history of cracking of the eastern wall of the hall.

While the Town Hall is functional now, setting the tables and seats for an event is an issue because of the significant floor undulation.

According to Heritage Victoria Guidelines, the floor substructure and timber boards can be replaced as long as the same type of floorboards are used and as long as a portion of the original foundation remains intact below the new floor.

Council's preliminary investigation for the works identified that few suppliers were able to provide matching timber for the floor. In addition, the timber needs to be well seasoned to avoid shrinkage problems post installation. For these reasons the works have been scheduled over two years. The tender specification recognises the supply arrangement necessary to complete the works and the heritage requirements. Sourcing the timber has not been identified as a limitation in the submitted tenders.

The specification also identifies that Council will retain ownership of the removed floorboards. It is intended that these would be stored until a subsequent project is developed to enable use of these boards at the Town Hall. The original scope of the Town Hall redevelopment included installation of timber battens in the new Theatre and on the corridor wall at the rear of the Theatre. This additional work is not part of the current contract scope and is not currently budgeted.

Discussion

Tenders were advertised and evaluated through Council's normal procurement processes.

Key aspects of the tender evaluation were:

- Two tenders were received and the assessment of tenders was based on the criteria as presented in the tender documents
- At the time of closing, two conforming tenders were received from;

- AWS Services, Boronia
 - Locks Constructions , Horsham
- Locks Constructions scored the highest as described in the confidential report on this subject. Their tender application has been assessed as the best value to Council
- Locks Constructions is a well-known local contractor, having completed a range of projects for Council.

The works are planned to be conducted in the period November 2022 to May 2023. These dates have been developed in conjunction with the Town Hall facility manager to ensure programming of events is planned around the construction period.

Options to Consider

Nil

Sustainability Implications

Retention of the floorboards for subsequent use as a decorative feature is preferred to disposal of the timber.

Community Engagement

The key communication aspect with these works will be:

- The interaction between the appointed contractors and Council's project supervisor/manager
- Communicating the construction work program with affected businesses, community/user groups, and the facility manager.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Nil

Collaboration

Council officers have been working closely with the following stakeholders to ensure satisfactory outcomes;

- Heritage Victoria
- Council's Engineering Department
- Council's Facilities Management team
- The Town Hall Facility Manager
- Local builders and timber suppliers

Financial Implications

This project is funded from the following sources:

- \$200,000 - Heritage Victoria: Living Heritage Grant
- \$200,000 - 2021-22 HRCC Capital Works Program (for works)
- \$ 10,000 - 2021-22 HRCC Capital Works Program (project management costs)
- \$210,000 - Proposed 2022-23 HRCC Capital Works Program (inc \$10,000 project management costs)
- \$620,000 - Total Budget

The proposed contract amount and anticipated provisional items are within the budget allocation (including 2022-2023 proposed budget) for this project.

The revenue implications of the temporary closure of the Heritage Hall area will be included in the 2022-23 budget estimates.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Nil

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan

Goal 3 – Asset Management

To ensure infrastructure is in place to support our growing community as well as upgrading and maintaining our infrastructure to attract more visitors to our community.

Risk Implications

Standard construction risks will apply. Supervision of works will be conducted by Council Officers to manage these risks.

Provision has been made in the budget for the works for removal of asbestos and foundation works to support the walls, subject to inspections after the floorboards are removed.

A delay in completion of the works could impact on bookings for the Heritage Hall. A provision for higher liquidated damages has been included in the contract reflecting this risk.

Conclusion

The preferred tender of Locks Constructions will provide the best value to Council for the Heritage Town Hall timber floor replacement and foundations treatment.

9.6 CONTRACT 22/006 SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF ONE NEW DUAL CONTROL 6x4 SIDE LOADER GARBAGE TRUCK WITH OPTIONAL TRADE-IN

Author's Name:	Warren Kennedy, Krishna Shrestha, Raghdah Al-Ameri	Director:	John Martin
Author's Title:	Fleet Coordinator, Strategic Asset Manager, Asset Engineer	Directorate:	Infrastructure
Department:	Infrastructure	File Number:	22/006

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Nil (refer to the confidential report on this subject)

Purpose

To award Contract 22/006 for the supply and delivery of one new dual control 6x4 side loader garbage truck with optional trade-in.

Summary

- Council's Iveco Acco 6x4 23 m3 side loader truck with Superior Pak body, a 2011 model, is due for replacement. The truck has done over 391,000 km.
- Based on an assessment of fuel efficiency, maintenance costs, trade-in value and potential future major maintenance, it has been scheduled for replacement in the 2021-2022 financial year.
- The tender was advertised on the Council website and in The Weekly Advertiser newspaper on 20 July 2021 and closed on 10 August 2021. Ten companies responded.
- The tender evaluation panel recommends replacement with a similar Iveco Acco 6x4/Raptor dual control side loader garbage truck with a turbo diesel engine of approximate capacity of 220 kW.
- The replacement is to be funded from the plant reserve within the 2020-2021 plant budget allocation.

Recommendation

That Council accept the tender of OGR Trucks for supply and delivery of one new Iveco Acco 6x4 Raptor dual control 6x4 side loader garbage truck, with Superior Pak body, valued at \$389,880.00 less trade-in of \$35,454.54 from OGR Trucks Mt Gambier for the changeover amount of \$354,425.46 exclusive of GST.

REPORT

Background

Council's Iveco Acco 6x4/Raptor 23 m³ Side Loader truck with Superior Pak body, a 2011 model, is due for replacement and was included in the 2021-2022 plant replacement program. Over a period of 10 years it has accumulated 391,000km. Delaying the replacement of this plant could result in significant component failures and increased routine maintenance cost and reduced fuel efficiency. The tender was advertised on the Council website and in The Weekly Advertiser newspaper on 20 July 2021 and closed on 10 August 2021. Ten companies submitted tenders.

Discussion

A detailed tender evaluation is provided in the appendix to the confidential report on this subject. Key aspects of the report include:

- Nine companies submitted tenders for vehicles that complied with the specification. The Manheim Auctions tender was for trade-in only, which was less competitive than other trade-in bids
- The evaluation of tenders was based on the criteria presented in the tender specification
- Tenders were assessed based on best value to Council and conformance with required specifications rather than the lowest price
- Council's Fleet team did a detailed assessment of the plant as part of the tender evaluation process, in consultation with the Waste Collection leading hand.

Tender returns were received from the following companies:

- Manheim Auctions Pty Ltd (Trade in only)
- Johnsons Truck and Coach
- Ballarat Isuzu
- Winter Taylor Isuzu (Geelong)
- Barry Maney Group
- Whitehorse truck Centre
- OGR Trucks
- CMV Truck and Bus
- Adtrans Truck Centre (Melbourne)
- Bucher Municipal

The tender of OGR Trucks for a new dual control 6x4 side loader garbage truck with trade-in has been assessed as the best value to Council due to its conformance with the tender specification, price, warranty provisions for truck and body and other parameters specified in the evaluation report.

Council staff trialled the three different garbage truck bodies tendered, the Superior Pak body was determined to be the best suited for Council's application, Council currently owns and operates four trucks with Superior Pak bodies. The other body's trialled were Bucher Municipal and STG Global.

With regards to truck selection, the Iveco Acco has excellent all around vision, low emissions meeting Euro 6 standards, good fuel economy, disc brakes and extra safety items which include autonomous braking (the truck is fitted with a forward mounted radar to detect objects and automatic brake application). The Iveco is the only truck fitted with this option. The panel assessed this vehicle favourably due to these factors, in particular its safety features.

The Hino and Isuzu trucks are Euro 5 standard unlike the European trucks meaning a higher carbon footprint less fuel economy, they are fitted with drum brakes and poorer vision (less window area to strengthen cab). The Mercedes is a low access CBD truck not as suitable for the rural run and the Volvo is a very good truck but with the Superior Pak body is dearer than the Iveco.

Options to Consider

There are nine potential options to consider. However, evaluation favoured the Iveco Acco / Superior Truck tendered by OGR Trucks.

Sustainability Implications

The recommended Iveco truck meets the tighter emissions controls associated with the Euro 6 standard.

Community Engagement

Not applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not applicable

Collaboration

Not applicable

Financial Implications

The recommended tender is priced at \$354,425.00, about \$14,425.46 more than the estimated budget. The over-expenditure on this item is expected to be compensated by confirmed savings from the purchase of a smooth drum roller. Savings could also be made up by deferring the replacement of several cars due to their very low use during Covid-19.

The Assets Team will recommend delaying the replacement of one of the plant items should there be a shortfall in the overall allocated budget for 2021-2022.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan

Outcome 3.4 - Deliver works to develop and maintain Council's physical assets for long term sustainability, amenity and safety

This Garbage Truck is required to deliver Council's waste services facilities.

Risk Implications

All tenderers included risk assessments related to the delivery time, financial viability of the supplier and relevant insurances for unexpected plant failures were assessed in the evaluation. Based on the evaluation, the risk is considered to be very low. The safety features associated with the recommended truck reduces the risk of its ongoing operation.

Conclusion

The tender evaluation process has assessed that the preferred replacement garbage truck being that tendered by OGR Trucks.

9.7 MUTUAL RESPECT CHARTER

Author's Name:	Diana McDonald	Director:	Graeme Harrison
Author's Title:	(Acting) Governance & Information Manager	Directorate:	Corporate Services
Department:	Governance and Information	File Number:	F06/A08/000001

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Mutual Respect Charter (**Appendix “9.7A”**)

Purpose

To adopt the Mutual Respect Charter.

Summary

- Council's Mutual Respect Charter is based on the principle of mutual respect and co-operation and supports our values of providing a safe and respectful workplace, and sets out the rights and responsibilities expected to be observed and respected by all parties.
- The Charter supports Council's values and the actions contained in the Councillor Code of Conduct, Staff Code of Conduct, Customer Service Standards Procedure and Customer Commitment Charter.
- The Charter sets out the Communities Rights and Responsibilities and also the Councillors and staff's Rights and Responsibilities in all Council related interactions.

Recommendation

That Council adopt the Mutual Respect Charter (**Appendix “9.7A”**).

REPORT

Background

The Mutual Respect Charter is based on Stonnington City Council's recent document, which was the "first-of-its kind" for local government, and proactively promotes the highest standards on integrity in local Councils, including appropriate, respectful behaviour.

Previous discussions held by Councillors and staff has suggested the Charter be developed and adopted for Horsham Rural City Council.

Discussion

Council's Mutual Respect Charter is based on the principles of mutual respect and co-operation and supports our values of providing a safe and respectful workplace. It outlines the rights and responsibilities of the community, Councillors and staff in all Council related interactions.

The Horsham Rural City Council has a zero-tolerance policy in relation to any harm, abuse, aggressive behaviour or threats directed towards Council or its staff. For the Horsham Rural City council to ensure that matters are dealt with fairly, efficiently and effectively and that occupational health and safety standards and duty of care obligations are adhered to. The Mutual Respect charter sets out the rights and responsibilities expected to be observed and respected by all parties.

The Charter supports Council's values and the actions contained in the Councillor Code of Conduct, Staff Code of Conduct, Customer Service Standards Procedure and Customer Commitment Charter.

The commitment also reinforces the importance of the Victorian Government's review and discussion paper into the history of the culture in local government and ways to promote a more positive and inclusive work environment.

Once adopted the final document will be graphically designed (in-house) in a professional design, to match the Councillor Code of Conduct document developed earlier this year.

Options to Consider

Council could choose to not adopt the Mutual Respect Charter.

Sustainability Implications

Nil

Community Engagement

The Mutual Respect Charter is a document that council is using to convey its expectations around interactions between Council and the community and posters of the document will be placed in prominent and relevant locations across council to inform the community.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

This Charter is a mechanism for continuous improvement for the appropriate and respectful behaviour for all Council related interactions.

Collaboration

The Charter was based on Stonnington City Council's Mutual Respect charter and they are fully supportive of other Councils using their document.

Financial Implications

There are no financial and resource implications associated with this report.

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable

Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan, Goal 5 – Leadership

Councillor Code of Conduct

Staff Code of Conduct

Customer Service Standards Procedure

Customer Commitment Charter

Risk Implications

The implementation of this would provide a risk control measure to assist in the mitigation of recent identified risks to staff in the community as a result of changing community attitudes as a result of the Covid-19 Pandemic.

Conclusion

The Mutual Respect Charter supports Council's values of providing a safe and respectful workplace and sets out a shared responsibility for our staff in dealing with the community and our customers.

9.8 PROPOSED COMMUNITY LOCAL LAW 2021

Author's Name:	Robyn Spiller	Director:	Kevin O'Brien
Author's Title:	Project Officer Local Law Review	Directorate:	Communities and Place
Department:	Community Services and Safety	File Number:	F19/A04/000001

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Community Local Law 2021 (**Appendix "9.8A"**)

City Central Activity District Map (**Appendix "9.8B"**)

Aerodrome Movement Area Map (**Appendix "9.8C"**)

Solid Waste Code (**Appendix "9.8D"**)

Purpose

To make Community Local Law 2021 and to revoke Community Local Law 2011.

Summary

- The current Community Local Law 2011 (as amended) is automatically revoked at the last moment of the day on Friday 19 December 2021.
- Any replacement -
 - a. Comes into operation at the beginning of the day fixed for it to come into operation
 - b. Must be notified in the way required by the *Local Government Act*—
 - i. in the Government Gazette
 - ii. in a newspaper generally circulating in the municipal district
 - iii. on the website of Council
 - c. Printed and available for inspection and purchase together with a copy of every incorporated document.
- A local law is required after 19 December 2021.
- For all steps to occur in time, revocation of Community Local Law 2011 and making of replacement Community Local Law 2021 are recommended before 19 December 2021.

Recommendation

That Council:

1. Revoke Local Law No. 3 Community Local Law 2011 on Wednesday 8 December 2021;
2. Revoke Local Law No. 4, that amended Community Local Law 2011, on Wednesday 8 December 2021;
3. Having considered the full text of submissions numbered 1 to 79, make Community Local Law 2021 in **Appendix “9.8A”** to come into operation on Thursday 9 December 2021;
4. Prescribe for Community Local Law 2021 -
 - a. for clause 12 the online forms and paper forms currently in use for local law permit applications;
 - b. for clause 48—
 - i. May Park being Lot 1 on Title Plan 022163K; and
 - ii. the road and road related area adjacent May Park; and
 - iii. the area hatchured in **Appendix “9.8B”**: City Central Activity District which is also described in the Horsham Regional City Framework Plan for the Horsham Planning Scheme,
as parts of the municipal district where a person must not have liquor in an open container, unless otherwise approved under an Act;
 - c. for clause 50, fourteen (14) days as the number of days before the event that a permit must be obtained to discharge display fireworks, Chinese firecrackers or theatrical fireworks;
 - d. for clause 62, the area hatchured in **Appendix “9.8C”**: Aerodrome Movement Area;
5. For section 224A of the *Local Government Act 1989* publish a notice in the Government Gazette identifying clause 48 as a provision of Community Local Law 2021 for the regulation of the use, possession or consumption of alcohol and stating that any police officer may enforce that provision.

REPORT

Background

Review of the current Local Law No. 3 Community Local Law 2011 as amended by Local Law No. 4 commenced before 1 July 2021 under Part 5 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. Section 122 of that Act determines that all local laws sunset after 10 years of the earliest commencement of any provision of the local law, to ensure that local laws remain relevant and appropriate. Local Law No. 3 – Community Local Law 2011 as amended by Local Law No. 4 sunsets and is automatically revoked on 19 December 2021.

The review of the current local law has been informed by community input, targeted stakeholder engagement, the internal Technical Reference Group and issues captured in a variety of ways over several months. At the Council Meeting on 28 June 2021, Council resolved to make proposed Community Local Law 2021 available to the public for comment for a period of 34 days commencing on 29 June 2021.

At the meeting held on 6 September 2021 Councillors heard from those who elected to be heard in relation to their submission in accordance with section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. At the Council Meeting on 27 September 2021, Councillors had the benefit of 79 submissions. Consultation feedback was carefully reviewed and used to revise the public consultation draft of proposed Community Local Law 2021. This means the Agenda documents for the Council Meeting on 27 September 2021: include those revisions (as recommended changes) alongside the relevant submission about proposed Community Local Law 2021; and, says a decision about the recommended changes will be made at this Council Meeting.

Discussion

The review of the current local law commenced under the *Local Government Act 1989* before the repeal of Part 5 on 1 July 2021. The Council Report to Council Meeting on 28 June 2021 says:

In keeping with the Ministerial Guidelines, the public notice period must be completed by 2 August 2021 to allow adequate time for Council to consider community submissions, make changes and adopt the new local law by the sunset date of 20 December 2021.

At the conclusion of this review, it was determined that the majority of issues controlled by the current local law are still required.

Appendix “9.2B” compares the current local law, the replacement local law and sets out the reasons for any change. Footnotes are included for any especial benchmarking for the Ministerial Guidelines to neighbouring and like councils.

In the period 29 June to 2 August 2021, the public were invited to make submissions about the replacement local law, paper and online copies being made available for that purpose. For the Ministerial Guidelines an explanatory document was provided alongside the replacement local law. As required the invitation for submissions set out the purpose and general purport of the replacement local law, and says:

The purpose and general purport of proposed Community Local Law 2021 is: to regulate activities on roads, land and waterways under the control of or managed by Council; to regulate the keeping of pets, chickens and horses; and to manage local nuisance. The intended effect of proposed Community Local Law 2021 is the protection and improvement of the amenity of the municipal district and the safe and fair use of public spaces.

On 1 July 2021, the *Local Government Act 2020* repealed Part 5—Local Laws of the *Local Government Act 1989*. Part 10 of the *Local Government Act 2020* is about the changes from 1 July 2021. Part 10 includes section 328(2) that has the effect that the making of a replacement local law having commenced under the 1989 Act, the making may be implemented or continued as if Part 5 had not been repealed. For that reason, a section 74 certificate required to make a local law under the 2020 Act is not tabled with this Council Report.

Content from the website of Local Government Victoria about the implementation of the *Local Government Act 2020* and making local laws is included here:

What is similar to the previous arrangements?

Most matters concerning the making and operation of local laws under the 2020 Act are generally the same as applied under the *Local Government Act 1989*. For example, local laws:

- Cannot be inconsistent with other legislation, nor duplicate or be inconsistent with the council's planning scheme
- Must be expressed clearly and unambiguously and cannot exceed the power to make the local law under the relevant authorising Act
- May incorporate by reference matters contained in other documents, codes, rules, and formulas
- May provide for the determination of fees, granting of permits and licences, and delegation of powers under the local law
- May prescribe penalties not exceeding 20 penalty units for a contravention and enable infringement notices to be served
- Automatically 'sunset' (are revoked) ten years after their making, unless revoked sooner.

Better Practice Local Laws guides

In 2010, Local Government Victoria produced comprehensive guidelines to assist councils in the preparation and making of local laws.

These guidelines covered all aspects of local laws, from their preparation phase right through to their revision and amendment.

These guidance materials continue to be an excellent resource.

The Better Practice guides are the Ministerial Guidelines. Part 5 of the *Local Government Act 1989* states Council must have regard to the Ministerial Guidelines when making local laws, and this has been done.

As part of that regard:

- The recommended changes set out alongside the relevant submission in **Appendix "9.2A"** to the Council Report for Council Meeting on 27 September 2021
- The balance of the replacement local law that was on public display from 29 June 2021 were reviewed and minor changes have been made so that—
- The replacement local law is expressed plainly and unambiguously
- The animal keeping clauses are not inconsistent with planning scheme requirements that took effect on 8 August 2019 for keeping of horses and domestic animals and were again compared to those of neighbouring and like councils
- Clauses in Parts 1 and 2 stay within the power to make a local law and do not overlap existing legislation, for example the amendment to refer to the *Unclaimed Money Act 2008*

- The wood collecting permits, available and used under the current local law, can continue to be available.

Having regard to the Ministerial Guidelines, the changes since the replacement local law was on public display:

- Do not affect the purpose and general purport statement in the invitation to make a submission
- The Community Local Law 2021 in **Appendix “9.8A”** remains essentially the same as the advertised and made available for submissions.

A local law comes into operation at the beginning of:

- The day on which the local law is made by resolution of Council, even when the Council Meeting is at the end of the day
- OR
- Such later day as is expressed in the local law as the day on which the local law or provision comes into operation.

Community Local Law 2021 in **Appendix “9.8A”** says the local law will come into operation on a later day. This option is recommended because of other steps required to be taken after the Council Meeting for Part 5 of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The later day is 9 December 2021 for this timetable of steps:

1. Publishing a notice about the new local law in the Government Gazette. The deadline for copy for each Thursday's Government Gazette is Tuesday morning of the same week. Sufficient time after Council Meeting and before 19 December for this step is the Gazette published on Thursday 9 December 2021.
2. Publishing a public notice in a newspaper circulating in the municipal district. This means a public notice in The Wimmera Mail-Times on Friday 10 December 2021 and possibly the free, letterbox delivered and otherwise readily available, The Weekly Advertiser on the following Wednesday 15 December 2021.
3. The notice about the new local law is also required to be uploaded to the website of Council.
4. Copies of the local law and incorporated documents must be printed and made available for inspection and purchase at the Civic Centre and on the website of Council, where the incorporated documents are -
 - a. The Apiary Code of Practice for the *Livestock Disease Control Act 1994* published on the Victoria Agriculture website
 - b. The Solid Waste Code used for the current Community Local Law 2011 and expected to be amended for the introduction of the 4 bin system of municipal waste collection
 - c. The codes for the keeping of domestic animals for *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1986* and the codes for the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* published on the Victoria Agriculture website.

A copy of the new local law must be sent to the Minister after Council makes the local law.

Options to Consider

The outcomes of the local law review the subject of the Council Report to the Council Meeting on 28 June 2021 determined that a local law would continue to be required after the automatic revocation of current Community Local Law 2011 on 19 December 2021.

Sustainability Implications

Nil

Community Engagement

A full description of community engagement is included in Council Report to Council Meeting 27 September 2021. A summary is included here for convenience:

Horsham Talks Expo - A community engagement expo was held at Jubilee Hall, Roberts Avenue Horsham to inform and seek input from the community on a range of Council projects including the local law review.

- 5 days – 204 attendees
- Thursday 24 June 2021 to Tuesday 29 June 2021 (excluding Sunday)
- A display for the local law review
- 3 x 2 hour information and feedback sessions about the local law review attended by 25 persons.

At Council Meeting on 28 June 2021, Council resolved to make available to the public the proposed Community Local Law for comment for a period of 34 days commencing on 29 June 2021 and 79 submissions were received. Two submitters exercised the right and appeared in support of their submissions at a meeting of Council on 6 September 2021.

Councillors have had the benefit and the means to read exactly what was said in each of the 79 submissions. The whole of submissions 77 and 78 having been circulated to Councillors and the full text of the balance of submissions copied exactly into **Appendix "9.2A"** to the Council Report to Council Meeting on 27 September 2021.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

The Ministerial Guidelines – Guidelines for Local Laws Manual have been followed. The Ministerial Guidelines are to assist Council achieve better practice to make a local law.

Collaboration

Each Directorate of Council uses the local law. This meant collaboration with a Technical Reference Group, being Council staff with subject matter expertise about aspects of the local law.

Financial Implications

Not applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

A range of State and National Plans and Policies have been considered in the research and drafting of the replacement local law. Examples were provided in the context of the advertised replacement local law appended to the Council Report to Council Meeting on 28 June 2021.

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan

Theme 1 Community: Horsham Rural City Council will develop the municipality as a diverse, inclusive and vibrant community.

To achieve this Council will put in place the following:

Strategies including: 1. An inclusive, accessible, connected and safe community.

Making of a local law is a statutory process. The Council Report to Council Meeting on 28 June 2021 says the replacement local law:

Has been researched and drafted so that it complies with relevant council plans, strategies and policies and does not intrude on imminent or current reviews of plans, strategies and policies.

Risk Implications

Current Local Law No. 3 as amended by Local Law No. 4 are automatically revoked on 19 December 2021.

The process and the steps for replacement local law, Community Local Law 2021 in **Appendix "9.8A"**, have been followed for making a local law for section 119 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Conclusion

That Council having considered the full text of submissions numbered 1 to 79 resolve in accordance with the recommended resolution.

9.9 INVESTMENT ATTRACTION AND GROWTH REPORT

Author's Name:	Fiona Gormann	Director:	Kevin O'Brien
Author's Title:	Manager Investment Attraction and Growth	Directorate:	Communities and Place
Department:	Communities and Place	File Number:	F15/A06/000001

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the Investment Attraction and Growth Report for September 2021.

Summary

The Investment Attraction and Growth Report provides a summary of investment attraction and growth activities in the municipality during the reporting period.

Recommendation

That Council receive and note the Investment Attraction and Growth Report for September 2021.

REPORT

Background

An Investment Attraction and Growth Report is tabled monthly at the Council Meeting.

Discussion

The work undertaken across Investment Attraction and Growth includes Strategic Planning, Statutory Planning, Building Services, Business, Tourism and Events. This report also includes statistical information from the Visitor Services which is now located at the Horsham Town Hall and forms part of the Arts, Culture and Recreation Units.

STATUTORY PLANNING



VCAT – Alexander Avenue

Council's decision has been upheld for the proposed medium density residential development at 56 Alexander Ave, Horsham.

The tribunal found that the construction of 25 dwellings is an acceptable proposal on land within the General Residential Zone, where housing growth and housing diversity is expected, and the Horsham Planning Scheme encourages infill development.

The application for 35 (one-bedroom) dwellings was amended by Elmstone Investments Pty Ltd prior to hearing to 28 (4 one-bedroom 24 two-bedroom) dwellings and the tribunal has further reduced this to 25 (3 one bedroom and 22 two bedroom) dwellings. The tribunal member stated:

"I consider that the number of dwellings along the northern row needs to be reduced by two and the remaining two dwellings repositioned so that each is provided with direct access to the central driveway corridor, without the need for pedestrians to cross in front of adjoining dwellings."

The decision confirms the importance of housing diversity and need to accommodate for a changing neighbourhood character in the urban areas of Horsham.

http://www.austlii.edu.au/cgi-bin/viewdoc/au/cases/vic/VCAT/2021/1095.html?context=1;query=horsham;mask_path=au/cases/vic/VCAT

Planning Applications Determined

Below are the number of Planning Permits issued for the month of September 2021 and a comparison with the same period last year.

Type	SEPTEMBER 2021		SEPTEMBER 2020	
	No.	*Value \$	No.	*Value \$
Miscellaneous Domestic	8	6,952,377	1	5,454
Industrial/Commercial	6	1,279,810	6	1,927,371
Subdivisions	1 (2 lots)	0	-	-
Other	1	1,500	-	-
Total	16	8233,687	7	1,932,825

(*Please note: Not all applications have a \$ figure)

Total number of planning permits issued in the Horsham Rural City Council area from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021 is 35 compared to 22 in the same period in 2020/2021.

Planning permits issued for subdivision have permitted 24 new lots from 1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021 compared to 10 in the same period in 2020/2021.

BUILDING SERVICES

Building Permits Issued

Below are the number of building permits issued for the month of September 2021 and a comparison with the same period last year.

Permits issued by Horsham Rural City Council for this Municipality

Type	SEPTEMBER 2021		SEPTEMBER 2020	
	No.	Value \$	No.	Value \$
Dwellings	1	175,000	1	916,393
Alterations to Dwellings	-	-	-	-
Dwelling resiting's	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Domestic (Carports, Garages etc)	4	50,418	3	53,515
Removal/Demolish	-	-	-	-
Industrial/Commercial	-	-	-	-
Signs	-	-	-	-
Total	5	225,418	4	969,908

Permits issued by other Private Building Surveyors for this Municipality or by Government Departments

Type	SEPTEMBER 2021		SEPTEMBER 2020	
	No.	Value \$	No.	Value \$
Dwellings	5	1,855,531	8	2,583,555
Alterations to Dwellings	4	142,127	4	223,910
Dwelling resiting's	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous Domestic (Carports, Garages etc)	13	513,108	7	238,896
Removal/Demolish	2	14,820	-	-
Industrial/Commercial	9	2,798,917	7	464,029
Signs	-	-	-	-
Total	33	5,324,503	26	3,510,390

(*8 permits for 11 dwellings)

A total of **22** Building Permits have been issued by the Horsham Rural City Council at a total value of **\$1,351,951** from **1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021** compared to **15** Building Permits at a total value of **\$1,765,806** for the same period in 2020/2021.

Private Building Surveyors have issued **74** Building Permits at a total value of **\$18,397,626** from **1 July 2021 to 30 September 2021** compared to **63** at a total value of **\$15,177,497** for the same period in 2020/2021.

Victoria Building Authority

The Victorian Building Authority (VBA) has recently used its immediate suspension powers to remove a builder from practice when satisfied by an investigation that he continuing to work posed a significant risk to the public.

The builder has been suspended by the Victorian Building Authority (VBA) pending a show cause process, for allegedly carrying out unsafe and unfenced excavation works at two sites, as well as a series of other building code breaches.

The VBA's Director of Compliance and Enforcement, David Brockman said that the regulator took this action to protect Victorians. "We will not allow practitioners to flout the laws and put Victorians in harm's way. If you cannot show you are acting safely you will not be allowed to practise," he said. "While most builders do the right thing, cases like this bring the whole industry into disrepute."

STRATEGIC PLANNING

CAD Revitalisation

UrbanFold are progressing towards the completion of Stage 1 of the project, which includes the first stage of community engagement via the *Have Your Say* page. Planning is underway for the next stage of community engagement. This will be undertaken when the Stage 1 report has been reviewed and Council have received an update on the project and met with the consultants to discuss their views on the CAD.

Flood Amendment

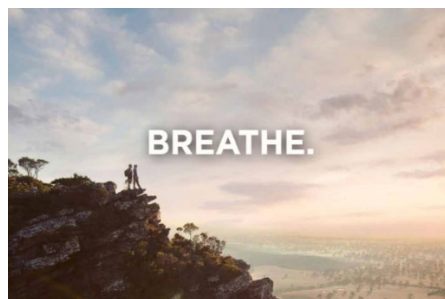
Officers have appointed a suitable consultant to undertake a planning scheme amendment to update the flood mapping in the planning scheme, relating to the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO).

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT, TOURISM AND EVENTS

Grampians Tourism News

Grampians Tourism (GT) farewell Serena Eldridge Marketing Manager from the team and welcomes Amber Cummings as GT's Project Support Officer assisting with the delivery of the Industry Strengthening Program, and Michael Dean as Industry Support for Grampians Tourism.

Grampians Tourism messaging a new campaign "Breathe".



Grampians Tourism will be promoting a new campaign messaging "Space to Breathe" which will be rolled out in parts of Victoria (Central and Western Victoria, Ballarat, Bendigo and Warrnambool) directly following the school holidays. With metro Melbourne being an important source market and in lockdown, Grampians Tourism is focusing on driving visitation from our regional neighbours. These concepts will be adapted to print and digital ads and the simplicity of this message should strongly resonate with audience sentiment post lockdown.

Business Development Team – Business Visitations for the Month of September

The Business Team was able to participate in more face-to-face engagement with businesses during the month of September due to the easing of Covid-19 Restrictions.

Month Visitation	Retail Services & Accommodation	Hospitality	Event interaction contacts	Event Notifications	Over all contacts for the month
January	11	12	10	8	41
February	24	77	21	9	131
March	40	61	31	5	137
April	8	10	9	6	33
May	22	11	4	2	39
June	25	12	6	2	45

July	30	12	15	6	63
August	10	2	6	11	29
Sept	35	18	10	2	65
Monthly total	205	215	112	51	583
					Total YTD

Grampians Resident & Workforce Attraction

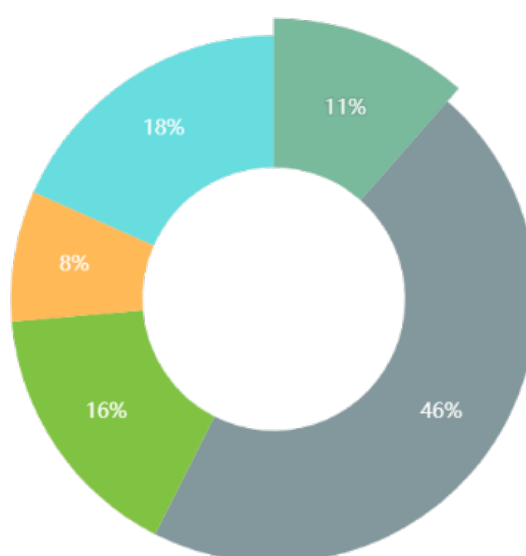
The Live the Grampians Way website: <https://grampianslife.com.au/> is building in traffic each month. There were **989** users of the Grampians Jobs site in September, with **31** of these clicking on the '**Apply Now**' buttons indicating genuine interest in relocation to the region. Pepper Brand Marketing (Shift Regional platform) is checking each job daily (for expiry date, relevance and location) before publishing.

- **5,421 people** visited the Shift Regional website in September (compared to 3,730 in August).
- **59%** (3,200) from **Melbourne**.
- 343 were from Adelaide.
- 54 were from Geelong
- **44,000 people** have now visited the *Grampians Life* website.

Business 46%, Schools 18%, Housing 16% Employment 12% and 8% in skill-based opportunities.

Interested In

■ Business Opportunities
 ■ Employment Opportunities
 ■ Housing
 ■ Schools
 ■ Skills and Training opportunities



Wimmera Business Centre

Vacant Shops - The number of vacant shops remain the same as per the July figures.

Street/ Number of Vacancies	July 2021 FY 21/22	September FY 21/22
Darlot Street	4	3
Firebrace Street	7	7
Hamilton Street	1	1
Wilson Street	4	4
Pynsent Street	5	5
Roberts Ave	3	3
McLachlan Street	1	1
Total	25	24

Please Note: An existing business is currently temporarily occupying another shop for an end of year sale.

Business COVID Officer – Report

During September, large amounts of businesses were visited, mainly in the retail sector within Horsham. There has been 60+ in person visits, with around 40 follow up emails or visits to provide specific information that the business required, or to forward on links and information if the business was closed.

The main areas of education continue to be around COVIDSafe plans (around 10 businesses either were not aware that they needed one, or had not filled in their template) and a lack of density signage, as many businesses had removed these when previous restrictions had begun to ease earlier in the year. A number of business owners have English as their second language, therefore a template and links to information in Mandarin has been provided to help with their COVIDSafe plan.

September included the latest lockdown where many more businesses were closed than previous lockdown periods due to the essential worker permit. During this time, visitations were focussed on the automotive and agricultural industry. Most were aware of all requirements, and it had helped that they had industry bodies that kept them informed.

There were reports of two local businesses trading during the lockdown period, which should not have been operating, however both were checked and neither were operating on the two occasions they were visited.

Targeted emails have been sent to the following:

- Real Estate, Accounting and Financial businesses (20+) – introductory email with links to the coronavirus website and information on the free COVIDSafe Plan review being offered
- Accommodation, Beauty Therapy and Hospitality businesses (90+) – updated guidelines, poster and requirements around checking ID
- 250+ businesses – Copy of the Roadmap Summary and Regional Roadmap
- Beauty Therapy and Hospitality businesses (50+) – Updated information on easing of restrictions around mask wearing for beauty treatments and increase in outdoor dining numbers.

Visitations to the www.visithorsham.com.au website

Website Visitation Statistics									
Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	YTD
5212	3,438 Resulting in 12% returning visitors and 3,329 new visitors to the site	5,290 Resulting in 12.5% returning visitors and 87.5% (5,154) new visitors to the site	4,971 Resulting in 14% returning visitors and 88% (4,755) new visitors to the site	3,350	3,100 Resulting in 12.5% returning visitors and 87.5% (3,012) new visitor to the site)	2,929 Resulting in 14.6% returning visitors and 85.4% (2,757) new visitors to the site	2,168 Resulting in 11.5% returning visitors and 88.5% new visitors to the site	2,414 Resulting in 12.1% returning visitors and 87.9% new visitors to the site.	Jan 2021 to Sept 2021 Visitations to the site resulted in 32,614 Users

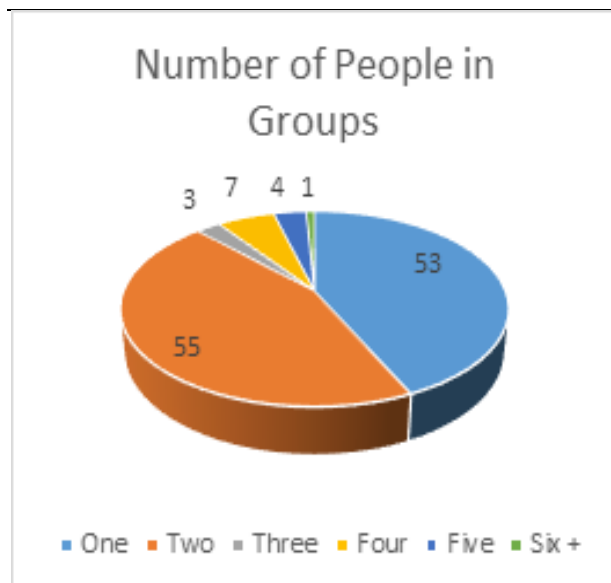
Horsham Visitor Services

September was a much better month with only 10 days in lockdown and the numbers show that. Singles and couples were the prominent visitors to the Centre with a few more families coming in during the School Holidays. Although this data may be slightly distorted as some of the singles actually left the rest of the family in the car while getting information. Mostly families were doing day trips, not wanting to go too far, but at the same time finally getting to explore their own backyard.

The numbers for the Visit Horsham website show increased traffic on the site and are showing a small increase in the pages per session and session time, which means Council are on the right track with the minor changes undertaken so far to the website.

Again, most visitors were coming to holiday in Horsham and surrounds to find out what they had been passing through over the years.

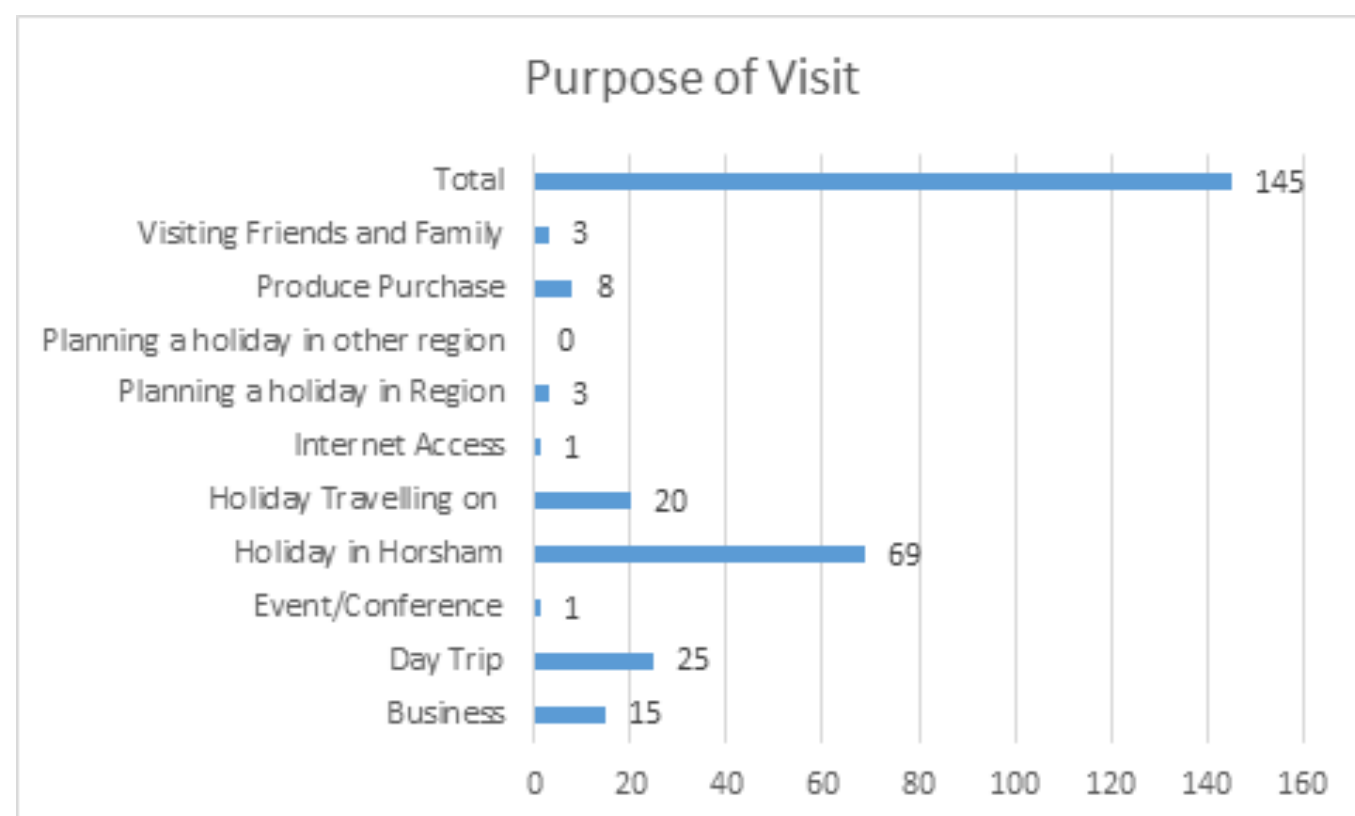
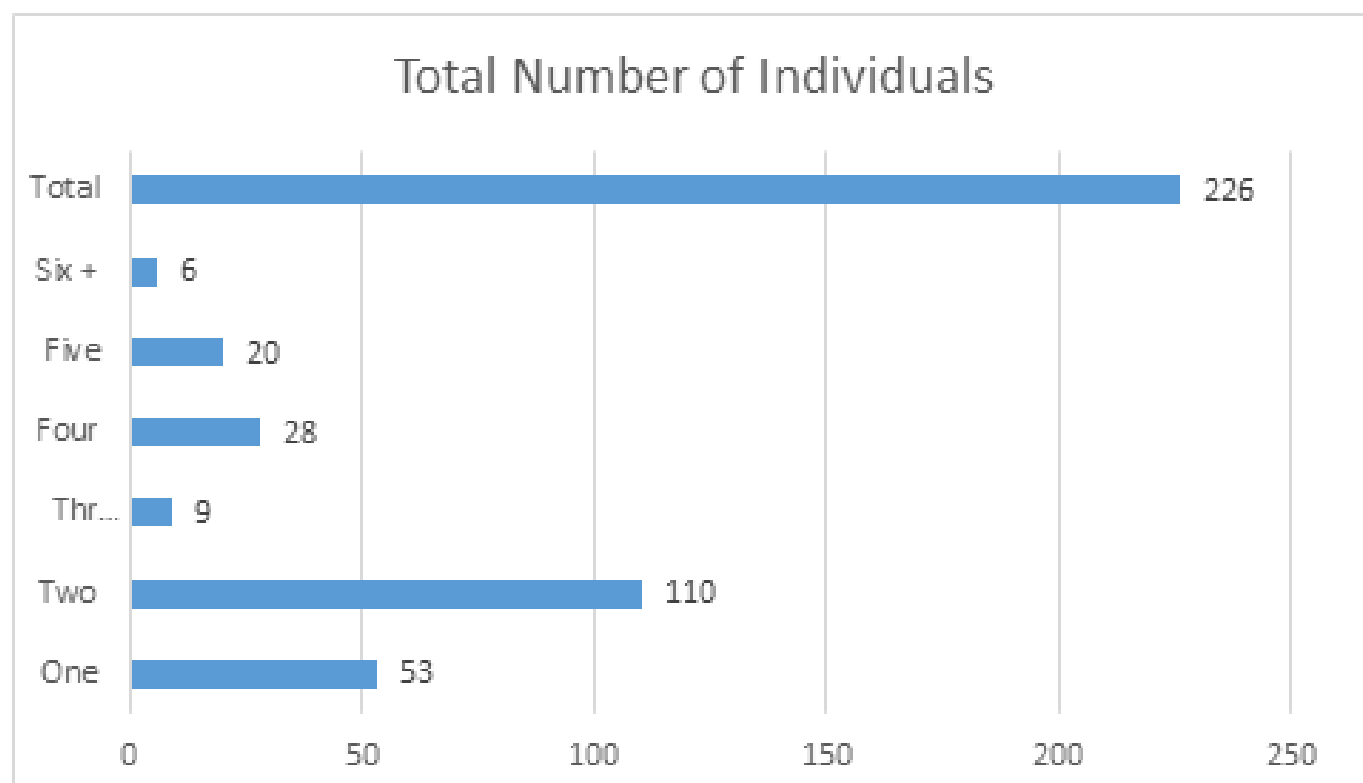
	September	Previous Month	YTD (Jan-Sept)	Previous Year
Groups recorded	123	91	1927	N/A
Total for individuals within groups	226	184	4029	N/A
Visithorsham.com.au web visits	2515	2168	32614	N/A
Emails	184	185	1973	N/A
Produce Sales	\$526.20	\$672.00	\$8880	N/A

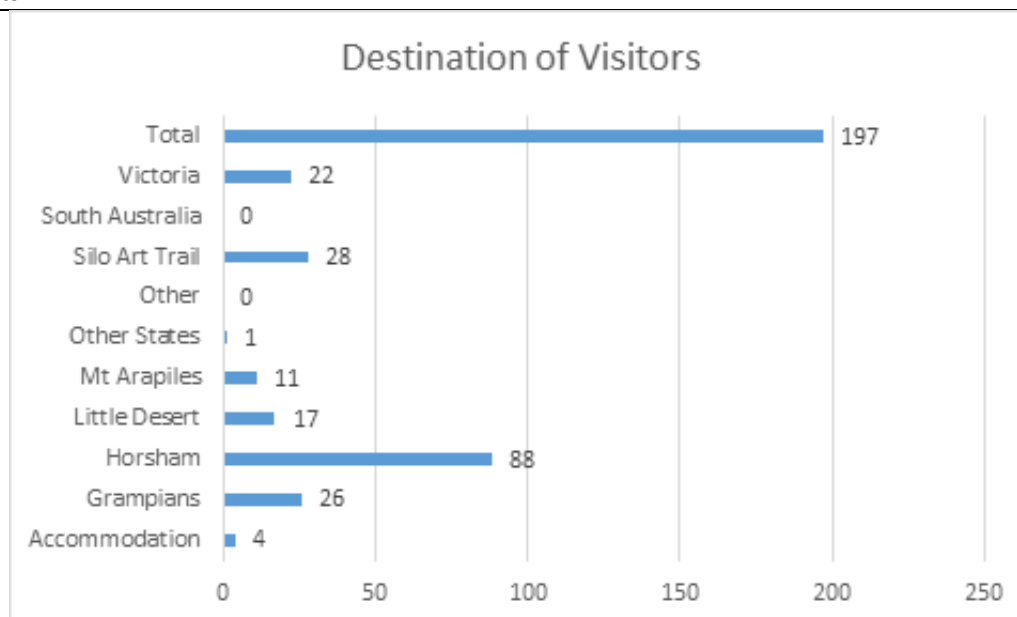


There was an increase in numbers going to Mount Arapiles and the Little Desert. The Silo Art Trail still continues to be an excellent draw card for the region, but this month there were more people that had done the trail and then came to stay in Horsham.

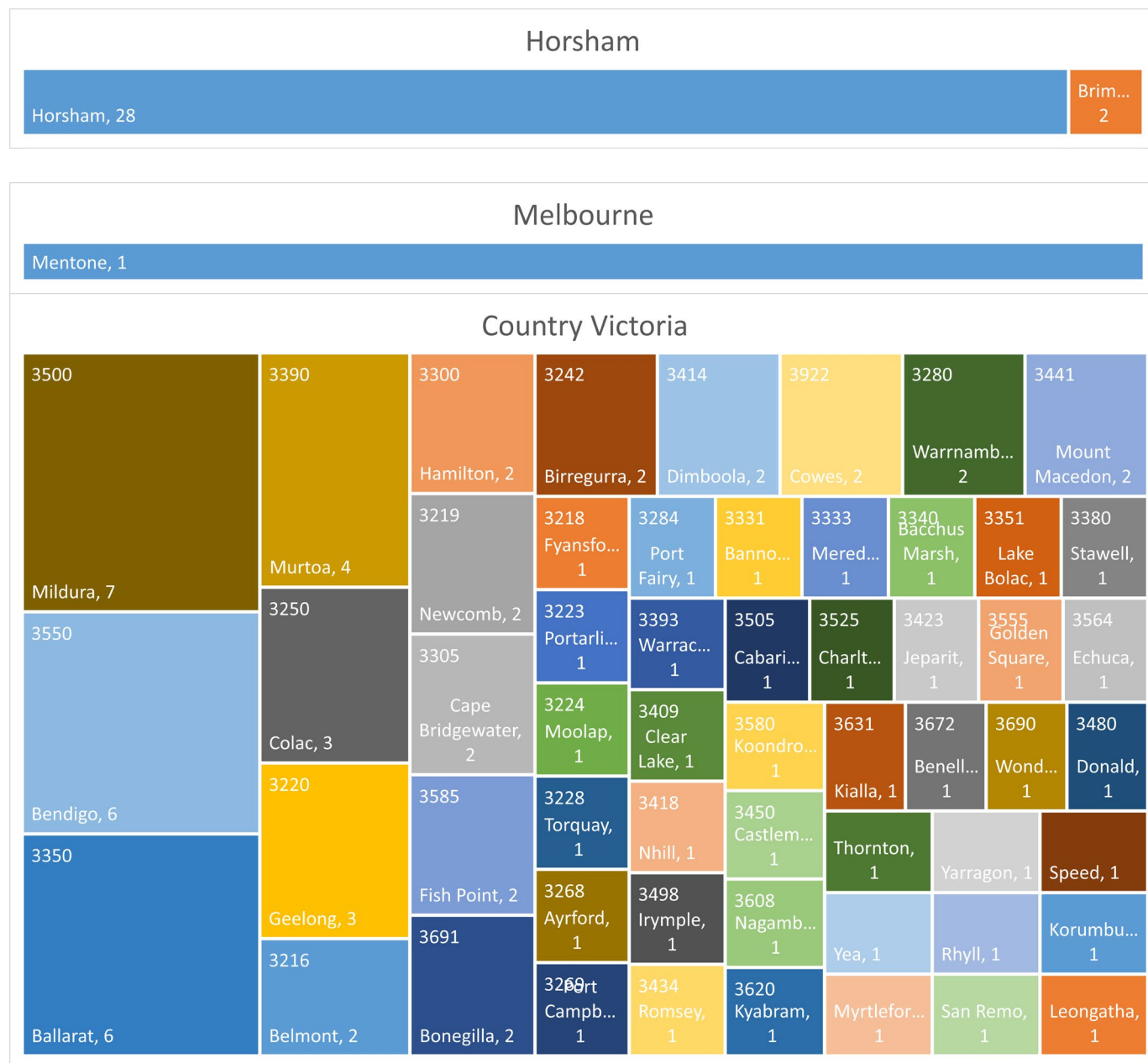
The top three purposes for visitation to Horsham were to Holiday in Horsham- 69, followed by Day Trips – 25 and Holiday travelling on – 20.

The most popular destinations were Horsham – 88, followed by the Silo Art Trail – 28 and then the Grampians –26





Where people travelled from across Victoria and Australia to visit Horsham's Visitor Services



Options to Consider

Not applicable – no decision required

Sustainability Implications

Report provides overview development and business activity across the region with no direct sustainability implications.

Community Engagement

Report has been prepared in consultation with range of agencies and will be made publicly available to Wimmera Development Association, Business Horsham and on HRCC website.

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Report provides overview of activity and assists with continuous improvement.

Collaboration

Report has been prepared in collaboration with Council officers across Planning, Building and Business and Tourism Support.

Financial Implications

Nil

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable – no direct relationship or requirements

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan

Goal 2 – Sustaining the Economy

Risk Implications

Not applicable – no decision required

Conclusion

The VCAT hearing for the residential development at 56 Alexander Ave, Horsham took place this month which approved a modified plan.

9.10 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S OPERATIONAL REPORT

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

Officer Conflict of Interest

Officer disclosure in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 130:

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Status

Defined as confidential information in accordance with *Local Government Act 2020* – Section 3(1):

☐ Yes ☒ No

Reason: Nil

Appendix

Nil

Purpose

To receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report for November 2021.

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 November 2021.

REPORT

Background

At the 24 June 2019 Council meeting, 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.

A. Advocacy/Funding Announcements

Wimmera Regional CEO Meeting: The Chief Executive Officer met with the Chief Executive Officers of Norther Grampians, Buloke, West Wimmera, Yarriambiack and Hindmarsh on Thursday 11 November 2021. The discussions included vaccination status, new campaign for return of passenger rail to Horsham and WDA transformation.

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV): The Chief Executive Officer attended a Regional Cities Victoria CEO meeting on 18 November 2021 via zoom. A discussion was held on the State Budget submission, Covid-19 related issues and local Council Mayoral election outcomes.

Victorian Local Government Association (VLGA): The CEO attended a VLGA Connect meeting on Friday 29 October by zoom. The group heard from the leaders of Victoria's local government policy and integrity agencies - Local Government Victoria (LGV), the Independent Broad-based Anti-corruption Commission (IBAC) and the Local Government Inspectorate (LGI) - as they reflected on the year, examined the trends in the sector, highlighted matters for attention and discussed the role and intersects of the various agencies.

Department Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR): The CEO attended a DJPR meeting, a joint State/Local Government CEO Forum on Wednesday 10 November 2021. Discussions included Gender Equality and Local Government; Sex Work Decriminalisation update; outdoor activation update from LGV and Local Government Victoria update from Julie Reid, Executive Director.

Wimmera Southern Mallee Regional Partnership: The CEO attended this meeting on Thursday 11 November 2021. The purpose of the meeting was to provide feedback on the draft Regional Economic Development Strategy (REDS) for Wimmera Southern Mallee region.

Audit and Risk Committee Meeting: The Mayor and CEO attended an Audit and Risk Committee Meeting on Thursday 18 November 2021 by zoom.

LGPro CEO Forum: The CEO attended an LGPro CEO Forum on Friday 19 November 2021 by zoom. Agenda items included a discussion on Cultural Review presented by Julie Reid, LGV and LGPro Cultural Review Submission.

B. Community Engagement

Greening Greater Horsham – Municipal Tree Strategy: Staff from Recreation and Open Space Planning, Strategic Planning and Youth Services teams engaged with the community about the Greening Greater Horsham, Municipal Tree Strategy. There was a strong turnout by community groups interested in trees but we also saw a lot of interest from passers-by (helped along with free coffees!). Few Councillors and Youth Councillors came down as well to engage with the community who felt positively about the direction the Tree Strategy was heading.

Remembrance Day: In honour of the service and sacrifice of Australians in war since World War I, the community held one minute silence at 11.00am on Thursday 11 November 2021.

C. Projects and Events

Business Breakfast: Council held a Business Breakfast at the Horsham Golf Club on Wednesday 17 November 2021 and provided information to businesses on the CAD Revitalisation Project.

Australia Day Awards Nominations: Nominations for Horsham Rural City Council Australia Day awards are now open. Australia Day Awards recognise and honour individuals and groups who have made an outstanding contribution to our local community. Residents can nominate a person or a community event/festival they believe worthy of recognition, within three categories – Community Event of the Year, Citizen of the Year and Young Citizen of the Year. Citizen of the Year applies to people older than 25, whilst Young Citizen of the Year is for those under 25 as at Australia Day next year. Nominations close on Monday 6 December 2021. Nomination forms are available on the Horsham Rural City Council website or by contacting Fiona Kelly on 5382 9725.

Christmas Trees: Each year, Council outdoor staff co-ordinate the display of festive decorations in Horsham and Natimuk. Large Christmas trees will be installed at roundabouts, and as usual, festive banners and baubles will also adorn street light poles at various locations. However this year, the investment and attraction team is partnering with the depot crews to erect a giant Christmas tree and walk-through bauble at the corner of Ward Street and Roberts Place. This location will be the focal point of our campaign to support local businesses during the festive period. The tree will be six metres tall and the 3.5-metre bauble will be adorned with LED lights.

Options to Consider

Not applicable

Sustainability Implications

Not applicable

Community Engagement

Not applicable

Innovation and Continuous Improvement

Not applicable

Collaboration

Not applicable

Financial Implications

Not applicable

Regional, State and National Plans and Policies

Not applicable

Council Plans, Strategies and Policies

2021-2025 Council Plan

Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

Risk Implications

Not applicable

Conclusion

That Council receive and note the Chief Executive Officer's Operational Report for November 2021.

10. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Cr Robyn Gulline

- 27 October– “Don’t become the headline – A Procurement and Conflict of Interest” webinar
- 28 October– Regional Food Relief Alliance – Regional Cities Briefing (Virtual)
- 29 October – Triple H radio interview with Di Trotter
- 29 October – VLGA Connect Live Panel Discussion: In Conversation with Victoria's Local Government Policy and Integrity Agencies (Virtual)
- 4 November – MAV Social Media legalities (Virtual)
- 5 November – Leadership Wimmera – Regional and Business Leaders Graduation (Virtual)
- 5 November – Rail Freight Alliance (Virtual)
- 9 November – Federation University HRCC Nursing Award presentation
- 10 November – Wimmera Australians in Retirement (Chair elections and guest speaker)
- 10 November – Childcare Forum (Virtual)
- 11 November – Remembrance Day
- 12 November – Grampians Peaks Trail official opening
- 17 November – CAD Revitalisation Business Breakfast
- 18 November – Audit and Risk Committee (Virtual)
- 19 November – North West Municipal Association meeting (NMWA) (virtual)

Cr David Bowe

- 27 October 2021 - Victorian Ombudsman - Don't become a Headline – A procurement & conflict of Interest webinar
- 29 October 2021 – Victorian Local Governance Association Connect Live Panel Discussion: In Conversation with Victoria's Local Government Policy and Integrity Agencies (virtual via Zoom)
- 3 November 2021 – Council Briefing (virtual via Zoom)
- 4 November 2021 - Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) on How to navigate social media and the High Court ruling (Councillors) (virtual via Zoom)
- 8 November 2021 – Council Briefing (virtual via Zoom)
- 11 November 2021 - Remembrance Day Service
- 15 November 2021- Council Briefing (virtual via Zoom)
- 17 November 2021- Central Business District Revitalisation Project Business Breakfast
- 17 November 2021 - Council Briefing
- 18 November 2021 - Council Statutory Meeting
- 20 November 2021 – Volleyball Horsham Annual Tournament

Cr Penny Flynn

- 21 October 2021 – LGV, FinPro, VLGA Connect Live Panel Discussion: Debt - Another Resource for Councils to Consider – Via Zoom
- 21 October 2021 – Wimmera Discussion on Gender Equity & Cultural Change – Via Zoom
- 27 October 2021 – Victorian Ombudsman - Don't Become the Headline - A procurement and conflict of interest webinar – Via Zoom
- 4 November 2021 – How to navigate social media and the High Court ruling (Councillors) – Via Zoom
- 5 November 2021 – Leadership Wimmera Regional Skills Graduation

11. URGENT BUSINESS

12. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

13. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

13.1 INFORMAL MEETINGS OF COUNCILLORS – RECORD OF MEETINGS

- Council Briefing Meeting held on 3 November 2021 at 5.00pm
- Council Briefing Meeting held on 8 November 2021 at 5.05pm
- Council Briefing Meeting held on 15 November 2021 at 5.05pm
- Council Briefing Meeting held on 17 November 2021 at 5.00pm

Refer to **Appendix “13.1A”**

13.2 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Nil

13.3 INWARD CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

13.4 COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Nil

Recommendation

That Council receive and note agenda items:

- 13.1 Informal Meetings of Councillors – Record of Meetings
- 13.2 Sealing of Documents
- 13.3 Inward Correspondence
- 13.4 Council Committee Minutes.

14. NOTICE OF MOTION