



## Members needed for rates committee

Horsham Rural City Council is seeking expressions of interest from people to join a new Rates Strategy Advisory Committee.

Councillors at Monday night's Ordinary Meeting voted to proceed with a Rates Strategy Review Project which will be delivered ahead of the 2019-20 Budget.

The nine-person Committee, working alongside an independent consultant, will play a key role in shaping the way rates are calculated.

Chief Executive Officer Sunil Bhalla said the review was in response to strong opinion expressed from the farming sector after the 2018-19 Rates Strategy consultation period had closed.

"Council voted not to make any significant adjustments to the Rates Strategy until sufficient consultation had been conducted with all sectors of the community," Mr Bhalla said.

"It would have been unfair to impose rate rises on the residential, commercial and industrial sectors without consulting with them.

"Instead, Council resolved to have a detailed and independent review undertaken

where everyone can share their opinion.

"A key outcome is to achieve a fair and equitable distribution of the rate burden across all sectors of the community," he said.

Mr Bhalla said he hoped the review would help to clarify details in the current rate strategy.

"Some people don't understand that it's a closed system, so if you want someone to pay less, someone else has to pay more in order to maintain Council services each year.

"Issues of fairness and equity are judgemental in nature, complex and subjective. The matter is not simple or black and white and proper consideration needs to be given to the relative questions of what is fair and what is not. Fairness will differ depending upon an individual's view on matters.

"It's about hearing what people have to say," he said.

Mr Bhalla said people from all sectors of the community were encouraged to apply for membership on the Advisory Committee.

**Find out more about the Rates Strategy Review**



**hrcc.vic.gov.au**

"A diverse Committee will be sought that provides both gender equity and ages representative of the general adult population," he said.

"The committee will, as far as practical, be composed of representatives proportionate to the share of rates paid by each sector."

It is envisaged that the committee will meet between four and six times over a two-month period from 1 October 18 to 7 December 18.

Expressions of interest for joining the Committee close Monday 10 September 2018 at 5pm and can be submitted online at [hrcc.vic.gov.au](http://hrcc.vic.gov.au) or by completing forms available from the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham.

## Council adopts Youth Strategy

Horsham Rural City Council adopted its Youth Strategy at Monday night's Ordinary Meeting.

The Strategy's endorsement means Council can now implement a future-ready plan for Horsham municipality with the vision to be "a youth-friendly rural city, with engaged and empowered young people who have access to the services and opportunities they need for a healthy, safe and happy life".

The development of this Strategy follows extensive consultation with young people, schools, community organisations local youth agencies and the general community.

Director Community Services Kevin O'Brien said the Strategy had been out for public consultation throughout July.

"A total of 43 submissions and comments were received and we thank those people for their valuable feedback," Mr O'Brien said.

"We also had 325 people, including 200 young people, who participated in the first consultation period back in April."

The Strategy will see a transition away from the centre-based model delivered through Nexus to an internal youth officer who will be well placed to deliver on emerging priorities and coordinate engagement with young people.

"This is a significant change and we acknowledge the important work of Grampians Community Health and its Nexus program over the past 10 years," Mr O'Brien said.

"The new direction will allow HRCC to respond to the diverse and changing needs of all of its young people now and into the future."

Visit the HRCC website to download a copy of the Strategy.



**COUNCILLOR'S CORNER**  
**Cr David Grumble**

## Saleyards for the future

The Horsham Regional Livestock Exchange is the fourth largest sheep and lamb market in the state and along with the livestock industry is a strong economic driver for the region.

Numbers have been fantastic for this time of the year with last month the second best July on record.

Prices for stock are constantly breaking records with quality stock consigned to the facility.

Most recently a pen of lambs sold to a top of \$270 per head which is a fantastic result for the vendor and a boost for confidence in the livestock industry including our saleyards as a viable selling option.

If farmers in the Wimmera are making money it has such a positive impact on retail, business and industry confidence in the region.

Saleyards operate in complex economic, environmental and regulatory arrangements.

Our facility currently is self-funding and covers its own costs without creating a liability to the broader community.

To meet the challenges facing all saleyards across the country, including other marketing options, we need to upgrade infrastructure, adopt best practise technology and maintain our reputation as a high quality modern marketing choice for farmers to sell their stock.

The saleyard selling system has always been the true market indicator of stock.

Council, along with the Board of Management, is planning for our facility to be totally undercover in line with industry expectation, a benchmark standard.

This significant upgrade will deliver enormous benefits such as improved animal welfare and presentation of stock, better occupational health and safety and human welfare, reduced cleaning costs, the ability to harvest water for re-use and improved lighting.

For the saleyards to remain viable it is crucial to maintain significant throughput, consistently achieve fair market price while continuing to be Council owned and operated.

Council is committed to advocate for funding opportunities and is preparing supporting material in readiness for a future grant application.

## TELANGATUK COMMUNITY MEETING

Community Consultation and Briefing Meeting

**Telangatuk East Hall Monday 10 September**  
**7.30pm to 8.30pm**

This is an opportunity for people from the Telangatuk district to raise local issues and questions for Council on various issues. If the matters you wish to raise require prior research by Council contact Fiona Kelly on 53829725 or [fiona.kelly@hrcc.vic.gov.au](mailto:fiona.kelly@hrcc.vic.gov.au)

## TENDERS

### SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF MISCELLANEOUS MATERIALS, SELECTED BITUMINOUS PRODUCTS

CONTRACT No. 19/007

Council invites tenders from suitably equipped suppliers for the supply and delivery of asphalt, bituminous cold mix, bulk emulsion CRS 170 for use on various Council roads within the Municipality.

Tenders close 2pm Wednesday 19 September.

### CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR DEVELOPMENT OF AN OVERARCHING CONCEPT PLAN AND VISION FOR THE WIMMERA RIVER PRECINCT HORSHAM AND HORSHAM CENTRAL ACTIVITIES DISTRICT (CAD)

CONTRACT No. 19/004

Tenders close 12noon Wednesday 5 September.

### PROVISION OF ROADSIDE WEED AND PEST CONTROL SERVICES

CONTRACT No. 19/006

Tenders close 12noon Wednesday 19 September.

To obtain a copy of this tender documents, log on to Council's website at [www.hrcc.vic.gov.au](http://www.hrcc.vic.gov.au), select tenders. A link will automatically take you to a registration/login site where documentation can be downloaded.

For technical support in obtaining this tender, please contact Tender Search on 1800 836 337.

Michelle A Plain  
Procurement Officer, Governance



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## CAREERS

### Co-ordinator Home Support

**Full-time (Fixed Term until 30 June 2020)**

Horsham Rural City Council is looking for a customer focused leader to co-ordinate the Home Support team.

The successful candidate will work collaboratively to develop, support and implement current and new service projects. They will also provide effective operational management and leadership.

Ideally this person would have extensive experience in Home Support and Care, with an ability to lead and manage a great team of staff during a period of change in Home Services provision.

**Applications close 5pm Monday 3 September**

For more information on this position please contact Mandi Stewart on (03)5382 9747. To apply for this job go to: <http://hrcc.recruitmenthub.com.au> & enter ref code: 4303463.



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## IMMUNISATION

**Thursday**  
**6 September**  
**8.30am to 10am**

**Tuesday**  
**18 September**  
**4pm to 5.30pm**



**Kalkee Road**  
CHILDREN'S & COMMUNITY  
**HUB**

Enquiries: Shirley Brown Ph: 5382 9769

## COUNCIL MEETINGS

**Monday 24 September 2018 - 5.30pm**  
**Civic Centre, Roberts Ave**