

**MINUTES of the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 25 March 2019.****Order of Business****PRESENT**

Cr Mark Radford, Mayor; Cr Pam Clarke, Cr David Grimble, Cr Alethea Gulvin, Cr Josh Koenig, Cr Les Power, Cr John Robinson.

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE**

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

Kath Dumesny	Allan Mills	Trish Schulz	Fletcher Mills
David Bowe	Bev Bell	Tom Blair	Jason Pymmer
Buffy Harrison	Richard Young	Colin Warren	Mark Plowright
Scott Johns	Chris Guest	Graeme Maher	Kerrie Bell
Heather Proctor	Karen Telfer	Julie Anson	Robert Somers
Jade Bate (WMT)	Sean Wales (ABC)		

**1. PRAYER**

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

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

**2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY STATEMENT**

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

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

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

**3. OPENING AND WELCOME**

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

**4. APOLOGIES**

Nil

**5. LEAVE OF ABSENCE REQUESTS**

Nil

**6. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES****Recommendation**

That the minutes emanating from the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 25 February 2019 be adopted.

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

That the minutes emanating from the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council held in the Municipal Chambers, Civic Centre, Horsham at 5.30pm on 25 February 2019 be adopted subject to the following amendment to item 14 Notice of Motion, page 35:

***“Council Motion******MOVED Cr David Grimble, Seconded Cr Pam Clarke***

*That Cr Alethea Gulvin move another motion.*

*CARRIED”*

CARRIED

**7. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**

Cr Les Power declared an indirect conflict of interest for item 9.8 Horsham State Emergency Service Volunteer Unit – Building Lease Section 78B of the *Local Government Act 1989* – Conflicting Duties. The nature of the interest being that Cr Power is a member of the State Emergency Service. Cr Power left the meeting at 7.24pm and returned at 7.28pm. Cr Power was absent whilst the matter was being discussed and considered.

**8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME**

Nil

## 9. OFFICERS REPORTS

### 9.1 RATING STRATEGY AND RATING POLICY

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Graeme Harrison	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Director Corporate Services	<b>File No:</b>	F27/A01/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Corporate Services		

#### Officer Declaration of Interest

Rates are a matter that impact all residents and ratepayers in common and as such do not present any conflicts of interest for officers.

#### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

#### Appendix

Rating Policy (**Appendix "9.1A"**)

Rating Strategy 2019-23 (**Appendix "9.1B"**)

Summary of Submissions Received (**Appendix "9.1C"**)

Additional Written Submissions Received (**Appendix "9.1D"**)

#### Purpose

To adopt the Horsham Rural City Council Rating Strategy and Rating Policy.

#### Summary

- Council, at its ordinary meeting on 29 January 2019, resolved to make the draft Rating Policy and Draft Rating Strategy available for public comment and submission.
- Council received 35 submissions and has heard presentations from seven of those submitters.
- Following consideration of these submission and further discussion by Council, it is proposed to adopt the Rating Strategy and Rating Policy.

**Recommendation**

That Council:

**A. Rating policy –**

1. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as appropriate for Farmland
2. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as appropriate for Commercial land.
3. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as appropriate for Industrial land.
4. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as not appropriate for Retirement Villages
5. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are not considered as appropriate for any other classes of land.
6. Adopt the Rating Policy including a trigger point for the purposes of deciding when a review of a differential will occur, as follows:

The difference in the valuation change (increase or decrease) between the general differential rate category and another differential rate category exceeds 5% following a general revaluation of properties.

Any change in the legislative framework that materially impacts the equitable imposition of rates and charges.

**B. Rating Strategy –**

1. Adopt the Rating Strategy including the lowering of the farm differential from 80% to 67% of the general rate.
2. Adopt the Rating Strategy including an Industrial Land differential of 95% of the general rate.
3. Adopt the Rating Strategy including a commercial Land differential of 95% of the general rate.
4. Adopt the Rating Strategy with no differential for Retirement Villages.
5. Adopt the Rating Strategy including the reduction of the flat municipal charge from \$287 to \$200.
6. Adopt the Rating Strategy including a \$30 per property rebate for all eligible pensioners in addition to the state funded pensioner rebate that already exists.

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

That speaking times be extended to eight (8) minutes for the mover, and five (5) minutes for the seconder, for Agenda Item 9.1 Rating Strategy and Rating Policy.

CARRIED

**SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS****MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Standing Orders be suspended to enable a proposed motion by Cr David Grimble to be photocopied.

CARRIED

*The time being 5.35pm the Council meeting was suspended.*

**RESUME STANDING ORDERS****MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That Standing Orders resume.

CARRIED

*The time being 5.39pm the Council meeting resumed.*

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

That Council acknowledge and address the key findings out of the rate review process in its strategy document. The current rating system is broken. Farms carry an excessive rate burden that is recommended to be reduced at every general revaluation to achieve a more fair and equitable distribution of the rate burden.

CARRIED

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

That the Municipal Charge is reduced by the State Government Rate Cap set annually rounded to \$280, and that Council reduce its budget and its administrative costs to match this reduced rate revenue effective 2020-2021 budget.

CARRIED

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That Council:

**A. Rating policy –**

1. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as appropriate for Farm Land.
2. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as appropriate for Commercial Land.
3. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as appropriate for Industrial Land.
4. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are considered as not appropriate for Retirement Villages.
5. Adopt the Rating Policy including that Differentials are not considered as appropriate for any other classes of land.

CARRIED

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Pam Clarke**

That Council:

## A. Rating Policy

6. Adopt the Rating Policy, including a trigger point for the purposes of deciding when a review of a differential will occur, as follows:
  - The difference in the valuation change (increase or decrease) between the general differential rate category and another differential rate category exceeds 3.5% following a general revaluation of properties.
  - Any change in the legislative framework that materially impacts the equitable imposition of rates and charges.

CARRIED

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That Council:

## A. Rating Policy

7. Adopt the Rating Policy subject to the following amendment to Principle 4.16 –  
*“4.16 Changes to Differentials in the Rating Strategy  
Council has established the following parameters for the purposes of deciding when a detailed review of differentials in the Rating Strategy is required in any budget year:*
  - *The difference in the valuation change (increase or decrease) between the general differential rate category and another differential rate category exceeds 5% following a general revaluation of properties*
  - *Any changes in legislative framework that materially impacts the equitable imposition of rates and charges*
  - *Any other relevant matter as per the Ministerial Guidelines for Differential Rating.”*

CARRIED

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council:

## B. Rating Strategy –

1. Adopt the Rating Strategy including the lowering of the farm differential from 80% to 67% of the general rate.
2. Adopt the Rating Strategy including an Industrial Land differential of 95% of the general rate.
3. Adopt the Rating Strategy including a commercial Land differential of 95% of the general rate.

CARRIED

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That Council:

## B. Rating Strategy –

4. Adopt the Rating Strategy with no differential for Retirement Villages.
6. Adopt the Rating Strategy including a \$30 per property rebate for all eligible pensioners in addition to the state funded pensioner rebate that already exists.

CARRIED

**SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS**

**MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

That Standing Orders be suspended to consider a proposed motion by Cr David Grimble.

CARRIED

*The time being 6.39pm the meeting was suspended.*

**RESUME STANDING ORDERS**

**MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Standing Orders resume.

CARRIED

*The time being 6.42pm the meeting resumed.*

**Council Resolution**

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

That Council authorises the Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bhalla to seek external advice on whether the changes to the Rating Strategy and Rating Policy are material changes, and if we will need to go out for further public comment and submissions.

CARRIED

**REPORT****Background**

The Draft Rating Policy and Draft Rating Strategy were developed following the completion of an independent review of Councils Rates Strategy by a Rates Advisory Committee established from members of the community and led by an independent chair and consultant. Following this, Council considered the committees report accepting many but not all of the recommendations, and at its ordinary meeting on 29 January resolved to place on exhibition the Draft Rating Policy and Draft Rating Strategy 2019-2023.

**Discussion**

The draft documents were placed on exhibition and made available through Council's website, with community members being invited to make submissions. An electronic form was also placed on Council's website so that submissions could be made more quickly and easier.

A total of 35 submissions were received of which 26 were completed on-line through the website, 6 used the website form but lodged a hard copy and 3 sent in separate written submissions.

Submitters were also invited to speak to Council on their submission and 7 submitters elected to do that.

The full summary of all submissions is shown in **Appendix "9.1C"** plus the 3 separate written submissions are attached separately as **Appendix "9.1D"**.

Rates are not a fee for service but a tax based on property values (wealth tax). There is a direct relationship between property holdings and disadvantage – less wealthy people tend to own lower valued properties. Property owners with higher valued assets generally have a greater capacity to pay. The stability of the rates allocations are impacted every year when property values are adjusted to reflect the movement in values within the municipality.

In 2018 the change in valuations saw some significant relative movements in valuations which shifted the rate burden between sectors (particularly placing more of the rate burden on to the farm sector), as follows:

<b>Class of Land</b>	<b>% Change in Valuation 2018</b>	<b>% Difference from Residential Rate</b>	<b>% Change in Rates 2018</b>	<b>Differential 2018</b>	<b>Proposed Differential Draft Rating Strategy</b>	<b>Estimate of Rate Impact 19-20 {1}</b>
Residential	4.24%	0.00%	-0.58%	None	None	3.74%
Commercial	12.02%	7.78%	6.84%	None	95%	4.83%
Industrial	7.30%	3.06%	2.34%	None	95%	-0.27%
Farming	17.21%	12.97%	11.77%	80%	67%	-3.63%
<b>Total</b>	<b>9.13%</b>		<b>3.59%</b>			

{1} Estimated rate Impact is as depicted in the Draft Rates Strategy (section 5.3) and includes assumptions re possible valuation changes and rate increases in 2019-20 which are as yet not known. This is therefore just an indicative number only.

Proposed rate differentials would counter the impact of these valuation movements in 2018.



There are a number of key equity issues that Council needs to consider:

1. Horizontal equity - ratepayers in similar situations should pay similar amounts.
2. Vertical equity – the view that those better off should pay more than those worse off.
3. Benefit principle - some groups may have more or less access to Council services.
4. Capacity to pay principle - some will have a greater or lesser capacity to pay the assessed rates, particularly as property value is unrealized wealth and a ratepayer may be asset rich and cash poor.

Council through its Rating Strategy must strike a balance between these often competing objectives particularly of horizontal and vertical equity. How that balance is achieved between these competing and conflicting objectives is largely a political decision (there is no clear right or wrong) and needs to take into account the views and opinions of the community.

One of the rating mechanisms that Council has available to it is to use differential rates to provide a discount or a premium to individual sectors within its rate payers and thereby address identified equity issues.

Differentials are often the most spoken about component of the rating system particularly in the rural context and in relation to the farm sector. However the level assigned to the discount is often not substantiated or evidence-based and varies considerably between councils.

To utilise differentials there are legislative requirements to be met and Ministerial Guidelines to be adhered to when giving and considering the use and adjustment of differentials. The Ministerial Guidelines call for Council to consider differentials for the farm sector, but also to exercise care when considering a differential for dryland and irrigated farmland.

There are essentially 5 key items that have been raised through the discussions to date:

1. What categories of land should and shouldn't be considered for a differential?
2. If a category of land can be considered for a differential then what should that differential be?
3. What should be the amount for the municipal charge?
4. Should council be providing an additional rebate to eligible pensioners?
5. Should there be an automatic trigger point for the review of the level of the differentials? And if so what level should that be?

The relevant background information for the consideration for each of these issues are documented in the Draft Rating Policy.

Council must first decide in its Rating Policy what is its position around which categories will be considered for a differential and what should be a trigger for review.

Then Council must decide whether the level of the differentials, municipal charge and any rebates as shown in the Draft Rating Strategy, should be amended

The recommendations in this report have been framed to enable the key points of contention identified through the rate review process, to be considered against the Draft Rating Strategy following feedback from submissions received and submitters heard.

**Financial Implications**

The introduction of a \$30 rebate for eligible pensioner assessments will cost approximately \$53,000 and these funds will need to be budgeted for in the 2019-20 budget and beyond. All other aspects of the rates strategy will result in redistribution of the rate burden between categories.

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

2018-2022 Council Plan

4.1.01 Review the rates strategy and implement

**Consultation/Communication**

The 35 submissions received were in addition to five submissions made and 289 surveys completed for the Rates Strategy Advisory Committee.

When an individual submitter has asked a question in their submission, where possible, these questions will be individually responded to post the Council resolution.

**Risk Implications**

Should Council decide to vary the Draft Rating Strategy or Draft Rating Policy significantly to what was advertised, then the revised Draft documents may need to be made available to the public again for comment before they are finally resolved upon. Time has been allowed within the budget development timetable for this to occur should it be required.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

The Rating Policy and Rating Strategy are provided for resolution of Council.

## 9.2 POLICY REVIEW – RATES AND CHARGES FINANCIAL HARDSHIP

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Teagan Barents	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator Revenue	<b>File No:</b>	F27/A08/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Finance		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Council Policy – Rates and Charges Financial Hardship (**Appendix “9.2A”**)

Application and Statutory Declaration for Financial Hardship Assistance Form (**Appendix “9.2B”**)

Application for Financial Hardship Appeal Form (**Appendix “9.2C”**)

### Purpose

To adopt a revised policy for Rates and Charges Financial Hardship (**Appendix “9.2A”**) in accordance with the *Local Government Act 1989* as recommended by the Rates Strategy Advisory Committee.

### Summary

Minor changes have been made to the Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy to conform to the Municipal Association of Victoria Hardship Policy Guidelines. These changes include:

- The addition of Section 5.3.5 – Centrepay Deductions
- The addition of Section 5.3.6 – The Sunset Clause
- Additions to ‘External Resources’ to include Rural Financial Counselling Service

### Recommendation

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

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr Josh Koenig, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

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

CARRIED

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr John Robinson, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

That Council review the timelines and the process by which we handle the hardship applications.

CARRIED

**REPORT****Background**

This policy has been revised as a recommendation of the Rates Strategy Advisory Committee.

Amendments have been made to the current Rates and Charges Financial Hardship Policy to include sections that have been suggested within the Municipal Association of Victoria's Hardship Policy Guidelines.

Council has now expanded Section 5.3 of the policy – Types of Assistance Available. This section now includes the option to pay via Centrepay, which means that customers can have automatic deductions come out of their Centrelink payments on a fortnightly basis. The Sunset Clause section 5.3.6 has been added, which specifies the two distinct types of financial hardship, and how we deal with both cases.

**Discussion**

Council already provides ratepayers with the option for Centrepay deductions on a fortnightly basis. The amendment to the policy now includes this option for clarity.

The sunset clause is formalising the approach that Council already takes when it comes to financial hardship cases.

**Financial Implications**

Not applicable

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

Section 5.11 of the Rates Strategy 2018/2019

**Consultation/Communication**

In 2018/2019 an independent Rates Strategy Advisory Committee was appointed to review Council's rating strategy. The committee recommended that Council review this policy.

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

The changes proposed to the policy give more options for ratepayers requiring financial assistance.

### 9.3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING FRAMEWORK

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Lindy Haigh	<b>Director:</b>	Graeme Harrison
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Governance Officer	<b>File No:</b>	F14/A09/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Governance		

#### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

#### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

#### Appendix

LGPRF Six-Monthly Report to 31 December 2018 (**Appendix "9.3A"**)

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#### Purpose

To report the half-yearly results for the period July 1 – December 31, 2018 of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF).

#### Summary

- Background of the LGPRF
- Results for the July-December 2018 period

#### Recommendation

That Council note the half-yearly results for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018 of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.

#### Council Resolution

##### **MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council note the half-yearly results for the period 1 July 2018 to 31 December 2018 of the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

The LGPRF has been designed to increase transparency and accountability to the community and other levels of government on the spending of public money and delivery of services and infrastructure to the community.

The key drivers in establishing the LGPRF framework are:

- Strengthen accountability - a consistent set of indicators have been introduced to enable benchmarking of Council performance.
- Transparency - the requirement for Councils to identify and report “key strategic activities” has been replaced by reporting achievement of “major initiatives”.
- Improved resource planning - a consistent process will be introduced for future capital works planning.
- Streamlined financial reporting - Council is now required to prepare financial statements instead of standard statements.
- Better accessibility - Council is now required to publish key accountability documents on a website.

The LGPRF framework was developed over a number of years with the first year of reporting occurring in 2014-2015. All measures and related commentary are reported through the “Know Your Council” website.

The LGPRF contains 41 service performance indicators across nine broad service areas.

Service areas included in the July-December 2018 period were:

- Governance
- Statutory Planning
- Roads
- Libraries
- Waste Collection
- Aquatic Facilities
- Animal Management
- Food Safety
- Maternal and Child Health

Data is collected twice a year, July-December and financial year July-June. The financial year data appears in the Annual Report with at least one question from each measure being audited. Data collected mid-year is also verified against the proposed permissible or expected range.

### Discussion

There are also three measures that appear in the Community Satisfaction Survey that cannot be reported mid-year as results are not yet available.

For the July-December 2018 period the following data was collected (**Appendix “9.3A”**), and explanations have been provided where applicable.

The data submitted for this half year gives an indication of how Council is performing against the Local Government expected range and in comparison to previous years.

The expected range is provided as a guide to an acceptable number for each measure. Now that Council has multiple years of data, key performance targets need to be set with reference to best practise across the sector. Council will then be in a position to measure our performance against these targets.

**Financial Implications**

Financial costs are limited to the time taken for staff to collect and collate the information which is done throughout the year.

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

2018-2022 Council Plan  
Goal 4 – Governance and Business Excellence

**Consultation/Communication**

This report is for information only, as directed under the *Local Government Act 1989*.

**Risk Implications**

The reporting of these measures and the ability for the community and other tiers of government to make comparisons may result in some impacts to Council in terms of future funding which could be either negative or positive.

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

The 2018 half yearly report provides Council with the results and a summary of measures under the expected range.

## 9.4 CORELLA MANAGEMENT PLAN

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Lauren Coman	<b>Director:</b>	Angela Murphy
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Manager Regulatory Services	<b>File No:</b>	F25/A01/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Regulatory Services		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Rivertech Interim Report on Corella Management (**Appendix "9.4A"**)

DELWP Guidelines for Reducing Cockatoo Damage 2018 (**Appendix "9.4B"**)

### Purpose

To provide an update to Council on the development of a Corella Management Plan.

### Summary

- Steve Talbot from Rivertech has been engaged to draft a Corella Management Plan.
- In late 2018, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) released their Guidelines for Reducing Cockatoo Damage. It is DELWP policy in relation to Corella management that non-lethal control options must be tried before lethal control.
- The management options and recommendations detailed in this report are intended to provide a platform for the development of a strategy which will be embedded in a Corella Management Plan.

### Recommendation

That Council note the progress report on development of a Corella Management Plan.

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That Council note the progress report on development of a Corella Management Plan.

CARRIED



## REPORT

## Background

Rivertech has been engaged to develop Council's Corella Management plan. The following interim report recommendations are listed below:

Interim Report Recommendations	Next steps	Timeframe	Estimated Cost	Responsible
1. It is recommended that Council continue to seek alternatives to lethal control methods of Corellas.	Steve Talbot to document all current alternatives and their success and suitability for inclusion in the plan	End of May 2019	Within current brief	Rivertech
2. It is recommended that Council undertake data collection project to determine flock densities, locations, feeding habits and food sources.	Steve Talbot to liaise with Rob Moir, Rod Lawson	End of April 2019	Within current brief	Rivertech, Infrastructure Directorate HRCC
3. It is recommended that Council undertake trials of food source manipulation and minimisation as these have been shown to have a positive result in discouraging foraging birds (and therefore lessening on-ground damage).	Steve Talbot to liaise with Rob Moir, Rod Lawson to set up trials	End of April 2019	Within current brief	Rivertech, Infrastructure Directorate HRCC
4. It is recommended that Council seek the advice of a vertebrate pest expert for latest information regarding bird control methods.	Steve Talbot to liaise with expert (Ian Temby)	End of April 2019	Approx \$1,000 for initial consult.	Rivertech
5. It is recommended that Council immediately adopt engineering solutions (such as covers, armoured cable or bird spikes) to new projects where these solutions could be of benefit.	Steve Talbot to liaise with John Martin to identify current projects and develop design guidelines for all new infrastructure that incorporates Corella management solutions	Currently underway, End of May 2019	Within current brief plus additional costs for Ian Temby if engaged as expert to advise on infrastructure solutions. TBA.	Rivertech, Infrastructure Directorate HRCC
6. It is recommended that Council explore the option of retrofitting engineering solutions to infrastructure that is frequently damaged	Steve Talbot to liaise with John Martin to identify existing infrastructure that can be retrofitted with Corella management solutions	Currently underway, End of May 2019	Estimated costs included in item 5 above.	Rivertech, Infrastructure Directorate HRCC

## Horsham Rural City Council

## Council Meeting

Interim Report Recommendations	Next steps	Timeframe	Estimated Cost	Responsible
7. It is recommended that Council explore opportunities to engage other local governments and the State Government in their Corella control planning, especially any opportunities for a collaborative study or research project into Corella management.	Steve Talbot to liaise with Hindmarsh, West Wimmera, Buloke, Yarriambiack, DELWP, Agriculture Victoria to identify collaborative opportunities	End of April 2019	Within current brief	Rivertech
8. It is recommended that Council identify other stakeholders / potential partners beyond Council managed land who can collaborate and partner on the solutions process.	Steve Talbot to liaise with potential parties as identified.	End of April 2019	Within current brief	Rivertech
9. It is recommended that Council identify affected parties who can collaborate and partner on the solutions process.	Steve Talbot to liaise with affected parties to identify issues.	End of April 2019	Within current brief. There may be some costs involved in engaging with certain parties, TBA.	Rivertech
10. It is recommended that Council engage with the community and all stakeholders in promoting the draft Corella Management Plan.	To be conducted by HRCC	Post May 2019	Costs to be borne by Council	HRCC

Attached is the Interim Report on Corella Management prepared by Rivertech (**Appendix “9.4A”**), together with the Guidelines developed by Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning for Reducing Cockatoo Damage (**Appendix “9.4B”**).

### Financial Implications

The funding of this work has been possible from the recurring budget line items for vermin control. The implementation of the recommendations in this report can be achieved with no additional financial implications, save the engagement of a consultant. Ian Temby has been nominated by Rivertech with an initial consultation estimated by Rivertech to be approximately \$1,000. It is anticipated that this could be absorbed within the existing budget. The existing budget is \$8,000.

### Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

2018-2022 Council Plan

Goal 3 – Asset Management

Meet community and service needs through provision and maintenance of infrastructure

Goal 5 – Natural and Built Environments

Lead in environmental best practice

**Consultation/Communication**

Internal consultation and communication is required between Rivertech (Steve Talbot) and relevant Council employees to progress the development of the Corella Management Plan.

Customer communication as to this initiative being underway can be done through existing media channels and on an ad hoc basis in response to Corella complaints from customers.

**Risk Implications**

It is noted that the management of Corellas is a sensitive environmental issue which divides the community as to preferred control measures.

**Environmental Implications**

As above

**Human Rights Implications**

Not applicable

**Conclusion**

Work has commenced on the preparation of a Corella Management Plan. This report provides an update on the progress of the plan.

## 9.5 DEVELOPMENT PLAN – ASPLINS ROAD, QUANTONG

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Nick Carey	<b>Director:</b>	Angela Murphy
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Senior Planner	<b>File No:</b>	99/01/09496A
<b>Department:</b>	Statutory Planning and Regulatory		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Development Plan, Surveyor Reference - H013916 (**Appendix "9.5A"**)

Land Capability Assessment Report for Proposed 2 Lot Subdivision Asplins Road, Quantong (**Appendix "9.5B"**)

Location Plan (**Appendix "9.5C"**)

Applicant Submission in Response to Section 3.0 of the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 2 (**Appendix "9.5D"**)

### Purpose

To seek Council's approval for the Development Plan for Lot 1 on Title Plan 330595K, Asplins Road, Quantong.

### Summary

- The Development Plan outlines a proposed two (2) lot subdivision.
- The two (2) lots will have a lot size of approximately 4.89 hectares and 4 hectares respectively.
- The proposal is consistent with the provisions of the Rural Living Zone.

### Recommendation

That Council approves the proposed Development Plan for Lot 1 on Title Plan 330595K, Asplins Road, Quantong, prepared by Ferguson Perry Surveying titled "Development Plan, County of Borung, Parish of Quantong, Crown Allotment 27B (Part)", with Surveyors reference H013916 dated 12/04/17.

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That Council approves the proposed Development Plan for Lot 1 on Title Plan 330595K, Asplins Road, Quantong, prepared by Ferguson Perry Surveying titled "Development Plan, County of Borung, Parish of Quantong, Crown Allotment 27B (Part)", with Surveyors reference H013916 dated 12/04/17.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

The proposal is to subdivide an 8.89 hectare lot into two (2) lots, consistent with the provisions of the Rural Living Zone in the Horsham Planning Scheme. Each lot created by the subdivision is greater than the minimum lot size in the Schedule to the Zone (4 hectares).

The Development Plan provides the lot configurations, which in this case will be the subdivision plan.

The lot layout has specifically been provided, and for the purposes of the Development Plan, this is considered acceptable. The Zone allows for the averaging of lot sizes providing the average is 4 hectares. Any application for a planning permit for subdivision will be required to be '*generally in accordance with the approved Development Plan*'. The more specific the Development Plan is, the less variation is able to be incorporated into the final design of the subdivision.

### Discussion

The Horsham Planning Scheme contains several Schedules to the Development Plan Overlay including Schedule 2 – Rural Living Development Plan (DPO2). Clause 43.04 of the Horsham Planning Scheme states that the purpose of the Development Plan Overlay is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework
- To identify areas which require the form and conditions of future use and development to be shown on a Development Plan before a permit can be granted to use or develop the land
- To exempt an application from notice and review if a Development Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Clause 43.04-1 of the Horsham Planning Scheme states that a permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land, construct a building or construct or carry out works until a Development Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. This does not apply if a schedule to this overlay specifically states that a permit may be granted before a Development Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Clause 1.0 of DPO2 states that a Development Plan is required to be submitted with any application to subdivide land into two or more lots. As the Schedule does not specifically state that a permit for subdivision of land into two or more lots may be granted before a Development Plan has been prepared, the Responsible Authority must first decide that the Development Plan has been prepared to its satisfaction. There is nothing in the Schedule that states that a Development Plan cannot be considered prior to the submission of an application.

A Development Plan has been received demonstrating how the subject site is to be divided so as to create lots for rural living. It is anticipated that the Development Plan will be similar or identical to any future application for subdivision.

The Development Plan Overlay Schedule 2 – Rural Living Development Plan requires that the plan must include the following:

The Development Plan will –

- Include a site analysis which illustrates the proposed subdivision and identifies areas within which it will be appropriate to construct a dwelling and outbuildings on each lot. The extent of constraint upon the location of buildings will depend upon environmental factors affecting the land
- Identify any sites of conservation, heritage or archaeological significance and the means by which they will be managed
- Provide appropriate arrangements for the provision and funding of necessary physical infrastructure including drainage works which may include the provision of wetland areas to filter storm water
- Identify the staging and anticipated timing of development
- Provide an overall scheme of landscaping and any necessary arrangements for the preservation or regeneration of existing vegetation
- Provide suitable linkages between the site and road, public, bicycle and pedestrian transport facilities to urban areas
- Provide a Soil and Water Report which demonstrates the capacity of the site to dispose of effluent if reticulated sewer is not available
- Identify proposed water supplies, storages and systems required for firefighting purposes
- Incorporate any requirements of GWM Water in relation to the provision of dams.

The documents accompanying the Development Plan addressed the requirements of the overlay. A copy of the response to the requirements of Clause 3.0 of Schedule 2 to the Development Plan Overlay is attached as **Appendix “9.5D”**.

It is considered that the proposed Development Plan adequately addressed the requirements of Clause 3.0 of Schedule 2 to the Development Plan Overlay.

The proposed Development Plan is for a two (2) lot subdivision. The proposed lot sizes will average 4 hectares in accordance with the requirements of the Zone. Once the two (2) lots are created, there will be no potential to further subdivide the land.

### **Financial Implications**

Nil

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

2018-2022 Council Plan

Goal 5 – Natural and Built Environments

5.2 Plan for rural and urban land use to create a sustainable municipality for the future

### **Consultation/Communication**

An application under any provision of the Horsham Planning Scheme which is generally in accordance with an approved Development Plan is exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

Previous Development Plans have been notified to adjoining owners at the request of Council. This Development Plan was not notified to adjoining property owners as the plan will be in accordance with the minimum lot size requirements of the Rural Living Zone and no material detriment would result should the land be subdivided into two (2) lots.

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

The land capability assessment attached to this report indicates that there is no issue with the future installations of onsite waste water treatment systems on to the land.

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

It is considered on balance that the proposed Development Plan meets the requirements of the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 2 and when subdivided will meet the minimum lot size requirements of the Rural Living Zone and therefore should be recommended for approval.

## 9.6 DEVELOPMENT PLAN – 110 PEPPERTREE LANE, HORSHAM

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Nick Carey	<b>Director:</b>	Angela Murphy
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Senior Planner	<b>File No:</b>	99/01/1519A, 99/01/4042A
<b>Department:</b>	Statutory Planning and Regulatory		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Development Plan, Surveyor Reference – H000518 (**Appendix “9.6A”**)

Location Plan (**Appendix “9.6B”**)

Applicant Submission in Response to the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 2 (**Appendix “9.6C”**)

### Purpose

To seek Council's approval for the Development Plan for Lot 1 on Title Plan 597996X, Lot 1 on Title Plan 335141A and Lot 1 on Title Plan 518039W, 110 Peppertree Lane, Horsham.

### Summary

- The Development Plan outlines a proposed three (3) lot subdivision (re-subdivision of 3 lots).
- The minimum lot size for the subject land in accordance with the Rural Living Zone is four (4) hectares and the Rural Living Zone allows a permit to be granted to create smaller lots if the subdivision is the re-subdivision of existing lots and the number of lots is not increased. The Development Plan does not propose to increase the number of lots.
- The proposal is consistent with the provisions of the Rural Living Zone.

### Recommendation

That Council approves the proposed Development Plan for Lot 1 on Title Plan 597996X, Lot 1 on Title Plan 335141A and Lot 1 on Title Plan 518039W, 110 Peppertree Lane, prepared by Ferguson Perry Surveying titled “Development Plan, Parish of Horsham, Section 3, Crown Allotment 3 (Part)”, with Surveyors reference H000518 dated 17/12/18.

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Josh Koenig, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

That Council approves the proposed Development Plan for Lot 1 on Title Plan 597996X, Lot 1 on Title Plan 335141A and Lot 1 on Title Plan 518039W, 110 Peppertree Lane, prepared by Ferguson Perry Surveying titled “Development Plan, Parish of Horsham, Section 3, Crown Allotment 3 (Part)”, with Surveyors reference H000518 dated 17/12/18.

CARRIED



## REPORT

### Background

The proposal is to re-subdivide three (3) existing lots into three (3) new lot configurations. This is consistent with the provisions of the Rural Living Zone in the Horsham Planning Scheme. Each lot created by the subdivision will be less than the minimum lot size in the Schedule to the Zone (4 hectares) but the Zone allows a permit to be granted to create smaller lots if the subdivision is the re-subdivision of existing lots and the number of lots is not increased. The Development Plan does not propose to increase the number of lots.

The Development Plan provides the lot configurations, which in this case will be the subdivision plan.

The lot layout has specifically been provided, and for the purposes of the Development Plan, this is considered acceptable. The Zone allows a permit to be granted for smaller lots than the four (4) hectare minimum lots size if the subdivision is the re-subdivision of existing lots and the number of lots is not increased.

Any application for a planning permit for subdivision will be required to be '*generally in accordance with the approved Development Plan*'. The more specific the Development Plan is, the less variation is able to be incorporated into the final design of the subdivision.

### Discussion

The Horsham Planning Scheme contains several Schedules to the Development Plan Overlay including Schedule 2 – Rural Living Development Plan (DPO2). Clause 43.04 of the Horsham Planning Scheme states that the purpose of the Development Plan Overlay is:

- To implement the Municipal Planning Strategy and the Planning Policy Framework
- To identify areas which require the form and conditions of future use and development to be shown on a Development Plan before a permit can be granted to use or develop the land
- To exempt an application from notice and review if a Development Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Clause 43.04-1 of the Horsham Planning Scheme states that a permit must not be granted to use or subdivide land, construct a building or construct or carry out works until a Development Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority. This does not apply if a schedule to this overlay specifically states that a permit may be granted before a Development Plan has been prepared to the satisfaction of the Responsible Authority.

Clause 1.0 of DPO2 states that a Development Plan is required to be submitted with any application to subdivide land into two or more lots. As the Schedule does not specifically state that a permit for subdivision of land into two or more lots may be granted before a Development Plan has been prepared, the Responsible Authority must first decide that the Development Plan has been prepared to its satisfaction. There is nothing in the Schedule that states that a Development Plan cannot be considered prior to the submission of an application.

A Development Plan has been received demonstrating how the subject site is to be divided (re-subdivided) so as to create lots for rural living. It is anticipated that the Development Plan will be similar or identical to any future application for subdivision (re-subdivision of 3 existing lots).

The Development Plan Overlay Schedule 2 – Rural Living Development Plan requires that the plan must include the following:

The Development Plan will –

- Include a site analysis which illustrates the proposed subdivision and identifies areas within which it will be appropriate to construct a dwelling and outbuildings on each lot. The extent of constraint upon the location of buildings will depend upon environmental factors affecting the land
- Identify any sites of conservation, heritage or archaeological significance and the means by which they will be managed
- Provide appropriate arrangements for the provision and funding of necessary physical infrastructure including drainage works which may include the provision of wetland areas to filter storm water
- Identify the staging and anticipated timing of development
- Provide an overall scheme of landscaping and any necessary arrangements for the preservation or regeneration of existing vegetation
- Provide suitable linkages between the site and road, public, bicycle and pedestrian transport facilities to urban areas
- Provide a Soil and Water Report which demonstrates the capacity of the site to dispose of effluent if reticulated sewer is not available
- Identify proposed water supplies, storages and systems required for firefighting purposes
- Incorporate any requirements of GWM Water in relation to the provision of dams.

The documents accompanying the Development plan addressed the requirements of the overlay. A copy of the response to the requirements of Schedule 2 to the Development Plan Overlay is attached as **Appendix “9.6C”**.

It is considered that the proposed Development Plan adequately addressed the requirements of Schedule 2 to the Development Plan Overlay.

The proposed Development Plan is for the re-subdivision of three (3) existing rural living zoned allotments. The proposed lot sizes will be below the minimum lot size in the Schedule to the Zone but a permit may be granted in accordance with Clause 35.03-3 of the Rural Living Zone to create smaller lots if the subdivision is the re-subdivision of existing lots and the number of lots is not increased. The land cannot be subdivided into more than three (3) lots. Therefore, the Development Plan is considered consistent with the Rural Living Zone.

### **Financial Implications**

Nil

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

2018-2022 Council Plan

5.2 Plan for rural and urban land use to create a sustainable municipality for the future

### **Consultation/Communication**

An application under any provision of the Horsham Planning Scheme which is generally in accordance with an approved Development Plan is exempt from the notice requirements of Section 52(1)(a), (b) and (d), the decision requirements of Section 64(1), (2) and (3) and the review rights of Section 82(1) of the Act.

This Development Plan was not notified to adjoining property owners as the number of lots is not increasing and no material detriment would result should the land be re-subdivided for rural living purposes.

**Risk Implications**

Currently there is no direct access to the proposed lots from Peppertree Lane. To resolve this issue, it is proposed to create carriageway easements over the former drainage reserve.

**Environmental Implications**

The land has access to reticulated sewerage. The sewer main is located in Peppertree Lane and sewerage infrastructure can be provide to each lot in the Development Plan.

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

It is considered on balance that the proposed Development Plan meets the requirements of the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 2 and the Rural Living Zone should the land be re-subdivided into three (3) lots.

## 9.7 AUSTRALIAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (ALGA) NOTICE OF MOTION TO NATIONAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Angela Murphy	<b>Director:</b>	Angela Murphy
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Director Development Services	<b>File No:</b>	F19/A13/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Development Services		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Nil

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### Purpose

To seek Council's endorsement of Notice of Motion to be considered on the agenda of the ALGA Conference to be held on 16 to 19 June 2019.

### Summary

The ALGA is calling for Notices of Motions for the National General Assembly 2019. The theme for the 2019 Assembly is future focussed.

Council's proposed motion is primarily targeted at Federal Government developing policy and prioritising investment in regional infrastructure as a key to supporting the 'liveability' of regional cities to attracting business investment and to providing high quality health, education, recreation and cultural services.

### Recommendation

That Council endorse the Notice of Motion to the National General Assembly 2019 seeking support for the Federal Government to develop a long term plan for investment in regional cities as a key to maintaining the liveability of the regions they support, attract business investment and to provide high quality health, education, recreation and cultural facilities.

### Council Resolution

#### MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Pam Clarke

That Council endorse the Notice of Motion to the National General Assembly 2019 seeking support for the Federal Government to develop a long term plan for investment in regional cities as a key to maintaining the liveability of the regions they support, attract business investment and to provide high quality health, education, recreation and cultural facilities.

CARRIED

**REPORT****Background**

Investment in regional infrastructure is a key to supporting the 'liveability' of regional cities to attracting business investment and to providing high quality health, education, recreation and cultural services. Budget restraints and future rates capping, combined with a growing need for infrastructure renewal is placing considerable strain on regional cities.

**Discussion**

Horsham Rural City Council supports policies which enable regional centres to grow and develop by attracting further investment and encouraging the presence of a skilled workforce.

As regional hubs, regional cities support surrounding towns and districts through the provision of education, health, financial, transport and social services, as well as retail, sport and recreation, cultural and tourism amenities and activities. Most regional cities have the capacity to accommodate more people and attract new businesses.

Government investment needs to be focused on creating jobs, increasing business investment, increasing exports from our region and increasing opportunities through innovation and diversification. Additionally, this focus needs to encourage private sector investment and collaboration.

Key focus areas for investment are:

- Jobs and Business Growth to incentivise business growth and employment opportunities
- Population Growth and Liveability to facilitate population growth and enhance liveability
- Transport and Connectivity to improve road and rail infrastructure to enable better connectivity.

Rail, air and road freight and passenger networks between regional cities and state capitals are vital and government investment should look to improve these over the next 10 years.

Enhancement of education opportunities in regional cities is the key to having a well trained professional workforce. Government investment in maintaining and developing regional TAFE's and Universities is essential.

To promote the retention of young people and professionals, enhance the "liveability" of our regional cities and assist them to build on their individual "points of attraction".

Infrastructure requirements have typically been well researched and justified. In Western Victoria the priorities are:

- Western Highway duplication and upgrades
- Improvement in mobile phone coverage
- Standardisation of rail freight to increase freight efficiency, reduce travel time and rail costs and reduce the number of large trucks on the Western Highway
- The further return of regional passenger rail services
- New interconnector in the grid between Victoria and South Australia to build capacity for renewable energy

A long term investment plan for regional cities, aligned to unique infrastructure needs of each region will enable better planning and leveraging of the local and state government contributions.

**Financial Implications**

Nil

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

2018-2022 Council Plan

Goal 2 – Sustaining the Economy

Lead in sustainable growth and economic development

**Consultation/Communication**

Council Plan includes advocacy on behalf of our community.

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

The ALGA annual conference offers the opportunity for Council to advocate on issues of relevance to the sector. The proposed motion seeks to highlight the role Regional Cities play in supporting broader regions and the importance of planned investment in infrastructure to support that role.

## 9.8 HORSHAM STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE (SES) VOLUNTEER UNIT – BUILDING LEASE

<b>Author's Name:</b>	John Martin	<b>Director:</b>	John Martin
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Director Infrastructure	<b>File No:</b>	
<b>Department:</b>	Infrastructure		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Letter from SES 26 March 2018 (**Appendix "9.8A"**)

Building Lease Document (**Appendix "9.8B"**)

### Purpose

To approve the lease for the SES Volunteer Unit building located at 54 McPherson Street, Horsham.

### Summary

- In 2018 the Victorian Government made a commitment to ongoing funding of SES volunteer unit operations.
- Previously, Council had been funding about half of the local unit's operating costs.
- In return, it is proposed to provide a long-term lease of the existing SES building in McPherson Street at a peppercorn rent.
- The lease document has been reviewed and is proposed to be adopted.

### Recommendation

That Council approve the signing and affixing of Council's seal to the lease documents for the SES building located at 54 McPherson Street, Horsham.

*Cr Les Power left the meeting at 7.24pm.*

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr John Robinson**

That Council approve the signing and affixing of Council's seal to the lease documents for the SES building located at 54 McPherson Street, Horsham.

CARRIED

*Cr Les Power returned to the meeting at 7.28pm.*

## REPORT

### Background

The letter from the SES CEO dated 26 March 2018 (**Appendix "9.8A"**) provides relevant background to this report. Of particular relevance is the commitment by the State Government to ongoing operational and maintenance funding. Previously, Council has been providing support funding to the SES volunteer unit of around \$12,000 per year.

In exchange for this funding commitment, the State Government is seeking that Councils provide long-term leases for buildings at a peppercorn rent.

### Discussion

A standard form of lease document was prepared for the SES, in consultation with the MAV, and adapted to the Horsham site. The lease provides for the SES to be responsible for all outgoings and routine maintenance items.

The only key issue negotiated with the SES was the term of the lease. While a 30-year term had initially been proposed, a 15-year term was discussed with the SES, given that Council is investigating options to enhance the River – CAD precinct, which this building is located within. This term is agreeable to the SES.

### Financial Implications

There is a reduced funding requirement for Council through the State Government funding commitment. This was partly recognised in preparation of the 2018-19 budget, and will be further reduced in preparation of the 2019-20 budget.

### Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies

The 2018-2022 Council Plan recognises the role of the State Emergency Service in supporting four-year outcome number 1.2 Develop a safe, active and healthy community, encouraging participation

### Consultation/Communication

The form of the lease has been negotiated between Council and SES officers.

### Risk Implications

Negligible, the SES Unit has been occupying this building for many years.

### Environmental Implications

Nil

### Human Rights Implications

Nil

### Conclusion

The commitment by the State Government to ongoing funding of the SES Unit operating and maintenance costs is welcome. Providing a long-term lease for the building is an appropriate response to this commitment.



## 9.9 REVIEW OF SPORT AND RECREATION STRATEGY 2013-2018

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Mandy Kirsopp	<b>Director:</b>	Kevin O'Brien
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Recreation Planning Officer	<b>File No:</b>	F10/A01/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Community Wellbeing		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Sport and Recreation Strategy 2013-2018 (**Appendix "9.9A"**)

Summary of Sport and Recreation Strategy Actions (**Appendix "9.9B"**)

### Purpose

To provide Council with a review of Sport and Recreation 2013 – 2018 Strategy (Strategy).

### Summary

The Strategy (**Appendix "9.9A"**) was developed in 2013 and identified three areas of focus:

- 1. Facilities Management:** Improved coordination, sharing and efficient use of resources and investigation of facilities required of a regional city ability to host events of regional significance.
- 2. People – Governance:** The development of volunteer management and support programs, strategic planning, awareness of and compliance with community initiatives such as the Good Sport program and the Fair Play code.
- 3. Planning –Transformation:** Changing community expectations from single use facilities to multi-use shared facilities, co-location of clubs and competitions and the recreational needs of integrating broader community recreational needs.

### Recommendation

That Council note the review and implementation of the Sport and Recreation 2013 -2018 Strategy.

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Les Power**

That Council note the review and implementation of the Sport and Recreation 2013 -2018 Strategy.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

The Sport and Recreation Strategy was prepared by Phillip Gray of SGL Consulting in 2013. The previous strategy was the Sport and Recreation Strategy 2005-2011.

### Consultation

The Strategy was developed after widespread community consultation, targeted workshops, interviews with Council Officers, representatives of major sports venues and state sporting associations, with feedback via a web based questionnaire.

On 17 October 2013, a meeting of Council's Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee resolved to recommend to Council *"That Council adopt the Strategy upon incorporation of the comments from the Committee into the final version of the strategy"*.

In November 2013, Council accepted a recommendation to *"Adopt the 2013-2018 Sport and Recreation Strategy as a reference document"*.

Council also accepted a recommendation to refer the Strategy to the Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee *"To proceed with further consideration and implementation of priority actions from the Strategy"*. The Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee (Committee) had been established as a result of a recommendation of the 2005–2011 Sport and Recreation Strategy.

On Thursday 21 February 2019, the Summary of Sport and Recreation Strategy Actions was reviewed and approved by the Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee.

### Discussion

The Strategy identified a number of emerging trends and challenges influencing the provision of sport and recreation facilities across the municipality.

#### Recreation:

- A strong and increasing demand for recreational activities (walking, aerobics/fitness, and swimming, cycling and running)
- Participation not impacted by education, age or capacity to pay
- Recreational opportunities regarded as a right, not a luxury.

#### Organised sport:

- Participation rates are substantially lower (compared with recreational activities) for even the most popular team sports (basketball, netball, football (soccer) and Australian Rules football)
- Participation rates are further impacted because of part-time and casual employment
- Low participation rates of females
- Low participation rates of other groups: Indigenous communities, and traditionally non-represented groups, people with low English proficiency
- Participation in all sports declines with age.

## Facilities:

- Increased community expectations regarding the quality of facilities
- Difficulties with the provision of outdoor sports that include conflict between user groups, over and under-use of playing fields, the need for suitable facilities and a lack of training lights for evening activity
- Lack of multiple courts in a single location, creating difficulty for sports to host major events
- Limited resources (people and funding) to maintain current sport and recreation facilities
- Replacement of, or major upgrades to, facilities is an additional challenge.

## Volunteers:

Many sporting clubs experience management and operational challenges including –

- Declining number of volunteers
- Increasing administrative and regulatory requirements on volunteers
- Financial sustainability
- Lack of strategic planning and direction.

*Implications*

The Strategy recommended that a new framework was required for the provision of sport and recreation across the municipality.

*Implementation*

The Strategy has resulted in a range of positive changes that involve the improvement of systems, better support for clubs and identification of options for further development.

Some of the key achievements are presented below. Attached as an appendix to this report is a summary of all actions (**Appendix “9.8B”**).

*1. Facilities Management*

- Annual building assessments and scheduled maintenance have resulted in timely, preventative building work. Two facilities have been upgraded to improve female participation and accessibility. A third facility is under construction.
- Improvements have been made to tennis and netball courts, and other recreation surfaces, including cycling and walking paths.
- Drainage on ovals is being addressed and watering is being managed at the racecourse.
- Accessible fishing platforms have been installed at a number of locations along the Wimmera River and at the Police Paddock.
- The hire and usage of Council owned and managed facilities (green spaces and pavilions) is now managed and coordinated by Council.
- A fee structure is being developed reflecting relative levels of service and the range and quality of facilities at each site.
- Clubs contribute both to the operational costs of using the facility and to the maintenance and improvement of the facility.
- Water saving measures are being achieved through the installation of four synthetic playing surfaces at Horsham’s two largest bowling clubs and to improvements to the shell of the Olympic pool.

**2. People - Governance**

- The Committee structure has been reviewed to increase the focus on shared and equitable use of facilities.
- Volunteer and Club development has been supported by programs provided by the Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly. This includes the Junior Leadership in sports program, governance training and assistance with the development of strategic plans for local clubs.

**3. Planning – Transformation**

- A master plan has been endorsed by Council for the Aquatic Centre. The plan reflects the change from traditional swimming activities to the development of a community gathering place. Funding of \$250,000 has been received from Sport and Recreation Victoria to improve accessibility to the Olympic pool.
- Localised master planning is being undertaken at Sunnyside Park, Dudley Cornell Park and the eastern end of Adventure Island. The plans encourage the sharing of community resources for all the community and focus on increasing participation in both passive and active recreation.
- The Bicycle Advisory Committee has begun the process of identifying a hierarchy of bike and walking trails within the city boundary and in key locations throughout the municipality.
- A feasibility study has explored options regarding an Indoor Sporting Stadium. The study identified the strategic and economic value of providing indoor facilities that are compliant, multi-use and of a regional standard.

**Financial Implications**

Implementation and review of the Strategy was undertaken within existing Council resources.

The implementation has resulted in the more effective use of community facilities and a more coordinated approach to the maintenance of assets. Centralising and coordinating the hire of facilities has increased the community's contribution to operational costs.

**Links To Council Plans, Strategies, Policies****2018-2022 Council Plan****Goal 1 – Community and Cultural Development**

- 1.1 Contribute to building a vibrant, diverse and resilient community
- 1.2 Develop a safe, active and healthy community encouraging participation

**Goal 3 – Asset Management**

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

**Consultation/Communication**

Reviewing this Strategy occurred in consultation with the Manager Finance, Project Office, Facilities Management and Parks and Gardens. The Wimmera Regional Sports Assembly also contributed to the review. The Sport and Recreation Advisory Committee provided feedback on the *Summary of Sport and Recreation Strategy Actions* document.

**Risk Implications**

It is important to manage expectations and to ensure clear and accurate communication is provided to the community. The sharing of facilities requires consideration of a diversity of needs and can be challenging to negotiate.

**Environmental Implications**

Improved water usage, sustainability and increased durability of surfaces results from the installation of synthetic surfaces, additions of shelter and shade. Although the installation of court lighting increases energy usage, lighting also enables increased participation and provides a safe environment for activity.

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

The 2013-2018 Sport and Recreation Strategy is a comprehensive document that provided a framework for the consolidation of existing practice and for the implementation of required changes. The Strategy has been successfully implemented and places Council in a strong position to undertake further improvements so the sport and recreational requirements of a regional city can be realised.

## 9.10 DRAFT WIMMERA REGIONAL LIBRARY CORPORATION BUDGET 2019/20 AND FIVE YEAR INDICATIVE BUDGET

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Kevin O'Brien	<b>Director:</b>	Kevin O'Brien
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Director Community Wellbeing	<b>File No:</b>	F11/A02/000001
<b>Department:</b>	Community Wellbeing		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Draft Budget 2019-2020 (**Appendix "9.10A"**)

### Purpose

To inform Council of the proposed 2019-2020 budget for the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation including Horsham Rural City Council's contribution to the library service.

### Summary

The Library Board considered the draft budget at the Board meeting on 15 February 2019 and resolved to accept it as tabled and asked that it be forwarded to member councils for consideration, as per clause 8.1 of the Regional Library Agreement.

### Recommendation

That Council refer the proposed Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Budget for 2019-2020 to Council's budget process, and that the Library Board be advised accordingly.

### Council Resolution

#### **MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

That Council refer the proposed Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Budget for 2019-2020 to Council's budget process, and that the Library Board be advised accordingly.

CARRIED

**REPORT****Background**

The Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Board considered its draft budget for 2019-2020 on 15 February 2019 and requested that the budget be referred to member Councils for consideration in accordance with the Regional Library Agreement.

**Discussion**

The draft budget includes:

- Maintaining current opening hours and staffing levels at Horsham Library, and the mobile service to Laharum and Natimuk
- Collections budget, including e-resources of \$310,780
- Upgrade of public PCs in Horsham to ensure patrons and members of the public have access to databases and government sites that require up-to-date compatibility
- Wi-Fi environment that enables patrons and visitors 24/7 internet access at Horsham.

Library:

- Wage increases of 2.5% as per WRLC Agreement
- Continuation of the Swift shared library consortia arrangements
- Continuation of State government library grants.

**Financial Implications**

The proposed contribution required from Council for 2019-20 is \$518,473, an increase on the current year's contribution of \$494,675 which is an increase of 4.81%. This is mainly due to additional capital items, ie, upgrade of personal computers at the Horsham library.

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

2017 -2021 HRCC Health and Wellbeing Plan

2014 HRCC Early Years Plan

**Consultation/Communication**

The Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Board comprises five member Council representatives who have participated in the draft budget discussions. Cr Pam Clarke and Kevin O'Brien (Director Community Wellbeing) represent Horsham Rural City Council and are Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Board members.

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

On an annual basis, the Wimmera Regional Library Corporation Board considers its budget and then refers the draft budget to councils who are members of the corporation, so that these councils can consider their contribution to the library corporation as part of the annual council budget process.



## 9.11 HORSHAM TOWN HALL MEMBERSHIP

<b>Author's Name:</b>	Shana Miatke	<b>Director:</b>	Kevin O'Brien
<b>Author's Title:</b>	Co-ordinator of Performance and Events	<b>File No:</b>	F10/A05/000002
<b>Department:</b>	Community Wellbeing		

### Officer Declaration of Interest

No officer involved in the preparation of this report has any conflicts of interest.

### Status

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

Yes  No      **Reason:** Nil

### Appendix

Nil

### Purpose

To note proposed changes to Horsham Town Hall membership.

### Summary

- A review of the first year of joint membership for the Horsham Town Hall (HTH) and the Horsham Regional Art Gallery (HRAG)
- Proposed changes to the membership

### Recommendation

That Council:

1. Note the proposed changes to the HTH Membership Program and adopt the 2019 pricing schedule for memberships.
2. Approve the introduction of rolling Memberships, valid for 12 months from date of purchase.

### Council Resolution

**MOVED Cr Josh Koenig, Seconded Cr Pam Clarke**

That Council:

1. Note the proposed changes to the HTH Membership Program and adopt the 2019 pricing schedule for memberships.
2. Approve the introduction of rolling Memberships, valid for 12 months from date of purchase.

CARRIED

## REPORT

### Background

In 2018, the Horsham Town Hall Membership program was launched.

#### Benefits:

- Receipt of a quarterly and yearly Publication via Australia Post
- Members' Ticket Booking Service
- Pre-sale and Exclusive Member Discounts
- Priority HTH Bar Lanes
- 10% off drinks and snacks
- Member Access to Horsham Regional Art Gallery Events
- 10% discount at the HRAG shop.

#### Pricing:

- Family \$130
- Double \$ 90
- Single \$ 50
- Student \$ 25

A review of the above program components was performed in late 2018, with selected current members, as part of our audience engagement project *Full House*. The feedback received was that the membership was too cost-inhibitive. In addition, most people would like to come to the venue with family or friends to enjoy the evening.

### Discussion

The following new Membership Program is proposed for 2019:

- **Single Membership - \$50**  
Those with more than 4 in the family residing in the same residence can purchase up to 4 x member priced tickets per show to HTH season performances and selected shows from other presenters.
- **Concession Membership - \$40**  
Available for anyone with a valid Commonwealth Health Care Card or pension card. Can purchase up to 4 x member priced tickets per show to HTH season performances and selected shows from other presenters.
- **Student Membership – \$25**  
Available to anyone 15 years + with a valid student I.D card. Can purchase up to 2 x member priced tickets per show to HTH season performances and selected shows from other presenters.

During the Audience Development (*Full House*) research, it was reported that council should be looking at giving tickets to organisations for those who are at risk. The suggestion is that council offers free membership to those families identified so that the venue can make the offers directly. This also allows the venue to actively engage with those identified.

In addition, the priority bar lane has been removed from the list of membership benefits, as it did not often get utilised by members.

**Ongoing Benefits:**

- Presale and discount ticket offers
- 10% discount at the bar
- Quarterly brochures posted out
- Invitations to HRAG events – Openings and Meet the Artist events
- 10% discount at the HRAG shop
- Discounts on HRAG workshop prices
- Benefits with National Gallery of Victoria (NGV) – member rates to paid shows, discounts at NGV stores, cafes and restaurant
- Public Galleries Association of Victoria (PGAV) reciprocal benefits (with the potential to promote HTH and HRAG as offering Membership benefits to other PGAV card holders if they visit)

**Financial Implications**

- The 2019-2020 proposed budget allows for an income stream of \$4,000 from Memberships.
- Currently HTH has 217 paid-up members – 67 of which are double memberships.
- Total income for 2018 for HTH and HRAG was \$13,530.
- With the proposed extended discount structure, a reduction of \$2,680 for 2019-2020 is expected. Total proposed revenue of \$10,850 is projected for 2019.

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

HTH's Membership Program is in line with its Audience Development Program aims, currently under development.

**Consultation/Communication**

- Internal advice from other Council Officers
- Feedback from patrons and user groups

**Risk Implications**

Not applicable

**Environmental Implications**

Not applicable

**Human Rights Implications**

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

**Conclusion**

The changes in membership structure and fees proposed is designed to provide a greater opportunity for the community to engage with the HTH and HRAG. The services and products provided are what most would like to share with others close to them; extending the members' ticketing to four per transaction encourages participation.

## 10. COUNCILLOR REPORTS AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### Cr Mark Radford, Mayor

- 25 February 2019 – Grampians Community Health/Nexus discussion
- 25 February 2019 – Ordinary Council Meeting
- 26 February 2019 – ABC Radio interview
- 26 February 2019 – Western Rail Delegation teleconference
- 27 February 2019 – Country Women’s Association conference
- 27 February 2019 – Parking issue phone calls – Community Safety
- 27 February 2019 - Wimmera River Improvement Committee
- 28 February 2019 – Letter of appreciation to Ralph Kenyon, Wimmera Development Association
- 28 February 2019 – Meeting with the Hon Jaclyn Symes MP, Minister for Regional Development, Agriculture and Resources
- 1 March 2019 – Horsham Regional Art Gallery exhibition opening
- 4 March 2019 – ABC Radio interview
- 4 March 2019 – Councillor Briefing/Pimpinio Community Consultation
- 5 March 2019 – Wimmera Machinery Field Days, Horsham Rural City Council site
- 5 March 2019 – Meeting with Geoff Rethus, Andrew Hedt and Sunil Bhalla
- 5 March 2019 – Meeting with Greg Phillips, Wimmera Rail Services
- 5 March 2019 – Haven Recreation Reserve Advisory Committee meeting
- 6 March 2019 – Wimmera Machinery Field Days, President’s Lunch
- 6 March 2019 – Funding announcement for Horsham Regional Livestock Exchange roofing by Senator Bridget McKenzie
- 7 March 2019 – Melbourne passenger train advocacy trip delegation with the Hon Melissa Horne MP, Minister for Public Transport and the Hon Jacinta Allan MP (staff), Minister for Transport Infrastructure, Refer to **Appendix “10A”**
- 8 March 2019 – International Women’s Day luncheon, Horsham Town Hall
- 12 March 2019 – Christian Emergency Foodbank discussion
- 12 March 2019 – Meeting with Phil Martin re advocacy
- 12 March 2019 – Councillor Briefing/Rating Submissions
- 13 March 2019 – Foodbank follow-up discussion with Chris Flood
- 13 March 2019 – Staged Council meeting with Holy Trinity Lutheran College Year 5 students
- 14 March 2019 – Passenger train timetable project
- 15 March 2019 – Country Music Festival advocacy
- 18 March 2019 – Mayoral Matters
- 18 March 2019 – Celebration of Cultural Diversity Week at the Grains Innovation Park
- 18 March 2019 – Councillor Briefing/Rating Submissions
- 19 March 2019 – Iluka Briefing
- 19 March 2019 – Rock climbing advocacy, Parks Victoria/Grampians Tourism
- 19 March 2019 – Letter of encouragement to Councillor Lianne Dalziel, Mayor, Christchurch City Council, New Zealand

- 21 March 2019 – Regional Cities Victoria Mayoral Gathering via teleconference
- 21 March 2019 – Audit Committee meeting
- 21 March 2019 – Harmony Day launch at Centre for Participation
- 21 March 2019 – Opening of new Horsham Centacare office
- 22 March 2019 – Regional Mayoral Gathering
- 22 March 2019 – Horsham Golf Club meeting
- 22 March 2019 – Charisma Park Community BBQ Opening
- 22 March 2019 – NEXUS final youth event

**Cr David Grimble**

- 27 February 2019 – Deputation to Hon Jacinta Allan MP, Minister for Transport Infrastructure. The deputation involving Horsham, Ararat and Northern Grampians with the Minister to advocate for funding to continue Western Highway duplication to Stawell, was held in the Melbourne. The State Government is committed to the continuation of duplicated highway, however, referenced election commitments and the federal election looming. Other sensitive issues have partly been addressed with a deviation around several scar trees, however, the campaign to protect a larger cultural precinct appears ongoing. Western Highway Action Committee is looking for \$30 million to complete planning and pre construction work with an updated figure of \$620 million to complete duplication. To date, the project has secured \$672 million in funding to construct to Ararat, including \$499 million from the Commonwealth Government. Since the completion of duplication between Beaufort and Buangor in 2016, there has been one fatality and no serious injury accidents, compared to eight fatalities and 33 serious injuries on the unduplicated section between Beaufort and Stawell from 2013—2018. Other key priorities – Upgrade Melton section and planning outer metropolitan ring road. The Minister gave us a very good hearing and was very supportive of priorities as discussed during our 45-minute meeting.
- 6 March 2019 – Building Better Regions Fund, Horsham Regional Livestock Exchange (HRLE) funding announcement \$1.49 million. Extremely pleased to have secured significant funding for the roof project. On behalf of the HRLE Board, I thank Senator Bridget McKenzie for this significant contribution. We must advocate for State Government funding assistance.
- Congratulations to Cr Koenig on his recent appointment as Executive Officer of Uniting Wimmera. I wish you well in this new role.

**Cr Les Power**

- 4 March 2019 – Making Connections program on Triple H Community Radio Station
- 4 March 2019 – Council Briefing and Pimpinio Community Meeting
- 5 March 2019 - Blue Ribbon Foundation meeting
- 5 March 2019 – Wimmera Machinery Field Days – opening by the Hon Barnaby Joyce MP, community engagement
- 6 March 2019 – Wimmera Machinery Field Days – community engagement at Horsham Rural City Council site and Official President’s Luncheon

- 7 March 2019 – Horsham Multi Use Indoor Sporting Stadium workshop
- 8 March 2019 – Local Fire Advisory Committee meeting and Domestic Animal Management Group meeting
- 9 and 10 March 2019 – Horsham Fishing Competition, community engagement along the Wimmera River
- 11 March 2019 – Making Connections program on Triple H Community Radio
- 12 March 2019 – Council Briefing
- 18 March 2019 – Council Briefing
- 19 March 2019 – Tidy Towns meeting
- 20 March 2019 – Wimmera Lives Matter meeting (suicide awareness)
- 23 and 24 March 2019 – Horsham Country Music Festival, community engagement

**Cr John Robinson**

- Refer to Appendix.

**SUSPEND STANDING ORDERS****Council resolution****MOVED Cr Alethea Gulvin, Seconded Cr Les Power**

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

CARRIED

*The time being 7.34pm, the Council meeting was suspended.*

**RESUME STANDING ORDERS****Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Clarke, Seconded Gulvin**

That Standing Orders resume.

CARRIED

*The time being 7.51pm, the Council meeting resumed.*

**Council Resolution****MOVED Cr Les Power, Seconded Cr Josh Koenig**

That the Councillor Reports and Acknowledgements be received.

CARRIED

**11. URGENT BUSINESS**

Nil

**12. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS**

Nil

## 13. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS

### 13.1 ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – RECORD OF MEETINGS

Council Briefing held on Monday 4 March 2019 at 5.00pm in the Civic Centre Reception Room, Horsham Rural City Council

Horsham Multi-Use Indoor Sports Stadium Workshop held on Thursday 7 March 2019 at 5.30pm in the Civic Centre Reception Room, Horsham Rural City Council

Council Briefing held on Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 5.00pm in the Civic Centre Reception Room, Horsham Rural City Council

Council Briefing held on Monday 18 March 2019 at 5.05pm in the Civic Centre Reception Room, Horsham Rural City Council

Refer to **Appendix “13.1A”**

### 13.2 SEALING OF DOCUMENTS

Nil

### 13.3 INWARD CORRESPONDENCE

Nil

### 13.4 COUNCIL COMMITTEE MINUTES

Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee Meeting held on Wednesday 13 March 2019 at 10.30am in the Green Room, Horsham Town Hall

Refer to **Appendix “13.4A”**

#### **Recommendation**

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

#### **Council Resolution**

##### **MOVED Cr Pam Clarke, Seconded Cr Alethea Gulvin**

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

CARRIED



## 14. NOTICE OF MOTION

### 14.1 NOTICE OF MOTION NO 171

Given by Cr David Grimble

TAKE NOTICE that it is my intention to move the following motion at the Ordinary Meeting of the Horsham Rural City Council to be held at the Civic Centre, Roberts Avenue, Horsham on Monday 25 March 2019.

***Council advocate to the State and Federal Government the need for a dedicated Rail Minister.***

#### **Outline of subject**

Currently, at both a State and Federal level, there is no dedicated Rail Minister.

Horsham is well placed to advocate for a Rail Minister, noting we own rail infrastructure and one of the few Councils nationally to own and lease intermodal facilities, whilst appreciating the complexities of rail.

It is in our best interests to have a dedicated State and Federal Minister to enable us a direct conduit into Government that will best suit the regions.

We are currently campaigning for more efficient freight on rail through investment in standardisation, mode shift and port access initiatives through our membership with the Rail Freight Alliance.

Horsham is partnering with other Councils to advocate for return of passenger rail.

Wimmera Container Line currently run trains directly into DP World at the Port of Melbourne. Port and Landside investment including any fee structure must enhance the use of rail and be cost competitive.

Freight Victoria is currently assessing a proposal put forward by the Port of Melbourne which will deliver a full on dock rail solution by integrating the stevedore and rail terminals at the port.

Significant investment through Murray Basin Rail Plan, Regional Rail Revival Program, Melbourne to Brisbane Inland Project, along with Port Rail Shuttle and construction of more passenger rolling stock is commended, however, the delivery of this investment will always be questionable.

If my motion is successful, we should use strategic opportunities at the discretion of our Chief Executive Officer, Mr Bhalla, to implement namely:

1. Support of the North West Municipalities Association up to Municipal Association of Victoria
2. Raising motions to Municipal Association of Victoria and Australian Local Government Association
3. Corresponding to relevant parties.

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**Cr David Grimble**

CIVIC CENTRE

HORSHAM 3400

20 March 2019

**UNCONFIRMED MINUTES**

**Horsham Rural City Council**

**Council Meeting**

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**Council Resolution**

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

Council advocate to the State and Federal Government the need for a dedicated Rail Minister.

CARRIED

**15. CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

Nil

*The meeting closed at 8.02pm.*



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The Mayor, Cr Mark Radford  
Chairperson