

# LATROBE CITY COUNCIL

# AGENDA FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING

#### TO BE HELD VIA AUDIO-VISUAL LINK AT 6PM ON 08 NOVEMBER 2021

#### **CM571**

#### Please note:

Pursuant to s66(2)(b) and s66(2)(c), this Council Meeting will not be open to the public to attend in person. Instead participation may occur by video link and the Meeting may be viewed live on the internet from Council's website or Facebook page.

Opinions expressed or statements made by participants are the opinions or statements of those individuals and do not imply any form of endorsement by Council.

By attending a Council Meeting via audio-visual link those present will be recorded or their image captured. When participating in the meeting, consent is automatically given for those participating to be recorded and have images captured.

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#### **COUNCILLOR AND PUBLIC ATTENDANCE**

#### **PLEASE NOTE**

THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT'S COVID-19 OMNIBUS (EMERGENCY MEASURES) ACT 2020 HAS INTRODUCED INTO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 NEW MECHANISMS THAT ALLOW FOR VIRTUAL COUNCIL MEETINGS TO ENSURE LOCAL GOVERNMENT DECISION-MAKING CAN CONTINUE DURING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC.

PURSUANT TO SECTION 394 OF THE *LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020,* A COUNCILLOR MAY ATTEND THIS COUNCIL MEETING REMOTELY BY ELECTRONIC MEANS OF COMMUNICATION; AND

PURSUANT TO SECTION 395 OF THE *LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 THIS* COUNCIL MEETING MAY BE CLOSED TO THE ATTENDANCE BY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC BY MAKING AVAILABLE ACCESS TO A LIVE STREAM OF THE MEETING ON THE COUNCIL'S INTERNET SITE.

#### 1. OPENING PRAYER

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

#### 2. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS OF THE LAND

I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting here today on the traditional land of the Braiakaulung people of the Gunaikurnai nation and I pay respect to their elders past and present.

If there are other Elders present I would also like to acknowledge them.

- 3. APOLOGIES AND LEAVE OF ABSENCE
- 4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS
- 5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council confirm the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 4 October 2021 and Unscheduled Council Meeting held on 25 October 2021.

#### 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Councillors may raise any formal acknowledgements that need to be made at this time, including congratulatory or condolences.

#### 7. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TIME

#### Attend as an observer

The Victorian Government's *COVID-19 Omnibus* (*Emergency Measures*) *Act 2020* has introduced into the *Local Government Act 2020* new mechanisms that allow for virtual Council Meetings and allow for Council Meetings to be closed to the public.

The safety of Councillors, Council staff and our community is at the forefront of our decisions therefore this Meeting will be closed to physical participation by members of the public. To meet our legislated obligations and in the spirit of open, accessible and transparent governance, this Council Meeting is livestreamed and can be viewed by using the link on Council's website or Facebook page.

#### **Public Questions on Notice**

In accordance with the Council Meeting Policy, members of the public can lodge a question on notice before 12noon on the day of the Council meeting in order for the question to be answered at the meeting.

#### **Public Speakers**

An opportunity for members of the public to speak to an item on the agenda will be made available by necessary means. To participate, members of the public must have registered before 12noon on the day of the Council meeting.



#### 8. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

The following provides a response to questions that were taken on notice at the Council Meeting on 4 October 2021.

Question
What is the status of the planning permit for 39 Queens Parade?
Response
The planning permit expired on 14 December 2017 as the development had not commenced by that date and the site is currently vacant.



# **NOTICES OF MOTION**



#### 9. NOTICES OF MOTION

Nil.



# ITEMS REFERRED BY THE COUNCIL TO THIS MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION



### 10. ITEMS REFERRED BY THE COUNCIL TO THIS MEETING FOR CONSIDERATION

Agenda Item: 10.1

Agenda Item: Financial Support for Gippsland Employment Skills

Training Inc

Sponsor: General Manager, Community Health and Wellbeing

**Council Plan Objective: CREATIVE** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council notes the report, with no further action required.

#### **Executive Summary:**

At the 6 September 2021 Council Meeting Council requested a report be provided on options to assist Gippsland Employment Skills Training (GEST) with ongoing rental costs and relocation costs that have been incurred since the end of the tenancy of the former Moe Service Centre and Library.

- GEST provides a range of services to the Latrobe City community with a
  focus on pre-accredited and accredited training. GEST's clients include those
  facing multiple barriers to employment as well as local workers impacted by
  the closure of large employers.
- In January 2017 the Moe Community Groups Hub trial commenced with GEST as the lead tenant. In October 2019 GEST's original lease expired and transitioned to a month by month lease.
- GEST were notified in early July that Council had started negotiations with another proponent on a long term lease for 32 Kirk Street (the former Moe Library) and potentially for 44 Albert Street (the former Moe Service Centre).
- GEST began to vacate both buildings from mid July, with Council formally changing over service supply agreements on Wednesday 25 August as GEST had formally relocated to their new premises at 1 Hoyle Street Morwell.

- The estimated financial benefit provided by Council to GEST, in forgoing commercial rent costs, over the three years of the Community Group Hubs trial is approximately \$224,761.50. However consideration needs to be given for the fact GEST were operating the Community Groups Hub during this period, as a service to a number of groups within the Moe Community.
- Options available to Council to assist with relocation and ongoing rental costs are outlined in the supporting information below. Given the financial benefit previously provided to GEST from Council via rental reductions from 2017-2021, Council Officers propose that GEST not receive financial assistance to relocate premises or any ongoing rental assistance.

#### **Background:**

In January 2017 the Moe Community Groups Hub trial commenced with GEST as the lead tenant.

GEST's original lease of the former Moe Service Centre and Library expired on 31 October 2019. GEST were informed in writing on 14 November 2019 that under the overholding provisions detailed in clause 10 of the original lease, the lease would transition to a month by month lease.

Under clause 10.1.2 of the lease, one month's written notice was required to end the tenancy.

GEST were notified via email on 5 July 2021 that Council started negotiations with another proponent on a long term lease for 32 Kirk Street (the former Moe Library) and potentially for 44 Albert Street (the former Moe Service Centre) as well.

It was noted in the email sent 5 July 2021 that GEST's tenancy would cease on Friday 20 August 2021, however a request was made to GEST that they advise Council, if more time was needed prior to finding a new site.

GEST responded in writing on 6 July to notify Council that they were in negotiations on a new premises and should be vacated from both 32 Kirk Street and 44 Albert St by 20 August, although noted they may require an additional 3-4 weeks.

GEST began to vacate both buildings from mid July, with Council formally changing over service supply agreements on Wednesday 25 August as GEST had formally relocated to their new premises at 1 Hoyle Street Morwell.

The Moe Community Groups Hub trial operated under a lead tenant model. GEST, as the lead tenant, paid an annual peppercorn rent of \$79.50 plus outgoings. GEST was then able to set the usage fees for other Hub users to cover the operational costs of the Hub.



GEST receives government grants and funding income from a number of sources including as a Registered Training Organisation, a Learn Local provider and for the Work and Learning Centre. GEST also receives income from a range of fee for service and social enterprise programs.

An independent assessment projected that in 2020 the commercial rent for both buildings could be up to \$75,000 (ex GST) per annum. The building maintenance costs during the three year trial period were approximately \$105,000.

GEST's Financial Report for the period ending 30 June 2020 reports an annual income of \$984,779.00. GEST's 2021 Financial Report was not available at the time of preparing this report.

The estimated financial benefit provided by Council to GEST, in forgoing commercial rent costs, over the three years of the Community Group Hubs trial is approximately \$224,761.50. However consideration needs to be given for the fact GEST were operating the Community Groups Hub during this period, as a service to a number of groups within the Moe Community.

For the Moe township, the relocation of GEST has resulted in the movement of a small employer from Moe to Morwell and the loss of a lead tenant to manage the Moe Community Groups Hub at the former Moe Service Centre and Library.

While a number of the former users of the Moe Community Groups Hub have been relocated to other sites across Moe with the support of officers, there remains a number of groups with significant interest in the site as a meeting and operational space for their groups.

Officers have identified the following options available for consideration to assist GEST with costs to assist with their relocation to their new premises in Morwell:

- 1. Council provide no financial assistance
- 2. Council refer GEST to the 2021/22 Community Grants Minor Equipment and Community Wellbeing programs
- 3. Council provide financial assistance in the form of a one-off payment to GEST

Officers have identified the following options available for consideration to assist GEST with the ongoing rental costs of their new premises:

- 1. Council provide no financial assistance
- 2. Council refer GEST to the 2021/22 Community Grants Community Sponsorship Minor program
- 3. Council provide financial assistance in the form of a one-off payment to GEST
- 4. Council provide financial assistance in the form of ongoing rental assistance to GEST

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

This report aligns with the Council Plan as it relates to the use of Council assets for community benefit.

#### Communication

Communication with GEST has been outlined in the Background.

#### Financial Implications

Financial assistance for GEST has not been included in the 2021/22 Budget. If Council resolves to provide financial assistance to GEST for a period of time, this would need to be funded from rates revenue from the current and/or future budgets.

#### Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Financial Risk  Providing financial assistance to GEST creates a precedent for other groups and organisations in Council facilities	4	Decline to provide financial assistance to GEST.  If providing funding communicate decision making criteria to limit precedent being created.
Reputational Risk  Negative feedback from community for providing GEST financial assistance whilst not providing assistance to other groups and organisations	4	Decline to provide financial assistance to GEST.  If providing funding communicate decision making criteria to limit negative feedback.
Negative feedback from community for not providing financial assistance to GEST	3	Communicate Council's decision making criteria to limit negative feedback.



#### Legal and Compliance

Under the terms of the lease Council was required to give GEST one month's notice to terminate the lease. There was no obligation under the lease to assist GEST with costs associated with relocation or loss of access to the buildings.

#### Community Implications

GEST has relocated to 1 Hoyle Street Morwell and continues to provide their services to the Latrobe City community. For the Moe township, the relocation of GEST has resulted in 8 full time jobs relocating from Moe to Morwell and the loss of a lead tenant to manage the Moe Community Groups Hub at the former Moe Service Centre and Library.

While a number of the former users of the Moe Community Groups Hub have been relocated to other sites across Moe with the support of officers, there remains a number of groups with significant interest in the site as a meeting and operational space.

#### Environmental Implications

No environmental implications have been identified as a result of this report.

#### Consultation

No consultation has been undertaken on this report.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

Nil



# **CORRESPONDENCE**



#### 11. CORRESPONDENCE

Nil reports



# PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS



#### 12. PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Nil reports



# CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE



#### 13. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Agenda Item: 13.1

Agenda Item: Presentation of the 2020/2021 Annual Report

Sponsor: Chief Executive Office

**Council Plan Objective: CONNECTED** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council receives and notes the Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/21, in accordance with Section 134 of the Local Government Act 1989 (as it continues to apply under section 329 of the Local Government Act 2020).

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Local Government Act 1989 requires Latrobe City Council to submit the Annual Report, including the audited financial, standard and performance statements, to the Minister for Local Government within three months of the end of the financial year. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Government granted an extension to all Councils to submit the Annual Report by 30 November 2021. Accordingly, a copy of Latrobe City Council's Annual Report 2020/2021 was submitted to the Local Government Minister on 22 October and will subsequently be loaded to the Know Your Council Local Government Portal.

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2014, and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014, Council is required to consider the Annual Report at a meeting of Council within one month after providing the Annual Report to the Minister.

Council is also required to give 14 days' notice of the meeting and make copies of the Annual Report available for public inspection.

In accordance with the above-mentioned legislative requirements, an advertisement was published in the Latrobe Valley Express on Monday 25 October inviting the public to inspect Latrobe City Council's Annual Report and informing the public that the Annual Report would be presented at an Ordinary Council Meeting on 8 November 2021. Hard copies of the Annual Report were available at services centres and libraries for viewing and electronically via Council's website.

#### **Background:**

The 2020/21 Latrobe City Council Annual Report includes the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework Key Performance Indicators, Governance and Management Checklist and Performance Statement in accordance with the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2004 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

Stories which feature in the 'Our Direction' section, reflect the range of services and projects which Council have delivered and those which are aligned to the objectives within the Council Plan.

It is being presented to Council to receive and note.

Councillors may wish to note that the Annual Report has been printed locally using Australian Paper stock.

Hard copies are available for inspection at all Latrobe City Council service centres and libraries and are available electronically from Council's website.

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

The Annual report aligns with the Council Plan as it connects community and Council through providing transparency in reporting Council results for the financial year.

#### Communication

Hard copies of the 2020/21 Annual Report will be available for viewing at Council's Service Centres and via the Latrobe City Council website.

#### Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as a result of Council's consideration of this report.

#### Risk Analysis

Risk has been considered as part of this report and it is considered to be consistent with the Risk Management policy.

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Reputational Risk  The Annual Report does not represent nor align with the objectives of Latrobe City's Council Plan.	2 (Unlikely)	The development of the content, within the stories section of the Annual Report, demonstrates Council's activities which are aligned to the objectives within the Council Plan.



Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Legal/Regulatory Risk  Councillors do not receive and note the Annual Report as submitted to State Government.	2 (Unlikely)	Councillors were provided with an overview of the Annual Report content, specifically the development of the stories section, to provide them with an understanding of the direction taken.

<sup>\*</sup> Inherent likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain) Legal and Compliance

In accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2004, and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014, Council is required to consider the Annual Report at a meeting of Council within one month after providing the Annual Report to the Minister.

Council was also required to give fourteen days' notice of the meeting which has been completed and make copies of the Annual Report available for public inspection after presentation to Council.

#### Community Implications

The 2020/21 Annual Report provides the community with an audited and transparent analysis of the organisation's performance for the financial year.

#### Environmental Implications

The final report has been printed on locally produced Australian paper manufactured in Latrobe City by Opal.

#### Consultation

Council's Audit Committee reviewed the financial, standard and performance statements of Latrobe City Council's Annual Report 2020/21.

The Victorian Auditor General's Office has audited the financial, standard and performance statements.

#### Other

#### Not Applicable

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.



#### **Supporting Documents:**

The 2020/21 Annual Report has been submitted to the Minister for Local Government and is attached for information.

#### **Attachments**

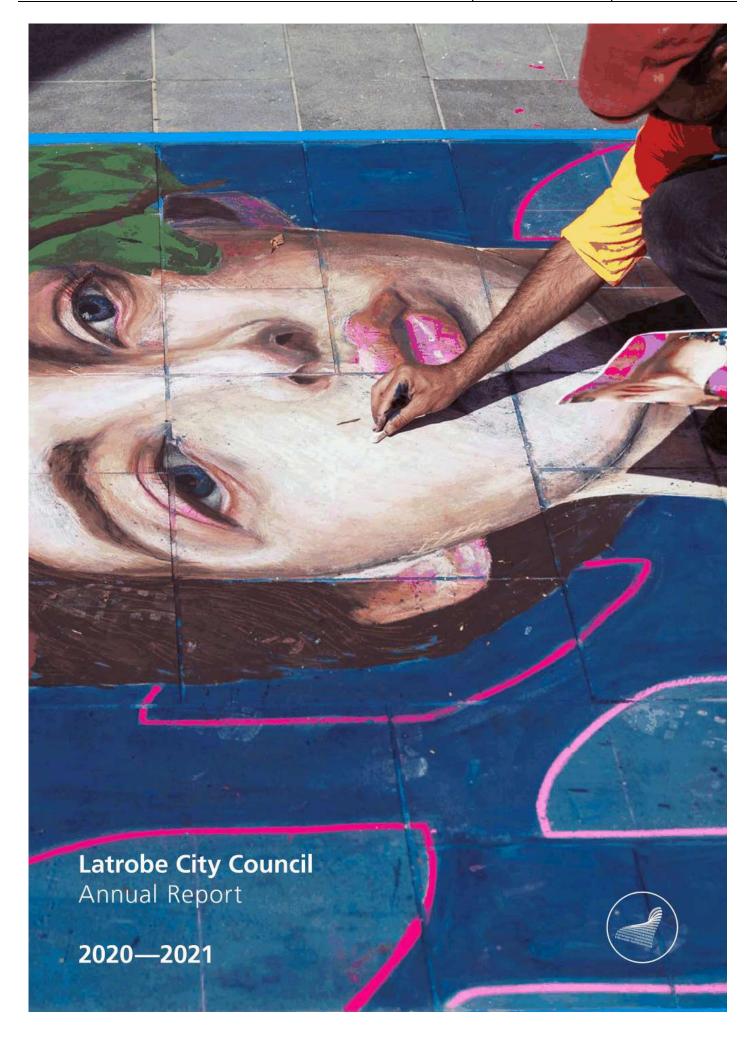
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### 13.1

Presentation of the	<b>2020/2021 Annua</b>	I Report
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#### **Chief Executive Officer's Report**

The financial year ended almost as eventful as it began. In July 2020, Latrobe City and the rest of Victoria grappled with the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and were on the verge of a second extended lockdown.

In June 2021, the municipality endured a flood and storm event that caused extensive damage across the City, leaving people without homes and electricity, and farmers sustaining losses of stock, fodder and fencing.

The wild weather struck on 9 and 10 June 2021. The subsequent flooding of Traralgon Creek was the largest since 1978 and affected homes and businesses in Traralgon, and was exacerbated by further rain on 11 June.

The surrounds of Yinnar were also flooded, and significant winds felled trees and blocked roads at Yinnar South, Jeeralang, Budgeree and Boolarra.

Our staff came to the fore by establishing relief and information centres, arranging access to support, opening Leisure centres for hot showers and more. We stood by the community for the following weeks and will continue to do so well into the new financial year.

The COVID pandemic is still as much part of our lives as it was in 2020/21, with lockdowns affecting businesses and disrupting Council services, however the community of Latrobe has still been able to escape infections, with no local cases reported.

Council continued to support the business community by offering programs such as Business Support Vouchers, the Latrobe City Gift Card and webinars that when combined, helped to stimulate the economy, encouraged businesses to draw on each other's services and access support. We also assisted the hospitality industry by staging outdoor music events and helping businesses to offer outdoor dining and therefore continue trading.

Council staff again displayed their ability to adapt, as office-based staff returned to working from home, and Leisure and Library staff managed the change in operating arrangements.

While it appears COVID will be part of our lives for the foreseeable future, Council as an organisation is contributing to the greater cause by encouraging Council staff to be vaccinated.

As challenging as the financial year was for the Latrobe community, it was also a year of celebration, with the openings of two major sporting and recreational facilities.

The new \$19 million Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium (GRISS) at Traralgon was officially opened in December 2020, after a redevelopment of the former Traralgon Sports Stadium.

The spectacular facility with eight courts for ball sports has since hosted major basketball and netball events, and is also a venue for gymnastics.

In March 2021, Council was proud to open yet another facility with its partners: the \$57 million Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC) at Traralgon.

This has the only indoor 50m pool east of Melbourne, along with eight lanes and 500 spectator seats, plus an indoor water play zone, two large water slides, a learn to swim pool, a café and retail precinct, and a 25m heated outdoor pool.

A deep bore geothermal heating system reduces GRAC's operational costs and carbon footprint.

The Gippsland Performing Arts Centre (GPAC) continues to take shape and will be a first class cultural facility capable of hosting shows people previously had to travel to Melbourne for. GPAC is on schedule to open later this year.

A long-awaited project for the Morwell community was realised in March, when Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester opened the \$3.75 million revitalisation of Commercial Road and Tarwin Street, as part of the Future Morwell project.

The project included new street surfacing and paving, new public open space by creating 12 parklets and a community gathering space in Tarwin Street, a shade structure and seating.

We are already seeing more people in the heart of Morwell as a result and my thanks goes to the Future Morwell Committee for driving this project.

A \$3.91 million upgrade to the Monash Reserve in Newborough was unveiled in April, featuring 10 redeveloped multi-use courts, LED lighting, a new pavilion, upgraded car parking and fortified fencing. Again we thank the federal and state governments for their support.

We are also excited to progress the Moe Revitalisation Project with funding secured for stage two, which will involve redeveloping the car park and skate park east of the Moe Service Centre.

While COVID restrictions impacted Council's ability to hold many of our regular events, we were still able to stage some. In February, GRISS was the venue for Basketball Victoria's Under 16 Country Championships.

In late March, more than 2000 fans watched the Collingwood Magpies host the Adelaide Thunderbirds and Queensland Firebirds in practice matches for the Suncorp Super Netball league, as part of the Magpies on the Road tour.

The iconic Morwell International Rose Garden Festival was held as a virtual event in November, with local and national gardening celebrities joining with the community to bring a sense of normality to the community during abnormal times.

I wish to acknowledge the contribution made by our staff – particularly during the flood and storm event of June – and our volunteers to providing services and facilities for the enjoyment of the Latrobe City community.

I was personally proud to see Council recognised as an Employer of Choice in The Australian Business Awards 2020 – the only council recognised in this category.

Council was able to demonstrate its achievements across Organisational Culture and Leadership; Employee Education, Training and Development; Employee Health, Safety and Satisfaction; Performance Management; Recognition and Remuneration.

As an employer of more than 1000 people, we are dedicated to providing our staff with a rewarding employment experience.

This Annual Report is a record of another year of achievement by everyone at Latrobe City Council, as we continue to maintain our standing as eastern Victoria's regional city, and the benefits that brings to not only our community, but also Gippsland as a whole.

Jane

Steven Piasente

Chief Executive Officer Latrobe City Council

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021

# Why we have an Annual Report

Under the Local Government Act 1989, councils are required to report to the community on a variety of topics covering council operations, performance and finances.

#### How to obtain a copy of this report

A copy of this report can be found on the Latrobe City Council website www.latrobe.vic.gov.aulannualreport or a printed version can be viewed at any one of our libraries or service centres.

To obtain this information in languages other than English, or in other formats, phone Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700.

#### **Council Offices**

Morwell Corporate Headquarters 141 Commercial Road

Morwell Library 63-65 Elgin Street

Moe Service Centre and Frank Bartlett Memorial Library 1-29 George Street

Traralgon Service Centre and Library 34/38 Kay Street

Churchill and District Community Hub 9/11 Philip Parade



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Photography that appears within has been captured at various times throughout the period of the report. During 2020/21 the Chief Health Officer, announced restrictions on the State of Victoria to ensure the health and safety of the community. At various periods, throughout the financial year, the mandatory wearing of face masks in an indoor or outdoor environment was not required.

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021

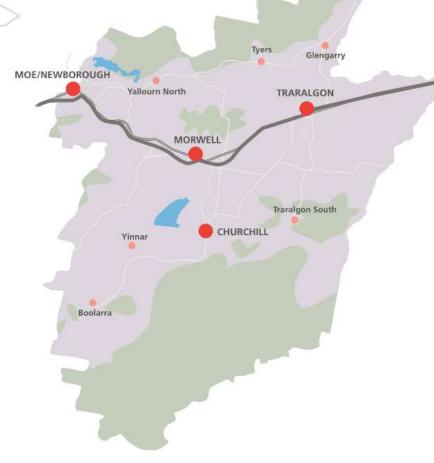
# **Latrobe City Snapshot & Profile**

Latrobe City is Victoria's eastern Regional City and Gippsland's primary service centre and employment hub, providing retail, entertainment, education, government and health services to the region. Latrobe City is located an hour and half drive east of Melbourne covering an area of 1425 square kilometres situated between the Strzelecki Ranges to the south and the Great Dividing Range to the north.

The city is made up of four major towns; Churchill, Moe/Newborough, Morwell and Traralgon; and seven rural townships of Boolarra, Glengarry, Toongabbie, Tyers, Traralgon South, Yallourn North and Yinnar.

The rural landscape in between townships houses a large population of hard working farmers and residents who enjoy the peace and tranquillity that comes with country life.

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#### **Mayor's Report**

I love our Latrobe City. It's where I live, work, play and have the honour to serve. To me, our sense of community and the passion that we have, is something that we should all be proud of and working together we can achieve an even better community that we are rightfully proud of in the future.

As Mayor of Latrobe City for this past year, I have seen how our Council Staff and Community Members have worked tirelessly for our Community. Their dedication was particularly evident, during the flood and storm event of 9 and 10 June.

Both our staff and community members were there rolling up their sleeves to comfort people in need and to provide them with support and services to start pursuing a return to normal life. Be it clearing trees, cooking and delivering food, helping obtain medical supplies, checking on neighbours and their needs, that is what they did all in the name of selflessly serving our community – which both staff and community members already did, every day, year-round.

I have met volunteers in a variety of capacities, from the arts and tourism, to sport and general community service, and have recognised just a selection of them in my Mayor's Community Champions columns, in print and online. I'm so in awe of the breadth of their knowledge and their enthusiasm, and I thank them so very much for doing what they do for our communal benefit.

While we continued to grapple with the COVID pandemic and lockdowns, may I urge you all to continue to support each other and shop locally whenever you can to keep our economy buoyant. Too many businesses are struggling to survive and without us helping one another, they will not survive and jobs you support today are contributing to us all being part of a stronger Latrobe City tomorrow.

After the news that Yallourn Power Station will close in 2028, Council is preparing for the impact that will have on our Community by setting up a bi-partisan Transition Taskforce to further support existing Industry and encourage new Industry to our City.

Council has asked all levels and both sides of politics to support Council in any way they can. We have gone down this track before with the closure of Hazelwood Power Station and this time we need to actively transition our economy, yet we cannot and should not do it alone.

While the past 12 months has been challenging, it has also been rewarding and we deserve to celebrate what we have achieved by working together.

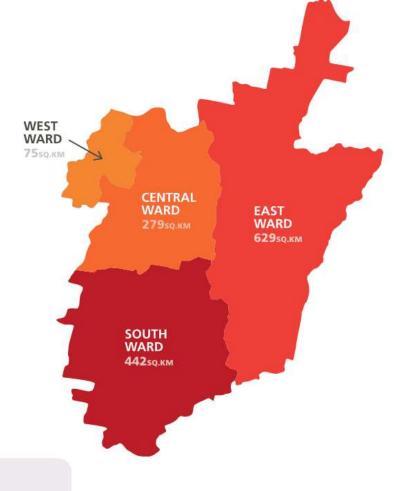
Cr Sharon Gibson

Mayor Latrobe City Council

Section 1 Our Leadership

#### Your Council Representatives

Latrobe City's Council was elected in 2020 for a four year term comprising nine councillors representing four wards.





Mayor Sharon Gibson West Ward P: 0429 338 762

E: sharon.gibson @latrobe.vic.gov.au

Cr Sharon Gibson was first elected in 2008. Cr Gibson is the current Mayor of Latrobe City Council and was previously Mayor in 2013.



Deputy Mayor Darren Howe

East Ward

P: 0429 113 015 E: darren.howe @latrobe.vic.gov.au

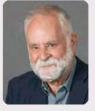
Cr Darren Howe was first elected in November 2016.



Councillor Dan Clancey East Ward

P: 0428 664 968 E: dan.clancey @latrobe.vic.gov.au

Cr Dan Clancey was first elected in November 2016. Cr Clancey was Mayor in 2020.



Councillor Graeme Middlemiss

Central Ward

P: 0417 379 059 E: graeme.middlemiss @latrobe.vic.gov.au

Cr Graeme Middlemiss was first elected in 1997 during the first Latrobe Shire Council elections. Cr Middlemiss has been on Council for 20 over years and was Mayor in 2003 and 2019.



Councillor Bradley Law

West Ward P: 0428 560 501

P: 0428 560 501 E: bradley.law @latrobe.vic.gov.au

Cr Bradley Law was first elected in November 2016.



Councillor
Dale Harriman

East Ward

P 0419 399 093
E: dale.harriman
@latrobe.vic.gov.au

Cr Dale Harriman was first elected in 2011 (following a resignation). Cr Harriman was Mayor in 2014.



Councillor Tracie Lund Central Ward P: 0437 977 130

E: tracie.lund

Cr Tracie Lund was first elected in November 2020.



Councillor Melissa Ferguson South Ward

@latrobe.vic.gov.au

P: 0437 744 491 E: melissa.ferguson @latrobe.vic.gov.au

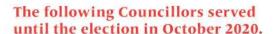
Cr Melissa Ferguson was first elected in November 2020.



Councillor Kellie O'Callaghan

P 5128 6185 E: kellie.o'callaghan @latrobe.vic.gov.au

Cr Kellie O'Callaghan was first elected in 2008. Cr O'Callaghan was Mayor in 2012 and 2017.





Councillor Alan McFarlane Central Ward

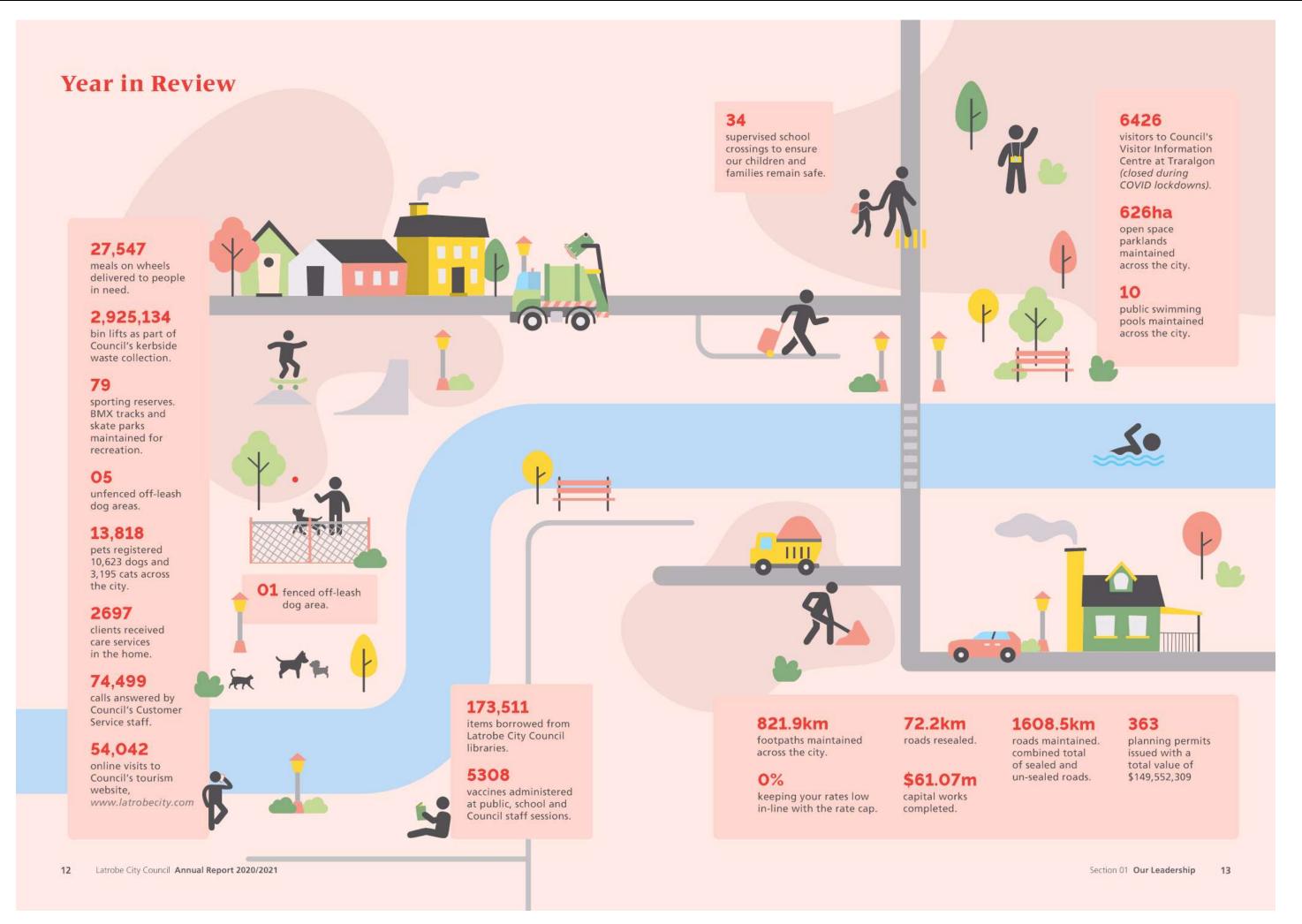
Cr Alan McFarlane was first elected in November 2016.

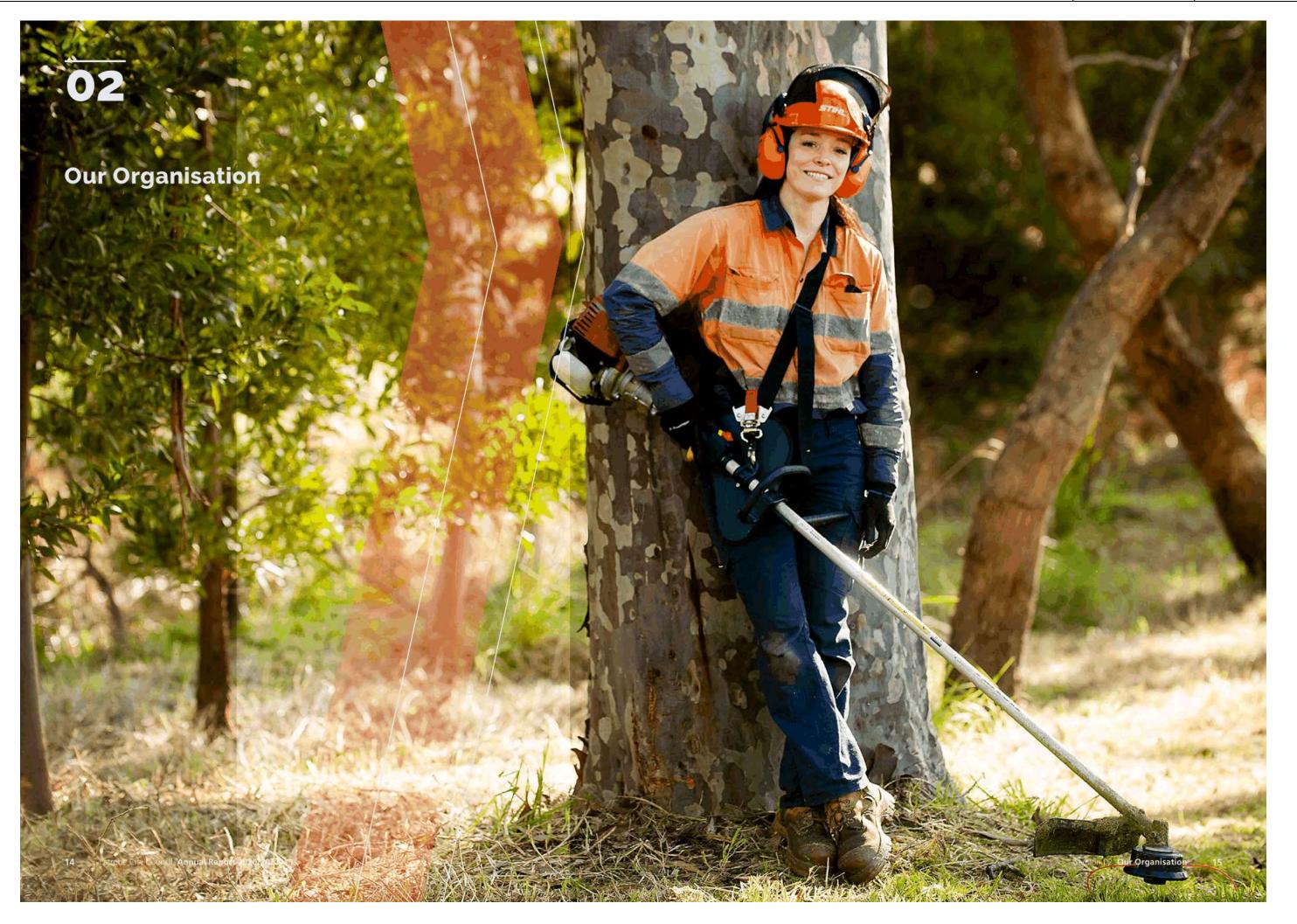


Councillor Darrell White OAM South Ward

Cr Darrell White was first elected in 1997 during the first Latrobe Shire Council elections. Cr White was Mayor in 2018 and has previously been Mayor three times.

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021





#### **Our Organisational** Structure

We adopted this structure on 30 June 2021.

\* Acting



General Manager Assets & Presentation

Jody Riordan\*

Manager

City Assets

Josh Wilson\*

Manager City

Presentation

Martin Teplik

Resource Recovery

& Environment

Nathan Misiurka

Manager

General Manager Community Health & Wellbeing

Suzanne Miller

Manager Active

Communities &

Shay Ferguson

Manager Aged

**Family Services** 

Safe Communities

Ronda Bruerton

Kate Kerslake

Care Services

Helen Taylor

Manager

Manager

**Partnerships** 

Growth & Investment

Manager Business

Manager Creative

Venues, Events &

Manager Economic

**Gregory Lawrence** 

Manager Regional

City Planning Lorrae Dukes\*

Investment and

Tourism

Clint Hong

Transition

Development

Bruce Connolly

Gail Gatt

Regional City

General Manager

Performance

Organisational

General Manager

Kendrea Pope\*\*

Greg Drumm

Manager **Engagement &** 

Manager

Governance

Hanna Steevens

**Customer Focus** 

Lauren Carey

**Executive Manager** 

Office of the CEO

Manager People & Culture

Matthew Rogers

Manager Financial

Performance

Sam Amaira\* Organisational Performance

Information & Technology William Macpherson

## Services Snapshot

#### **Business** Development

- Investment attraction
- · Manage, maintain and develop the Latrobe Regional Airport
- · Support aviation-related employment at Latrobe Regional Airport
- · Business development, support and training services
- · Economic modelling and impact analysis
- New business support
- Startup ecosystem
- · Pursue new business investment and employment growth
- · Develop the Gippsland Logistics Precinct
- · Centre for Australian **Automotive Futures**
- · Leveraging opportunities from our International Relations program
- · Concierge system to support people seeking permits and licences
- · Business support programs and services to deal with the impact of the COVID pandemic

#### Culture, Leisure and Recreation

- Four indoor leisure centres and three outdoor pools
- 18 indoor stadiums/courts across four facilities
- · Traffic School
- · Lake Narracan Caravan Park and Waterway
- · Support community committees
- 60 sporting reserves, BMX tracks and skate parks
- · Maintain 626 hectares of open space parks and 14 hectares of
- · Maintain 15.6 hectares of wetlands and rain gardens
- · Maintain 124 playgrounds
- · Operate Council's Airlie Bank Nursery
- · Kerbside spraying and tree planting
- · Garden competition
- · Recreation planning
- Open space planning
- · Latrobe Regional Gallery
- · Latrobe Performing Arts Centre
- · Provide halls and minor venues for community hire

#### **Community Information** and Development

- Operate Latrobe City Libraries and Service Centres.
- · Provide information about Council services
- · Recording and processing customer requests
- · Support the delivery of Council projects, programs, strategies and action plans to deliver improved liveability within our community
- · Advocate on behalf of our community for better health and wellbeing outcomes
- · Improve liveability for people with a disability within the community
- Support a more connected and engaged community across all ages
- · Creation of training and employment opportunities for Indigenous people
- · Promote social justice and reconciliation

#### **Aged Care Services**

- · Home, personal and respite care
- · Home maintenance/ramps and rails
- · Social support programs
- · Meals on Wheels
- · Operation of Senior Citizens Centres
- · Support community volunteering
- · Health promotion
- · Welcoming and Age Friendly clubs/groups
- · Support for Carers program
- · Access and Support for Dementia and People at Risk



Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021

Section 02 Our Organisation



#### **Environment**

- Council emissions reporting (water, electricity, gas and fuel)
- Approximately 400km of rural roadside weed management
- Vegetation removal permit assessments
- Vehicle emissions offsets (tree planting)
- Participate in industry and community environment committees and networks
- · Bushland reserve management
- Forestry coup compliance reviews
- · Initiate Carbon Offsets
- Environmental education services
- Trust for Nature property rate rebates
- Biodiversity protection incentive program grants
- Community tree planting
- Waterway management services

#### Planning and Building

- Land use planning and permit application services
- Ensure adherence to the Planning and Environment Act 1987
- Land use planning research, policy and re-zoning
- Facilitate Council and communityinitiated planning scheme amendments
- · Planning scheme reviews
- Coordination of new infrastructure and services to support new communities

#### **Events and Tourism**

- Develop, attract and promote events
- Support the facilitation of community events
- Deliver Council civic events and festivals
- Support Latrobe City and broader Gippsland's tourism industry
- Operate a Visitor Information Centre

#### Libraries

- · Operation of public libraries
- Provision of library education programs
- Resourcing the community, including fiction and non-fiction books, CDs and DVDs, audio books, and hard copy newspapers and magazines
- Digital library resources including eBooks, eMagazines, eAudiobooks, eMovies, eNewspapers, family history databases, research and learning tools for leisure, skills updates and employment prospects
- Community access to meeting rooms, learning spaces, public computers and free WiFi
- Author talks and guest speakers/ presentations, including an annual literary festival
- Community outreach program
- Preschool Storytime, Baby Bounce, Wiggle and Jiggle, school holiday program and other children's activities
- Work experience placements
- COVID-19 response included: Click and Collect, home delivery, Ask a librarian phone back service, Online Storytime, and Online Book Chat

#### Family and Children

- Pre-school and pre-kinder services across 24 preschools
- Maternal and Child Health services provided throughout the municipality
- Enhanced Maternal and Child Health program
- · Best Start program
- · Early Years participation
- · Preschool Field Officer program
- Long Day Care offered in three locations
- · Supported Playgroups
- Parent education
- · Immunisation program
- Home and Community Care -Program for Young People
- · Regional Assessment Service

#### Infrastructure

- Design and deliver Council's capital works programs
- Engineering investigation and support
- Planning for Latrobe City's current and future civil infrastructure needs
- Ensure existing infrastructure is maintained and protected
- Asset management planning and traffic management
- After hours emergency works for buildings
- Fixed plant and equipment maintenance and upgrades
- Maintenance of buildings, roads and drainage
- Vegetation and other Council-owned assets
- 723km of paths maintained annually

#### **Running Council**

- Communications and community engagement
- Organisational business planning and performance reporting
- · Internal service review
- · Facilitate Council meetings
- · Office of the CEO
- · Mayoral and Councillor support
- · Facilitate Council elections
- Develop Latrobe City Council Plan and Annual Report
- Financial management and preparation of the Budget
- Information and technology solutions
- Corporate information management
- Facilitate compliance requirements including registers, policies and reporting
- · Human resources services
- · Risk management and insurance
- Legal services
- Occupational health and safety
- Facilitate internal audits
- Freedom of information requests
- Property and statutory services
- Recruitment
- Payroll

#### **Safe Communities**

- Implementing Council local laws, environmental health and building standards, and relevant legislation
- Registration and monitoring of food and beauty premises
- Waste water management
- · School crossing supervision
- Fire risk preparedness and prevention property notices
- Animal management services, including:
- Pet registrations, collection of stray pets and managing pound operations
- Cat cage hire, animal adoptions and microchipping
- Pet care education and promotion
- Unsightly/unsafe property inspections
   Road safety education and
- Legal proceedings

awareness

- Building permit services
- · Pool barriers audit program
- Ensure adherence to the Building Act 1993
- Building audits and education
- Plan and prepare communities for disasters

- Waste and Recycling
- Management of kerbside garbage collections, processing of recyclables and organics, and transfer stations
- Hard Waste kerbside collection service
- Manage and monitor illegally dumped rubbish
- Manage and monitor landfill facilities
- Rehabilitation and after care of closed landfills
- Development of new landfill cells
- Lead initiatives to divert waste from landfill
- Implement biogas energy generation technology
- Management of Australian Carbon Credit Units (ACCU's) and Large-Scale Generation Certificates (LGC's)



380

350

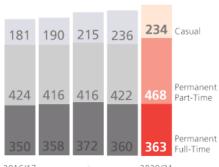
#### **Our Employees**

Latrobe City Council is committed to attracting, developing and retaining employees with a diverse range of qualifications, abilities and a passion for delivering quality services to the community.

Council values and celebrates the contribution of its people, working together in the spirit of honesty, teamwork and trust. As of 30 June 2021, Latrobe City Council employed 1065 people, comprising full-time, part-time and casual employees.

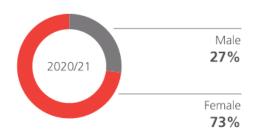
The number of equivalent full-time positions (FTE) is 613.5. The total number of employees has increased by 47 from the previous year.

#### **Staffing Levels**



1065 with a 11.5% increase since 2016/17.

#### **Gender Profile**

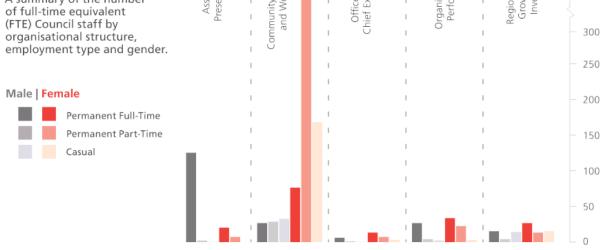


	Male	Female
2016/17	27%	73%
2017/18	27%	73%
2018/19	28%	72%
2019/20	26%	74%



#### **Council Staff**

A summary of the number of full-time equivalent (FTE) Council staff by organisational structure,

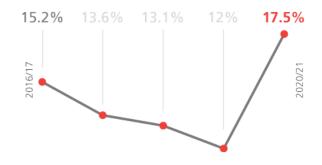


#### Salary Banding for 2020/21

Male	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Other
Permanent Full-Time	0	4	52	14	35	32	27	9	23
Permanent Part-Time	10	2	15	4	4	2	0	0	2
Casual	1	2	27	12	2	0	0	0	4
Female	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	Other
Permanent Full-Time	0	4	6	32	30	48	17	9	21
Permanent Part-Time	96	36	25	86	30	23	2	3	128
Casual	5	26	68	25	3	0	0	1	58

2.3% increase in

Council carefully reviews feedback from exiting employees to identify any issues that led to their departure. These results include seasonal and casual staff.

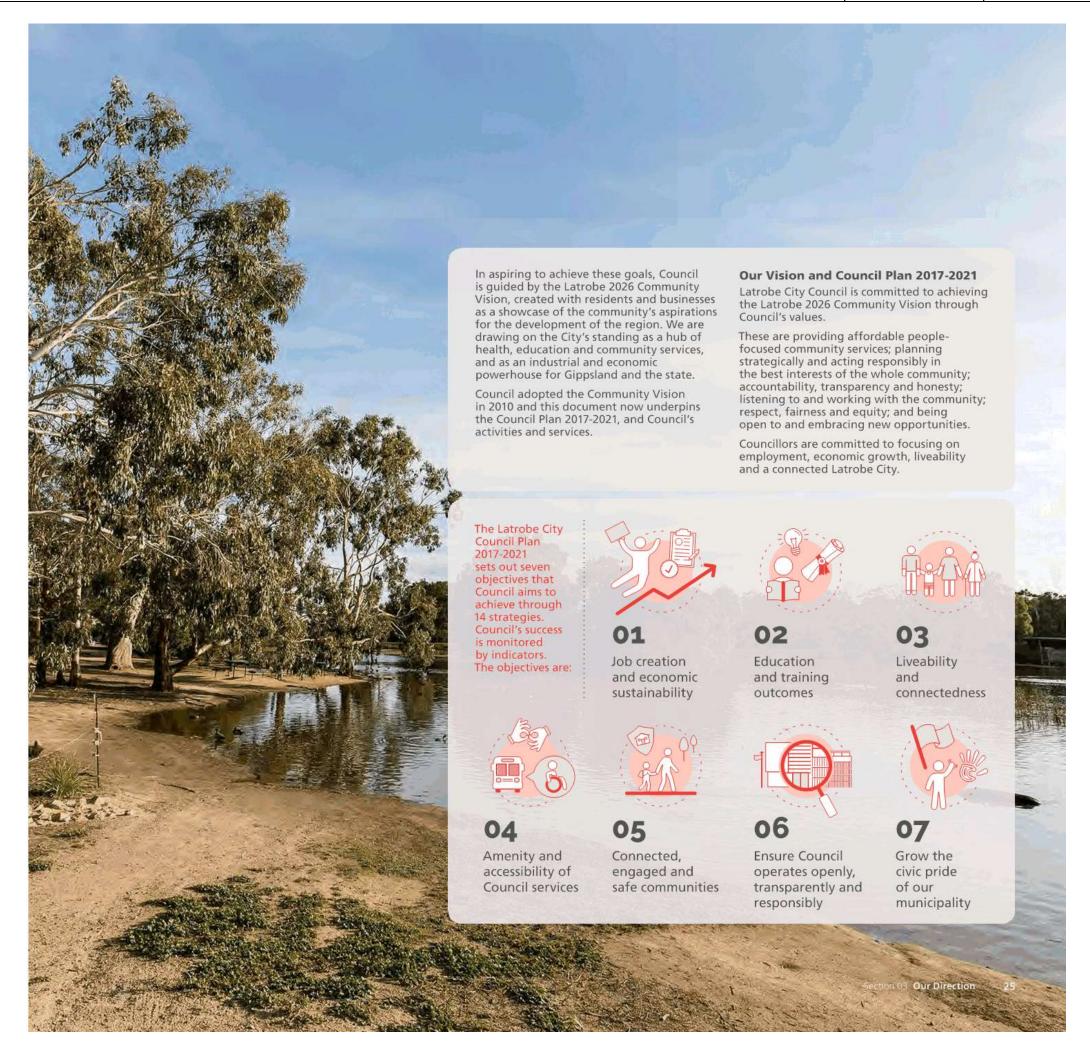


Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021 Section 02 Our Organisation 21



# Council Plan Objectives 2017-2021

Latrobe City
Council's
mission is to
provide the
best possible
facilities,
services,
advocacy and
leadership for
Latrobe City,
one of
Victoria's
four major
regional cities.







"We had been unable to fundraise due to COVID-19 and so any financial support we receive eases the pressure on our bank balance and enables us to give as much money to the community as we can."

An Operational Support Grant of \$2500 helped Gippsland Ranges Roller Derby members return to training after the two COVID-19 lockdowns of 2020.

"We used these funds to pay the insurance for the skates and equipment located in our store room in Traralgon," roller derby President Bodye Darvill said.

"The grant also allowed us to do a deep clean of our shed in Traralgon before activities re-started in late November 2020, as well as purchase sanitising equipment and cleaning supplies for ongoing compliance with COVID requirements."

The grant from Council was timely, given the roller derby group was up to \$20,000 out-of-pocket due to losing training fees while the COVID lockdowns were in place.

"The funds from Latrobe City allowed us to pay one of our largest bills – insurance - and to make sure our shed was a safe and sanitary space to welcome skaters back to after the restrictions on indoor activities eased," Bodye said.

Gippsland Ranges Roller Derby has run in Latrobe City for 10 years. The group runs a social and recreational skating program called Gippy Ranges SkateFit for people aged 16 and over. No experience is necessary. All skates and equipment are provided in a welcoming and friendly environment.

"We also run a competition arm, with our Gippsland Ranges Roller Derby team competing across Victoria in the annual State-wide Stampede Tournament," Bodye said

Moe Football Netball Club was delighted to receive a Fundraising Support Grant of \$2500 from Council to assist with fundraising costs.

The grant was used to purchase goods and services from local businesses as prizes in the club's 2021 fundraising raffle – a win-win for the club and the business community.

"Being an integral part of the community and a positive influence within it is a key objective of the club," club Treasurer Liesl McKay said.

"This grant will help us raise money to support our junior and senior football and netball teams, whilst also supporting our local business community."

The Moe Football Netball Club is a community not-forprofit sporting club run by volunteers, and fields seven junior and five senior netball and football teams in the Gippsland League.

Section 03 Stories





# What is at GRAC?

- 8 lane 50m indoor pool
- 25m heated outdoor pool
- Indoor water play zone
- Two large water slides
- Learn to Swim pool
- Warm water program pool
- Spa, sauna and steam rooms

- Wellness centre (coming soon)
- Gymnasium
- Group fitness rooms
- Cafe and retail precinct
- 500 spectator seats
- Geothermal heating system
- Meeting room





## Since GRAC opened in late March until 30 June:

- 33,380 casual swimmers have enjoyed GRAC pools
- 7877 water slide passes were purchased
- There have been 4081 visits to the gymnasium
  - · 3 events held.





Section 03 Stories





Nola Kirkpatrick of Traralgon was the last person to use the Traralgon Outdoor Pool before it closed on Monday 11 March 2019 and also the first person in the 50m indoor pool at GRAC.

Braving an autumn chill, she stayed in the outdoor pool until the lifequards announced it was closing time.

"I wanted to make the most of this great old-fashioned resource whilst it was still there. It really was the 'end of an era'," she said.

"Our family and friends had spent a lot of time there, had enjoyed many ice-creams in the sun, lap swimming and the odd Splash and Dash event."

When GRAC opened, Nola was the first in the queue with her daughter Mia Griffiths, who was with her in the old pool's final moments.

"We thought that since we were last "It was like stepping back in time in the old pool, it would be a novelty to also be first in the new pool," Nola said

"Swimming in the new outdoor pool on opening morning was sensational. It was still dark and raining lightly, but the water was warm. Those who enjoy swimming in the outdoors year-round will be glad that this has been included as part of the complex."

Nola described the 50m indoor lap swimming pool - the only one east of Melbourne - as "very impressive".

"With its movable boom, diving blocks and spectator seating, it is well set to host swimming carnivals,"

For Nola and her swimming friends, the old pool was a social hub for the community.

and gave us an opportunity to re-live our childhood. Many will share memories of learning to swim and dive there, swimming carnivals, and Splash and Dash triathlons, all in pretty cold water," she said.

"I won't forget those quirky mermaid and mermen changeroom signs, the toddlers pool with fibreglass fountains, diving boards, the old picnic tables, turnstiles, the old kiosk and the historic water fountain. For a short time in the nineties, there was also a large water slide."



# **Home Library Service** provides a lifeline

Although the service has existed for a though it was vital that the service number of years, demand for Latrobe City Library's Home Library delivery service skyrocketed during the first COVID-19 lockdown. Throughout the 2020/21 year, 12,105 items were delivered via 3355 home visits.

The service was initially established so that older residents, or those with barriers to physically visiting a branch, could continue to receive loan items from the library service. Library staff members contact the Home Library patrons to discuss their preferences and make suitable selections from the collection. A team of volunteers then deliver the items across the City.

However, the pandemic meant the volunteers were unable to continue their valuable contribution, even

itself carried on. As leisure centres and the performing arts centre shut their doors to the public, members of those Council teams stepped in as delivery drivers to ensure the Home Library service customers received their books and DVDs.

The service was expanded outside of the government's 'at risk' category to include all library members and book bundles were offered for genre reading, family packs and more. Feedback in the form of notes and thank-you cards, and social media comments, showed how much of a 'lifeline' the Home Library patrons considered the service. In fact, the service went global, when a Home Library service patron received books and read them over Facetime to their grandchildren in London.

Latrobe City Council Mayor, Cr Sharon Gibson said the service was a lifeline and a not just for the vulnerable, but a boost to mental and social health and wellbeing.

"During the challenge of lockdowns, our Home Library service ensured members were able to continue to read, watch, listen and learn as part of our library community," she said.

Perhaps this comment on the library Facebook page encapsulates the value of the service:

"This is a fabulous service. My 92-year-old father is loving it. He would be lost without books to read – thanks to those organising this service."

# New campaign celebrates the elderly



The contributions of senior citizens to Latrobe City were celebrated as part of the AGE±OLD campaign that promoted positive attitudes towards ageing and the elderly.

The campaign raised awareness of elder abuse and ageism, and was launched in December 2020 at the Moe Library and Service Centre.

AGE≠OLD reads 'age does not equal old'. The project was instigated by the Latrobe Elder Abuse Prevention Network, of which Latrobe City Council is a part.

"The elderly are respected and valued members of our community, and that's why Latrobe City Council celebrated their contributions," Latrobe City Council Mayor, Cr Sharon Gibson said.

The campaign saw life-sized photos of older Latrobe residents erected around the City with a short story about their contribution to our community.

The public could see the posters on such Council buildings as the Moe Library, Moe Town Hall, Churchill Hub, Morwell Leisure Centre and Traralgon Library, as well as Mid Valley Shopping Centre in Morwell.

Council staff provided campaign postcards to businesses to raise further awareness and posts ran on Council's social media pages concurrently. The public was invited to take photos of themselves with the posters, using the hashtag #ageold.

People could go to the website www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/ageold for information about the project, elder abuse and support agencies able to help.

Members of the public were encouraged to write a positive story about someone they knew or thank someone for their community work or contribution to family and friends.

The citizens featured on the posters were Bruce McMaster of Morwell,

# **AGE**OLD













Peter Grey of Churchill, Audrey Cooling of Yallourn Heights, Del Mathews of Morwell, Soula Kannellopoulos of Narracan (Moe South), Ian Gibson of Jeeralang Junction, Aunty Vera Briggs of Moe and Maryanne Huggins of Traralgon.

A native of the Greek island of Corfu, Soula came to Australia in September 1964 and became a nurse.

"Amongst the many skills and attitudes instilled in me in my upbringing was respect and to help others," she said.

Another participant, Audrey, said the campaign was an effective way of commemorating the positives of being a senior citizen.

"I volunteered for the campaign to show people age is only a number, not a disability," she said.

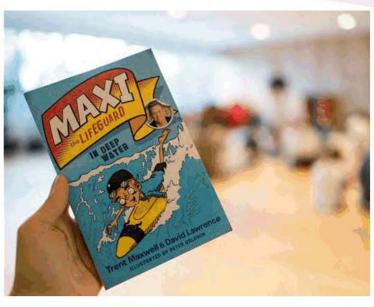
Elder abuse can take various forms, including: financial, physical, psychological, emotional and sexual abuse or neglect. This includes being subjected to such abuse as being coerced into handing over property and money.

It is estimated that 1 in 10 older people will experience elder abuse. It can be carried out by someone known to the older person, like family members, a friend, a professional or a paid caregiver.

Ageism is stereotyping, discrimination and mistreatment based solely on a person's age. When directed towards older people, it comes from negative attitudes and beliefs about what it means to be older. At its extreme, ageism contributes to elder abuse.

Section 03 Stories 3:







# TV lifeguard dives into water & fire safety

A celebrity lifeguard and full-time firefighter spread safety messages throughout Latrobe City in April. Trent Maxwell – better known as Lifeguard Maxi – has his own Maxi the Lifeguard book series for children that promote water safety.

Maxi is well placed to provide safety information, given he was the youngest professional lifeguard to work at Australia's world-famous Bondi Beach - the "busiest beach in Australia" according to Maxi.

Starting as a 16-year-old trainee, his 14-year career was well documented on award-winning Australian TV show Bondi Rescue. He then became a firefighter with NSW Fire and Rescue. During the April school holidays, Maxi visited Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre at Traralgon, Morwell Library, Latrobe Leisure Churchill and Moe Library to talk with more than 160 locals about his books.

The book titles for children aged eight to 12 and are 'In Deep Water', 'The Stormy Protest' and 'Beach Battle'. There is also a picture book for younger children, called 'Beach Rescue'.

"Maxi talked about water safety with a focus on inland waterways to cater for local families, as well as about rips, swimming between the flags and how to call for help," Council's Libraries Coordinator Victoria Whelan said.

"As a firefighter, he also spoke about fire safety at the home, how to make a map of your house to know the exit routes, what to do in a fire, where to gather and the importance of practising safety drills."

Maxi's visit was the result of a partnership between Latrobe Libraries and Latrobe Leisure.

"It was also great to meet the lifeguards at the new aquatic centre, and offer them encouragement and support as lifeguarding is such a rewarding career," Maxi said.



"We met many new friends on the visit. We look forward to building on the work we have started with the team at Latrobe City and bringing more valuable lessons to the region in the future."

Latrobe Libraries holds programs, activities and events during school holidays to offer free or low-cost options for local families.

"Offering children fun activities, with a view to promoting literacy, means we can demonstrate the value of a library membership, attract reluctant readers or simply get people through our doors who may never have been inside a library," Victoria said.

Maxi's presentations were among the most popular library events in recent years.

"After the pandemic lockdown, where we were unable to have families in our libraries, it was wonderful to see the enthusiastic response to the events," Victoria said.

"In addition, there were many young boys in the audience, a cohort that traditionally does not engage in reading or library patronage, who clearly saw Trent Maxwell as a strong role model in their lives.

"One outstanding aspect was his ability to authentically relate to members of the audience – from the very young and teens to parents and grandparents.

"He was a refreshing and generous presence in our City, offering more than just a smile and wise words; he gave freely of his time and that will stay with the young people who attended for a long time."

Latrobe Leisure is reinforcing Maxi's water safety messages through its Learn to Swim Program.

During his visit, Maxi posted to Instagram, capturing the activities and promoting Gippsland globally to his 172,000 followers.





Hyland Landfill gas to generate renewable electricity and savings for the community



Using methane as a landfill by-product to generate electricity will not only benefit the environment but also save Latrobe City Council up to \$900,000 per year in electricity costs.

Council has installed a Biogas Generator (a gas engine) at Hyland Highway Landfill to use harvested methane to generate electricity.

Methane is produced as a natural product of decomposition at the landfill and is 25 times more damaging to the environment than carbon dioxide.

The biogas will be cleaned and dried, and be used to drive a 900 kW Jenbacher landfill gas-to-power engine instead of being flared off (destroyed).

The project means Latrobe City is at the forefront of Victorian councils adopting innovative waste management and renewable energy technologies. "The Biogas Generator project has the capacity to offset 70% of Council's electricity demand, saving millions of dollars to Council over the life of the landfill," Latrobe City Council Mayor, Cr Sharon Gibson said.

"This project will reduce the environmental impacts of Council's activities and carbon footprint for Latrobe City Council. Although this technology is widely used in private waste management facilities, only a few councils are using similar energy technology."

The project will save Council money that will be reinvested in other projects and services that will benefit the community.

The engine was installed at Hyland landfill in February 2021, and was commissioned and connected to the electricity grid in May 2021.

Council has funded the \$1.6 million project from its landfill reserve and will return the funds to this reserve within an attractive timeframe for a return on investment.

Modelling shows that up to 7000 MWh of electricity would be generated per year when the generator is operating at full capacity – enough to power 500 homes and offsetting 70% of Council's current electricity load of around 9000 MWh per year.

The public will be able to learn more about the new Biogas Generator at the EcoGeni Sustainability Education Centre, also located at the Hyland Highway Landfill.

The centre has been used by school groups as part of Council's WasteSmart tours of its waste and recycling facilities for the past 10 years.

The centre is being redeveloped to include information and resources about sustainability and renewable technologies, and will reopen on 1 September 2021.

Any school wishing to make a booking for a WasteSmart tour or visit the Education Centre should contact Resource Recovery and Environment at Latrobe City on 1300 367 700 or at RRE@latrobe.vic.gov.au

# Unemployed welcome the chance to work



When many people lost their usual jobs due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the State Government instigated the Working for Victoria initiative.

The \$500 million program was designed to create work by funding positions that helped the community and contributed to Victoria's ability to respond to the pandemic.

Latrobe City Council employed 61 people under the Working for Victoria scheme, working across the areas of outdoor maintenance, community development, community grants administration, environmental works, Meals on Wheels, communications and business development.

These roles were key to the delivery of projects such as the clean-up of Waterhole Creek at Morwell, supporting Council's COVID-19 Helpline, supporting local businesses with accessing government support and grants, and maintaining the delivery of meals to vulnerable members of the community.

There was also a team making sure the amenities of Latrobe City were kept clean and safe for the community to use.

The roles were funded for six months under the program and the majority of the roles were filled by local people.

The Working for Victoria program enabled Council to provide meaningful employment while providing a range of additional services to the community.

The members of Council's Bush Crew program were among the Working for Victoria participants.

They worked outdoors across the municipality to undertake brushcutting, spread mulch, remove

weeds and rubbish – including trolleys and bikes from waterways – and plant trees.

Among the areas to be beautified by Bush Crew members were Moe Botanic Gardens and Narracan Creek.

The Bush Crew members provided Council with extra resources to undertake maintenance works.

The creek line and the water are cleaner from all the litter that was removed, and the clean-up along the path and plantings has made the area much more attractive to users.

The Bush Crew started operation in July 2020 and attended to sites around Latrobe City, planting more than 22,000 trees, shrubs and grasses.

The Bush Crew staff came from a range of employment backgrounds, from engineering and labourers, to accounting and retail.





10

shopping trolleys removed from Waterhole Creek



02

bikes & 3 shopping trolleys pulled from Narracan Creek



37

truck & trailer loads of green waste recycling



04

truck loads of mulch spread at Waterhole Creek



05

truck loads of garbage removed from waterways



4.3k

grasses, shrubs & trees ordered





Section 03 Stories 39



# National netball highlights new stadium's capability





The newly opened Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium (GRISS) is the sporting venue of choice in eastern Victoria. That's while the venue was perfect for hosting Suncorp Super Netball practice matches in March. GRISS hosted two matches as part of the Magpies on the Road Tour, hosted by the Collingwood netball team.

The Magpies were defeated by the Adelaide Thunderbirds, 48-51, in game one, before overcoming the Queensland Firebirds, 67-56.

A third game was to be held – between the Adelaide Thunderbirds and Queensland Firebirds – but was cancelled at the last minute. This was due to sudden COVID quarantine requirements for travellers from Queensland that required Firebirds players and staff to be tested for COVID and isolate until they received their results.

While the stadium's capacity of 3000 was reduced due to COVID protocols, just over 2000 people attended the two games, with most from Gippsland and some from Melbourne. The netballers found GRISS to be a magnificent new stadium with world class facilities for netball.

"The facilities for players at GRISS are superb and whilst the crowd was restricted due to COVID, there was still a great atmosphere at the stadium," Collingwood Captain Geva Mentor said. "The fans are really close to the action and it was terrific to be able to interact with them immediately after the games."

Collingwood appreciated the opportunity to promote netball in regional Victoria and to bring world class netballers to Traralgon. The club also hosted community clinics and coaching workshops over the weekend.

"We have played AFL and AFLW matches in the region, and it was terrific to be able to bring elite netball and some of the very best netballers in the world to GRISS," Collingwood's Director of Stadia and Community David Emerson said

"We hope that girls and young women will be inspired to play netball and to follow the Magpies."

Collingwood has a partnership with the Latrobe Valley Authority to bring elite sporting events to the Latrobe Valley. That partnership was formed in 2017 to help bring significant social and economic benefits to the region.

"Collingwood views GRISS as an ideal venue for Suncorp Super Netball and will be working with Netball Australia to schedule more games at GRISS in the future," David said.

Council Plan objectives met:







Section 03 Stories



### Straight to work

Depot crews worked extended hours in trying conditions removing fallen trees and clearing debris from roads. Clean-up work continued for many weeks.

To alleviate understandable concern from the community, Council reacted swiftly to the emergency by setting up a Relief Centre at the Gippsland Regional Indoors Sports Stadium (GRISS) in Catterick Crescent, Traralgon.

Initially, this hub assisted community members impacted by flooding and power outages with hot showers, mobile phone charging facilities and a safe refuge.

### Community connection

Once the immediate danger period was over, the centre focused on information and advice, connection to other agencies and services, explained hardship payment eligibility and provided ongoing assistance tailored to residents' needs. The centre moved to the Traralgon Library after two weeks at GRISS.

Leisure centres and libraries offered spaces for people to gather, recharge their devices, access WiFi and hot showers, or simply spend a few hours in a warm and welcoming place.

Council also established an information centre at the Yinnar Memorial Hall and then moved this to the Yinnar RSL. Officers registered people in the Crisisworks system and referred them to other services for assistance.

The Call Centre team worked overtime, taking many calls and establishing a dedicated flood email account to ensure there were multiple means of communication over the stressful period. Information was regularly updated on Council's website and social media accounts.

Over the Queen's Birthday long weekend, Council leaders participated in two meetings facilitated by the Incident Control Centre to advise the community about the latest conditions and the expected situation going forward. Held at the Latrobe Performing Arts Centre, presentations were given by Council CEO Steve Piasente, Victoria Police, Energy Safe Victoria and the Victorian State Emergency Service.

Bushfire Recovery Victoria established a presence in Latrobe City to support residents.

### Cleaning up

To help flood-impacted residents clean-up, Council offered a free hard waste collection to impacted residents in Traralgon, where the

greatest flood damage occurred. All impacted residents were able to take damaged property and waste to transfer stations for free. Council also offered a green waste amnesty to help people dispose of uncontaminated green waste at no charge at PineGro in Morwell.

#### Charitable collaborations

Council teamed with the charity Need for Feed Australia to supply fodder to farmers whose supplies had been impacted. Need for Feed Australia is a project of Lions Clubs of Australia.

To help offset the financial toll of the disaster on residents. Council encouraged the community to donate to the Gippsland Emergency Relief Fund which provided floodaffected people with immediate

Council also promoted the charity GIVIT, which partnered with the Victorian Government to source donated goods for people in need.

### Moving forward

Council will continue to support residents as they address the damage to their homes and property, providing advice and advocacy and ensuring they receive up-to-date information about financial or other relief.





# Flood & storm response

As of 30 June, Council staff had responded to the following flood/storm related matters:

- . 3764 flood and storm related phone calls taken by Call Centre staff from 10 to 30 June
- 15 bins replaced from 10 affected flood properties.
- More than 640 secondary assessments for flood and storm impacted residents
- 1700 people from 897 families registered with Council at information and relief centres at Traralgon and Yinnar
- 81 kerbside collections of hard waste from properties impacted by the flood and storm. A total of 24 tonnes and 35 mattresses collected
- 113 customers disposed of green waste for free at PineGro
- 6 free transfer station visits
- · Council provided a triage and referral program to link people with service providers.









"I'm just so thankful to the Council staff who helped. They really cleaned up our neighbourhood."

# Praise for Council's flood response

Krista Khomis is grateful. She was on the cusp of giving birth, caring for three children, when floodwaters surrounded her Traralgon home in June.

She is grateful the torrent did not enter her house. She is grateful for the neighbour who used a boat to ferry Krista and her family to safety as her street became a river.

And she is grateful to the Latrobe City Council staff who worked hard to return her life to a sense of normality as she adapted to life with another child – a daughter born just a week after the flood.

"I'm just so thankful to the Council staff who helped. They picked up our bins every day as we kept filing them as we cleaned up after the flood. Council offered free use of the tip and gave us free hard rubbish," Krista said.

"Council told us to hose the mud out of our yard into the street and then they came and cleared it. Council was just amazing. They really cleaned up our neighbourhood.

"After the flood we had Council building staff visit to check under the house and other staff gave us pamphlets with information about the grants and emergency support services available."

# Council named an Employer of Choice





Latrobe City Council was pleased to be recognised as an Employer of Choice in The Australian Business Awards 2020. Latrobe City was the only council recognised by The Australian Business Awards in this category.

The awards recognise organisations that demonstrate the core values of business innovation, product innovation, technological achievement and employee engagement.

The Australian Business Awards for Employer of Choice (EOC) recognise organisations that maximise the full potential of their workforce through practices that demonstrate effective employee recruitment, engagement and retention.

Council was able to demonstrate its achievements across key areas of Organisational Culture and Leadership; Employee Education, Training and Development; Employee Health, Safety and Satisfaction; Performance Management; Recognition and Remuneration.

Latrobe City Council Chief Executive Officer, Steven Piasente said the award acknowledged the organisation's leadership practices.

"We are proud to be formally recognised as an Employer of Choice with The Australian Business Awards amongst such high calibre candidates," he said.

"Latrobe City Council provides employment to over 1000 individuals and we are committed to continuing to provide a rich and rewarding employment experience within the local government sector."

Fifty-four organisations were selected in the 2020 ABA Employer of Choice Awards.

"These organisations have demonstrated adaptability in the workplace by utilising flexible and new ways of working and learning," Program Director Tara Johnston said.

"The landscape of the workplace environment has changed rapidly as technology has gained momentum, coinciding with businesses navigating a broad range of interrelated issues from the impact of the current challenges facing the global economy. The ability to work from anywhere, combined with the advances in connectivity tools, makes us geographically neutral.

"Leading organisations have begun to implement an entirely new working environment that breaks down communication barriers, positioning organisations to harness the talent within their organisation, transform the employee experience and position businesses to be more resilient."

Council has been proud to display and promote the EOC Winners Mark.

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021











# Council acknowledges dedicated citizens

Thirty-six citizens were honoured by Latrobe City Council with awards on Australia Day 2021 - the highest number of awards given by Council for nearly 20 years.

National pride filled Morwell's Kernot Hall – and homes across Latrobe City and beyond – when the 2021 awards and citizenship ceremony were live streamed on 26 January due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Due to physical distancing and State Government requirements around COVIDSafe this year, the Civic Reception was split into the Citizenship, and the Civic Function and Awards presentation. Eight people became Australian citizens.

The 36 awards presented included the main awards of the Community Service of the Year, Community Event of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Senior of the Year and Citizen of the Year.

In addition, there were 31 Latrobe City Australia Day Recognition Awards in the categories of Community Service of the Year, Community Event of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year and Adult Citizen of the Year.

"The awards recognise outstanding personal achievement and celebrate the remarkable contributions individuals are making to communities across Latrobe City," Latrobe City Council Mayor, Cr Sharon Gibson said.

"It is always a privilege to be part of Council's Australia Day celebrations, as this is one opportunity to find and recognise those special people in our community." Citizen of the Year, Richard (Rick) Teychenne, of Boolarra, is the President of the Boolarra Folk Festival Committee.

He contributes hundreds of hours to the preparation of the Boolarra Folk Festival each year, and was instrumental in organising and conducting the 10th



# The recipients of major awards were as follows:

Council Plan objectives met: See objectives on page 25







# Citizen of the Year:

Richard (Rick) Teychenne of Boolarra

### Senior of the Year:

Mario Sammut OAM of Morwell

# Young Citizen of the Year:

Ben Grumley of Traralgon

# **Community Event of the Year:**

2020 Latrobe Motorfest

# Community Service of the Year:

Edith McGill of Morwell, aged 102.

anniversary commemoration of the Black Saturday and Delburn fires - despite losing his own family's property in the 2009 blaze.

Rick supports people who lost their homes to fire, including people affected by the 2019 Yinnar bushfires.

Young Citizen of the Year, Ben Grumley of Traralgon, has worked hard to achieve in tennis, winning the Kooyong Under 21 Club Championship in 2020 and being ranked 131 in Australia.

In recognition of his commitment, Ben received a scholarship with William Woods University to play college tennis in the United States of America for the next four years while he undertakes a major in exercise science.

Ben assists at the Traralgon Tennis Association by helping with coaching, volunteering at major events and representing the club at community events.

Senior Citizen of the Year, Mario Sammut OAM of Morwell, has volunteered in the town since arriving with his family in 1985.

Mario's leadership skills have resulted in numerous projects, including the opening of the only Maltese museum in Australia in Morwell in 2020.

He is a passionate radio presenter on community radio stations Gippsland FM, 3ZZZ and 3GCR weekly, broadcasting the Maltese Show and two breakfast shows in English.

He has been secretary and president of the Latrobe Valley Migrants Resource Centre, an executive board member of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria, delegate to the Federation of Ethnic Communities Council of Australia, and committee member of the Morwell Community Health Centre.

Event of the Year was the 2020 Latrobe Motorfest, which drew a crowd of more than 10,000 people to Mid Valley Shopping Centre at Morwell in February 2020.

The event included motorcycle road racing, a food truck carnival, live band, children's rides and entertainment, a Kids BBQ Competition, Car and Motorbike Show 'n' Shine, and a trade area for local businesses.

Community Service of the Year recipient was Edith McGill of Morwell.

She has volunteered for the Morwell RSL Auxiliary for 38 years, selling badges for ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day, and raffle tickets at bingo until this year.

Edith has also been involved with other fundraising: knitting squares for the Walhalla Goldfields Railway, and making hundreds of poppies, blankets for rescue animals, and jackets for penguins and lambs.

For many years, Edith was a member of Uncle Bob's Club, collecting and counting money raised for the Good Friday Appeal. She also volunteers for Legacy and at a sheltered workshop at the Salvation Army Shed.

The Community Service awards acknowledge citizens and organisations that could be described as "hidden treasures".

"This year Council also included the Senior of the Year announcement, which had traditionally been presented during Seniors Week, but will now become a category in the Australia Day Awards program," Cr Gibson said.

Council acknowledges the receipt of a National Australia Day COVIDSafe grant of \$20,000 to video and live stream the proceedings, engage two cleaners, and provide COVIDSafe event supplies and signs.

# Project beautifies Morwell's CBD



The streetscape of Morwell's Central Business District (CBD) has been enhanced by the completion of the Morwell CBD Revitalisation project.

Federal Member for Gippsland Darren Chester opened the nearly \$3.75 million revitalisation of Commercial Road and Tarwin Street in March, as part of the Future Morwell project.

The project will encourage people to visit, walk and spend time in the heart of Morwell and creates a village atmosphere that appeals to residents and visitors alike. The project also rebranded Morwell as the Town of Gardens, based on the iconic Morwell Centenary Rose Garden.

"The revitalisation of Morwell's CBD has created a new sense of pride in the heart of town, as well as a fresh identity that brings Morwell into the twenty-first century," Latrobe City Councillor, Graeme Middlemiss said.

"The facelift for Morwell will bring more people to shop at local businesses and visit such attractions as Latrobe Regional Gallery." The project included new street surfacing and paving, new public open space by creating 12 parklets and a community gathering space in Tarwin Street, complete with a shade structure, and café and casual seating.

The spaces will enable events to be held in the area and create spaces for people to gather, complemented by more than 500m² of feature gardens. Modern technology has been introduced, with decorative lighting within parklets, free public WiFi and wireless mobile phone chargers integrated into street furniture.

There is a pedestrian counter and LED street lighting that can be programmed to be dimmed or brightened. In the future, these lights may be fitted with motion sensors that will enable lights to brighten automatically when someone walks by.

All parklets have access to 240 volt electricity for the staging of events. Three-phase electricity can be accessed at Legacy Place and the Gathering Place in Tarwin Street.

All parklets are serviced by an in-built watering system to supply trees and flower beds.

The Federal Government, State Government and Latrobe City Council contributed funding to the project. Member for Eastern Victoria Harriet Shing said the project first began in response to the Hazelwood Mine Fire in 2014.

"This project was all about creating a brighter future for Morwell and the Latrobe Valley, and we were pleased to be able to contribute nearly \$2 million of Victorian Government funding to improve the liveability and pride of place for Morwell," she said.

"As we develop the businesses and industries who call the Latrobe Valley home, we also want it to be a wellequipped place to live and visit, which is why it's great to see this project reach completion."

Advance Morwell President John Guy said the new roadworks in Commercial Road and Tarwin Street modernised the area.

"The works have provided much-needed seating and gathering places throughout Commercial Road and Tarwin Street," he said.

"These areas have experienced major change over the years with improvements being made to the Morwell CBD. This project, following intensive community consultation, is by far the most successful for the rebirth of the area."

The Future Morwell Project includes the Morwell Entrance Project that entailed the planting of trees, the creation of garden beds adjacent to the Commercial Road freeway exit and a unique Morwell town sign at the freeway.

The project was driven by the Future Morwell Committee, chaired by Cr Graeme Middlemiss, and including John Bellerby and Ray Burgess (Morwell Traders), John Guy OAM (Advance Morwell), Carolyne Boothman (Morwell Community Recovery Committee), and Marika Gacs (Latrobe City Business Tourism Association).







# Summer Sessions reignite musical flame

After a long period of closure, the team at Latrobe Performing Arts (LPA) wanted to give something back to the community. The gift came in the form of the Summer Sessions concerts presented by LPA in the AGL Loy Yang Sound Shell at Victory Park in Traralgon.

"It's a big year coming up with the opening of Gippsland Performing Arts Centre in late 2021 and we know our community loves live music," Latrobe City Council's Director Creative Arts Bec Cole said.

"They showed us this with the huge uptake of our LPA Online program which was largely live music.

"Throw in the perfect setting at the sound shell and a huge array of musical talents across Gippsland, and it's easy to say 'yes' and make this concert series happen."

The concerts featured Gippsland artists as the COVID lockdowns of 2020 resulted in musicians losing millions of dollars worth of gigs in a matter of weeks.

"Many Gippsland artists hadn't played live for 12 months and relied on working in Melbourne. We wanted to create those opportunities here in Latrobe City too," Bec said.

Three Summer Sessions concerts were held on three Sundays in February, featuring performances by Dan Musil, Darcy Fox and Harry Hook (concert one); Tayla Clavarino, Meg Doherty, Michael Waugh and The Davidson Brothers (concert two); and Fruit Tree Magic, Hazel Ray and Jack Jones (concert three). Another concert was cancelled due to a snap COVID lockdown.

"Lucky for us we were able to invite the scheduled acts to perform at other events. The Strzelecki Stringbusters were able to support Keep The Circle Unbroken, one of our first gigs back in the theatre," Bec said. More than 1800 attended the concerts, with the final show attracting just under 1000.

"Most people in the crowd were so thankful to have an opportunity to gather together again, and to get back to something normal and fun," Bec said.

"There is something really special about sharing a live experience with your community; it bonds you together in a way that viewing it on a screen just can't.

"There are also the economic benefits. We were able to pay musicians, get our technical team working again and support local businesses by bringing extra activity to the town. That money goes directly back into our local economy."

The concert series left Bec feeling proud in many ways. "I was really proud of the team, proud of how much talent is here in Latrobe City and proud of the community for showing so much resilience over a difficult time," she said.

"To see people being together again was an amazing moment for me. That's why we invest in the arts – it's about the community.

"The sound shell is also an amazing outdoor venue and a brilliant community asset to bring to life." LPA is owned and operated by Latrobe City Council.

# Sports stadium scores for Latrobe City





The grandest sporting venue in Victoria's east hosted national level netball games, a major basketball tournament and a travelling basketball competition within months of officially opening in late December 2020.

Sports fans are relishing the opportunity to see elite sport in Latrobe City, proving the value of the \$19 million redevelopment of the former Traralgon Sports Stadium, funded by the State Government.

The centre now features eight courts for ball sports, including a show court with 3000 retractable spectator seats, office space, training rooms, a cafeteria, social spaces, a gymnastics facility and more.

In late March, a crowd just over 2000 fans watched the Collingwood Magpies host the Adelaide Thunderbirds and Queensland Firebirds in a practice game for the Suncorp Super Netball league, as part of the Magpies on the Road tour.

GRISS hosted Basketball Victoria's Under 16 Country Championships in February this year, proving that it is an elite basketball facility for not only Gippsland, but the Victorian basketball community.

"Basketball Victoria is excited to see GRISS in action with it serving as an exceptional home venue for the Traralgon Amateur Basketball Association, Latrobe City Energy and one of Basketball Victoria's 10 High Performance Hubs, amongst other competitions and programs," David Huxtable, Basketball Victoria General Manager – Member and Community Services, said.

"The championships proved to be a great success, with the venue able to cater to our tournament requirements and court capacity needs as a state sporting organisation hosting a largescale event."

"We also recently hosted our State Development Program All-Country Camp at the stadium."

"We congratulate Latrobe City
Council, the Victorian Government
and project partners for creating
such an elite facility for Gippsland's
booming basketball community, and
we look forward to using it as much
as possible into the future."



GRISS hosted the 3x3Hustle basketball event in January. Affiliated with the National Basketball League, 3x3Hustle is the nation's 3x3 basketball pathway from grassroots to the Olympics.

3x3 basketball teams are made up of four players (three on-court, one substitute) who play a fast game on a half-court.

The first team to reach 21 points, or the highest scoring team after 10 minutes, is the winner. Teams who are successful at local levels can progress to state, national and even international tournaments.

"The facilities at the Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium were tremendous," 3x3Hustle Manager Jaele Patrick said.

"The stadium had everything we needed to run a safe and efficient 3x3Hustle event. All the staff were helpful and friendly, and we can't wait to bring 3x3Hustle back to the Gippsland Regional Indoor Sports Stadium in the future."



The refurbished stadium and additional courts are enabling the TABA to host large events, said Secretary Allison Speairs.

The association hosted the Under 16 Division 1 and 2 Country Championships, and also the Under 14 Country Championships.

The association has also been able to host State Development Program try-outs and camps and Under 14 Skills Days.

"The eight courts are also being used for the TABA domestic competition four nights per week and it is anticipated this competition will have the capacity to expand with the additional courts," Allison said.

The Country Championships attracted people from across Victoria, in a boon for the economy.

"Large numbers of athletes and their families stayed in local accommodation, and shopped and dined in local shops and eateries," Allison said.

The TABA's Labour Day tournament hosted an unprecedented 173 teams

over three days of competition, with up to 6000 people attending across the weekend.

While there were nine courts at GRISS, the oldest remaining court had next to no run-off and a low ceiling, so has been repurposed into a gymnastic facility for maximum activation.

## **Events hot spot**

GRISS is fully equipped to host international standard competition across a range of indoor sports.

Hawthorn Netball Club and Melbourne Boomers have also committed to GRISS appearances in a big coup for Latrobe City's burgeoning sports and events precinct.

### Local businesses win

A 12-month build led by Becon Constructions provided an economic boost for Latrobe City, with a host of local contractors engaged.

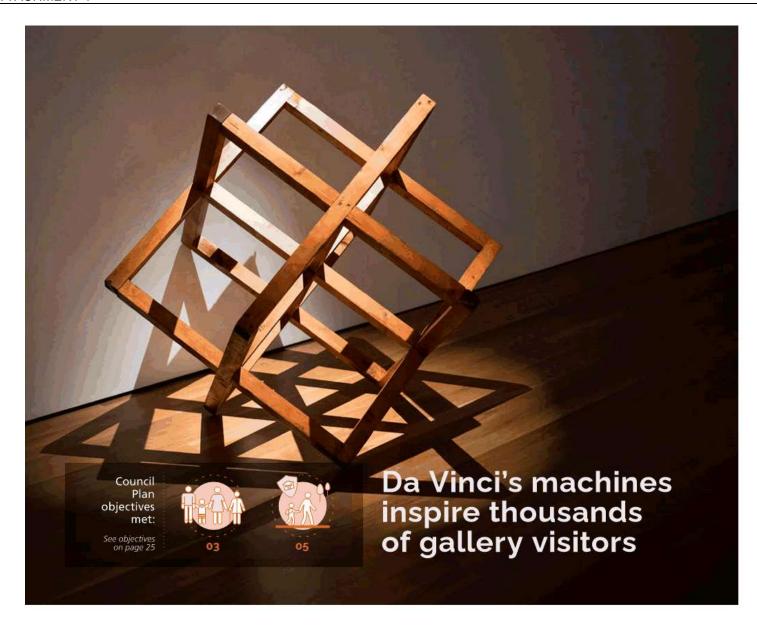
Gippsland businesses MSD Painting, Morrow Plumbing, Platinum Electricians, WELDTEK, CME Installations, Cornwall Building, Carpet Country, MTS Excavations and Drilling, J.O Miller and M&JM Cook, among others, contributed to the project.

The stadium was funded by \$17 million from the Victorian Government's \$85 million Latrobe Valley Sports and Community Initiative, administered by Latrobe Valley Authority, and \$2 million Sport and Recreation Victoria's Community Sports Infrastructure Loan Scheme.

### TSS Fast Facts

- 8 ball sports courts, 1 showcourt, 3000 spectator seats
- Gymnastics facility
- Basketball Victoria highperformance hub
- Home of GippSport new office space
- 55,000 hours total worked on site (approx.)
- 85% local labour content
- \$19 million redevelopment

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An international exhibition of the ideas of a great inventor exposed Latrobe Regional Gallery to a new legion of fans – as well as art-lovers who already appreciate the iconic arts hub in Morwell.

The Da Vinci Machines exhibition showed more than 60 machines based on original drawings by Leonardo Da Vinci - one of the world's most recognised inventors - and attracted more than 9500 people during its two months' duration.

Held from 26 February to 25 April 2021, the exhibition boosted the City's economy and cultural scene, and encouraged visitors to shop and dine while in Morwell.

Latrobe City Council Mayor, Cr Sharon Gibson said the exhibition attracted people who would not normally attend the gallery.

"Generally more females than males visit the gallery, however the Da Vinci exhibition drew significant interest from males who were no doubt intrigued by Da Vinci's mechanical ingenuity and engineering feats," she said.

In one week alone, 1513 people saw the exhibition. Fifty tours were conducted and 2151 people took part in public programs and workshops. The exhibition was visited by 1836 school children, who enjoyed free bus travel, funded by a grant from the Department of Transport.

Among the machines on show were a mechanical drumming robot, flying machines such as a hang glider, automatons (the precursors to robots), machines of war, a bicycle, scuba suit, a spring-powered car and an airscrew, the precursor to the helicopter.

Visitors saw replicas of iconic Da Vinci paintings, including the famous Mona Lisa, and enjoyed workshops, inventing sessions for children, life drawing, a family fun day and late-night trading.









"This exhibition appealed to Latrobe City residents and also visitors from across the region and even Melbourne," Cr Gibson said.

"Da Vinci's creations excite this generation as much as they have excited previous generations. His studies in nature, anatomy, mechanics, flight and robotics are more than 500 years old and prove that Da Vinci was clearly a man before his time."

The machines came from Italy, where they were crafted by the acclaimed Artisans of Florence in collaboration with The Niccolai Group. The exhibition was based around themes: War Machines, Robotics, Flying Machines, Nautical and Hydraulic Machines, Civil Machines and the Art Gallery.

Latrobe City Council offered free entry to this remarkable exhibition as a gift to the community after the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

And visitors cherished the opportunity to see the exhibition, making such comments as:

"Second time I've seen this expo. First time was in Florence, Italy. 'Wow'."

"Excellent 10/10 rating."

"Great, well worth visiting."

"Extraordinary. The fore-running of so many things."

"Absolutely fantastic exhibition."

"Loved the whole exhibit and the interactive section."

"Fabulous. One of the best exhibitions I have seen."

"Wowsers! What a fabulous way to spend a wet afternoon. Thank you!"

Additional support from the Latrobe Valley Authority and Council's Public Programs partner Opal ensured everyone could access this unique opportunity.

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# The people have their say

The people who live in and visit Latrobe City have contributed to how the City will look in the future.

Council received 1453 responses to its community survey, Your Latrobe, to provide feedback to help Council prepare a new Community Vision and Council Plan, Financial Plan, and Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan by October 2021.

The survey asked the community about what makes Latrobe City a great place now and what could make it better. Participants were asked for three features that made Latrobe City a good place overall, a good place to work, study and visit, and to name current and future challenges.

The project looked at what our region boasts that people wish to maintain, as well as the missing pieces that our community needs to ensure Council meets the community's aspirations.

Survey respondents noted safety as the most important factor for Council to focus on, followed by economy and employment; built environment; health and social connection/belonging; climate change; natural environment; and arts and creative industries.

The respondents named family and friends as the key reason Latrobe City is a great place to be, and distance to home as the main reason Latrobe is a good place to work and study.

As an incentive to take part, community group and sports clubs that participated in the survey were offered the opportunity to go into the draw to win a \$1000 gift voucher from any Latrobe City business.

Children were invited to express their thoughts through a colouring in or drawing activity, and had the chance to win one of 20 Your Latrobe Family Fun Packs.

Each pack contained a \$50 Stadium 34 voucher, Latrobe Leisure Family Swim pass, two vouchers for Kids Mega Shakes from Momo Traralgon and a \$20 Wyncity Morwell voucher.

The survey responses were intended to feed the second stage of community engagement – a community panel – in July 2021.

A panel of 100 people were to meet to deliberate on important key priorities to be included in the plans being developed this year.

# The world tunes into our Rose Garden Festival





The COVID-19 pandemic was unable to stop Morwell's beloved annual rose celebration from blooming; it just made the event grow in another way.

The International Rose Garden Festival Morwell was held virtually on the weekend of November 14-15, 2020, due to COVID-19 restrictions.

More than 800 patrons registered for the online celebration and the main section of the festival website received more than 14,000 visits.

Despite the pandemic, the roses still bloomed in the world famous Centenary Rose Garden of Morwell.

"The festival attracted interest from around the world, from countries such as Canada, the United Kingdom, Italy and Pakistan, as well as gardening enthusiasts from every state in Australia," Latrobe City Council Mayor, Cr Sharon Gibson said.

International presenters included Jonathan Webster, curator of the Royal Horticultural Society Gardens Rosemoor (UK) and Rebecca Koraytem of David Austin Roses (US), who spoke about rose preparation in other locations. Other speakers included leading rosarian Kelvin Trimper from Adelaide and beekeeper Sean-Paul Smith from the Latrobe Valley Beekeepers Association. Costa Georgiadis, host of the ABC's Gardening Australia, and children's gardening entertainer, Dirtgirl, also performed.

The only physical event, the AGL Midsummer Night Light Show in the Rose Garden, attracted nearly 2000 people over the Saturday and Sunday nights.

"Social distancing was maintained throughout the garden and many families took the opportunity to finally have something to celebrate as they marvelled at the outstanding illumination installation," Central Ward Councillor Graeme Middlemiss said.

"A lasting legacy from this year's International Rose Garden Festival is a virtual tour video of the Rose Garden that incorporates 360 degree panoramas, close-ups of particular rose varieties and a host of interesting facts that beautifully showcases our magnificent Rose Garden. This will be a valuable tool to assist in the marketing of Latrobe City."

Rose Garden President Del Matthews praised Council's Events Team for having the vision to hold the virtual event.

"The virtual presentation opened up the festival to so many people worldwide who otherwise would not have had access to being part of this festival," she said.

"Even locally there are many people who would have been unable to physically attend the festival, not only due to COVID-19 but a wide variety of reasons such as health, transport and elderly. And there it was to enjoy in their lounge-rooms."

Del felt it was important for the festival to proceed despite the pandemic, to maintain continuity. Almost 200 people enjoyed the outdoor dining event in Morwell on the Saturday and Sunday as part of the festival.

Council delivered the State Government's Outdoor Dining Initiative which aimed to encourage the community to support local cafés and restaurants safely during the pandemic.

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# **Setting Our Direction**

Each year, Latrobe City Council reviews its four-year business plans, setting out activities and objectives that align with the strategic directions of the Council Plan.

Delivering on the objectives of the Council Plan is measured against the achievement of identified actions and a number of performance indicators that form part of the performance reporting process.

This process is outlined in the following Planning and Reporting Framework.



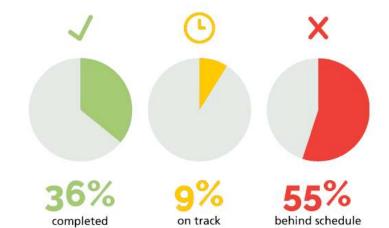


# Council **Report Card**

### **Major Initiatives**

Most significant annual actions included within the Latrobe City Council Annual Budget 2020/21. Measured by the delivery of listed projects.

> Of the 11 major initiatives the following summary is provided:

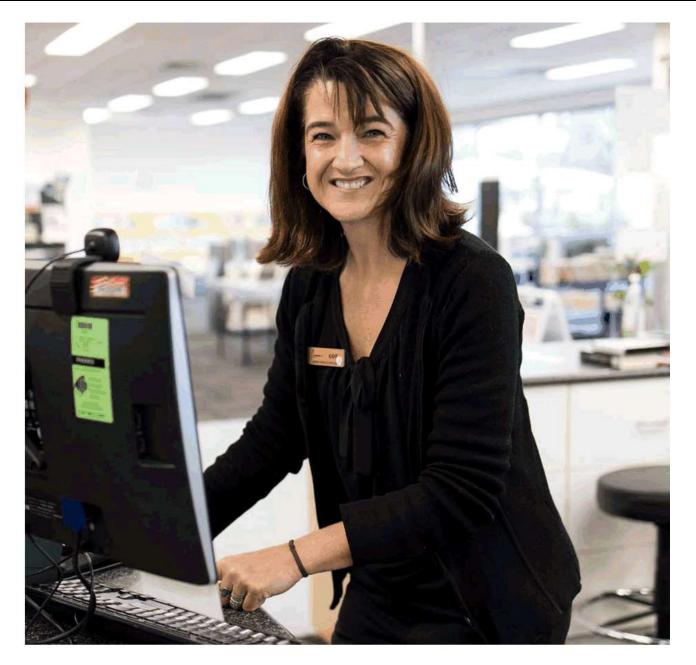


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# **Total Societal Impact**

Latrobe City Council is committed to developing our capability to measure Total Societal Impact (TSI) in relation to the services we provide to the community.

TSI assists in evaluating a service by measuring a large range of factors including social benefits, health benefits and economic benefits, which together represent the total value the service provides from the ratepayer money spent in providing the service.

Understanding the total value delivered to our community results in better informed decisions in regards to policy and investment in the service.

For example, Sport Victoria has reviewed TSI in relation to community sporting and active recreation infrastructure. In addition to the economic benefits, Sport Victoria quantified the health and social benefits such as reduced risk of chronic diseases, improved mental health, increased social connectedness and community pride and found that across Victoria, community sport and active recreation had a TSI of \$7.04 billion, which significantly exceeded the financial investment in this area.

Future development of TSI measures of Latrobe City services could include Leisure, Libraries, Performing Arts, Economic Development, Events and a range of other services.

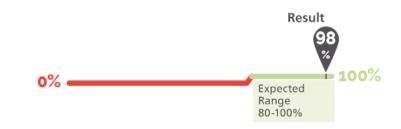
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# **Local Government performance reporting framework indicators**

Standard performance indicators required across all Victorian Local Government Areas. Measured by the expected range. Example shown to the right.

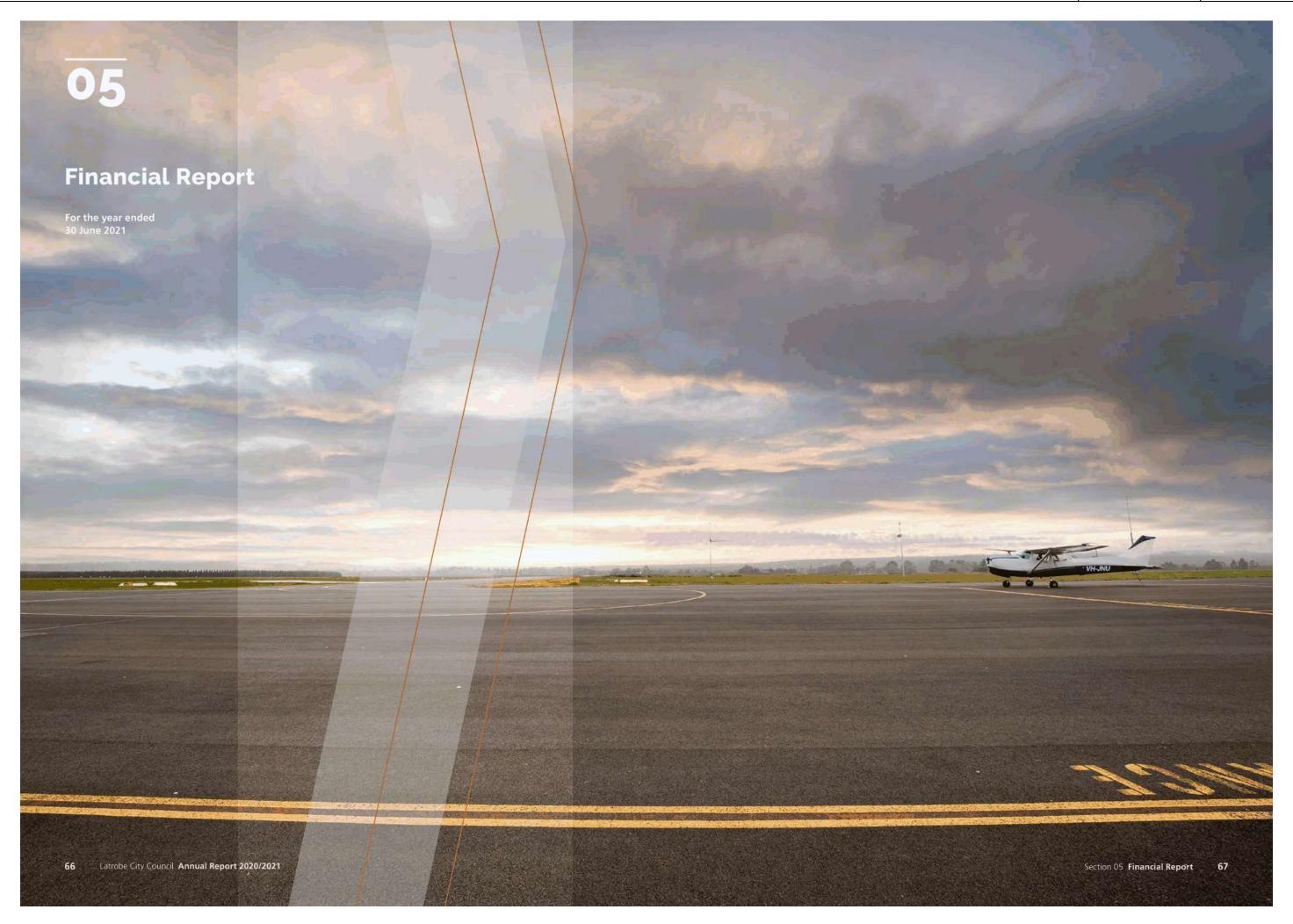
Further commentary, on the results, of key performance indicators (KPI) can be viewed at www.knowyourcouncil.vic.gov.au

KPI	Measure	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
AF2	Health inspections of aquatic facilities	1.00	1.00	2.00	1.83	2.33
AF6	Utilisation of aquatic facilities	2.39	3.59	4.92	4.91	5.18
AF7	Cost of aquatic facilities	10.46	7.19			
AM1	Time taken to action animal management requests	1.49	2.27	2.69	2.07	1.96
AM2	Animals reclaimed	44%	42%	40%	31%	37%
AM5	Animals re-homed	29.28%	10.72%	_	_	_
AM6	Cost of animal management service per population	\$10.67	\$9.65	\$7.54	\$5.04	\$8.34
AM7	Animals management prosecutions	100%	100%			
C1	Expenses per head of municipal population	1844.30	1804.54	1812.98	1890.50	1563.30
C2	Infrastructure per head of municipal population	14,243.89	13,865.12	13,210.02	13,086.30	12,929.15
C3	Population density per length of road	52.46	45.66	45.92	45.75	45.51
C4	Own-source revenue per head of municipal population	1279.87	1356.27	1325.92	1288.25	1350.30
C5	Recurrent grants per head of municipal population	361.42	375.31	352.82	377.74	428.82
C6	Relative socio-economic disadvantage	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00
C7	Staff turnover rate	17.24%	10.70%	12.46%	9.77%	10.17%
E2	Expenses per property assessment	\$3612.97	\$3518.91	\$3534.00	\$3689.81	\$3037.72
E4	Average rate per property assessment	\$1556.02	\$1541.57	_	_	
FS1	Time taken to action food complaints	0.67	2.18	1.64	1.78	1.24
FS2	Food safety assessments	118.67%	75.38%	130%	83%	97%
FS3	Cost of food safety service	\$403.48	\$383.59	\$343.00	\$335.19	\$331.32
FS4	Critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications	75.33%	63.12%	88.54%	93.44%	79.19%
G1	Council decisions made at meetings closed to the public	14.36%	20.09%	21.90%	20.78%	17.37%
G2	Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement	58.00	55.00	57.00	57.00	54.00
G3	Councillor attendance at Council meetings	97.78%	97.04%	94.15%	97.04%	95.42%
G4	Cost of governance	\$36,960.36	\$41,516.42	\$39,306.84	\$39,164.29	\$38,508.56
G5	Satisfaction with Council decisions	56.00	53.00	54.00	52.00	51.00
L1	Current assets compared to current liabilities	253.01%	267.49%	324.70%	321.71%	302.09%
L2	Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities	29%	25.13%	-71.18%	-4.55%	-55.08%
LB1	Library collection usage	1.62	2.54	2.36	2.46	2.60



KPI	Measure	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17
LB2	Standard of library collection	48.01%	49.94%	45.56%	49.36%	55.72%
LB4	Active library members	9.76%	10.31%	10.34%	10.28%	11.59%
LB5	Cost of library service per population	\$34.27	\$36.32	\$36.72	\$28.78	\$29.95
MC2	Infant enrolments in the MCH service	100.11%	101.15%	100.98%	100.65%	97.42%
MC3	Cost of the MCH service	\$79.39	\$80.56	\$80.39	\$77.44	\$71.97
MC4	Participation in the MCH service	74.51%	72.59%	70.48%	72.58%	76.27%
MC5	Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children	86.68%	76.04%	69.14%	70.86%	68.24%
MC6	Participation in first MCH home visit	92.23%	93.67%			_
02	Loans and borrowings compared to rates	20.39%	12.72%	19.31%	22.08%	21.50%
О3	Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates	1.24%	11.98%	2.91%	3.47%	3.68%
04	Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue	32.34%	24.74%	26.91%	39.01%	30.29%
05	Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation	82.71%	152.23%			_
OP1	Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)	-5.00%	-1.47%	-5.01%	-11.21%	13.24%
R1	Sealed local road requests	76.68	37.85	34.56	33.29	30.23
R2	Sealed local roads maintained to condition standards	99.70%	99.98%	99.71%	99.88%	99.34%
R3	Cost of sealed local road reconstruction	\$132.18	\$155.75	\$104.92	\$153.43	\$185.62
R4	Cost of sealed local road resealing	\$13.00	\$11.25	\$11.68	\$10.36	\$9.75
R5	Satisfaction with sealed local roads	61.00	57.00	60.00	56.00	61.00
S1	Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue	61%	60.11%	60.08%	59.41%	56.32%
52	Rates compared to property values	0.66%	0.69%	0.69%	0.70%	0.70%
SP1	Time taken to decide planning applications (days)	63.00	52.00	56.00	52.00	73.00
SP2	Planning applications decided within required time-frames	95.04%	96.30%	95.57%	95.45%	92.16%
SP3	Cost of statutory planning service	\$1991.09	\$2514.72	\$2477.90	\$2469.20	\$3023.27
SP4	Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT	0%	40.00%	40.00%	60.00%	57.14%
WC1	Kerbside bin collection requests	146.11	148.12	126.63	153.51	146.44
WC2	Kerbside collection bins missed	2.90	3.16	2.80	3.23	3.38
WC3	Cost of kerbside garbage bin collection service	\$108.84	\$106.57	\$103.97	\$101.27	\$99.57
WC4	Cost of kerbside recyclables collection service	\$26.06	\$26.34	\$26.20	\$24.70	\$24.31
WC5	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill	49.17%	51.43%	52.08%	53.95%	53.24%

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# **Certification of the Financial Statement**

In my opinion the accompanying financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014, Australian Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

MAS

Matthew Rogers CPA

Principal Accounting Officer

Dated: 09/09/2021

In our opinion the accompanying financial statements present fairly the financial transactions of Latrobe City Council for the year ended 30 June 2021 and the financial position of the Council as at the date.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the financial statements to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 to certify the financial statements in their final form.

Cr Graeme Middlemiss Councillor Dated: 09/09/2021

Cr Melissa Ferguson Councillor Dated: 09/09/2021

Steven Piasente Chief Executive Officer Dated: 09/09/2021

# Auditor General's Report on Financial Report

# VAGO Victorian Auditor-General's Office

# **Independent Auditor's Report**

# To the Councillors of Latrobe City Council

#### Opinion

I have audited the financial report of Latrobe City Council (the council) which comprises the:

- balance sheet as at 30 June 2021
- comprehensive income statement for the year then ended
- statement of changes in equity for the year then ended
- statement of cashflows for the year then ended
- statement of capital works for the year then ended
- notes to the financial statements, including significant accounting policies
- certification of the financial statements.

In my opinion the financial report presents fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the council as at 30 June 2021 and their financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with the financial reporting requirements of Part 6 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and applicable Australian Accounting Standards.

## Basis for Opinion

I have conducted my audit in accordance with the *Audit Act 1994* which incorporates the Australian Auditing Standards. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Report* section of my report.

My independence is established by the *Constitution Act 1975*. My staff and I are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 *Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants* (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the financial report in Victoria. My staff and I have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

# Councillors' responsibilities for the financial report

The Councillors of the council are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial report in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards and the *Local Government Act 1989*, and for such internal control as the Councillors determine is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of a financial report that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial report, the Councillors are responsible for assessing the council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless it is inappropriate to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial report As required by the *Audit Act 1994*, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the financial report based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial report as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of this financial report.

As part of an audit in accordance with the Australian Auditing Standards, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. I also:

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial report,
  whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to
  those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a
  basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting
  from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion,
  forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal
  control.
- obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the council's internal control
- evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Councillors
- conclude on the appropriateness of the Councillors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the council's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial report, including the disclosures, and whether the financial report represents the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with the Councillors regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

MELBOURNE 27 September 2021

as delegate for the Auditor-General of Victoria

Level 31 / 35 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000 T 03 8601 7000 enquiries@audit.vic.gov.au www.audit.vic.gov.au

# **Comprehensive Income Statement**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
INCOME			
Rates and charges	3.1	81,757	80,776
Statutory fees and fines	3.2	2,429	2,396
User fees	3.3	9,497	11,502
Grants - operating	3.4	33,627	29,347
Grants - capital	3.4	26,999	67,831
Contributions - monetary	3.5	696	788
Contributions - non monetary	3.5	6,766	3,588
Other income	3.6	3,478	5,112
Total income		165,249	201,340
EXPENSES			
Employee costs	4.1	(58,305)	(58,093)
Materials and services	4.2	(40,703)	(39,337)
Depreciation	4.3	(28,166)	(27,956)
Amortisation - intangible assets	4.4	(630)	(651)
Amortisation - right of use assets	4.5	(39)	(25)
Bad and doubtful debts	4.6	(9)	(34)
Borrowing costs	4.7	(289)	(390)
Finance costs - leases	4.8	(29)	(29)
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	4.9	(3,869)	(6,419)
Landfill rehabilitation provision movement	5.5	(1,409)	2,695
Other expenses	4.10	(6,562)	(3,419)
Total expenses		(140,010)	(133,658)
Surplus/ (Deficit) for the year		25,239	67,682
,			
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME			
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods			
Net asset revaluation increment/(decrement)	9.1	20,409	(3,151)
Total comprehensive result		45,648	64,531

The above comprehensive income statement should be read in conjuction with the accompanying notes.

# **Balance Sheet**

As at 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Assets			
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	39,905	38,73
Trade and other receivables	5.1	5,536	6,68
Other financial assets	5.1	70,800	70,169
Other assets	5.2	6,451	4,402
Total current assets		122,692	119,983
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Trade and other receivables	5.1	5	9
Other financial assets	5.1	2	
Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	6.2	1,275,923	1.222.598
Right-of-use assets	5.8	684	72:
Intangible assets	5.2	93	724
Total non-current assets	0.2	1,276,707	1,224,056
TOTAL 400FT0		4 000 000	4.044.00
TOTAL ASSETS		1,399,399	1,344,039
Liabilities			
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	5.3	27,590	22,20
Trust funds and deposits	5.3	3,779	3,247
Provisions	5.5	15,638	16,85
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	5.4	1,459	2,527
Lease liabilities	5.8	27	29
Total current liabilities		48,493	44,85
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Provisions	5.5	15,531	16,894
Interest-bearing loans and borrowings	5.4	15,215	7,749
Lease liabilities	5.8	677	706
Total non-current liabilities		31,423	25,349
TOTAL LIABILITIES		79,916	70,204
TO THE EINSTITES		10,010	70,20
NET ASSETS		1,319,483	1,273,83
Equity			
Accumulated surplus		810,012	784,822
Reserves	9.1	509,471	489,013
TOTAL EQUITY		1,319,483	1,273,83

The above balance sheet should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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# **Statement of Changes in Equity**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

			Accumulated	Revaluation	Other
		Total	Surplus	Reserve	Reserves
	Note	(\$'000)	(\$'000)	(\$'000)	(\$'000)
2021					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,273,835	784,822	484,437	4,576
Surplus for the year		25,239	25,239	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment	6.2	20,409	-	20,409	
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	-	(695)		695
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	-	646	-	(646)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,319,483	810,012	504,846	4,625
2020					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,235,374	744,259	487,586	3,529
Impact of change in accounting policy - AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts with Customers	10	(1,238)	(1,238)		-
Impact of change in accounting policy - AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities	10	(24,832)	(24,832)	-	-
Impact of change in accounting policy - AASB 16 Leases	5.8	-	-	-	-
Adjusted Opening balance		1,209,304	718,189	487,586	3,529
Surplus for the year		67,682	67,682		
Net asset revaluation decrement	6.2	(3,149)		(3,149)	
Transfers to other reserves	9.1	-	(1,073)	-	1,071
Transfers from other reserves	9.1	-	24	-	(24)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,273,835	784,822	484,437	4,576

The above statement of changes in equity should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

# **Statement of Cash Flows**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Rates and charges		83,753	80,047
Statutory fees and fines		2,427	2,385
User fees		9,518	12,651
Grants - operating		36,690	32,386
Grants - capital		27,980	52,930
Contributions - monetary		698	889
Interest received		1,467	2,955
Trust funds and deposits taken		12,687	12,499
Other receipts		2,186	3,587
Net GST refund/ (payment)		3,137	(2,428)
Employee costs		(59,466)	(56,776)
Materials and services		(45,915)	(48,858)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments		(159)	(36)
Trust funds and deposits repaid		(12,155)	(11,891)
Other payments		(3,909)	(3,191)
Net cash provided by operating activities	9.2	58,939	77,149
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(63,355)	(86,627)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		165	808
Payments for investments		(210,800)	(120,969)
Proceeds from sale of investments		210,169	147,512
Loans and advances made		-	-
Payments of loans and advances		4	7
Net cash used in investing activities		(63,817)	(59,269)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Finance costs		(288)	(435)
Proceeds from borrowings		7,125	4,450
Repayment of borrowings		(727)	(9,238)
Interest paid - lease liability		(29)	(29)
Repayment of lease liabilities		(29)	(14)
Net cash used in financing activities		6,052	(5,266)
Not be seen of the seen and seek and seek and seek		4.474	10.011
Net increase/ (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		1,174	12,614
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		38,731	26,117
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		39,905	38,731
Financing arrangements	5.6		
Restrictions on cash assets	5.1		

The above statement of cash flows should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.

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# **Statement of Capital Works**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Note	2021 5'000	2020 \$'000
PROPERTY			
Land		*	==
Total land		155	23
Buildings		34,822	62,945
Heritage buildings			25
Total buildings		34,822	62,945
Total property		34,822	62,945
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT			
Plant, machinery and equipment		1,776	2,451
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		71	7
Computers and telecommunications		653	342
Art collection		9	8
Total plant and equipment		2,509	2,808
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Roads		13,962	12,191
Bridges		914	413
Footpaths and cycleways		1,967	2,935
Drainage		398	734
Recreational, leisure and community facilities		3,552	2,741
Waste management		1,381	425
Parks, open space and streetscapes		807	3,900
Off street car parks		233	611
Other infrastructure		525	60
Total infrastructure		23,739	24,010
Total capital works expenditure		61,070	89,763
Represented by:			
New asset expenditure		37,775	47,205
Asset renewal expenditure		19,335	20,860
Asset expansion expenditure			
Asset upgrade expenditure		3,960	21,698
Total capital works expenditure	1.2	61,070	89,763

The above Statement of Capital Works should be read in conjunction with the accompanying notes.



# Notes to the Financial Statement

For the year ended 30 June 2021

### **OVERVIEW**

The Latrobe City Council was established by an Order of the Governor in Council on 2 December 1994 and is a body corporate. The Council's main office is located at 141 Commercial Road Morwell 3840.

### **Statement of Compliance**

These financial statements are a general purpose financial report that consists of a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows, Statement of Capital Works and Notes accompanying these financial statements. The general purpose financial report complies with Australian Accounting Standards (AAS), other authoritative pronouncements of the Australian Accounting Standards Board (AASB), the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

### **Significant Accounting Policies**

### (a) Basis of accounting

The accrual basis of accounting has been used in the preparation of these financial statements, whereby assets, liabilities, equity, income and expenses are recognised in the reporting period to which they relate, regardless of when cash is received or paid.

Judgements, estimates and assumptions are required to be made about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated judgements are based on professional judgement derived from historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised and also in future periods that are affected by the revision. Judgements and assumptions made by management in the application of AAS's that have significant effects on the financial statements and estimates relate to:

- The fair value of land, buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to Note 6.2)
- The determination of depreciation for buildings, infrastructure, plant and equipment (refer to note 6.2)

- The determination of employee provisions (refer to note 5.5)
- The determination of landfill provisions (refer to note 5.5)
- The determination of whether performance obligations are sufficiently specific so as to determine whether an arrangement is within the scope of AASB 15 Revenue from Contracts wtih Customers or AASB 1058 Income of Not-for-Profit Entities (refer to Note 3)
- The determination, in accordance with AASB 16 Leases, of the lease term, the estimation of the discount rate when not implicit in the lease and whether an arrangement is substance shot-term or low value (refer to Note 5.8)
- Whether or not AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors is applicable (refer to Note 8.2)
- · Other areas requiring judgements

Unless otherwise stated, all accounting policies are consistent with those applied in the prior year. Where appropriate, comparative figures have been amended to accord with current presentation and disclosure has been made of any material changes to comparatives.

## (b) Impact of Covid-19

On 16 March 2020 a state of emergency was declared in Victoria due to the global pandemic COVID-19 virus, known as coronavirus. A state of disaster was subsequently declared on 2 August 2020. While the impacts of the pandemic have abated somewhat through the 2020-21 year, Council has noted the following significant impacts on its financial operations:

#### Revenue reductions

Across council's services there has been a significant reduction in user fees and charges because of service closures, restrictions on attendances and decreased demand. These reductions have primarily impacted the areas of leisure and performing arts and has resulted in decreased revenue of \$2148K. In addition, there has also been a decrease in statutory fees and fines, namely parking fine revenue of \$328K. There has also been decreased associated expenses in these areas and other areas such as libraries, events and tourism all linked to Covid of \$2452K.

#### · Revenue foregone

Council passed a resolution on the 6 April 2020 to introduce a Business and Community Support Package in recognition of the COVID-19 pandemic and the significant widespread community and economic impacts within Latrobe City. This package included waiver of fees and charges associated with street trading and outdoor dining permits, health registration fees, planning permit fees, sporting club permits and annual ground rentals, and venue hire fees resulting in a decrease in revenue of \$482K.

### Additional costs

Council incurred additional costs associated with the Business and Community Support Package of \$782K which included an extension to the community grants program, small business support program, and program management costs. In addition, council also incurred \$503K of expenditure directly related to Covid responses including additional advertising, OH&S supplies and protective clothing, cleaning, signage and employee costs.

 Financial hardship provisions were also introduced for ratepayers experiencing financial hardship which resulted in the deferral of rates revenue and waiver of penalty interest.

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# Note 1: Performance against budget

The performance against budget notes compare Council's financial plan, expressed through its annual budget, with actual performance. The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 requires explanation of any material variances. Council has adopted a materiality threshold of the lower of 10 percent or \$250,000 where further explanation is warranted. Explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality threshold unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The budget figures detailed below are those adopted by Council on 3 August 2020. The Budget was based on assumptions that were relevant at the time of adoption of the Budget. Council sets guidelines and parameters for revenue and expense targets in this budget in order to meet Council's planning and financial performance targets for both the short and long-term. The budget did not reflect any changes to equity resulting from asset revaluations, as their impacts were not considered predictable.

These notes are prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

1.1 Income and Expenditure	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 %	Ref
INCOME					
Rates and charges	81,377	81,757	380	0%	1
Statutory fees and fines	2,126	2,429	303	14%	2
User fees	12,277	9,497	(2,780)	(23%)	3
Grants - operating	25,274	33,627	8,353	33%	4
Grants - capital	19,734	26,999	7,265	37%	5
Contributions - monetary	90	696	606	673%	6
Contributions - non monetary	4,000	6,766	2,766	69%	7
Other income	3,707	3,478	(229)	(6%)	8
Total income	148,585	165,249	16,664	11%	
EXPENSES					
Employee costs	60,030	58,305	1,725	3%	9
Materials and services	37,216	40,703	(3,487)	(9%)	10
Bad and doubtful debts	9	9	-	0%	
Depreciation	29,823	28,166	1,657	6%	11
Amortisation - Intangible assets	612	630	(18)	(3%)	0
Amortisation - Right of use assets	-	39	(39)	100%	12
Borrowing costs	651	289	362	56%	13
Finance Costs - Leases		29	(29)	100%	14
Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and		3,869	(3,869)	100%	15
Other expenses	4,189	6,562	(2,373)	(57%)	16
Landfill provision movement	-	1,409	(1,409)	100%	17
Total expenses	132,530	140,010	(7,480)	(6%)	
SURPLUS/ (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	16,055	25,239	9,184	57%	

(i) Explanation of material variations - Income and Expenditure

REF	ITEM	EXPLANATION
1	Rates and charges	Outcome: Favourable \$0.38 million (0%) Higher than expected growth in Council's rate base as a result of supplementary valuations from subdivisions and property improvements \$0.33M and additional waste charge assessments \$0.05M.
2	Statutory fees and fines	Outcome: Favourable \$0.3 million (14%) Favourable variances for planning permits and works permits partially offset by unfavourable parking fines income substantially due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

REF	ITEM	EXPLANATION
3	User fees	Outcome: Unfavourable \$2.78 million (23%) Lower than expected fees and charges mainly due to COVID shutdowns and restrictions on council services. Latrobe Leisure programs \$1.31M, pre-School and pre-Kinder \$0.60M (funded by state government). In addition the budget did not allow for Council's transition out of the Family Day Care Program which accounts for \$0.58M of the variance and there was less landfill gate fees collected than expected \$\$0.37M.
4	Grants - operating	Outcome: Favourable \$8.35 million (33%) The favourable variance is mainly due to unbudgeted/increased grants for pre school programs (including replacing user fees) \$1.93M, Working for Victoria \$1.77M, major recreation projects project directors office \$1.17M, emergency management and recovery \$1.14M, sports lighting projects \$0.55M, outdoor eating package \$0.50M, car parks early works package \$0.35M and Traralgon South tennis/netball courts \$0.34M.
5	Grants - capital	Outcome: Favourable \$7.27 million (37%)  The favourable variance is largely due to timing variances mainly related to funding for Latrobe Valley Sports and Community Initiative projects \$3.70M, Gippsland Performing Arts Centre (GPAC) \$2.44M, Future Morwell Commercial Road \$0.59M together with various other smaller amounts. In addition unbudgeted grant funds have been received for the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program \$1.12M, Latrobe Leisure Churchill structural remediation and squash courts \$0.34M, Moe Apex Park AAA Playspace \$0.33M, Yinnar Hall upgrade \$0.27M, Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough multi purpose facility \$0.23M and various projects. These variances have been partially offset by an unfavourable timing variance in receipt of grant funding for the Gippsland Logistics Precinct \$1.91M and the Safe Traffic in Local Streets program \$0.74M.
6	Contributions - monetary	Outcome: Favourable \$0.61 million (673%)  The favourable variance is mainly due to the higher than expected receipt of contributions for open space and future infrastructure works associated with new property subdivison development.
7	Contributions - non monetary	Outcome: Favourable \$2.77 million (69%) Higher than expected contribution of land and infrastructure assets have been received mainly due to the budget being based on uncertain development projections due to the timing of developers requesting a Statement of Compliance for their subdivisions.
8	Other income	Outcome: Unfavourable \$0.23 million (6%) The unfavourable variance is primarily due to low interest rates resulting in decreased interest on investments \$0.976M, and reduced kiosk sales in Latrobe Leisure due to COVID closures \$0.342M. These have been partially offset by unbudgeted reimbursements \$0.481M, sale of carbon generation units at landfill \$0.251M, interest on rates and charges \$0.157M, and various other smaller variance items.
9	Employee Costs	Outcome: Favourable \$1.73 million (3%) The favourable variance is mainly due to a reduction in the long service leave provision as a result of lower wages inflation and higher discount rates applied to calculate the present value of leave liabilities \$2.111M, together with reduced costs across services impacted by COVID closures e.g. Leisure, Libraries, Events and Tourism. This is partially offset by employees costs associated with the state government funded Working for Victoria program (\$2.34M), higher workcover premiums (\$0.198M).

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# Note 1: Performance against budget (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variations - Income and Expenditure (continued)

REF	ITEM	EXPLANATION
10	Materials and services	Outcome: Unfavourable \$3.49 million (9%) The variance is predominantly a result of expenditure that was budgeted as capital but has been expensed as a result of it not meeting the criteria required to be capitalised \$1.4M, together with expenditure funded from unbudgeted government grants and income received in previous financial years.
11	Depreciation	Outcome: Favourable \$1.66 million (6%) The favourable variance is mainly in the Buildings category (\$1.13M) due to the later than anticipated timing of completion of major projects such as the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Facility and Gippsland Performing Arts Centre . In addition total infrastructure depreciation was less than expected (\$0.61M) due to the re-valuation that was implemented at the end of the 2019/20 financial year, after the 2020/21 budget had been formulated.
12	Amortisation - right of use assets	Outcome: Unfavourable \$0.04 million (100%) The impact of the implementation of AASB 16 Leases had not been assessed when the budget was formulated.
13	Borrowing costs	Outcome: Favourable \$0.36 million (56%) Lower loan repayments due to later than expected and reduced drawdown of loan funds for the Gippsland Regional Aquatics Facility.
14	Finance costs - leases	Outcome: Unfavourable \$0.03 million (100%) The impact of the implementation of AASB 16 Leases had not been assessed when the budget was formulated. Lease payments were budgeted under the "Other expenses" line item.
15	Net loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	Outcome: Unfavourable \$3.87 million (100%) The variation is associated with the disposal of assets renewed as part of the capital works program. This process was not factored in to the 2020/21 budget process and involves the disposal of the residual value of assets that have been replaced with a renewed asset and relates mainly to asset classes of infrastructure (\$3.81M) and buildings (\$0.13M). This has been partially offset by a gain on disposal of plant and fleet (\$0.11M).
16	Other expenses	Outcome: Unfavourable \$2.37 million (57%) The unfavourable variance is mainly due to the expensing of items from opening Capital Works in Progress (\$2.72M). This is partially offset by favourable variances due to lower than expected State Government landfill levies associated with reduced levels of waste to landfill during the year (\$0.23M) together with lower than anticipated community grants expenditure (\$0.23M).
17	Landfill provision movement	Outcome: Unfavourable \$1.41 million (100%)  An independent review of the expected costs to rehabilitate Council's existing and legacy landfill sites has resulted in an increase in the required provision. At the time the 2020/21 budget was formulated it was not anticipated that there would be a movement in this provision.

1.2 Capital Works	Budget 2021 \$'000	Actual 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 \$'000	Variance 2021 %	Ref
PROPERTY					
Land	-	-	-	100%	
Total land	-	-	-	100%	
Buildings	44,717	34,822	9,895	22%	1
Heritage buildings	-	-	-	100%	
Total buildings	44,717	34,822	9,895	22%	
Total property	44,717	34,822	9,895	22%	
PLANT AND EQUIPMENT					
Plant, machinery and equipment	2,987	1,776	1,211	41%	2
Fixtures, fittings and furniture	10	71	(61)	(610%)	3
Computers and telecommunications	600	653	(53)	(9%)	
Art collection	15	9	6	40%	4
Total plant and equipment	3,612	2,509	1,103	31%	
INFRASTRUCTURE					
Roads	13,778	13,962	(184)	(1%)	
Bridges	530	914	(384)	(72%)	5
Footpaths and cycleways	1,248	1,967	(719)	(58%)	6
Drainage	150	398	(248)	(165%)	7
Recreational, leisure and community facilities	2,604	3,552	(948)	(36%)	8
Waste management	2,638	1,381	1,257	48%	9
Parks, open space and streetscapes	8,205	807	7,398	90%	10
Off street car parks	208	233	(25)	(12%)	11
Other infrastructure	2,370	525	1,845	78%	12
Total infrastructure	31,731	23,739	7,992	25%	
Total capital works expenditure	80,060	61,070	18,990	24%	
Represented by:					
New asset expenditure	50,984	37,775	13,209	26%	13
Asset renewal expenditure	21,111	19,335	1,776	8%	14
Asset expansion expenditure	-	-	-	100%	, ,
Asset upgrade expenditure	7,965	3,960	4,005	50%	15
Total capital works expenditure	80,060	61,070	18,990	24%	

# (i) Explanation of material variations - Capital Works

REF	ITEM	EXPLANATION
1	Buildings	Outcome: Underspend \$9.9 million (22%) The underspend is largely a result of delays in the final construction and fit- out of the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre (\$8M) from original projections and the later than expected commencement of the Kernot Hall Refurbishment (\$2.7M) due to scoping considerations.
2	Plant, machinery and equipment	Outcome: Underspend \$1.211 million (41%)  The underspend is largely a result of deferrals in the replacement of fleet items due to reduced usage of council's vehicles during COVID restrictions, together with a delay in a major plant acquisition due to the item being unable to be delivered before the end of financial year.
3	Fixtures, fittings and furniture	Outcome: Overspend \$0.06 million (610%) Additional acquisitions were funded from operating budget lines, largely for library shelving upgrades.

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# Note 1: Performance against budget (continued)

(i) Explanation of material variations - Capital Works (continued)

REF	ITEM	EXPLANATION
4	Art collection	Outcome: Underspend \$0.006 million (610%) Minor delay in the acquisition of new artwork.
5	Bridges	Outcome: Overspend \$0.38 million (72%)  The overspend related to the unbudgeted reconstruction of Downies Lane bridge. External funding was secured durin the year to enable the project to be jointly funded. Council's contribution was funded from a previous financial year budget allocation.
6	Footpaths and cycleways	Outcome: Overspend \$0.72 million (165%)  The overspend was as a result of unbudgeted footpath projects financed from the Commonwealth government's Local Road and Community Infrastructure grant funding (\$0.63M).
7	Drainage	Outcome: Overspend \$0.25 million (48%) The overspend relates to drainage works (\$0.19M) incurred as part of the Roac Rehabilitation program which were funded under the Roads classification budget.
8	Recreational, leisure and community facilities	Outcome: Overspend \$0.95 million (36%) Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre recreation assets relating to pool infrastructure that were classified under buildings in the budget (\$3.2M), partially offset by Morwell Recreation Reserve Change rooms capitalised as Building's (\$1.15M), but classified in the budget as Recreational assets.
9	Waste management	Outcome: Underspend \$1.26 million (48%) Variances relate to unexpected timing of projects spanning multiple financial years - Hyland Hwy Landfill Cell 6 Construction (\$0.9M) delayed due to slower than expected filling of Cell 5 and the construction of the "Biogas to Energy" Project (\$0.38M).
10	Parks, open space and streetscapes	Outcome: Underspend \$7.4 million (90%)  Moe Revitalisation Project Stage 2 (\$7.7M) has been delayed as a result of Council exploring additional funding options and finalising the scope of the project.
11	Off street car parks	Outcome: Overspend \$0.03 million (12%)  Minor remaining works on Gippsland Regional Indoor Sporting Stadium car parking (\$0.03M) funded from monies carried over from the previous financial year.
12	Other infrastructure	Outcome: Underspend \$1.85 million (78%) Delayed progress of the Gippsland Logistics Precinct and Intermodal Freight Terminal (\$2.07M) due to the need for alternative design works required for a revised planning application.
13	New asset expenditure	Outcome: Underspend \$13.2 million (26%) Underspend mainly due to projects to be carried over to the next financial year which include the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre (\$8M) and Moe Revitalisation Project Stage 2 (\$7.7M).
14	Asset renewal expenditure	Outcome: Underspend \$1.78 million (8%) Underspend mainly due to projects to be carried over to the next financial year which include Building Renewal (\$0.6M), Hyland Hwy Landfill Cell 6 Construction (\$0.9M) and Waste Plant (\$0.4M).
15	Asset upgrade expenditure	Outcome: Underspend \$4.01 million (50%) Kernot Hall Refurbishment (\$2.7M) to be carried over to the next financial year. Fully funded Regional Roads Victoria Safe Traffic in Local Streets Program will also continue into the next financial year (\$0.74M).

# Note 2: Analysis of Council results by program

Council delivers its functions and activities through the following programs.

### 2.1 (a)

### Office of the Chief Executive

- · Office of the Chief Executive
- Mayoral and Council Support and Operations
- Engagement and Customer Focus
- Governance

### **Regional City Growth and Investment**

- Business Development
- · Economic Investment and Transition
- Creative Venues, Events and Tourism
- Regional City Planning (including Statutory, Strategic and Urban Growth planning)

#### **Organisational Performance**

- · Financial Performance
- Organisational Performance and Information Technology
- People and Culture

#### **Assets and Presentation**

- City Assets (Infrastructure Design, Infrastructure Planning, Civil Works, Major Projects & Building Maintenance and Recreation and Open Space Planning)
- City Presentation (includes Infrastructure Maintenance.
   Open Space Maintenance and Recreation Liaison)
- Environment Sustainability

### **Community Health and Wellbeing**

 Active Communities and Partnerships (includes Community Strengthening, Safe & Inclusive Communities, Community Resilience, Libraries and Leisure Facilities)

- Safe Communities (includes Building Services, Emergency Management, Health Services, Local Laws and Legal Proceedings)
- Aged Care Services
- Family Services

#### **Resource Recovery**

- Landfill Operations
- Waste and Recycling
- Litter Bins
- Garbage Charge revenue

### **Major Recreation Projects**

 Latrobe Valley Sports and Community Initiative Project Director's Office

#### Other Operating

 Other unattributable items e.g. Loan interest, unattributable cash & investments and sundry receivables.
A surplus is expected to be generated to fund repayment of loan principal

#### **Capital Works Program**

 Capital Works Program (includes items not capitalised, excludes Latrobe Valley Sports and Community Initiative and Waste & Landfill capital works)

2.1 (b) Summary of revenues,				Grants	
expenses, assets and capital			Surplus/	included	Total
expenses by program	Income	Expenses	(Deficit)	in income	assets
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2021					
Office of the Chief Executive	8,923	(8,485)	438	942	91
Regional City Growth & Investment	12,604	(10,639)	1,965	2,505	43,318
Organisational Performance	13,461	(14,053)	(592)	3,267	5,540
Assets & Presentation	43,158	(45,529)	(2,371)	6,284	1,009,092
Community Health & Wellbeing	40,742	(38,087)	2,655	18,135	172,872
Resource Recovery	16,636	(13,855)	2,781	141	26,729
Major Recreation Projects	7,753	(3)	7,750	1,165	2,255
Other Operating	332	(260)	72	-	79,845
Capital Works Program	21,640	(9,099)	12,541	28,187	59,657
	165,249	(140,010)	25,239	60,626	1,399,399
2020					
Office of the Chief Executive	4,747	(4,452)	295	617	79
Regional City Growth & Investment	11,517	(10,223)	1,294	2,144	42,156
Organisational Performance	16,377	(14,391)	1,986	2,696	5,835
Assets & Presentation	41,237	(48,526)	(7,289)	7,250	976,122
Community Health & Wellbeing	38,373	(40,083)	(1,710)	14,712	114,953
Resource Recovery	16,820	(9,207)	7,613	151	27,632
Major Recreation Projects	51,450	581	52,031	50,808	64,942
Other Operating	1,633	(1,633)	-	-	68,092
Capital Works Program	19,186	(5,724)	13,462	18,800	44,228

201,340

(133,658)

67,682

97,178

# Note 3: Funding for the delivery of our services

# 3.1 Rates and charges

Council uses Capital Improved Value (CIV) as the basis of valuation of all properties within the municipal district. The CIV of a property is the value of its land and all its improvements.

This valuation base was used to calculate general rates, excluding valuations for power generation companies and Australian Paper.

The valuation base used to calculate general rates for 2020/21 was \$12.305 million (2019/20 was \$11,725 million).

Municipal charge         5,415         5,34           Garbage charge         12,607         12,43		2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Garbage charge 12,607 12,43	General rates	54,504	53,716
	Municipal charge	5,415	5,389
EPA Victoria landfill levy 821 79	Garbage charge	12,607	12,437
	EPA Victoria landfill levy	821	751
Supplementary rates and rates adjustments 380 63	Supplementary rates and rates adjustments	380	634
Cultural and recreational 92	Cultural and recreational	92	84
Revenue in lieu of rates 7,938 7,76	Revenue in lieu of rates	7,938	7,765
Total rates and charges 81,757 80,77	Total rates and charges	81,757	80,776

The date of the latest general revaluation of land for rating purposes within the municipal district was 1 January 2020, and the valuation was first applied in the rating year commencing 1 July 2020.

Annual rates and charges are recognised as revenues when Council issues annual rates notices. Supplementary rates are recognised when a valuation and reassessment is completed and a supplementary rates notice issued.

### 3.2 Statutory fees and fines

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Infringement and costs	453	449
Town planning fees	18	10
Land information certificates	107	54
Permits	965	810
Pool and Spa Registrations	114	42
Health registrations	(25)	330
Animal registrations	572	536
Other	225	165
Total Statutory fees and fines	2,429	2,396

Statutory fees and fines (including parking fees and fines) are recognised as revenue when the service has been provided, the payment is received, or when the penalty has been applied, whichever first occurs.

### 3.3 User fees

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Aged and health services	1,931	1,807
Leisure centre and recreation	1,335	2,293
Child care/children's programs	3,481	4,092
Waste management services	1,988	2,361
Other fees and charges	762	949
Total User fees	9,497	11,502
User fees by timing of revenue recognition		
User fees recognised over time	_	-
User fees recognised at a point in time	9,497	11,502
Total User fees	9,497	11,502

User fees are recognised as revenue at a point in time, when (or as) the performance obligation is satisfied. Recognition is based on the underlying contractual terms.

### 3.4 Funding from other levels of government

Grants were received in respect of the following:

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'00
Summary of grants		
Commonwealth funded grants	26,592	24,65
State funded grants	34,034	72,52
otal grants received	60,626	97,17
a) Operating Grants		
Recurrent – Commonwealth Government		
Financial assistance grant	11,436	13,04
Aged and disability programs	3,035	2,2
Employment facilitation	226	2:
Family and children programs	98	
Recurrent –State Government		_
Preschools	5,802	4,62
Family and children programs	2,283	2,26
Maternal and child health	779	1,26
Aged and disability programs	319	1,04
ibraries	534	5
School crossing supervision	187	21
Arts programs	155	15
Environment sustainability	33	
Other		
Total recurrent operating grants	24,887	25,8
Non-Recurrent – Commonwealth Government		
Family and children programs	415	-
Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities	231	-
Economic development	160	20
Aged and disability programs	46	(
events And International Relations	21	10
Other	72	2
Non-Recurrent – State Government		-
Norking for Victoria COVID19 Response	1,773	44
Recreational, Leisure & Community Facilities	1,560	1,65
Pre Schools	875	3
Economic development	838	20
Community support and development programs	752	1
Natural disaster recovery	685	1
nfrastructure Planning	350	
Family and children programs	344	-
Strategic Planning	245	-
Public Lighting	120	10
Events & International Relations	25	14
Arts program	25	
Other	203	24
Fotal non-recurrent operating grants	8,740	3,53
Total operating grants	33,627	29,34

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# Note 3: Funding for the delivery of our services (continued)

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
(b) Capital Grants		
Recurrent – Commonwealth Government		
Roads to recovery program	2,550	2,55
Total recurrent capital grants	2,550	2,55
Non-Recurrent – Commonwealth Government		
Buildings	5,395	2.48
Roads	1,114	2,40
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	1,045	1.96
Parks, Open Spaces And Streetscapes	628	1,31
Bridges	120	-
Footpath & Cycleways	-	27
Non-Recurrent – State Government		
Buildings	12,502	51.57
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	1,533	4,35
Parks, Open Spaces And Streetscapes	292	1,27
Roads	1,490	1,11
Footpath & Cycleways	41	71
Other Infrastructure	289	21
Total non-recurrent capital grants	24,449	65,28
Total capital grants	26,999	67,83
Total Grants	60,626	97,17
(c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner (c) Unspent grants received on condition that they be spent in a specific manner Operating		
Balance at start of year	2,955	12.64
Transition to AASB15	-	(1,227
Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date	3,605	2.86
Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	(2,613)	(11,333
Balance at year end	3,947	2,95
Capital		
Balance at start of year	-	25,63
	-	(25,734
Transition to AASB1058		
	-	9
Differences between previous reporting and AASB1058	-	-
Transition to AASB1058 Differences between previous reporting and AASB1058 Received during the financial year and remained unspent at balance date Received in prior years and spent during the financial year	-	9: - -

Grant income is recognised at the point in time when the council satisfies its performance obligations as specified in the underlying agreement.

### 3.5 Contributions

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Monetary	696	788
Non-monetary	6,766	3,588
Total Contributions	7,462	4,376
Contributions of non-monetary assets were received in relation to the following asset classes		
Roads	3,089	1,788
Drainage	1,711	835
Land	1,045	556
Footpaths	878	405
Other	43	4
Total non-monetary contributions	6,766	3,588

Monetary and non-monetary contributions are recognised as revenue when Council obtains control over the contributed asset.

### 3.6 Other Income

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Interest	1,190	2,371
Other Rent	689	828
Sales	443	469
Contributions other	794	1,149
Rebates	358	280
Other	4	15
Total other income	3,478	5,112

Interest is recognised as it is earned.

Other income is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and is recognised when Council gains control over the right to receive the income.

# Note 4: The cost of delivering services

# 4.1 (a) Employee costs

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Salaries and wages	50,091	49,486
Workcover	1,423	1,228
Superannuation	4,947	4,714
Fringe benefits tax	285	333
Other	1,559	2,332
Total employee costs	58,305	58,093
(b) Superannuation		
Council made contributions to the following funds:		
Defined benefit fund Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	309	325
Employer contributions payable at reporting date	-	-
	309	325
Accumulation funds		
Employer contributions to Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (Vision Super)	4,079	3,894
Employer contributions payable at reporting date	559	495
	4,638	4,389

Refer to note 9.3 for further information relating to Council's superannuation obligations.

2021 \$1000

2020 \$1000

# Note 4: The cost of delivering services (continued)

### 4.2 Materials and services

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Cleaning	861	906
Family Day Care Educators	47	644
/ehicle Expenses	865	989
Management and Operation of Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre	806	-
Parks and Reserves	714	148
Sporting Grounds & Facilities	1,850	2,664
Domestic Rubbish Collection	3,370	3,32
Fransfer Stations	997	1,050
Materials Recovery Facility	1,442	82
Green Waste Processing	679	73
itter Bins	426	455
Street Sweeping	523	523
Other Contracts	6,028	6,36
Building maintenance	2,157	1,672
General maintenance	3,423	3,480
Jtilities	3,210	2,883
Office administration	1,955	1,71
nformation technology	2,426	1,97
Insurance	1,109	983
Consultants	3,415	2,59
Other	4,400	5,42
4.3 Depreciation		
Property	6,055	5,93
Plant, furniture and equipment	2,331	2,18
Infrastructure	19,780	19,83
Total depreciation and amortisation	28,166	27,95
Refer to note 5.2(b) and 6.2 for a more detailed breakdown of depreciation and	amortisation charges.	
4.4 Amortisation - Intangible assets		
Software	18	39
	18 612	
Software Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets		39 612 65
Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets	612	612
Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets	612	612 65
Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property	612 630	61:
Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles	612 630	61: 65:
Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles Total Amortisation - Right of use assets	612 630 23 16	61: 65:
Landfill	612 630 23 16	61: 65: 2
Landfill  Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles Total Amortisation - Right of use assets  4.6 Bad and doubtful debts  Other debtors	612 630 23 16 39	61. 65 2 <b>2</b>
Landfill  Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles Total Amortisation - Right of use assets  4.6 Bad and doubtful debts  Other debtors  Total bad and doubtful debts	612 630 23 16 39	61 65 2 2
Landfill  Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles Total Amortisation - Right of use assets  4.6 Bad and doubtful debts  Other debtors Total bad and doubtful debts  Movement in provision for doubtful debts	612 630 23 16 39	61. 65 2 2 3 3
Landfill  Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles  Total Amortisation - Right of use assets  4.6 Bad and doubtful debts  Other debtors  Total bad and doubtful debts  Movement in provision for doubtful debts  Balance at the beginning of the year	612 630 23 16 39 9	61: 65: 2: 2: 3: 3:
Landfill  Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles Total Amortisation - Right of use assets  4.6 Bad and doubtful debts  Other debtors Total bad and doubtful debts  Movement in provision for doubtful debts  Balance at the beginning of the year  New Provisions recognised during the year	9 9 9 5	61: 65: 2 2: 3 3
Landfill Total Amortisation - Intangible assets  4.5 Amortisation - Right of use assets  Property Vehicles Total Amortisation - Right of use assets  4.6 Bad and doubtful debts	612 630 23 16 39 9	612

Provision for doubtful debts is recognised based on an expected credit loss model. This model considers both historic and forward looking information in determining the level of impairment.

# 4.7 Borrowing costs

		2021 \$ 000	2020 \$ 000
Interes	t on borrowings	289	390
Total b	orrowing costs	289	390

Borrowing costs are recognised as an expense in the period in which they are incurred, except where they are capitalised as part of a qualifying asset constructed by Council.

## 4.8 Finance Costs - Leases

Interest - Lease liabilities	29	29
Total finance costs	29	29

# 4.9 Net gain / (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Procee	ds of sale	164	808
Write d	own value of assets disposed (sold/written off)	(92)	(855)
Write d	own value of assets disposed (asset renewal)	(3,941)	(6,372)
Total n	et gain/ (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	(3,869)	(6,419)

The profit or loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has irrevocably passed to the buyer.

# 4.10 Other expenses

Auditors' remuneration - VAGO	62	61
Auditors' remuneration - Internal	118	112
Audit other	45	80
Councillors' allowances	309	316
Operating lease rentals	145	33
Grants	1,890	1,175
Levies	1,274	1,303
Assets written-off / impaired	2,719	339
Total other expenses	6,562	3,419

# Note 5: Our financial position

# 5.1 Financial assets

	2021 \$ 000	2020 \$ 000
(a) Cash and cash equivalents		
Cash on hand	11	11
Cash at bank	39,894	18,720
Term Deposits	-	20,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	39,905	38,731
(b) Other financial assets		
Term Deposits - current (>90days)	70,800	70,169
MAPS Group Ltd. Shares - non-current	2	2
Total other financial assets	70,802	70,171
Total financial assets	110,707	108,902

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# Note 5: Our financial position (continued)

Council's cash and cash equivalents are subject to external restrictions that limit amounts available for discretionary use. These include:

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Trust funds and deposits (Note 5.3 (b))	3,779	3,247
Total restricted funds	3,779	3,247
Total unrestricted cash and cash equivalents	36,126	35,484
Intended Allocations		
Although not externally restricted the following amounts have been allocated for specific future purposes by Council:		
Reserve funds allocated for specific future purposes (Note 9.1 (b))	4,625	4,578
Cash held to fund carried forward capital works	13,366	16,680
Unspent grants (Note 3.4)	3,947	2,956
Funds held to rehabilitate previous landfill cells and fund future landfill cell construction	21,953	21,802
Funds held to repay principal for "Interest Only" loan facility	670	-
Defined Benefits Superannuation calls	1,500	-
Funds held to meet future Information Technology capital investment requirements	4,101	4,550
Funds held to meet future Developer Contribution Plan (DCP) infrastructure requirements	1,166	770
Total funds subject to intended allocations	51,328	51,336

Cash and cash equivalents include cash on hand, deposits at call, and other highly liquid investments with original maturities of 90 days or less, net of outstanding bank overdrafts.

Other financial assets are valued at fair value, being market value, at balance date. Term deposits are measured at amortised cost. Any unrealised gains and losses on holdings at balance date are recognised as either a revenue or expense.

(c) Trade and other receivables	
Current	
Statutory receivables	
Rates debtors* 2,6	4,569
Health Registrations (5	0) 5
Goods and services tax (GST) 1,0	1,487
Non-statutory receivables	
Loans and advances to community organisations	3 4
Other debtors 1,9	22 636
Provision for doubtful debts - other debtors (1	5) (20)
Total current trade and other receivables 5,5	6,681

\*Rates are payable by four instalments during the year or by lump sum in February. Arrears attract interest, currently at the rate of 10.0% per annum.

Non-Current		
Non-statutory receivables		
Loans and advances to community organisations	5	9
Total non-current trade and other receivables	5	9
Total trade and other receivables	5,541	6,690

Short term receivables are carried at invoice amount as amortised cost using the effective interest rate method would not impact the carrying value. A provision for doubtful debts is recognised when there is objective evidence that an impairment has occurred. Long term receivables are carried at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method.

(d) Ageing of receivables The ageing of the Council's trade & other receivables (excluding statutory receivables) that are not impaired was:		2020 \$'00
Current (not yet due)	607	14
Past due by up to 30 days	581	16
Past due between 31 and 60 days	380	7
Past due between 61 and 90 days	141	3
Past due by more than 90 days	221	23:
Total trade and other receivables	1,930	64
	_	utstanding past -
Current (not yet due) Past due by up to 30 days	-	-
Current (not yet due) Past due by up to 30 days Past due between 31 and 60 days	- - -	-
Current (not yet due) Past due by up to 30 days Past due between 31 and 60 days Past due between 61 and 90 days	- - - - -	-
Current (not yet due) Past due by up to 30 days Past due between 31 and 60 days Past due between 61 and 90 days Past due by more than 90 days	- - - - - 15	- - - - 2
due amounts have been lodged with Council's debt collectors or are on payment arrangements.  Current (not yet due)  Past due by up to 30 days  Past due between 31 and 60 days  Past due between 61 and 90 days  Past due by more than 90 days  Total trade and other receivables  5.2 Non-financial assets	- - - - - 15	- - - - 2

(b) Intangible assets			
Software		4	22
Landfill Air Space		89	701
Total intangible assets		93	723
		Landfill	
	Software	Air Space	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Gross Carrying Amount			
Balance at 1 July 2020	1,147	18,422	19,569
Additions from internal developments	-	-	-
Other additions	-	-	-
Balance at 30 June 2021	1,147	18,422	19,569
Accumulated Amortisation and Impairment			
Balance at 1 July 2020	(1,125)	(17,721)	(18,846)
Amortisation Expense	(18)	(612)	(630)
Balance at 30 June 2021	(1,143)	(18,333)	(19,476)
Net Book Value at 30 June 2020	22	701	723
Net Book Value at 30 June 2021	4	89	93

Intangible assets with finite lives are amortised as an expense on a systematic basis over the asset's useful life. Amortisation is generally calculated on a straight line basis, at a rate that allocates the asset value, less any estimated residual value over its estimated useful life. Estimates of the remaining useful lives and amortisation method are reviewed at least annually, and adjustments made where appropriate.

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### **Note 5: Our financial position** (continued)

#### 5.3 Payables

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
(a) Trade and other payables		
Trade Payables	11,617	11,925
Accrued Expenses	1,728	1,402
Total trade and other payables	13,345	13,327
(b) Trust funds and deposits		
Refundable deposits	2,777	2,263
Fire Service Levy	828	857
Retention amounts	95	95
Other refundable deposits	79	32
Total trust funds and deposits	3,779	3,247
(c) Unearned income		
Grants received in advance - operating	5,916	3,136
Grants received in advance - capital	8,300	5,708
Other	30	30
Total unearned income	14,246	8,874

Amounts received as deposits and retention amounts controlled by Council are recognised as trust funds until they are returned, transferred in accordance with the purpose of the receipt, or forfeited. Trust funds that are forfeitied, resulting in council gaining control of the funds, are to be recognised as revenue at the time of the forfeit.

#### Purpose and Nature of Items

Refundable deposits – Deposits are taken by Council as a form of surety in a number of circumstances, including in relation to contracts, asset protection, planning permit works and the use of civic facilities.

Fire Service Levy – Council is the collection agent for fire services levy on behalf of the State Government. Council remits amounts received on a quarterly basis. Amounts disclosed here will be remitted to the state government in line with that process.

Retention amounts - Council has a contractual right to retain certain amounts until a contractor has met certain requirements or a related warrant or defect period has elapsed. Subject to the satisfactory completion of the contractual obligations, or the elapsing of time, these amounts will be paid to the relevant contractor in line with Council's contractual obligations.

#### 5.4 Interest-bearing liabilities

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Current		
Borrowings – Secured	1,459	2,527
Total current	1,459	2,527
Non-Current		
Borrowings – Secured	15,215	7,749
Total non-current	15,215	7,749
Total interest-bearing loans and borrowings	16,674	10,276
All borrowings are secured over Council's Rate Revenue		
The maturity profile for Council's borrowings is:		
Not later than one year	1,459	2,527
Later than one year and not later than five years	9,424	2,198
Later than five years	5,791	5,551
	16,674	10,276

Borrowings are initially measured at fair value, being the cost of the interest bearing liabilities, net of transaction costs. The measurement basis subsequent to initial recognition depends on whether the Council has categorised its interest-bearing liabilities as either financial liabilities designated at fair value through the profit and loss, or financial liabilities at amortised cost. Any difference between the initial recognised amount and the redemption value is recognised in net result over the period of the borrowing using the effective interest method.

The classification depends on the nature and purpose of the interest bearing liabilities. The Council determines the classification of its interest bearing liabilities at initial recognition.

5.5 Provisions	Annual Leave \$'000	Long Service Leave \$'000	Landfill Rehabilitation \$'000	Tota \$'00
2021				
Balance at Beginning of the Financial Year	4,854	10,792	18,099	33,74
Additional/(Reduced) Provisions	4,466	(51)	1,978	6,39
Amounts Used	(4,109)	(1,111)	(2,656)	(7,876
Increase/ (Decrease) in the discounted amount arising because of time and effect of any change in the discount rate	(12)	(512)	(569)	(1,093
Balance at the End of the Financial Year	5,199	9,118	16,852	31,16
2020				
Balance at Beginning of the Financial Year	4,285	10,169	26,551	41,009
Additional/(Reduced) Provisions	4,342	1,279	(2,828)	2,793
Amounts Used	(3,776)	(1,129)	(5,757)	(10,662
Increase/ (Decrease) in the discounted amount arising because of time and effect of any change in the discount rate	3	473	133	609
Balance at the End of the Financial Year	4,854	10,792	18,099	33,74
(a) Employee provisions  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months			2021 \$'000	2020 \$'00
(a) Employee provisions  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months  Annual leave  Long service leave			<b>2021 \$'000</b> 4,830 2,495	<b>2020 \$'000</b> 4,500 2,396
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave			4,830	4,500
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave			4,830 2,495	4,500 2,398
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave			4,830 2,495	4,500 2,398
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months  Annual leave  Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b>	4,500 2,398 6,904
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b>	4,500 2,390 <b>6,90</b> 4
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b> 369 5,511	4,500 2,396 <b>6,90</b> 4 341 6,842
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave Long service leave			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b> 369 5,511 <b>5,880</b>	4,500 2,396 6,904 341 6,842 7,189
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Total current employee provisions			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b> 369 5,511 <b>5,880</b>	4,500 2,396 6,904 341 6,842 7,189
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Total current employee provisions  Non-Current			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b> 369 5,511 <b>5,880</b>	4,500 2,390 6,900 344 6,845 7,189 14,095
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Total current employee provisions  Non-Current Long service leave			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b> 369 5,511 <b>5,880</b> 13,206	4,50 2,39 6,90 34 6,84 7,18 14,09
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Total current employee provisions  Non-Current Long service leave  Total non-current employee provisions			4,830 2,495 <b>7,326</b> 369 5,511 <b>5,880</b> 13,206	4,500 2,396 6,904 341 6,842 7,189
Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled within 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Current Provisions Expected to be wholly settled after 12 months Annual leave Long service leave  Total current employee provisions  Non-Current Long service leave  Total non-current employee provisions  Aggregate Carrying Amount of Employee Provisions			4,830 2,495 7,326 369 5,511 5,880 13,206	4,500 2,396 6,904 341 6,842 7,189 14,093 1,553

The calculation of employee costs and benefits includes all relevant on-costs and are calculated as follows at reporting date.

#### Wages and salaries and annual leave

Liabilities for wages and salaries, including non-monetary benefits, annual leave and accumulated sick leave expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits in respect of employee services up to the reporting date, classified as current liabilities and measured at their nominal values.

Liabilities that are not expected to be wholly settled within 12 months of the reporting date are recognised in the provision for employee benefits as current liabilities, measured at the present value of the amounts expected to be paid when the liabilities are settled using the remuneration rate expected to apply at the time of settlement.

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## Note 5: Our financial position (continued)

#### Long service leave

Liability for long service leave (LSL) is recognised in the provision for employee benefits. LSL is measured at present value.

Unconditional LSL is disclosed as a current liability. Conditional LSL that has been accrued, where an employee is yet to reach a qualifying term of employment, is disclosed as a non - current liability.

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Key assumptions:		
- discount rate	1.09%	0.71%
- inflation rate	1.50%	2.70%
- settlement period	25 years	25 years
(b) Landfill restoration		
Current	2,432	2,758
Non-Current	14,420	15,341
	16,852	18,099

Council is obligated to restore the current Highland Highway landfill site and legacy sites at Moe, Morwell, Traralgon and Yinnar to a particular standard. The forecast life of the Highland Highway landfill site is based on current estimates of remaining capacity and the forecast rate of infill. The provision for landfill rehabilitation has been calculated based on the present value of the expected cost of works to be undertaken. The expected cost of works has been estimated based on current understanding of work required to restore the sites to a suitable standard. Accordingly, the estimation of the provision required is dependent on the accuracy of the forecast timing of the work, work required and related costs.

Key assumptions:		
- discount rate	0.98%	0.63%
- inflation rate	2.00%	2.00%
- settlement period	10.1 years	7.4 years

#### 5.6 Financing arrangements

The Council has the following funding arrangements in place as at 30 June 2021.

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Bank overdraft	1,000	1,000
Credit card facilities	500	500
Other facilities	16,674	18,476
Total facilities	18,174	19,976
Used facilities	16,749	10,340
Unused facilities	1,425	9,636

#### 5.7 Commitments

The Council has entered into the following commitments. Commitments are not recognised in the Balance Sheet. Commitments are disclosed at their nominal value and presented inclusive of the GST payable.

		Later than	Later than		
		1 year and	2 years and		
		not later than		Later than	
	1 year	2 years	5 years	5 years	Total
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
2021					
Operating					
Recycling	2,993	-	-	-	2,993
Garbage collection	3,900	1,950	-	-	5,850
Processing of Organic Waste	857	-	-	-	857
Cleaning contracts for council amenities/streets	1,738	377	-	-	2,115
Cleaning contracts for council buildings	961	-	-	-	961
Meals for Delivery	265	-	-	-	265
Landfill	2,452	525	673	-	3,650
Software	70	-	-	-	70
Management and Operation of GRAC	1,399	1,399	-	-	2,798
Business Development Program	143	99	-	-	242
Total	14,778	4,350	673	-	19,801
Capital construction					
Buildings	12,091	-	-	-	12,091
Other Infrastructure	145	-	-	-	145
Total	12,236	-	-	-	12,236
2020					
Operating					
Recycling	2,242	2,242	-	-	4,484
Garbage collection	3,868	3,868	-	-	7,736
Processing of Organic Waste	525	-	-	-	525
Courier service	60	-	-	-	60
Cleaning contracts for council amenities/streets	841	246	-	-	1,087
Cleaning contracts for council buildings	1,015	-	-	-	1,015
Meals for Delivery	308	308	-	-	616
Landfill	1,273	546	12	-	1,831
Recreation	430	-	-	-	430
Total	10,562	7,210	12	-	17,784
Capital construction					
Buildings	45,482				45,482
Landfill	1,250	_	_		1,250
Footpaths and Cycleways	1,250	-	-	-	1,230
Other Infrastructure	212	-	-	-	212
	456	-	-	-	456
Streetscapes Recreation	450	-	-	-	456 212
Roads	456	-	-	-	456
Total	48,084				48,084
Iotal	40,084	-	-		40,084

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#### Note 5: Our financial position (continued)

#### 5.8 Leases

At inception of a contract, all entities would assess whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains, a lease if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time in exchange for consideration. To identify whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, it is necessary to assess whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset:
- The customer has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefits from use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- The customer has the right to direct the use of the asset.

This policy is applied to contracts entered into, or changed, on or after 1 July 2019.

As a lessee, Council recognises a right-of-use asset and a lease liability at the lease commencement date. The right-of-use asset is initially measured at cost which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for:

- Any lease payments made at or before the commencement date less any lease incentives received; plus
- · Any initial direct costs incurred; and
- An estimate of costs to dismantle and remove the underlying asset or to restore the underlying asset or the site on which it is located.

The right-of-use asset is subsequently depreciated using the straight-line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right-of-use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of right-of-use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment. In addition, the right-of-use asset is periodically reduced by impairment losses, if any, and adjusted for certain measurements of the lease liability.

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease or, if that rate cannot be readily determined, an appropriate incremental borrowing rate. Generally, Council uses an appropriate incremental borrowing rate as the discount rate.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index or rate as at the commencement date:
- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value quarantee; and
- The exercise price under a purchase option that Council is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if Council is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease unless Council is reasonably certain not to terminate early.

When the lease liability is remeasured in this way, a corresponding adjustment is made to the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset, or is recorded in profit or loss if the carrying amount of the right-of-use asset has been reduced to zero.

Council has elected to apply the temporary option available under AASB 16 Leases which allows not-for-profit entities to not measure right-of-use assets at initial recognition at fair value in respect of leases that have significantly below-market terms.

Right-of-Use Assets	Property \$'000	Vehicles \$'000	Total \$'000
Balance at 1 July 2019	717	-	717
Additions	-	31	31
Amortisation charge	(24)	(1)	(25)
Balance at 30 June 2020	693	30	723
Balance at 1 July 2020	693	30	723
Additions	-	-	-
Amortisation charge	(23)	(16)	(39)
Balance at 30 June 2021	670	14	684

Lease Liabilities	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Maturity analysis - contractual undiscounted cash flows		
Less than one year	27	29
One to five years	60	72
More than five years	617	634
Total undiscounted lease liabilities as at 30 June	704	735
Lease liabilities included in the Balance Sheet at 30 June		
Current	27	29
Non-Current (	677	706
Total lease liabilities	704	735

Short-term and low value leases

Council has elected not to recognise right-of-use assets and lease liabilities for short-term leases of machinery that have a lease term of 12 months or less and leases of low-value assets (individual assets worth less than exisiting capitalisation thresholds for a like asset up to a maximum of \$10,000), including IT equipment. Council recognises the lease payments associated with these leases as an expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Expenses relating to:		
Short-term leases	145	33
Leases of low value assets	-	-
Total	145	33
Variable lease payments (not included in measurement of lease liabilities)		
Non-cancellable lease commitments - Short-term and low-value leases		
Commitments for minimum lease payments for short-term and low-value leases are payable as follows:		
Payable:		
Within one year	4	5
Later than one year but not later than five years	1	1
Later than 5 years	4	4
Total lease commitments	9	10

### Note 6: Assets we manage

6.1 Non-current assets classified as held for sale	2021 \$′000	2020 \$'000
Cost of acquisition	-	-
Total non-current assets classified as held for sale	-	_

Non-current assets classified as held for sale (including disposal groups) are measured at the lower of their carrying amount and fair value less costs of disposal, and are not subject to depreciation. Non-current assets, disposal groups and related liabilities and assets are treated as current and classified as held for sale if their carrying amount will be recovered through a sale transaction rather than through continuing use. This condition is regarded as met only when the sale is highly probable and the asset's sale (or disposal group sale) is expected to be completed within 12 months from the date of classification.

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## Note 6: Assets we manage (continued)

#### 6.2 Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Summary of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

	At fair value		Cantallantiana	Daniel Landina	D	Diamanal	T	At fair value
	30 June 2020 \$'000	\$'000	Contributions \$'000	\$'000	Depreciation \$'000	Disposal \$'000	Transfers \$'000	30 June 2021 \$'000
Land	174,936	-	1,045	18,617	-	-	-	194,598
Buildings	198,401	6,297	-	-	(6,055)	(132)	56,678	255,188
Plant and equipment	12,480	2,509	43	200	(2,331)	(92)	_	12,809
Infrastructure	752,598	18,892	5,678	1,592	(19,780)	(3,809)	12,112	767,283
Work in progress	84,183	33,372	-	-	-	(2,719)	(68,790)	46,045
	1,222,598	61,070	6,766	20,409	(28,166)	(6,752)	-	1,275,923
Summary of wor	ks in progress		c	pening WIP	Additions	Transfers	Write Offs	Closing WIP
				\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Buildings				70,672	22,583	(59,593)	(70)	33,592
Infrastructure				13,512	10,788	(9,197)	(2,649)	12,453
Total				84,184	33,372	(68,790)	(2,719)	46,045
(-) P								
(a) Property	Lar	nd specialised						
		(incl. land	Land non-	Total	Building	Total	Work in	Total
		under roads)	specialised	Land	specialised	buildings	progress	Property
		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$′000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
At fair value 4, July 2020	0	120.261	46 E7E	474.026	272.450	272 450	70.672	E40.067
At fair value 1 July 2020		128,361	46,575	174,936	273,459 (75,059)	273,459 (75,059)	70,672	519,067 (75,059)
Accumulated depreciat	ion at 1 July 2020	128,361	46,575	174,936	198,400	198,400	70,672	444,008
		120,501	40,573	114,000	130,400	130,400	70,072	444,000
Movements in fair val	ue							
Additions		-	-	-	6,297	6,297	22,583	28,880
Contributions		1,045	-	1,045	-	-	-	1,045
Revaluation		13,660	4,957	18,617	-	-	-	18,617
Disposal		-	-	-	(671)	(671)	-	(671)
Write-off				-		-	(70)	(70)
Transfers		-	-	-	56,678	56,678	(59,593)	(2,915)
		14,705	4,957	19,662	62,304	62,304	(37,080)	44,886
Movements in accum	ulated depreciation	n						
Depreciation and amort	-	"			(6,055)	(6,055)		(6,055)
Revaluation	usation	-	-	-	(0,055)		-	(0,055)
Contributions		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	ion of dioposals	-	-	-		- F20	-	- F30
Accumulated depreciat	ion of disposals	-	-	-	539	539	-	539
Transfers		-	-	-	(5,516)	(5,516)	-	(5,516)
		-		-	(5,510)	(5,510)	-	(5,510)
At fair value 30 June 20	)21	143,066	51,532	194,598	335,763	335,763	33,592	563,953
Accumulated depreciat	ion at 30 June 202	-	-	-	(80,575)	(80,575)	-	(80,575)
		143,066	51,532	194,598	255,188	255,188	33,592	483,378

(b) Plant and Equipment	Plant machinery and equipment \$'000	Fixture fittings and furniture \$'000	Computers and telecomms \$'000	Art collection \$'000	Total plant and equipment \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2020	16,424	1,779	6,487	3,710	28,400
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2020	(9,018)	(1,475)	(5,427)	-	(15,920)
	7,406	304	1,060	3,710	12,480
Movements in fair value					
Additions	1,772	75	653	9	2,509
Contributions	29	-	-	21	50
Revaluations	-	-	-	200	200
Disposal	(505)	-	-	(39)	(544)
Transfers	-	-	-	(1)	(1)
	1,296	75	653	191	2,215
Movements in accumulated depreciation					
Depreciation and amortisation	(1,814)	(56)	(461)	-	(2,331)
Accumulated depreciation of disposals	452	-	-	-	452
Contributions	(7)	-	-	-	(7)
	(1,369)	(56)	(461)	-	(1,886)
At fair value 30 June 2021	17.720	1.854	7.140	3.901	30,615
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2021	(10,387)	(1,531)	(5,888)	-	(17,806)
	7,333	323	1,252	3,901	12,809

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#### Note 6: Assets we manage (continued)

(c) Infrastructu			Footpaths &		Waste	Parks, open spaces &		Off street	leisure & community	Work in	Tota
	Roads \$'000	Bridges \$'000	cycleways \$'000	Drainage \$'000	management \$'000	streetscapes \$'000	Aerodromes \$'000	parking \$'000	facilities \$'000	progress \$'000	infrastructure \$'000
At fair value 1 July 2020	725,417	55,558	95,645	234,141	10,192	9,303	4,928	10,419	9,137	13,511	1,168,251
Accumulated depreciation at 1 July 2020	(228,007)	(23,712)	(38,258)	(94,706)	(8,972)	(3,487)	(1,144)	(2,940)	(916)	-	(402,142)
	497,410	31,846	57,387	139,435	1,220	5,816	3,784	7,479	8,221	13,511	766,109
Movements in fair value											
Additions	8,004	160	864	380	59	42	-	486	8,897	10,788	29,680
Contributions	3,089	-	878	1,711	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,678
Revaluations	-	(3,982)	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	(3,982)
Disposal	(4,303)	(98)	(241)	(1,595)	-	(436)	-	(233)	-	(2,649)	(9,555)
Transfers	4,879 <b>11,669</b>	(3,759)	512 <b>2,013</b>	293 <b>789</b>	- 59	976 582	-	253	5,291 <b>14,188</b>	(9,197) (1,058)	2,915 24,736
Movements in accumulated depreciation Depreciation amortisation	(12,877)	(569)	(1,740)	(2,349)	(1,043)	(418)	(226)	(216)	(342)	-	(19,780
Contributions	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Revaluations	-	5,574	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,574
Accumulated depreciation of disposals Transfers	2,236	-	114	490	-	186	-	27	-	-	3,097
	(10,641)	5,049	(1,626)	(1,859)	(1,043)	(232)	(226)	(189)	(342)	-	(11,109)
At fair value 30 June 2021	737,086	51,799	97,658	234,930	10,251	9,885	4,928	10,672	23,325	12,453	1,192,987
Accumulated depreciation at 30 June 2021	(238,648)	(18,663)	(39,884)	(96,565)	(10,015)	(3,719)	(1,370)	(3,129)	(1,258)	-	(413,251)
		33,136	57,774	138,365					22,067		

Recreation

#### Acquisition

The purchase method of accounting is used for all acquisitions of assets, being the fair value of assets provided as consideration at the date of acquisition plus any incidental costs attributable to the acquisition. Fair value is the price that would be received to sell an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date.

Where assets are constructed by Council, cost includes all materials used in construction, direct labour, borrowing costs incurred during construction, and an appropriate share of directly attributable variable and fixed overheads.

In accordance with Council's policy, the threshold limits have applied when recognising assets within an applicable asset class and unless otherwise stated are consistent with the prior year.

Asset category	Depreciation Period \$'000	Threshold limit \$'000
Property		
land	na	Nil
buildings	10-100 years	10.0
Plant and equipment		
plant, machinery and equipment	3 - 12 years	1.0
fixtures, fittings and furniture	5 - 10 years	1.0
computers and telecommunications	3 - 7 years	1.0
art works collection	na	0.5
Infrastructure		
road pavements and seals	14 - 87 years	10.0
road formation and earthworks	na	10.0
road kerb and channel	77 years	10.0
bridges deck	100 years	10.0
bridges substructure	100 years	10.0
footpaths and cycleways	15 - 60 years	10.0
drainage	100 years	10.0
waste management	2 - 20 years	10.0
parks, open space and streetscapes	20-40 years	5.0
recreation, leisure and community facilities	40 years	10.0
off street car parks	14 - 87 years	10.0
Intangible assets		
software	5 years	5.0
landfill air space	2 years	10.0

#### Land under roads

Council recognises land under roads it controls at fair value.

#### Depreciation and amortisation

Buildings, land improvements, plant and equipment, infrastructure, and other assets having limited useful lives are systematically depreciated over their useful lives to the Council Depreciation periods used are listed below and are consistent in a manner which reflects consumption of the service potential with the prior year unless otherwise stated. embodied in those assets. Estimates of remaining useful lives and residual values are made on a regular basis with major asset classes reassessed annually. Depreciation rates and methods are reviewed annually.

Where assets have separate identifiable components that are subject to regular replacement, these components are assigned depreciated. The carrying value of the replaced asset is distinct useful lives and residual values and a separate depreciation rate is determined for each component.

Road earthworks are not depreciated on the basis that they are assessed as not having a limited useful life.

Straight line depreciation is charged based on the residual useful life as determined each year.

#### Repairs and maintenance

Routine maintenance, repair costs and minor renewal costs are expensed as incurred. Where the repair relates to the replacement of a component of an asset and the cost exceeds the capitalisation threshold the cost is capitalised and

#### Valuation of land and buildings

Valuation of land and buildings were undertaken by a qualified independent valuers CJA Lee Property - Valuers and Consultants (Registration number: 62467) for land and Assetic Pty Ltd for buildings. The valuation of land and buildings is at fair value, being market value based on highest and best use permitted by relevant land planning provisions. Where land use is restricted through existing planning provisions the valuation is reduced to reflect this limitation. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Specialised land is valued at fair value using site values adjusted for englobo (undeveloped and/or unserviced) characteristics, access rights and private interests of other parties and entitlements of infrastructure assets and services. This adjustment is an unobservable input in the valuation. The adjustment has no impact on the comprehensive income statement.

Any significant movements in the unobservable inputs for land and land under roads will have a significant impact on the fair value of these assets.

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#### Note 6: Assets we manage (continued)

The date of the current valuation is June 2018. As a result of the annual fair value review of assets land values have been indexed by 10.64% during the 2021 reporting period.

Details of the Council's land and buildings and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2021 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000
Land – Non specialised	-	51,532	-
Land – Specialised	-	-	143,066
Buildings – Specialised	-	-	255,188
Total	-	51,532	398,254

#### Valuation of infrastructure

Valuation of infrastructure assets has been determined in accordance with an independent valuation undertaken by Assetic Pty Ltd MIE(Aust) CPEng, NPER: Membership 1102199.

The date of the current valuation is detailed in the following table. Full revaluation was conducted in the current year for bridges.

The valuation is at fair value based on replacement cost less accumulated depreciation as at the date of valuation.

Details of the Council's infrastructure and information about the fair value hierarchy as at 30 June 2021 are as follows:

	Level 1 \$'000	Level 2 \$'000	Level 3 \$'000	Date of valuation
Roads	-	-	498,438	Jun-2020
Bridges	-	-	33,136	Jun-2021
Footpaths and cycleways	-	-	57,774	Jun-2020
Drainage	-	-	138,365	Jun-2020
Recreational, Leisure and community facilities	-	-	236	Jun-2019
Waste management	-	-	6,166	n/a
Parks, open space and streetscapes	-	-	3,558	Jun-2019
Aerodromes	-	-	7,543	Jun-2015
Off street car parks	-	-	22,067	Jun-2020
Total	-	-	767,283	

#### Description of significant unobservable inputs into level 3 valuations

Specialised land and land under roads is valued using a market based direct comparison technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the extent and impact of restriction of use and the market cost of land per square metre. The extent and impact of restrictions on use varies and results in a reduction to surrounding land values between 5% and 95%. The market value of land varies significantly depending on the location of the land and the current market conditions. Currently land values range between \$0 and \$826 per square metre

Specialised buildings are valued using a depreciated replacement cost technique. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of buildings. Current replacement costs are calculated on a square metre basis and ranges from \$84 to \$5480 per square metre. The remaining useful lives of buildings are determined on the basis of the current condition of buildings and vary from 10 years to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of buildings are sensitive to changes in expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of buildings.

Infrastructure assets are valued based on the depreciated replacement cost. Significant unobservable inputs include the current replacement cost and remaining useful lives of infrastructure. The remaining useful lives of infrastructure assets are determined on the basis of the current condition of the asset and vary from 0 to 100 years. Replacement cost is sensitive to changes in market conditions, with any increase or decrease in cost flowing through to the valuation. Useful lives of infrastructure are sensitive to changes in use, expectations or requirements that could either shorten or extend the useful lives of infrastructure assets.

	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Reconciliation of specialised land		
Land under roads	19,714	17,780
Parks, reserves and other specialised land	123,352	110,581
Total specialised land	143,066	128,361

#### 6.3 Investments in associates, joint arrangements and subsidiaries

#### Principles of consolidation

The consolidated financial statements of Council incorporate all entities controlled by Council as at 30 June 2021, and their income and expenses for that part of the reporting period in which control existed.

Subsidiaries are all entities over which Council has control. Council controls an entity when it is exposed to, or has rights to, variable returns from its involvement with the entity and has the ability to affect those returns through its power to direct the activities of the entity. Subsidiaries are fully consolidated from the date on which control is transferred to the Council. They are deconsolidated from the date that control ceases.

Where dissimilar accounting policies are adopted by entities and their effect is considered material, adjustments are made to ensure consistent policies are adopted in these financial statements.

Council had no subsidiaries in the 2020/21 financial year (2019/20 \$nil).

#### Committees of management

All entities controlled by Council that have material revenues, expenses, assets or liabilities, such as committees of management, have been included in this financial report. Any transactions between these entities and Council have been eliminated in full. The Yallourn North Community Housing Committee is not included in this financial report based on their materiality.

## Note 7: People and relationships

#### 7.1 Council and key management remuneration

(a) Related Parties
Parent entity
Latrobe City Council

#### (b) Key Management Personnel

Details of persons holding the position of Councillor or other members of key management personnel at any time during the year are:

#### Councillor

Councillor D Clancey (Mayor from 1/07/2020 to 24/10/2020) Councillor S Gibson (Mayor from 20/11/2020 to 30/06/2021) Councillor G Middlemiss Councillor K O'Callaghan

Councillor D Harriman Councillor D Howe Councillor B Law

Councillor T Lund (from 10/11/2020) Councillor M Ferguson (from 10/11/2020)

Councillor D White (from 01/07/20 to 24/10/20) Councillor A McFarlane (from 01/07/20 to 24/10/20)

Note: Council election held 24 October 2020, with elected Councillors sworn in from 10 November 2020

#### Other KMP

Chief Executive Officer
General Manager Assets and Presentation
(two people held this role during the year)
General Manager Community
Health and Wellbeing
General Manager Regional City
Growth and Investment
General Manager Organisational Performance

 Total number of Councillors
 11
 9

 CEO and KMP
 6
 6

 Total KMP
 17
 15

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#### Note 7: People and relationships (continued)

#### (c) Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

Total remuneration of key management personnel was as follows:	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Short-term benefits	1,455	1,427
Long-term benefits	11	30
Post employment benefits	102	100
Termination benefits	-	-
Total	1,568	1,557

2021

2020

The numbers of key management personnel whose total remuneration from Council and any related entities, fall within the following bands:

	Number	Number
\$0 - \$9,999	2	
\$10,000 - \$19,999	3	-
\$20,000 - \$29,999	5	7
\$40,000 - \$49,999	1	1
\$60,000 - \$69,999	1	1
\$90,000 - \$99,999	-	1
\$120,000 - \$129,999	-	1
\$200,000 - \$209,999	1	-
\$230,000 - \$239,999	2	3
\$240,000 - \$249,999	1	-
\$310,000 - \$319,999	-	1
\$320,000 - \$329,999	1	-
Total	17	15

#### (d) Senior Officer Remuneration

A Senior Officer is an officer of Council, other than Key Management Personnel, who:

- a. Has management responsibilities and reports directly to the Chief Executive; or
- b. Whose total annual remuneration exceeds \$151,000

Income Range:		
\$151,000 - \$159,999	9	6
\$160,000 - \$169,999	7	7
\$170,000 - \$179,999	3	3
Total	19	16
Total Remuneration for the reporting year for Senior Officers included above,	\$2,585	\$2,811
amounted to (\$,000)		

#### 7.2 Related party disclosure

#### (a) Transactions with related parties

During the period Council entered into the following transactions with related parties:	2021 \$'000	2020 \$'000
Employee expenses for close family members of key personnel *	3	12
Purchase of materials & services from related parties of key management personnel	37	39
Total	40	51

<sup>\*</sup> All close family members of key management personnel were employed through an arm's length process. They are paid in accordance with the Award for the job they perform. The council employs in excess of 1000 staff of whom only one is a close family member of key management personnel.

#### (b) Outstanding balances with related parties

Council has no outstanding balances to/from any related parties.

No expense has been recognised in the current year or prior year for bad or doubtful debts in respect of amounts owed by related parties.

#### (c) Loans to/from related parties

No loans have been made, guaranteed or secured by the council to a key management person, or a related party of a key management person during the reporting period.

#### (d) Commitments to/from related parties

The following commitments were in place at the end of the reporting period in relation to related parties

	\$'000	\$'000
Employee commitments for close family members of key personnel	5	10
Total	5	10

#### **Note 8: Managing uncertainties**

#### 8.1 Contingent assets and liabilities

#### (a) Contingent assets

Construction of infrastructure assets by developers in the course of creating new subdivisions results in the infrastructure assets being vested in Council when Council issues a Statement of Compliance. These assets are brought to account as revenue and capitalised. At reporting date, developers had commenced construction of assets that will eventually be transferred to Council contingent upon Council issuing a Statement of Compliance. Due to the nature of the arrangements in place and the assets involved, a contingent asset cannot be reliably measured prior to completion.

#### (b) Contingent liabilities

#### Superannuation

Council has obligations under a defined benefit superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme, matters relating to this potential obligation are outlined below. As a result of the volatility in financial markets the likelihood of making such contributions in future periods exists.

#### Future superannuation contributions

In addition to the disclosed contribution, there were no contributions outstanding at the 30 June 2021.

Latrobe City Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$nil (2019/20 \$nil). There were \$nil contributions outstanding and \$nil loans issued from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2021. The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2021 are \$0.3 million.

#### Landfill

Council has set aside a provision for the rehabilitation of landfill sites. The amounts provisioned are management's best estimates of the cost to rehabilitate these sites however until the rehabilitation plans have been designed and approved by the Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) there is a possibility that Council's obligations could further increase in respect to these sites.

2020

In addition Council has provided bank guarantees to the value of \$2.9 million to Environment Protection Authority Victoria (EPA) for performance obligations in relation to the rehabilitation of these landfill sites.

#### Liability Mutual Insurance

Council is a participant of the MAV Liability Mutual Insurance (LMI) Scheme. The LMI scheme provides public liability and professional indemnity insurance cover. The LMI scheme states that each participant will remain liable to make further contributions to the scheme in respect of any insurance year in which it was a participant to the extent of its participant's share of any shortfall in the provision set aside in respect of that insurance year, and such liability will continue whether or not the participant remains a participant in future insurance years.

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#### **Note 8: Managing uncertainties** (continued)

## (b) Contingent liabilities (continued) Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre site

Latrobe City Council has been issued with a clean-up notice from the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) in relation to the site located at the corner of Breed Street and Kay Street Traralgon. The location is the former site of the Traralgon Gasworks and the future site of the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre. Extensive clean up and remediation of the site has been undertaken by Latrobe City Council and council is working with an EPA approved Environmental Consultant to ensure that the contamination on site has been cleaned up to the satisfaction of the EPA.

Council has until the 6 December 2021 to produce an environmental audit report, prepared in accordance with section 53X of the *Environment Protection Act 1970* and in accordance with the approved EPA audit scope along with either a Certificate of Environmental Audit in accordance with section 53Y of the Act; or a Statement of Environmental Audit in accordance with section 53Z of the Act, demonstrating that that site has been cleaned to the EPA's satisfaction. The EPA has sole discretion as to whether the works undertake have been sufficiently undertaken or whether further works are required to be completed.

#### (c) Guarantees for loans to other entities

Council has not provided any guarantees for loans to other entities as at the balance date.

Financial guarantee contracts are not recognised as a liability in the balance sheet unless the lender has exercised their right to call on the guarantee or Council has other reasons to believe that it is probable that the right will be exercised.

#### 8.2 Change in accounting standards

'Certain new Australian Accounting Standards and interpretations have been published that are not mandatory for the 30 June 2021 reporting period. Council assesses the impact of these new standards. As at 30 June 2021 there were no new accounting standards or interpretations issued by the AASB which are applicable for the year ending 30 June 2022 that are expected to impact Council.

#### 8.3 Financial instruments

#### (a) Objectives and policies

The Council's principal financial instruments comprise cash assets, term deposits, receivables (excluding statutory receivables), payables (excluding statutory payables) and bank borrowings. Details of the significant accounting policies and methods adopted, including the criteria for recognition, the basis of measurement and the basis on which income and expenses are recognised, in respect of each class of financial asset, financial liability and equity instrument is disclosed in the Notes of the financial statements. Risk management is carried out by senior management under policies approved by the Council. These policies include identification and analysis of the risk exposure to Council and appropriate procedures, controls and risk minimisation.

#### (b) Market risk

Market risk is the risk that the fair value or future cash flows of council financial instruments will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council's exposure to market risk is primarily through interest rate risk with only insignificant exposure to other price risks and no exposure to foreign currency risk.

#### Interest rate risk

Interest rate risk refers to the risk that the value of a financial instrument or cash flows associated with the instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. Council's interest rate liability risk arises primarily from long term loans and borrowings at fixed rates which exposes council to fair value interest rate risk / Council does not hold any interest bearing financial instruments that are measured at fair value, and therefore has no exposure to fair value interest rate risk. Cash flow interest rate risk is the risk that the future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market interest rates. Council has minimal exposure to cash flow interest rate risk through its cash and deposits that are at floating rates.

Investment of surplus funds is made with approved financial institutions under the Local Government Act 1989. Council manages interest rate risk by adopting an investment policy that ensures:

- · Diversification of investment product;
- · Monitoring of return on investment; and
- · Benchmarking of returns and comparison with budget.

There has been no significant change in the Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing interest rate risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

Interest rate movements have not been sufficiently significant during the year to have an impact on the Council's year end result.

#### (c) Credit risk

Credit risk is the risk that a contracting entity will not complete its obligations under a financial instrument and cause Council to make a financial loss. Council have exposure to credit risk on some financial assets included in the balance sheet. Particularly significant areas of credit risk exist in relation to outstanding fees and fines as well as loans and receivables from sporting clubs and associations. To help manage this risk:

- Council have a policy for establishing credit limits for the entities Council deal with;
- Council may require collateral where appropriate; and
- Council only invest surplus funds with financial institutions which have a recognised credit rating specified in council's investment policy.

Receivables consist of a large number of customers, spread across the ratepayer, business and government sectors. Credit risk associated with the Council's financial assets is minimal because the main debtor is secured by a charge over the rateable property.

There are no material financial assets which are individually determined to be impaired.

Council may also be subject to credit risk for transactions which are not included in the balance sheet, such as when Council provide a guarantee for another party. Details of our contingent liabilities are disclosed in Note 8.1(b).

The maximum exposure to credit risk at the reporting date to recognised financial assets is the carrying amount, net of any provisions for impairment of those assets, as disclosed in the balance sheet and notes to the financial statements. Council does not hold any collateral.

#### (d) Liquidity risk

Liquidity risk includes the risk that, as a result of council's operational liquidity requirements it will not have sufficient funds to settle a transaction when required or will be forced to sell a financial asset at below value or may be unable to settle or recover a financial asset.

To help reduce these risks Council:

- Have a liquidity policy which targets a minimum and average level of cash and cash equivalents to be maintained;
- Have readily accessible standby facilities and other funding arrangements in place;
- Have a liquidity portfolio structure that requires surplus funds to be invested within various bands of liquid instruments;
- Monitor budget to actual performance on a regular basis; and
- Set limits on borrowings relating to the percentage of loans to rate revenue and percentage of loan principal repayments to rate revenue.

The Council's maximum exposure to liquidity risk is the carrying amounts of financial liabilities as disclosed on the face of the balance sheet and the amounts related to financial guarantees disclosed in Note 8.1(c), and is deemed insignificant based on prior periods' data and current assessment of risk.

There has been no significant change in Council's exposure, or its objectives, policies and processes for managing liquidity risk or the methods used to measure this risk from the previous reporting period.

With the exception of borrowings, all financial liabilities are expected to be settled within normal terms of trade. Details of the maturity profile for borrowings are disclosed at Note 5.4.

Unless otherwise stated, the carrying amounts of financial instruments reflect their fair value.

#### (e) Sensitivity disclosure analysis

Taking into account past performance, future expectations, economic forecasts, and management's knowledge and experience of the financial markets, Council believes the following movements are 'reasonably possible' over the next 12 months:

 A parallel shift of +1% and -1% in market interest rates (AUD) from year-end rates of 0.10%.

These movements will not have a material impact on the valuation of Council's financial assets and liabilities, nor will they have a material impact on the results of Council's operations.

#### 8.4 Fair value measurement

#### Fair value hierarchy

Council's financial assets and liabilities are not valued in accordance with the fair value hierarchy, Council's financial assets and liabilities are measured at amortised cost.

Council measures certain assets and liabilities at fair value where required or permitted by Australian Accounting Standards. AASB 13 Fair value measurement, aims to improve consistency and reduce complexity by providing a definition of fair value and a single source of fair value measurement and disclosure requirements for use across Australian Accounting Standards.

AASB 13 defines fair value as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. Fair value under AASB 13 is an exit price regardless of whether that price is directly observable or estimated using another valuation technique.

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#### **Note 8: Managing uncertainties** (continued)

All assets and liabilities for which fair value is measured or disclosed in the financial statements are categorised within a fair value hierarchy, described as follows, based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole:

Level 1 — Quoted (unadjusted) market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities

Level 2 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement is directly or indirectly observable; and

Level 3 — Valuation techniques for which the lowest level input Impairment of assets that is significant to the fair value measurement is unobservable.

For the purpose of fair value disclosures, Council has determined classes of assets and liabilities on the basis of the nature, characteristics and risks of the asset or liability and the level of the fair value hierarchy as explained above.

In addition, Council determines whether transfers have occurred between levels in the hierarchy by re-assessing categorisation (based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement as a whole) at the end of each reporting period.

Subsequent to the initial recognition of assets, non-current physical assets, other than plant and equipment, are measured at their fair value, being the price that would be received to sell requires disclosure in the financial report. (2019/20 \$Nil) an asset (or paid to transfer a liability) in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. At balance date, the Council reviewed the carrying value of the individual classes of assets measured at fair value to ensure that each asset materially approximated its fair value. Where the carrying value materially differed from the fair value at balance date, the class of asset was revalued.

Fair value valuations are determined in accordance with a valuation hierarchy. Changes to the valuation hierarchy will only occur if an external change in the restrictions or limitations of use of an asset result in changes to the permissible or practical highest and best use of the asset. In addition, Council undertakes a formal revaluation of land, buildings, and infrastructure assets on a regular basis ranging from 3 to 5 years. The valuation is performed either by experienced council officers or independent experts.

Where the assets are revalued, the revaluation increments are credited directly to the asset revaluation reserve except to the extent that an increment reverses a prior year decrement for that class of asset that had been recognised as an expense in which case the increment is recognised as revenue up to the amount of the expense. Revaluation decrements are recognised as an expense except where prior increments are included in the asset revaluation reserve for that class of asset in which case the decrement is taken to the reserve to the extent of the remaining increments. Within the same class of assets, revaluation increments and decrements within the year

At each reporting date, the Council reviews the carrying value of its assets to determine whether there is any indication that these assets have been impaired. If such an indication exists, the recoverable amount of the asset, being the higher of the asset's fair value less costs of disposal and value in use, is compared to the assets carrying value. Any excess of the assets carrying value over its recoverable amount is expensed to the comprehensive income statement, unless the asset is carried at the revalued amount in which case, the impairment loss is recognised directly against the revaluation surplus in respect of the same class of asset to the extent that the impairment loss does not exceed the amount in the revaluation surplus for that same class of asset.

#### 8.5 Events occurring after balance date

No other matters have occurred after balance date that

#### Note 9: Other matters

9.1 Reserves  (a) Asset revaluation reserves	Balance at beginning of reporting period	Increment/ (decrement)	Balance at end of reporting period
2021			
Property			
Land	116,600	18,617	135,217
Buildings	110,489	-	110,489
	227,089	18,617	245,706
Infrastructure			
Roads	117,377	-	117,377
Bridges	28,982	1,593	30,575
Footpaths and cycleways	18,205	-	18,205
Off street carparks	8,282	-	8,282
Drainage	79,047	-	79,047
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	1,159	-	1,159
Parks, open space and streetscapes	3,387	-	3,387
	256,439	1,593	258,032
Other			
Artworks	895	200	1,095
Other	14	-	14
	909	200	1,109
Total Asset Revaluation Reserves	484,437	20,410	504,847
2020			
Property			
Land	116,600	-	116,600
Buildings	110,489	-	110,489
	227,089	-	227,089
Infrastructure			
Roads	134,136	(16,759)	117,377
Bridges	28,982	-	28,982
Footpaths and cycleways	25,474	(7,269)	18,205
Off street carparks	7,080	1,202	8,282
Drainage	59,370	19,677	79,047
Recreation, leisure and community facilities	1,159	-	1,159
Parks, open space and streetscapes	3,387	_	3,387
	259,588	(3,149)	256,439
Other			
Artworks	895	_	895
Other	14	_	14
	909	-	909
Total Asset Povaluation Possitive	407.500	/2 / 4/01	404 427
Total Asset Revaluation Reserves	487,586	(3,149)	484,437

The asset revaluation reserve is used to record the increased (net) value of Council's assets over time.

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021 Section 05 Notes to the Financial Report

Note 9: Other matters (continued)  (b) Other reserves	Balance at beginning of reporting	Transfer from accumulated	Transfer to accumulated	Balance at end of reporting
	period	surplus	surplus	period
2021				
Developer Contributions	4,576	(646)	695	4,625
Total other reserves	4,576	(646)	695	4,625
2020				
Developer Contributions	3,529	(24)	1,071	4,576
Total other reserves	3,529	(24)	1,071	4,576

#### Purpose and nature of other reserves

Developer Contributions – The development contribution reserve is maintained to account for funds held by the Council for specific development purposes include off street parking, drainage, playgrounds and public open spaces and tree planting development.

#### 9.2 Reconciliation of cash flows from operating activities to surplus (deficit)

Depreciation and amortisation         28,835         28,631           Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment         3,869         6,419           Contributions non-monetary assets         (6,766)         (3,588)           Finance costs         318         419           Impairment losses/ Work in progress written off         2,719         339           Changes in assets and liabilities         (Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables         1,144         1,398           (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)		2021 \$'000	\$'000
Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment         3,869         6,419           Contributions non-monetary assets         (6,766)         (3,588)           Finance costs         318         419           Impairment losses/ Work in progress written off         2,719         339           Changes in assets and liabilities         (Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables         1,144         1,398           (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	Surplus/(deficit) for the year	25,239	67,682
Contributions non-monetary assets         (6,766)         (3,588)           Finance costs         318         419           Impairment losses/ Work in progress written off         2,719         339           Changes in assets and liabilities           (Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables         1,144         1,398           (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	Depreciation and amortisation	28,835	28,631
Finance costs         318         419           Impairment losses/ Work in progress written off         2,719         339           Changes in assets and liabilities           (Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables         1,144         1,398           (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	Net (gain)/loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment	3,869	6,419
Impairment losses/ Work in progress written off         2,719         339           Changes in assets and liabilities           (Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables         1,144         1,398           (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	Contributions non-monetary assets	(6,766)	(3,588)
Changes in assets and liabilities         (Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables       1,144       1,398         (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments       (323)       (236)         (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income       (1,725)       61         Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables       7,673       (17,323)         Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits       532       608         Increase/ (decrease) in provisions       (2,576)       (7,260)	Finance costs	318	419
(Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables         1,144         1,398           (Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	Impairment losses/ Work in progress written off	2,719	339
(Increase)/ decrease in prepayments         (323)         (236)           (Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	Changes in assets and liabilities		
(Increase)/ decrease in accrued income         (1,725)         61           Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	(Increase)/ decrease in trade and other receivables	1,144	1,398
Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables         7,673         (17,323)           Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits         532         608           Increase/ (decrease) in provisions         (2,576)         (7,260)	(Increase)/ decrease in prepayments	(323)	(236)
Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits Increase/ (decrease) in provisions  532 608 (7,260)	(Increase)/ decrease in accrued income	(1,725)	61
Increase/ (decrease) in provisions (2,576) (7,260)	Increase/ (decrease) in trade and other payables	7,673	(17,323)
	Increase/ (decrease) in trust funds and deposits	532	608
Net cash provided by operating activities 58,939 77,149	Increase/ (decrease) in provisions	(2,576)	(7,260)
	Net cash provided by operating activities	58,939	77,149

#### 9.3 Superannuation

Latrobe City Council makes some of its employer superannuation contributions in respect of its employees to the Local Authorities Superannuation Fund (the Fund). This Fund has two categories of membership, accumulation and defined benefit, each of which is funded differently. Obligations for contributions to the Fund are recognised as an expense in Comprehensive Operating Statement when they are made or due.

#### Accumulation

The Fund's accumulation categories, Vision MySuper/Vision Super Saver, receive both employer and employee contributions on a progressive basis. Employer contributions are normally based on a fixed percentage of employee earnings (for the year ended 30 June 2021, this was 9.5% as required under Superannuation Guarantee legislation).

#### **Defined Benefit**

Council does not use defined benefit accounting for its defined benefit obligations under the Fund's Defined Benefit category. This is because the Fund's Defined Benefit category is a pooled multi-employer sponsored plan. There is no proportional split of the defined benefit liabilities, assets or costs between the participating employers as the defined benefit obligation is a floating obligation between the participating employers and the only time that the aggregate obligation is allocated to specific employers is when a call is made. As a result, the level of participation of [Employer name] in the Fund cannot be measured as a percentage compared with other participating employers. Therefore, the Fund Actuary is unable to allocate benefit liabilities, assets and costs between employers for the purposes of AASB 119 Employee Benefits.

#### unding arrangements

Council makes employer contributions to the Defined Benefit category of the Fund at rates determined by the Trustee on the advice of the Fund Actuary.

A triennial actuarial review for the Defined Benefit category as at 30 June 2020 was conducted and completed by the due date of 31 December 2020. The vested benefit index (VBI) of the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer was 104.6%. The financial assumptions used to calculate the VBI were:

- Net investment returns 5.6% pa
- Salary inflation 2.5% pa for two years and 2.75% pa thereafter
- Price inflation (CPI) 2.0% pa

As at 30 June 2021, an interim actuarial investigation is underway as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category.

Vision Super has advised that the estimated VBI at 30 June 2021 was 109.7%.

The VBI is used as the primary funding indicator. Because the VBI was above 100%, the 30 June 2020 actuarial investigation determined the Defined Benefit category was in a satisfactory financial position and that no change was necessary to the Defined Benefit category's funding arrangements from prior years.

#### **Employer contributions**

Regular contributions

On the basis of the results of the 2020 triennial actuarial investigation conducted by the Fund Actuary, Council makes employer contributions to the Fund's Defined Benefit category at rates determined by the Fund's Trustee. For the year ended 30 June 2021, this rate was 9.5% of members' salaries (9.5% in 2019/2020). This rate is expected to increase in line with any increases in the SG contribution rate and was reviewed as part of the 30 June 2020 triennial valuation.

In addition, Council reimburses the Fund to cover the excess of the benefits paid as a consequence of retrenchment above the funded resignation or retirement benefit.

#### Funding calls

If the Defined Benefit category is in an unsatisfactory financial position at an actuarial investigation or the Defined Benefit category's VBI is below its shortfall limit at any time other than the date of the actuarial investigation, the Defined Benefit category has a shortfall for the purposes of SPS 160 and the Fund is required to put a plan in place so that the shortfall is fully funded within three years of the shortfall occurring. The Fund monitors its VBI on a quarterly basis and the Fund has set its shortfall limit at 97%.

In the event that the Fund Actuary determines that there is a shortfall based on the above requirement, the Fund's participating employers (including Latrobe City Council are required to make an employer contribution to cover the shortfall.

Using the agreed methodology, the shortfall amount is apportioned between the participating employers based on the pre-1 July 1993 and post-30 June 1993 service liabilities of the Fund's Defined Benefit category, together with the employer's payroll at 30 June 1993 and at the date the shortfall has been calculated.

Due to the nature of the contractual obligations between the participating employers and the Fund, and that the Fund includes lifetime pensioners and their reversionary beneficiaries, it is unlikely that the Fund will be wound up.

If there is a surplus in the Fund, the surplus cannot be returned to the participating employers.

In the event that a participating employer is wound-up, the defined benefit obligations of that employer will be transferred to that employer's successor.

#### The 2020 triennial actuarial investigation surplus amounts

An actuarial investigation is conducted annually for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer. Generally, a full actuarial investigation is conducted every three years and interim actuarial investigations are conducted for each intervening year. A full investigation was conducted as at 30 June 2020.

The Fund's actuarial investigations identified the following for the Defined Benefit category of which Council is a contributing employer:

	2020 (triennial) \$m	2019 (interim) \$m
- A VBI surplus	100.0	151.3
- A total service liability surplus	200.0	233.4
- A discounted accrued benefits surplus	217.8	256.7

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## Note 9: Other matters (continued)

The VBI surplus means that the market value of the fund's assets supporting the defined benefit obligations exceed the vested benefits that the defined benefit members would have been entitled to if they had all exited on 30 June 2020.

The total service liability surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category plus expected future contributions exceeds the value of expected future benefits and expenses as at 30 June 2020.

The discounted accrued benefit surplus means that the current value of the assets in the Fund's Defined Benefit category exceeds the value of benefits payable in the future but accrued in respect of service to 30 June 2020.

Council was notified of the 30 June 2020 VBI during August 2020 (2019: August 2019).

#### The 2021 interim actuarial investigation

An interim actuarial investigation is being conducted for the Fund's position as at 30 June 2021 as the Fund provides lifetime pensions in the Defined Benefit category. It is anticipated that this actuarial investigation will be completed by October 2021

#### Superannuation contributions

Contributions by Latrobe City Council (excluding any unfunded liability payments) to the above superannuation plans for the financial year ended 30 June 2021 are detailed below:

			2021	2020
Scheme	Type of scheme	Rate	\$'000	\$'000
Vision Super	Defined Benefits	9.5%	309	325
Various	Accumulation	9.5%	4,079	3,894

In addition to the above contributions, Latrobe City Council has paid unfunded liability payments to Vision Super totalling \$nil (2019/20 \$nil).

There were \$559K contributions outstanding (2019/20 \$495K) and \$nil loans issued (2019/20 \$nil) from or to the above schemes as at 30 June 2021.

The expected contributions to be paid to the Defined Benefit category of Vision Super for the year ending 30 June 2022 is \$330K.

## Note 10: Change in accounting policy

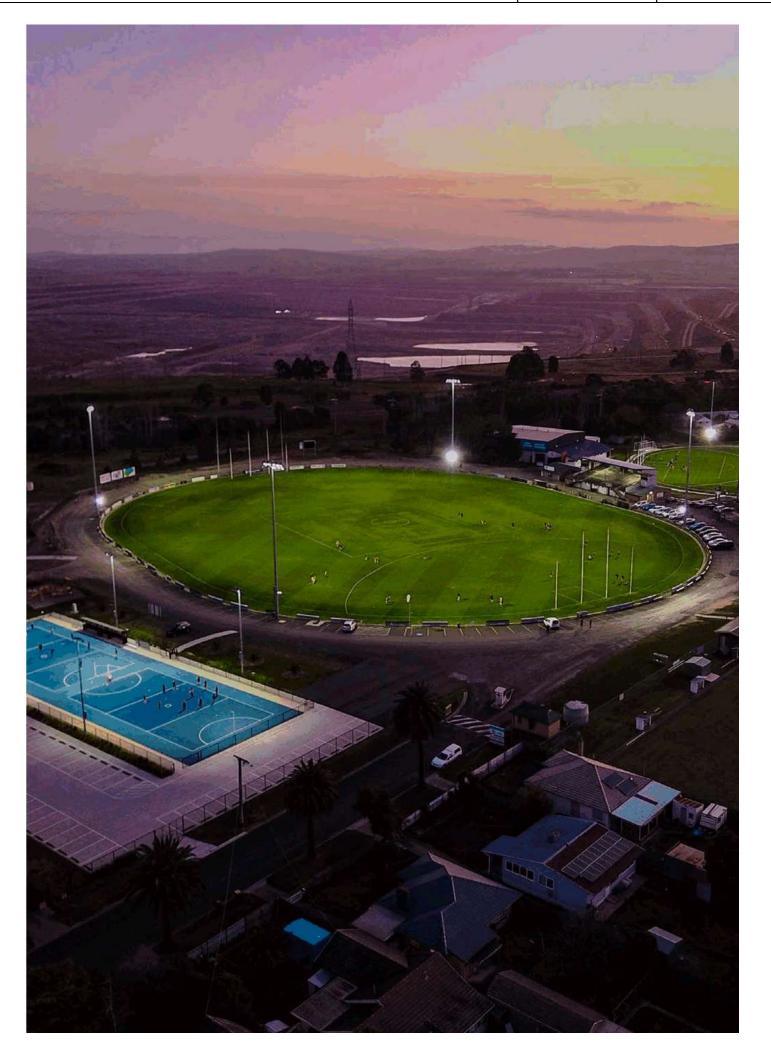
AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors (AASB 1059) (applies 2020/21 for LG Sector Council has adopted AASB 1059 Service Concession Arrangements: Grantors , from 1 July 2020.

AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Definition of Material (applies 2020/21 for LG Sector)
Council has adopted AASB 2018-7 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - Definition of Material, from 1 July 2020

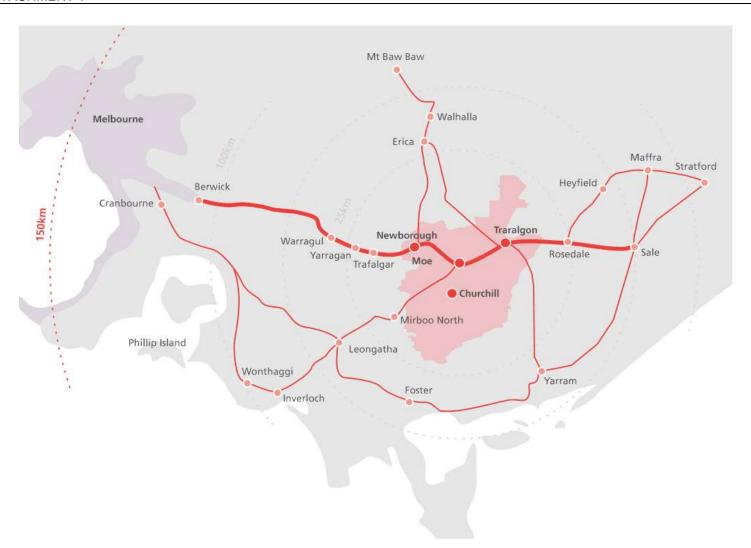
AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - References to the Conceptual Framework (applies 2020/21 for LG Sector)

Council has adopted AASB 2019-1 Amendments to Australian Accounting Standards - References to the Conceptual Framework from 1 July 2020.

These standards have not had any significant impact on council.







# **Description of municipality**

Latrobe City is Victoria's eastern Regional City and Gippsland's primary service centre and employment hub, providing retail, entertainment, education, government and health services to the region with a population of 75,9511.

Latrobe City is located an hour and half drive east of Melbourne covering an area of 1425 square kilometres situated between the Strzelecki Ranges to the south and the Great Dividing Range to the north. The city is made up of four major towns; Churchill, Moe/Newborough, Morwell and Traralgon; and seven rural townships of Boolarra, Glengarry, Toongabbie, Tyers, Traralgon South, Yallourn North and Yinnar. The rural landscape in between townships, has a large population of hard working farmers and residents who enjoy the peace and tranquillity that comes with country life.

'Australian Bureau of Statistics 3218.0 Regional Population Growth Australia, 1 April 2021 E.R.P 2021

# **Certification of the Performance Statement**

In my opinion the accompanying performance statement has been prepared in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989, the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (as per the transitional provisions of the Local Government Act 2020).

MA

Matthew Rogers CPA Principal Accounting Officer Dated: 09/09/2021

In our opinion, the accompanying performance statement of the Latrobe City Council for the year ended 30 June 2021 presents fairly the results of Council's performance in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 and the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (as per the transitional provisions of the Local Government Act 2020).

The performance statement contains the relevant performance indicators, measures and results in relation to service performance, financial performance and sustainable capacity.

As at the date of signing, we are not aware of any circumstances which would render any particulars in the performance statement to be misleading or inaccurate.

We have been authorised by the Council and by the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 to certify this performance statement in its final form.

Cr Graeme Middlemiss Councillor Dated: 09/09/2021

Cr Melissa Ferguson Councillor Dated: 09/09/2021

Steven Piasente Chief Executive Officer Dated: 09/09/2021

### **Auditor General's Report** on Performance Statement

# Victorian Auditor-General's Office

### **Independent Auditor's Report**

#### To the Councillors of Latrobe City Council

#### Opinion

I have audited the accompanying performance statement of Latrobe City Council (the council) which comprises the:

- description of municipality for the year ended 30 June 2021
- sustainable capacity indicators for the year ended 30 June 2021
- service performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2021
- financial performance indicators for the year ended 30 June 2021
- other information and
- certification of the performance statement.

In my opinion, the performance statement presents fairly, in all material respects, the performance of the council for the year ended 30 June 2021 in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of Part 6 of the Local Government Act 1989.

#### **Basis for Opinion**

I have conducted my audit in accordance with the Audit Act 1994 which incorporates the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements. I further describe my responsibilities under that Act and those standards in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the performance statement section

My independence is established by the Constitution Act 1975. I and my staff are independent of the council in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to my audit of the performance statement in Victoria and have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Councillors' responsibilities for the performance statement

The Councillors are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the performance statement in accordance with the performance reporting requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and for such internal control as the Councillors determines is necessary to enable the preparation and fair presentation of the statement of performance that is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the performance statement

As required by the Audit Act 1994, my responsibility is to express an opinion on the performance statement based on the audit. My objectives for the audit are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the performance statement as a whole is free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the Australian Standards on Assurance Engagements will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Level 31 / 35 Collins Street, Melbourne Vic 3000 T 03 8601 7000 enquiries@audit.vic.gov.au www.audit.vic.gov.au

#### **Performance Statement**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

#### **Description of municipality**

Latrobe City is Victoria's eastern Regional City and Gippsland's primary service centre and employment hub, providing retail, entertainment, education, government and health services to the region with a population of 75,9151.

Latrobe City is located an hour and half drive east of Melbourne covering an area of 1,425 square kilometres situated between the Strzelecki Ranges to the south and the Great Dividing Range to the north. The city is made up of four major towns; Churchill, Moe/Newborough, Morwell and Traralgon; and seven rural townships of Boolarra, Glengarry, Toongabbie, Tyers, Traralgon South, Yallourn North and Yinnar. The rural landscape in between townships houses a large population of hard working farmers and residents who enjoy the peace and tranquillity that comes with country life.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Australian Bureau of Statistics 3218.0 Regional Population Growth Australia, 1 April 2021 E.R.P 2021

# **Sustainable Capacity Indicators**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

		Resi	ults				
Indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	Material variations		
Population Expenses per head of municipal population [Total expenses / Municipal population]	\$1891	\$1813	\$1805	\$1844	The result for this measure has increased by \$39 over the year. This is largely in line with CPI increases and an increase in Council's landfill rehabilitation provision following an independent review of the cost of works required to meet EPA requirements.		
Infrastructure per head of municipal population [Value of infrastructure / Municipal population]	\$13,086	\$13,210	\$13,865	\$14,244	The result for this measure increased by \$1158 per capita over the four year period in line with large capital works programs undertaken by Council with the assistance of State and Commonwealth government grants.		
Population density -per length of road [Municipal population / Kilometres of local roads]	46	46	46	52	The increase in 2021 is the result of a review of Council's asset database which found onstreet parking had previously been included in road length data, this has been revised to give the true length of the road.		
Own-source revenue Own-source revenue per head of municipal population [Own-source revenue / Municipal population]	\$1288	\$1326	\$1356	\$1280	The reduction experienced in 2021 is directly related to decreased user fees and charges revenue as a result of service closures due to COVID restrictions.		
Recurrent grants Recurrent grants per head of municipal population [Recurrent grants / Municipal population]	\$378	\$353	\$375	\$361	The result for this measure has decreased by \$14 per capita over the 2021 year. The reduced amount mainly related to Commonwealth Financial Assistance Grants funding received in advance in 2020 exceeding the equivalent advance in 2021 by \$11 per capita.		
Disadvantage Relative socio-economic disadvantage [Index of Relative Socio- economic Disadvantage by decile]	1	1	1	1	The result for this measure has remained unchanged over the four year period.		
Workforce Turnover Percentage of staff turnover [Number of permanent staff resignations and terminations / Average number of permanent staff for the financial year] x100	9.8%	12.5%	10.7%	17.2%	This rate was impacted by an increase in the number of appointments ceasing during the year, which were funded under the Working for Victoria COVID-19 program. Council also saw an increased turnover figure early in the 2021 calendar year, with the labour market reactivating as most organisations suspended recruitment activities over the height of the pandemic in 2020. This increase is reflective of the labour market across the state during this time.		

#### **Definitions**

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than:

- a. Non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- b. Non-monetary asset contributions; and
- Contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to above.

"infrastructure" means non-current property, plant and equipment excluding land

"local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004

"population" means the resident population estimated by

"own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)

"relative socio-economic disadvantage", in relation to a municipality, means the relative socio-economic disadvantage, expressed as a decile for the relevant financial year, of the area in which the municipality is located according to the Index of Relative Socio-Economic Disadvantage (Catalogue Number 2033.0.55.001) of SEIFA

"SEIFA" means the Socio-Economic Indexes for Areas published from time to time by the Australian Bureau of Statistics on its Internet website

"unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

## **Service Performance Indicators**

For the year ended 30 June 2021

		Resu	lts				
Indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	Material variations		
AQUATIC FACILITIES Utilisation Utilisation of aquatic facilities [Number of visits to aquatic facilities / Municipal population]	4.9 4.9		3.6 2.4		Council aquatic facilities include those at Latrobe Leisure Morwell, Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough, Latrobe Leisure Churchill, Yallourn North Outdoor Pool and Moe Outdoor Pool. The decline in utilisation is a result of COVID-19 restrictions, which required closure of aquatic facilities, along with ongoing restrictions throughout 2020-21.		
ANIMAL MANAGEMENT Health and safety Animal management prosecutions [Number of successful animal management prosecutions/ Number of animal management prosecutions]x100	New in 2020	New in 2020	100%	100%	A favourable result of 100% successful prosecutions in 2020-21. The number of cases put forward was significantly less due to the impacts of COVID-19 on non-urgent criminal matters before the Court, this has resulted in a substantial reduction in the number of matters lodged and an increase in the number of adjournments.		
FOOD SAFETY Health and safety Critical and major non- compliance notifications [Number of critical non- compliance notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance notifications and major non- compliance notifications about a food premises] x100	93.4%	88.5%	63.1%	75.3%	2020 COVID-19 restrictions, resulted in a reduction in the number of operating businesses, sporting groups and community organisations. This meant that the ability of the Health Services team, to complete a follow up inspection, to major and/or critical assessments, was impacted – although focusing on this portfolio improved, this performance indicator, compared to the previous year where staff time was impacted by the 2019 bushfires, demonstrated improvement despite the ongoing challenges of COVID-19.		

# **Service Performance Indicators** (continued)

For the year ended 30 June 2021

		Resu	lts				
Indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	Material variations		
GOVERNANCE Satisfaction Satisfaction with council decisions [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed in making decisions in the interest of the community]	52	54	53	56	The annual Community Satisfaction Survey assesses the community's satisfaction with Council's performance. Satisfaction with Council decisions has increased from 53 out of 100 in 2020 to 56 in 2021.		
LIBRARIES Participation Active library members [Number of active library borrowers in the last 3 years / The sum of the population for the last three years] x100	10.3%	10.3%	10.3%	9.8%	Participation at libraries has been impacted in 2020-21 by ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, which has seen the facilities closed to the public during lockdown periods. An alternate click and collect service was provided during these periods.		
MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH (MCH) Participation Participation in the MCH service [Number of children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	72.6%	70.3%	72.6%	74.5%	During the year, 3578 children were enrolled in the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) service with 2666 of those children having attended the service at least once during the year. This is an increase since 2019-20. Participation is increasing overall due to an increase in MCH nurses and a focus on engaging directly with all families that require additional support to attend the MCH service.		
Participation Participation in the MCH service by Aboriginal children [Number of Aboriginal children who attend the MCH service at least once (in the year) / Number of Aboriginal children enrolled in the MCH service] x100	70.9%	69.1%	76.0%	86.7%	Participation in the Maternal and Child Health service by Aboriginal children has increased with 191.5 Aboriginal children enrolled and, of those, 166 children attended the service at least once during the year. This increase is due to a significant focus on engaging with Aboriginal families to support their engagement in the MCH service.		
ROADS Satisfaction Satisfaction with sealed local roads [Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how council has performed on the condition of sealed local roads]	56	60	57	61	The annual Community Satisfaction Survey assesses the community's satisfaction with Council's performance. Satisfaction with sealed local roads has increased to a rating of 61%. Council's understanding of the sealed local road network, gained through customer service requests and the ongoing inspection program, both indicate the network is generally in good condition.		
STATUTORY PLANNING Decision making Council planning decisions upheld at VCAT [Number of VCAT decisions that did not set aside council's decision in relation to a planning application / Number of VCAT decisions in relation to planning applications] x100	60.0%	40.0%	40.0%	0.0%	Latrobe City Council had two planning applications referred to VCAT during 2020-21, with both decisions being overturned.		

		Resu	ılts				
Indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	Material variations		
WASTE COLLECTION Waste diversion Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill [Weight of recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins / Weight of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins] x100	54.0%	52.1%	51.4%	49.2%	Council has seen a steady decrease in the percentage of waste diverted from landfill over the last four years, we suspect it is partly due to a higher level of contaminated recycle material being diverted to landfill and the impact of more people working from home due to COVID-19 restrictions.		

#### **Definitions**

"Aboriginal child" means a child who is an Aboriginal person

"Aboriginal person" has the same meaning as in the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006

"active library member" means a member of a library who has borrowed a book from the library

"annual report" means an annual report prepared by a council under sections 98 of the Act

"class 1 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the Food Act 1984, that have been declared as class 1 food premises under section 19C of that Act

"class 2 food premises" means food premises, within the meaning of the Food Act 1984, that have been declared as class 2 food premises under section 19C of that Act

"critical non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that poses an immediate serious threat to public health "food premises" has the same meaning as in the Food Act 1984

"local road" means a sealed or unsealed road for which the council is the responsible road authority under the Road Management Act 2004

"major non-compliance outcome notification" means a notification received by a council under section 19N(3) or (4) of the Food Act 1984, or advice given to council by an authorized officer under that Act, of a deficiency that does not pose an immediate serious threat to public health but may do so if no remedial action is taken

"MCH" means the Maternal and Child Health Service provided by a council to support the health and development of children within the municipality from birth until school age

"population" means the resident population estimated by council

## **Financial Performance Indicators**

#### For the year ended 30 June 2021

		Res	ults			Fore			
Dimension/ indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Material variations
EFFICIENCY Expenditure level Expenses per property assessment [Total expenses / Number of property assessments]	\$3690	\$3534	\$3519	\$3613	\$3483	\$3322	\$3353	\$3377	The result for this measure has increased by \$94 over the year. This is largely in line with CPI increases and an increase in Council's landfill rehabilitation provision following an independent review of the cost of works required to meet EPA requirements. A reduction is forecasted in 2023 aligned to the planned transition of the Commonwealth Home Support Program and Community Care Program for Young People (HACC PYP) services to other service providers within the community.
Revenue level Average rate per property assessment [Total rate revenue (General rates and Municipal charges) / Number of property assessments]	New in 2020	New in 2020	\$1542	\$1556	\$1564	\$1591	\$1623	\$1656	The average rate per property assessment is expected to increase in line with expected Rate Cap amounts of 1.5% in 2022 and are currently estimated at 2% per annum from 2023 to 2025.
LIQUIDITY Working capital Current assets compared to current liabilities [Current assets / Current liabilities] x100	321.7%	324.7%	267.5%	253.0%	181.0%	196.5%	201.5%	198.3%	The result for this measure has decreased in 2021 mainly due to council spending capital grants received in advance and other funding carried forward for major infrastructure projects.

		Resu	ılts		Forecasts					
Dimension/ indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Material variations	
LIQUIDITY (cont.) Unrestricted cash Unrestricted cash compared to current liabilities [Unrestricted cash / Current liabilities] x100	(4.6%)	(71.2%)	25.1%	29.3%	32.1%	32.9%	34.1%	31.8%	The 4.2% increase in 2021 is due to reduced restrictions on cash holdings mainly related to a reduction in carry forward capital works. This ratio is forecasted to remain in a positive position due to assumptions of lower restrictions on cash as current capital works projects are completed and unspent grants are expected to reduce. This ratio is also influenced by the timing and level of investments not classified as cash but timed to mature in time meet the current liabilities when they fall due.	
OBLIGATIONS Loans and borrowings Loans and borrowings compared to rates [Interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	22.1%	19.3%	12.7%	20.4%	28.0%	24.5%	25.2%	21.5%	The result for this measure has increased by 7.7% in 2021 due to the drawdown of a further \$7.1 million in borrowing for the completion of the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC). The ratio is forecasted to increase to 28.0% in 2022 as Council draws down a further \$10.0 million of new borrowings for the Moe Rail Precinct Revitalisation Stage 2 and Kernot Hall Refurbishment projects.	
Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates [Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / Rate revenue] x100	3.5%	2.9%	12.0%	1.2%	3.6%	3.5%	3.4%	3.7%	The result for this measure decreased by 10.8% in 2021 due to the principal repayment of an \$8.2 million interest only loan inflating the 2020 ratio. The measure is forecasted to return to 3.6% in 2022 following the final drawdown of the GRAC loan in June 2021 and the expected drawdown of a further \$10.0 million new borrowings for the Moe Rail Precinct Revitalisation Stage 2 and Kernot Hall Refurbishment projects in 2022.	

# Financial Performance Indicators (continued)

#### For the year ended 30 June 2021

	Results Forecasts								
Dimension/ indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Material variations
Indebtedness Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue [Non-current liabilities / Own source revenue] x100	39.0%	26.9%	24.7%	32.3%	29.2%	27.4%	25.7%	18.9%	The increased ratio in 2021 was due to final drawdown of \$7.1 million new borrowings for the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC), together with a reduction in own source revenue as a result of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on user fees such as leisure, performing arts and parking fines.
Asset renewal and upgrade Asset renewal and upgrade compared to depreciation [Asset renewal and upgrade expense / Asset depreciation] x100	New in 2020	New in 2020	152.2%	82.7%	77.3%	58.3%	71.9%	63.6%	The ratio in 2020 included additional one off stimulus funding from the State and Federal Government. The reduction in the ratio in future years is symbolic of the increased depreciation costs associated with over \$100M of new infrastructure assets predominately funded by State and Federal Government grants. Council's largest asset class, roads, is expected to be maintained around 100%, however other classes such as drainage, which is renewed only on a reactive basis, and buildings which are often reliant on government funding for major renewal and upgrade works will remain below 100%.

		Resu	ılts		Forecasts					
Dimension/ indicator/measure	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025	Material variations	
OPERATING POSITION Adjusted underlying result Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit) [Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit)/ Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	(11.2%)	(5.0%)	(1.5%)	(5.0%)	(6.2%)	(4.7%)	(4.4%)	(3.9%)	Council's underlying deficit increased by a further 3.5% compared to 2020. The larger underlying deficit, in the 2021 year, was mainly due to unexpected landfill rehabilitation provision as a result of council undertaking an independent review of the provision in accordance with EPA requirements. The results are forecasted to remain in deficit mainly due to increases in depreciation expenses resulting from the construction of major new infrastructure. e.g Gippsland Regional Aquatic Facility (GRAC) and Latrobe Creative Precinct, now referred to as the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre.	
STABILITY Rates concentration Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue [Rate revenue / Adjusted underlying revenue] x100	59.4%	60.1%	60.1%	61.3%	64.7%	67.6%	67.8%	68%	The result for this measure has been slightly increasing over the last four years indicating an increasing reliance on rate revenue. The ratio is expected to continue to rise into the future primarily based on moderate estimates of future levels of recurrent government funding and user fees and charges linked to COVID recovery.	
Rates effort Rates compared to property values [Rate revenue / Capital improved value of rateable properties in the municipality ] x100	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	0.6%	The result for this measure has remained stable over the four year period. A small decrease is forecast in 2022 as a result of increasing property valuations across the municipality.	

# Financial Performance Indicators (continued)

#### **Definitions**

"adjusted underlying revenue" means total income other than—

- a. Non-recurrent grants used to fund capital expenditure; and
- b. Non-monetary asset contributions; and
- Contributions to fund capital expenditure from sources other than those referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b)

"adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)" means adjusted underlying revenue less total expenditure

"asset renewal expenditure" means expenditure on an existing asset or on replacing an existing asset that returns the service capability of the asset to its original capability

"current assets" has the same meaning as in the AAS

"current liabilities" has the same meaning as in the AAS

"non-current assets" means all assets other than current assets

"non-current liabilities" means all liabilities other than current liabilities

"non-recurrent grant" means a grant obtained on the condition that it be expended in a specified manner and is not expected to be received again during the period covered by a council's Strategic Resource Plan

"own-source revenue" means adjusted underlying revenue other than revenue that is not under the control of council (including government grants)

"population" means the resident population estimated by

"rate revenue" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges

"recurrent grant" means a grant other than a non-recurrent grant

"residential rates" means revenue from general rates, municipal charges, service rates and service charges levied on residential properties

"restricted cash" means cash and cash equivalents and financial assets, within the meaning of the AAS that are not available for use other than for a purpose for which it is restricted, and includes cash to be used to fund capital works expenditure from the previous financial year

"unrestricted cash" means all cash and cash equivalents other than restricted cash.

## **Other Information**

## For the year ended 30 June 2021

#### 1. Basis of preparation

Council is required to prepare and include a performance statement within its annual report. The performance statement includes the results of the prescribed sustainable capacity, service performance and financial performance indicators and measures together with a description of the municipal district and an explanation of material variations in the results. This statement has been prepared to meet the requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (as per the transitional provisions of the Local Government Act 2020 ).

Where applicable the results in the performance statement have been prepared on accounting bases consistent with those reported in the Financial Statements. The other results are based on information drawn from council information systems or from third parties (e.g. Australian Bureau of Statistics).

The performance statement presents the actual results for the current year and for the prescribed financial performance

indicators and measures, the results forecast by the council's strategic resource plan. The Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 requires explanation of any material variations in the results contained in the performance statement. Council has adopted materiality thresholds relevant to each indicator and measure and detailed explanations have not been provided for variations below the materiality thresholds unless the variance is considered to be material because of its nature.

The forecast figures included in the performance statement are those adopted by council in its budget on 7 June 2021. The budget includes estimates based on key assumptions about the future that were relevant at the time of adoption and aimed at achieving sustainability over the long term. Detailed information on the actual financial results is contained in the General Purpose Financial Statements. The budget can be obtained by contacting council.



## **Statutory Information**

#### What Council does and how Council works

Councils are representative governments elected by the community to manage local issues and to establish and plan for the community's needs.

Latrobe City Council is a public statutory body which operates under the legislative requirements of the Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government Act 2020.

These Acts set out the role of the elected Council that is responsible for the leadership and good governance of the municipal district and local community.

Council approves the annual budget, long-term financial plan, development and implementation of strategies and plans and establishes local policies in response to local needs and priorities.

Management of the day-to-day operational matters is the role of the Chief Executive Officer, under delegation of the Council and in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Audit and Risk Committee**

The Audit and Risk Committee is appointed by Council under Section 53 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter describes the authorities and scope of the Committee, which includes assisting Council in the discharge of its oversight of:

- Corporate reporting processes, including financial and performance reporting processes and internal control
- Risk management
- · Fraud prevention systems and controls
- Business continuity
- External audit
- Internal audit
- Compliance with laws, regulations, internal policies and industry standards

The Audit and Risk Committee consists of two Councillors and three independent external members as outlined below.

Remuneration is currently set at \$1500 per meeting for the Chair and \$1000 per meeting for the other independent members.

The Committee currently consists of:

#### Independent Chair: Ms Beverley Excell

Reappointed by Council as Chair on 2 March 2020 for an additional two year period (until 1 August 2023)

#### Independent Member: Ms Joanne Booth

Reappointed by Council on 2 March 2020 for a three-year period (until 1 August 2022)

#### Independent Member: Mr Terry Richards

Reappointed by Council on 4 February 2019 for a three-year period (until 2 June 2022)

#### Council Representative:

Cr Graeme Middlemiss (commenced 08 February 202) Cr Melissa Ferguson (commenced 07 December 2020)

Cr Darrell White OAM (concluded 24 October 2020) Cr Alan McFarlane (concluded 24 October 2020)

The Audit and Risk Committee held four meetings in the 2020/2021 financial year. All independent members attended each of the meetings in 2020/2021. Cr Melissa Ferguson was an apology for the March 2021 meeting. All other councillors attended meetings scheduled during their term of appointment.

Councillors not appointed to the Committee are also invited to attend to observe proceedings, and members of management are present to respond to questions from the Committee.

The Committee has regular reports relating to:

- External audit process and outcomes
- · Internal audit planning, reports and action implementation
- · Risk management
- · Performance reporting
- Awareness of VAGO, IBAC and Ombudsman reports tabled in state parliament (relating to local and state government agencies)
- Key policies that have been reviewed that relate to internal controls.

## **Statutory Information** (continued)

These reports assist the Committee to provide the oversight and input as required under its Charter.

Internal audits that were reported to the Audit and Risk Committee in the 2020/2021 financial year included:

- Asset Management
- · Human Resources and System Management
- · Privacy and the Management of Personal Information
- Developer Contributions Framework and Processes
   Project Management/Governance (Capital Projects)
- Council Governance
- Workforce Development and Succession Planning
- Councils Response to COVID-19 Pandemic
- Cyber Security

#### **Council meetings and decisions**

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic Council meetings were held at Latrobe City Council Corporate Headquarters in Morwell from 6pm once a month. Since the pandemic Council Meeting have been held via Video Conferencing of in a way that allows for hybrid (remote and physical) attendance. Each Council meeting includes a public question time as a standard agenda item, designed to encourage community participation in the overall affairs of Council, in a way that complies with the relevant COVID-19 directions at the time.

A Council Meeting is where Councillors are able to make formal decisions on items presented to them. Council Meetings include scheduled meetings (the regular meetings scheduled for a full calendar year), unscheduled meetings (additional meetings arranged as needed throughout the year) and statutory meetings which are all open to the public (unless Council resolves to close the meeting in accordance with guidelines of the Local Government Act 2020).

All Council Meeting dates are advertised in the Latrobe Valley Express newspaper and detailed on the Latrobe City Council website, as well as on its corporate Facebook page.

The Council Meetings are also live streamed on YouTube to foster openness and accessibility.

Councillors also meet for closed briefing meetings. At these meetings, Councillors have the opportunity to be briefed on strategic items in relation to Council business and on matters of interest within the community.

The Council Meeting schedule, agendas and minutes are available on the Latrobe City Council website: www.latrobe.vic.gov.au

#### Council meeting attendance 2020/21

During 2020/2021, there were 10 Scheduled Council Meetings and five Unscheduled Council Meetings held. Councillor attendance at these meetings is shown in the below table.

Councillor	Scheduled Council Meeting	Unscheduled Council Meeting	
Cr Dan Clancey	9	5	
Cr Sharon Gibson	10	4	
Cr Dale Harriman	10	5	
Cr Darren Howe	10	5	
Cr Brad Law	10	5	
Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	10	5	
Cr Graeme Middlemiss	10	5	
Cr Tracie Lund	6	3	
Cr Melissa Ferguson	6	2	
Cr Darrell White	4	2	
Cr Alan McFarlane	4	2	

Scheduled
Council Meetings
Unscheduled
Council Meetings

Note: Council election held 24 October 2020, with elected Councillors (Cr Tracie Lund and Cr Melissa Ferguson) sworn in from 10 November 2020.
Cr Darrell White OAM and Cr Alan McFarlane concluded on 24 October 2020.

#### **Councillor Code of Conduct**

After a Council election, every Victorian Council is required to undertake a process of reviewing and amending its Councillor Code of Conduct within four months. Latrobe City Council reviewed the Councillor Code and adopted an updated version on Monday 08 February 2021.

The Councillor Code of Conduct is designed to:

- Assist councillors to maintain the highest standards of conduct and behaviour as well as provide a means to deal with problems they may encounter
- Attract the highest level of confidence from Council's stakeholders
- Assist the mayor and councillors to discharge the responsibilities of their public office appropriately.

In addition to setting out the Councillor Conduct Principles, the Code also outlines:

- Other conduct definitions under the Act, such as those relating to misuse of position, improper direction, breach of confidentiality and conflict of interest
- Roles and relationships
- Dispute resolution procedures.

Latrobe City Council's Councillor Code of Conduct is available at: www.latrobe.vic.gov.au

#### **Councillor Remuneration**

The Mayor and Councillors are entitled to receive an allowance while performing their duty as an elected official, with the Victorian Government responsible for setting the upper and lower levels of these allowances.

Allowance levels are subject to annual automatic adjustments that are announced in the Victorian Government Gazette by the Minister for Local Government. On 27 October 2020, the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions advised all councils that the Minister for Local Government declared there would be no increase to the Mayoral or Councillor allowances for the 2020/21 year.

Following a general election, the Council is required to set the amount of the allowance within the allowable range, with the determined allowance remaining in effect for the full term of the council. In addition to the allowance, Councillors also receive an amount equivalent to the superannuation guarantee contribution which for the 2020/21 financial year was 9.5%.

At the Scheduled Council Meeting on 12 April 2021, the Council resolved to set the Mayor and Councillors allowances for the 2020 to 2024 term at the maximum allowable amount for a category 2 council, being \$81,204 per annum for the Mayor and \$26,245 per annum for Councillors.

In addition to the Mayor and Councillor allowances, Councillors are also provided with a number of resources and support to assist them in undertaking their duties. This includes office administration and support, professional development support, and equipment such as mobile phones, computers, tablets and printers. Councillors are also entitled to seek reimbursement for expenses such as travel and childcare.

The Mayor also receives use of a fully maintained motor vehicle, a dedicated office, and support from an assistant. These expenses and resources are specified in the Councillors and Delegated Committee Members Expenses, Resources and Support policy, a copy of which is available from the Latrobe City Council website: www.latrobe.vic.gov.au

Section 07 Governance, Management and Other Information 13

## **Statutory Information** (continued)

Councillor	From/ to re- election	From/ to post election	Allowanc- es	Person- al devel- opment	confer- ences/ seminars/ accom	Station- ery/ supplies	Telecom- munica- tions	Travel	Other	Total
Cr Dan Clancey*	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$48,052	\$2100	\$472	\$161	\$658			\$51,444
Cr Sharon Gibson^	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$64,742		\$1086	\$518	\$1313			\$67,659
Cr Dale Harriman	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$27,992		\$999	\$360	\$1017	\$3073	\$119	\$33,560
Cr Darren Howe	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$27,992				\$1268	\$1030		\$30,291
Cr Brad Law	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$27,992				\$693			\$28,685
Cr Kellie O'Callaghan	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$27,992			\$90	\$967			\$29,050
Cr Graeme Middlemiss	01/07/20 to 24/10/20	10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$27,992				\$996			\$28,98
Cr Tracie Lund		10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$18,413	\$3545			\$242			\$22,201
Cr Melissa Ferguson		10/11/20 to 30/06/21	\$18,4134				\$242			\$18,655
Cr Darrell White	01/07/20 to 24/10/20		\$9579				\$419	\$951		\$10,950
Cr Alan McFarlane	01/07/20 to 24/10/20		\$9579				\$175			\$9754

<sup>\*</sup> Cr Dan Clancey: Mayor 01/07/2020 to 24/10/2020

^ Cr Sharon Gibson: Mayor 20/11/2020 to 30/06/2021

Note: Council election held 24 October 2020, with elected Councillors sworn in from 10 November 2020

#### **Councillor representation on Committees**

To assist Council in the delivery of a range of complex tasks, committees are constituted to undertake specific delegated functions (delegated committees and community asset committees) or to provide expert advice on specific topics or projects (for example advisory committees or project reference groups).

These committees provide insight and information that Council • Advisory Committees (29) may not otherwise receive either internally or externally. The role of a committee is to inform and enhance, not replace the role or responsibilities of Council and individual Councillors.

As at 30 June 2021, Latrobe City Council had 42 committees which Councillors are appointed to.

These are as follows:

- Community Asset Committees (8)
- Statutory Committees (2)
- Other Council Committees and Groups (3)

These committees are governed under the Establishment of Council Committee Policy, which defines the types of committees that Council currently has.

In addition to Latrobe City Council Committees, Councillors or Officers represent Council on 15 external committees and

#### Council Membership prior to 24 October 2020 as per 2019/2020 annual report **Council Membership after 24 October 2020**

	Cr Dan Clancey	Cr Melissa Ferguson	Cr Sharon Gibson	Cr Dale Harriman	Cr Darren Howe	Cr Brad Law	Cr Tracie Lund	Cr Graeme Middlemiss	Cr Kellie O'Callaghan
Committees									0,
COMMUNITY ASSET COMMITTEES									
Latrobe Regional Airport Committee					0				
Yallourn North Community Housing Committee							0	•	
Morwell Centenary Rose Garden Committee							•		
Callignee and Traralgon South Sporting Facilities Committee					•				
Traralgon Railway Reservoir Conservation Reserve Committee	•			•	•				
George Bates Reserve Committee							•	•	
Baillie Reserve Tyers Committee				0	•				
Mathison Park Committee		•							
STATUTORY COMMITTEES									
Audit and Risk Committee		•	0						
Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee			•			•	•		
OTHER COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND USER GROUPS									
Australia Day Advisory Committee	•				•				
Animal Welfare Advisory Committee			•				0		•
Braiakaulung Advisory Committee									•
CEO Recruitment, Performance and Remuneration Review Advisory Committee	•		М		DM			•	
Churchill and District Community Hub Advisory Committee		•							
Cultural Diversity Advisory Committee	•				•				
Early Years Reference Committee	•								•
Economic Development Advisory Committee			М		DM				

● Member O Alternate M Member as Mayor DM Member as Deputy Mayor M Alternate as Mayor DM Alternate as Deputy Mayor

Section 07 Governance, Management and Other Information

## **Statutory Information** (continued)

	Cr Dan Clancey	Cr Melissa Ferguson	Cr Sharon Gibson	Cr Dale Harriman	Cr Darren Howe	Cr Brad Law	Cr Tracie Lund	Cr Graeme Middlemiss	Cr Kellie O'Callaghan
Committees		0 -						<u>_</u>	0,0
OTHER COUNCIL COMMITTEES AND USER GROUPS									
Flynn Hall PRG					•				•
Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre PRG				•	•				•
Latrobe City Hyland Highway Municipal Landill Consultative Committee				•	•				
Latrobe City International Relations Committee				•					
Latrobe City Lake Narracan Advisory Committee			•			•			
Latrobe City Taskforce			•						•
Latrobe City Tourism and Major Events Advisory Committee			•	•	•				
Latrobe Creative Precinct PRG	•			•	•				
Latrobe Leisure Traralgon Sports Stadium User Group	•			•					
Latrobe Regional Gallery Advisory Committee	•						•		
Moe Southside Community Precinct Advisory Committee			•			•			
Motorsports Complex Advisory Committee (Centre for Australia Automotive Futures)			•		•			•	
Morwell Recreation Reserve PRG							•	•	
Rail Freight Working Group			0			•		•	
Road and Place Name Advisory Committee	•		М	•					
Social Planning for Wellbeing Committee/ Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Reference Group	•	•	•				•	(	(Chair)
Traralgon CBD Safety Committee				•	•				
Traralgon Recreation Reserve and Showgrounds Advisory Committee				0	•				
Victory Park Precinct Advisory Committee	•			•					
War Memorials Advisory Committee			М						
COMMITTEES OF MANAGEMENT									
Crinigan Bushland Reserve Committee								•	
Edward Hunter Heritage Rush Reserve Committee			•			•			
Ollerton Avenue Bushland Reserve Committee			•			•			

	Cr Dan Clancey	Cr Melissa Ferguson	Cr Sharon Gibson	Cr Dale Harriman	Cr Darren Howe	Cr Brad Law	Cr Tracie Lund	Cr Graeme Middlemiss	Cr Kellie O'Callaghan
Committees								∪ ≥	0,0
EXTERNAL COMMITTEES AND ASSOCIATIONS									
Alliance of Councils for Rail Freight Development						•		•	
Gippsland Local Government Waste Forum							0	•	
Gippstown Reserve Committee of Management Inc. (by invitation)			0			•			
Hazelwood Mine Fire Health Study Community Advisory Committee			М						
Latrobe City Trust		•	М		DM			•	•
Latrobe Valley Mine Rehabilitation Advisory Committee								•	
Moe Yallourn Rail Trail Committee Inc.			•			•			
Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV)		0	•						
National Timber Councils Association			0	•					
One Gippsland (formerly GLGN)			М						
Regional Aboriginal Justice Advisory Committee (RAJAC)			•						
Regional Cities Victoria			М						
Roadsafe Gippsland Community Road Safety Council			•		•				
South East Australia Transport Strategy (SEATS)						0		•	
Timber Towns Victoria			•	•					

#### Council delegations

Many of the elected Council's powers under the *Local Government Act 1989*, the *Local Government Act 2020* or any other act may be delegated by an instrument of delegation to a Delegated Committee of Council, to the Chief Executive Officer or to an individual Council Officer. Council generally delegates powers, duties and functions to the Chief Executive Officer who is empowered to further delegate some or all of those powers to other officers and to Community Asset Committees. Delegation is a vital element in assisting Council administration to function effectively and efficiently.

Delegation facilitates the achievement of good governance for the community by empowering appropriate members of staff or committees to make decisions on behalf of Council. When enacting on a delegated power, the staff member or committee is acting on behalf of Council. Council's delegation document also provides that only certain officers are allowed to make decisions of a financial nature, and the limit of their authority is carefully specified to ensure prudent financial management. Decisions under delegations are sometimes restricted by limitations imposed by Council or the Chief Executive Officer, including numerous requirements to report back on the decisions that have been made under that delegation. Decisions made under a delegation must always adhere to existing Council policy or directions.

Council delegations are reviewed and updated twice a year using the Maddocks Authorisation and Delegation service.

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021 Section 07 Governance, Management and Other Information

## **Information Management**

#### **Freedom of Information**

Where documents are not available for public inspection or available on Latrobe City Council's website, then access to them may be sought pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 1982 (FOI Act). The FOI Act grants the public the right to seek access to all Latrobe City Council documents. This general right of access is limited by a number of exceptions and exemptions, which have been prescribed to protect public interests and the private and business affairs of people about whom Latrobe City Council holds information. Local governments are required to publish information about the documents they hold, particularly those which affect members of the public in their dealings with Council. Each person has a legally enforceable right to access information, limited only by exemptions necessary for the protection of the public interest and the private and business affairs of persons from whom information is collected by Latrobe City Council. People may request inaccurate, incomplete, out-of-date or misleading information in their personal records be amended. People may also appeal against a decision not to give access to information or not to amend a personal record.

Latrobe City Council received 13 valid requests to access information under the Freedom of Information Act 1982, in the 2020/2021 financial year. This was an increase of 4 compared to the previous year. Freedom of Information requests must be made in writing and accompanied with a \$29.60 application fee. A total of 1 request was made under the hardship provisions of the Act and no fee was charged.

Requests for access to information should be addressed to: Freedom of Information Officer

Latrobe City Council PO Box 264 MORWELL VIC 3840

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 1982, Latrobe City Council must decide if this information will be provided within 28 days. Of the 13 valid requests received, all were processed within the statutory timeframe.

#### Information Privacy

Latrobe City Council is obliged to ensure the personal privacy of all residents and ratepayers in accordance with the Privacy & Data Protection Act 2014 and Health Records Act 2001.

Latrobe City Council will only collect, use or disclose personal information where it is necessary to perform Latrobe City Council functions or where required by law. Latrobe City Council has an adopted Citizen Confidentiality and Privacy policy which can be viewed on Council's website.

#### **Protected Disclosures**

The Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 aims to ensure openness and accountability in government by encouraging people to disclose improper conduct within the public sector and provide protection for people who make disclosures. The Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 relates to behaviours and actions of Councillors and Council Officers.

Procedures on how to make a disclosure are available on Council's website

Latrobe City Council supports the aims and objectives of the Public Interest Disclosures Act 2012 and has implemented the Public Interest Disclosure Procedure in accordance with it.

During 2020/21 no disclosures were notified to the Independent Broad-based Anti-Corruption Commission

#### **Documents for Public Inspection**

Under legislation, certain information held within Latrobe City Council is available for viewing by the public during normal office hours or by prior arrangement at Latrobe City Council's Corporate Headquarters, 141 Commercial Road, Morwell.

Summarised below is a list of documents that are available for public inspection in accordance with section 12 of the Local Government (General) Regulations 2015.

In accordance with section 222 of the Local Government Act 1989, inspection of these documents can be arranged by phoning Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700.

- · Details of overseas or interstate travel taken in an official capacity by Councillors or Council officers in the previous 12 months (with the exception of interstate travel by land for less than three days)
- Agendas and minutes for Ordinary and Special Council Meetings held in the previous 12 months, kept under section 93 of the Local Government Act 1989 or Council's
- Governance Rules, except where such minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public under section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989 or section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020
- Minutes of Special Committees established under section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989 and held in the previous 12 months, except if the minutes relate to parts of meetings which have been closed to members of the public under section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989 or section 66 of the Local Government Act 2020
- · A register of delegations made pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 or the Local Government Act 2020

- Details of all leases involving land which were entered into by Council as lessor
- · Register maintained under section 224 (1A) of the Local Government Act 1989 of authorised officers appointed under that section
- A list of donations and grants made by Latrobe City Council during the financial year

#### Other information available to the public

- The Councillor Reimbursement Policy (known as Councillors and Delegated Committee Members Expenses, Resources and Support Policy)
- · Councillor Code of Conduct
- · Summary of Personal Interests
- Council policies
- · Local Laws 1, 2 and 3
- The Council Plan
- The Strategic Resource Plan
- · The Annual Budget
- The Annual Report including the Auditor's Report
- All adopted Council policies

A number of these documents are also available on Latrobe City Council's website.

#### **Contracts**

Contracts entered into in 2020/21 valued at \$150,000 or more for services, or \$200,000 or more for works of a kind specified in section 186(5) and (c) of the Local Government Act 1989 are listed below.

- Resealing of Municipal Roads in Latrobe City
- · Provision of Home Maintenance and Home Gardening Duties
- · Supply and Delivery of Quarry Products
- Provision of Urban Street Tree Pruning 2020-2021
- · Road Reconstruction of Gilmour Street and Canfield Crescent Traralgon
- · Supply and Installation of Playground Equipment, Under Surfacing and Shade Sails
- Supply and Installation of Municipal Street Furniture
- · Provision of Metal Fabrication and Welding Services
- · Reconstruction of Vincent Road Stage 3 and Well Street Stage 2, Morwell
- · Design and Construct of LED Sports Lighting at Olympic Park, Moe and Harold Preston Reserve, Traralgon
- · Supply and Delivery of Daily Tarpaulin Cover System for Hyland Highway Landfill
- Supply of Fine Washed Sand
- Reconstruction of East Street, Yallourn North Stage 2 and Prince Street, Moe - Kerb and Channel
- · Management and Operation of GRAC

- Construction of Flynn Community Hall
- Design and Construct of 100 Lux Led Football Oval Sports Lighting at George Bates Reserve, Yallourn North
- Design and Construct of 100 Lux Led Football Oval Sports Lighting at Ronald Reserve, Morwell
- Provision of an Employee Management Solution
- Provision of Retail Electricity Services
- Supply of Information and Communication Technology
- Design and Construct of 100 Lux Led Football Oval Sports Lighting at Old Trafford Reserve, Traralgon
- Morwell CBD Traffic Calming Works
- Reconstruction of a Major Culvert at Scrubby Lane,
- · Structural Rectification and Squash Court Refurbishment, Churchill Leisure Centre
- · Reconstruction of Downies Lane Bridge, Traralgon South
- Construction of a Toilet Block at Victory Park, Traralgon
- · Flynn Recreation Reserve Reconstruction of (2) Tennis Courts
- · Traralgon CBD Traffic Calming Works
- Moe CBD Traffic Safety Works
- Moe / Newborough Leisure Multi-purpose Facility
- Provision of Service and Repairs to Plant and Equipment
- · Pedestrian Crossing at Kay Street, Traralgon
- Specialist Turf Supplies and Services
- · Outdoor Dining Bollard Installation
- · Provision of Planning Services
- Rehabilitation of Morwell Landfill Stages 3 and 4
- · Provision of Carpentry Services
- · Toners Lane, Morwell Reticulated Water Extension
- Provision of Stump Grinding
- Gippsland Sports & Entertainment Park Design & Construct Sports Lighting Project
- · Latrobe Leisure Morwell Pool deck and surrounding wet areas re-tiling

## Information Management (continued)

#### **Development Contributions Plan**

Section 46QD of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 require Councils to provide a report on development contributions.

Total	DCD	lovios	received	in	202	0/21	1
rotai	DCP	ievies	received	ım	ZUZ	UZ	ı

DCP name and year approved	Levies received in 2020/21 financial year (\$)
N/A	N/A

#### DCP land, works, services or facilities accepted as works-in-kind in 2020/21

DCP name and year approved	Project ID	Project description	Item purpose	Project value (\$)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
-	-	-	-	-

#### Total DCP contributions received and expended to date (for DCPs approved after 1 June 2016)

DCP name and year approved	Total levies received (\$)	Total levies expended (\$)	Total works-in-kind accepted (\$)	Total DCP contributions received (levies and works-in- kind) (\$)
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
_	-	-	-	-

#### Land, works, services or facilities delivered in 2020/21 from DCP levies collected

Project description	Project ID	DCP name and year approved	DCP fund expended (\$)	Works- in-kind accepted (\$)	Council's contribu- tion	Other contribu- tions	Total project ex- penditure	Percentage of item delivered
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

## **Local Government Performance Reporting Framework**

### **Governance and Management Checklist**

The checklist provides an indication of Council's governance frameworks including community engagement, planning, monitoring and decision-making.

Theme	Checklist item	Definitions	Yes/ No	Date of operation and expiry date/strategy	If no policy/ strategy- insert explanation
Community engagement	Community Engagement Policy	Policy under section 55 of the Local Government Act 2020 outlining Council's commitment to engaging with the community on matters of public interest	Yes	Adopted in accordance with section 55 of the Act. Date of operation: 12 April 2021	
	Community Engagement Guidelines	Guidelines to assist staff to determine when and how to engage with the community	Yes	Community Engagement Strategy 2015-2019 Date of operation: 14 September 2015 Community Engagement Action Plan 2015-2019 Date of operation: 14 September 2015	
Planning	Financial Plan	Plan under section 91 of the Act outlining the financial and non- financial resources required for at least the next 10 financial years	No		In accordance with the act the Financial Plan is not required for adoption until 31 October 2021.
	Asset Plan	Plan under Section 130 of the Act setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required	Yes	Drainage Asset Management Plan 2016 Adopted: 19 June 2017 Sign Asset Management Plan 2007-2011 Adopted: 18 June 2007 Building Asset Management Plan 2010-2014 Adopted: 21 June 2010 Bridge and Major Culvert Asset Management Plan Adopted: 15 June 2009 Asset Management Strategy 2014-2018 Adopted: 3 February 2014 Asset Accounting Policy Adopted: 5 March 2018	
	Revenue and Rating Plan	Plan setting out the rating structure of Council to levy rates and charges	Yes	Revenue and Rating Plan 2021-2025 Adopted in accordance with section 93 of the Act. Adopted: 7 June 2021	
	Annual Budget	Plan setting out the services to be provided and initiatives to be undertaken over the next 12 months and the funding and other resources required	Yes	Annual Budget 2020/21 Adopted in accordance with section 94 of the Act. Adopted: 3 August 2020	
	Risk Policy	Policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risks to Council's operations	Yes	Risk Management Policy Updated and adopted: 1 October 2018	
	Fraud Policy	Policy outlining Council's commitment and approach to minimising the risk of fraud	Yes	Fraud and Corruption Control Policy Updated and adopted: 2 December 2019	

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# **Local Government Performance Reporting Framework** (continued)

**Governance and Management Checklist** 

Theme	Checklist item	Definitions	Yes/ No	Date of operation and expiry date/strategy	If no policy/ strategy- insert explanation
Planning (cont.)	Municipal Emergency Management Plan	Plan under section 20 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 for emergency prevention, response and recovery	Yes	Prepared and maintained in accordance with Section 20 of the Emergency Management Act 2013 Date of operation: 27 November 2018	
	Procurement Policy	Policy outlining the principles, processes and procedures that will apply to all purchases of goods and services by the Council	Yes	Prepared and approved in accordance with Section 108 of Act. Updated and adopted: 6 April 2020	
	Business Continuity Plan	Plan setting out the actions that will be taken to ensure that key services continue to operate in the event of a disaster	Yes	<b>Business Continuity Plan</b> Date of operation: January 2019 Planned for review: October 2019	
	Disaster Recovery Plan	Plan setting out the actions that will be undertaken to recover and restore business capability in the event of a disaster	Yes	The distaster recovery plan is corporated as part of our Business Continuity Plan	
Monitoring	Risk Management Framework	Framework outlining Council's approach to managing risks to the Council's operations	Yes	Risk Management Operational Policy Date of operation: 6 February 2018	
	Audit and Risk Committee	Advisory committee of Council under section 53 and 54 of the Act	Yes	Established in accordance with Section 53 of the Local Government Act 2020 Audit and Risk Committee Charter Updated and adopted: 3 August 2020	
	Internal Audit	Independent accounting professionals engaged by the Council to provide analyses and recommendations aimed at improving Council's governance, risk and management controls	Yes	The Audit and Risk Committee approved the 2021/22 Internal Audit Program on the 3 June 2021. The rolling three year audit program will be presented to the Audit and Risk Committee for consideration at the September 2021 meeting.	
				HLB Mann Judd appointed current internal auditors December 2021	
	Performance Reporting Framework	A set of indicators measuring financial and non-financial performance, including the performance indicators referred to in section 131 of the Local Government Act 1989	Yes	Integrated Planning Framework Date of operation: December 2016	

Theme	Checklist item	Definitions	Yes/ No	Date of operation and expiry date/strategy	If no policy/ strategy- insert explanation
Reporting	Council Plan Report	Report reviewing the performance of the Council against the Council Plan, including the results in relation to the strategic indicators, for the first six months of the financial year	Yes	Report provided: 24 March 2021	
	Financial Reporting	Quarterly statements to Council under section 138(1) of the <i>Local Government Act 1989</i> comparing budgeted revenue and expenditure with actual revenue and expenditure	Yes	Statements presented to Council in accordance with Section 138(1) of the Act. Dates statement presented: 7 December 2020 8 February 2021 3 May 2021	
	Risk Reporting	Six-monthly reports of strategic risks to Council's operations, their likelihood and consequences of occurring and risk minimisation strategies	Yes	Risk reports are provided to Audit and Risk Committee and Executive Risk Management Committee (ERMC) on a quarterly basis.	
				Dates of reports: Audit and Risk Committee 4 June 2020 15 December 2020 4 March 2021 3 June 2021 Executive Risk Management Committee (ERMC) 18 May 2021	
	Performance Reporting	Six-monthly reports of indicators measuring the results against financial and non-financial performance, including performance indicators referred to in section 131 of the 1989 Act	Yes	Performance reporting is provided on a quarterly basis. Dates of reports: 30 November 2020 22 February 2021 26 April 2021 26 July 2021	
	Annual Report	Annual report under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the <i>Local</i> <i>Government Act 1989</i> containing a report of operations and audited financial performance statements	Yes	Presented at meeting of the Council in accordance with section 134 of the <i>Local</i> <i>Government Act 1989</i> . Date statements presented: 7 December 2020	
Monitoring	Councillor Code of Conduct	Code setting out the standards of conduct to be followed by Councillors and other matters	Yes	Reviewed in accordance with Section 139 of the Act. Date of operation: 8 February 2021 Future review: November 2024	
	Delegations	Documents setting out the powers, duties and functions of Council and the Chief Executive Officer that have been delegated to members of staff	Yes	Reviewed in accordance with relevant legislation. Date of review: Council to CEO: 08 June 2021 Council to staff: 08 June 2021 CEO to staff: 6 July 2021	
	Meeting Procedures	Governance Rules governing the conduct of meetings of Council and delegated committees	Yes	Council has adopted Governance Rules in accordance with section 60 of the Act on 7 September 2020.	

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## **Glossary**

Latrobe City Council's adopted strategies and plans are available on the website. www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/CouncilDocuments

#### **Advisory Committee**

Specialist appointees who form a committee that provides advice to Latrobe City Council on matters relating to the delivery of strategies, services and activities.

#### Advocacy

To provide support to a cause or to make public recommendation.

#### **Annual Action**

Significant actions for Latrobe City Council to be delivered during the next year which are linked to a strategic direction of the Council Plan Annual Actions are strategic in nature e.g. strategy/plan, major capital projects, significant community interest, key risk control, council resolutions or legislative requirements.

#### Annual Business Plan

The Annual Business Plan, together with the Annual Budget, is Latrobe City Council's short-term planning document. The Annual Business Plan consists of actions which support the delivery of the Council Plan and Organisational Excellence at Latrobe. The Annual Budget identifies the financial and non-financial resources required to support the Plan.

#### Annual Report

The Annual Report is an annual reporting tool to provide an update to Latrobe City Council stakeholders and the Minister for Local Government on how Latrobe City Council has achieved against commitments made in the Council Plan and Strategic Resources Plan. In accordance with section 131 of the Local Government Act 1989, it includes a report of Latrobe City Council's operations, audited standard and financial statements, performance statement (section 132) and a report on the performance statement (section 133).

Property that is owned by Latrobe City Council.

#### Building Act 1993

The primary purpose of this Victorian Government legislation is the regulation of building work and building standards, accreditation of building products and construction methods, and the provision of building and occupancy permit systems and dispute resolution mechanisms.

#### Capital Works

Projects undertaken to either renew. ungrade or construct assets owned by Latrobe City Council.

#### Council

The collective group of nine Councillors who set the strategic direction for Latrobe City Council, monitor organisational performance, liaise with stakeholders and ensure operational compliance.

#### Council Plan

A rolling plan that contains four-year strategies and indicators of outcomes. together with a Strategic Resources Plan that contributes to achieving the key objectives of the Latrobe community vision.

#### Councillor

A member of the community elected in accordance with the Local Government Act 1989 to represent the residents of a ward within the municipality as a member of Council.

#### Development Plan

A plan that aims to coordinate the layout of new subdivisions and is particularly useful to ensure the integrated development of land where there are several properties in separate ownership. The plan may also provide certainty about the nature and staging of new subdivision developments over a period of time. A development plan can provide direction and coordination of infrastructure networks, public open space and housing types.

#### Freedom of Information Act 1982 The purpose of this act is to give

members of the public rights of access to official documents of the Government, the Commonwealth and of its agencies.

#### **Gippsland Local** Government Network

An alliance of the six municipal councils located in Gippsland. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of each council meet regularly, with the primary objective to work collaboratively on a range of issues and projects of mutual interest.

#### **Gippsland Logistics Precinct**

A Latrobe City Council-owned 64 hectare precinct adjacent to the existing rail line in Morwell to be developed as a centre for the efficient and cost effective movement of freight to and from the Gippsland region.

#### Governance

How Council operates as a decision-making body.

#### Full-time equivalent

The unit that measures a worker's involvement in a project, or to track cost reductions in an organisation. An FTE of 1.0 is equivalent to a full-time worker or student, while an FTE of 0.5 signals half of a full work load.

#### Indicators

Performance measures that provide a range of economic, environmental and social indicators, identifying the extent to which an objective has been achieved.

Originating in a particular geographic region or environment and native to the area and/or relating to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

#### **Information Privacy Act 2001**

The purpose of this act is to create a scheme for the responsible collection and handling of personal information across the Victorian public sector.

Basic community facilities such as roads, drains, footpaths and public buildings, etc.

Engineered containment facility licensed by the Environment Protection Authority to accept specific solid waste.

#### Latrobe 2026: The Community Vision for Latrobe City

The Community Vision was generated after identifying three broad concepts shared by the Latrobe City community: Sustainability, Liveability and Leadership. A further nine strategic objectives were identified to take Latrobe City forward: Economy, Natural Environment, Built Environment, Our Community, Culture, Recreation, Governance, Advocacy and Partnerships, and Regulation and Accountability. Development of the community vision was facilitated by Latrobe City Council in consultation with many organisations, agencies, groups and individuals. The Latrobe 2026 Community Vision is an important long-term strategic document for Latrobe City Council which provides the principal direction to the Council Plan.

## Glossary (continued)

#### **Latrobe Planning Scheme**

The planning scheme that sets out policies and requirements for the use. development and protection of land located in Latrobe City.

#### **Latrobe Valley Authority**

A State Government agency established to bring together local people, councils, industry, education providers and government to secure the economic future of the Latrobe Valley region after the closure of the Hazelwood power station.

#### Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government Act 2020

This Victorian Government legislation outlines the intention for councils to provide a democratic and efficient system of local government in Victoria It also gives councils the power to meet the needs of their communities, and provides the basis for an accountable system of governance in Victoria.

#### **Local Government Performance** Reporting Framework

A set of State Government mandated key performance indicators common to all local councils measuring their performance.

#### **Local Laws**

Laws under the jurisdiction of Latrobe City Council and enforced by Latrobe City Council employees and/or Victoria Police

#### Local Planning Policy Framework

The framework provides the strategic basis for land use planning as controlled by the Latrobe Planning Scheme. The framework consists of the Municipal Strategic Statement together with the Local Planning Policy.

#### Major Initiative

Most significant actions for delivery over the current twelve month period and are linked to a strategic direction of the Council Plan.

The overall corporate philosophy that articulates how the Latrobe community vision will be achieved.

#### Municipality

A geographical area that is delineated for the purpose of local government.

#### Performance Indicator

Measures used to monitor the performance of Latrobe City Council in achieving the objectives of the Council Plan.

Focused and structured detail of action to be undertaken, involving a series of specific steps, to implement the objectives and goals of an overarching strategic direction.

## Planning and Environment Act 1987

This Victorian Government legislation establishes a framework for planning the use, development and protection of land in Victoria in the present and long-term interests of all Victorians.

**Policy** A set of principles intended to influence and provide direction for council decisions, actions, programs and activities.

#### **Quarterly Report**

A three-monthly report to Councillors on how the organisation is progressing against the commitments made in the Council Plan as well as operational, financial and statutory information.

#### Regional Cities Victoria

An organisation representing the 10 largest provincial centres in Victoria, comprising the municipalities of Ballarat, Bendigo, Geelong, Horsham, Latrobe City, Mildura, Shepparton, Wangaratta, Warrnambool and Wodonga. The Mayor and Chief Executive Officer of each council meet regularly, with the primary objective to expand the population of regional Victoria through promoting business and government investment and skilled migration to regional centres.

#### Service

A service identified by Latrobe City Council to be provided to the community during the four-year period of the Council Plan.

#### Sister City

An agreement between two cities in different countries that share cultural contact as a means of promoting cross-cultural awareness and interaction. Latrobe City has sister city affiliations with China and Japan.

#### **Strategic Direction**

Under each strategic objective of the Council Plan are Strategic Directions. Strategic Directions further detail the key areas Latrobe City Council will focus on achieving over the next four years.

#### Strategic Resources Plan

A component of the Latrobe City Council Plan and is prepared in accordance with section 126 of the Local Government Act 1989. It identifies the financial and non-financial resources required by Latrobe City Council over the next four years to implement the Council Plan.

#### Strategy

A long term systematic plan of action to achieve defined outcomes in an area of council activity or responsibility. A series of objectives is set out to meet these goals and specific actions are determined to meet these objectives.

#### Structure Plans

A document that provides direction for planning and development of a defined precinct. Structure plans are subject to community consultation and may be incorporated into the Latrobe Planning Scheme.

#### Values

Represent underlying attitudes and beliefs within the organisation that are demonstrated through organisational practices, processes, and behaviours

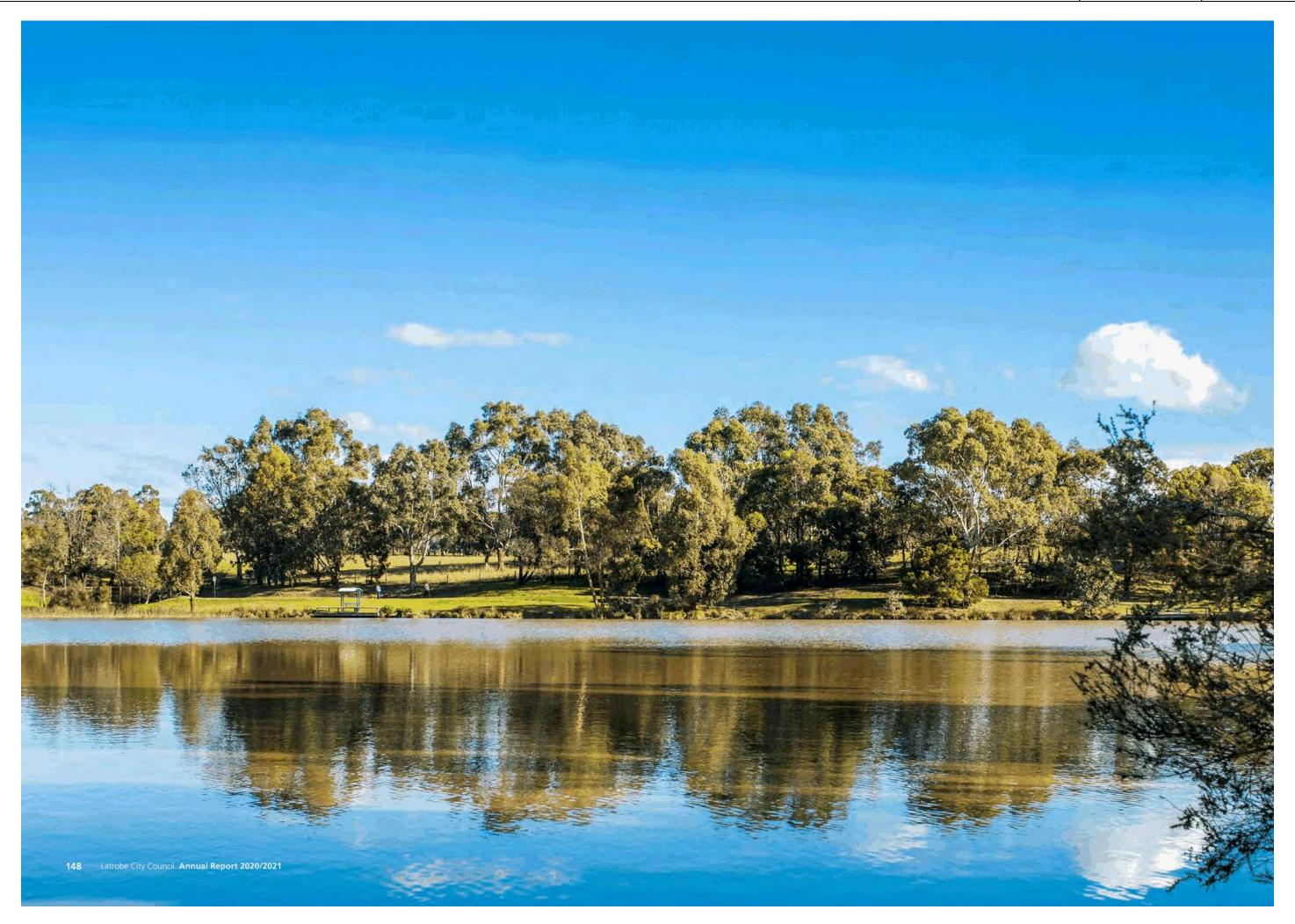
#### Victorian Auditor General's Office

A public sector audit organisation providing auditing services to the Victorian Parliament and Victorian public sector agencies and authorities.

A statement of direction that defines the aspirations of Latrobe City Council, and serves to guide all organisational objectives.

An area of the municipality identified for the purpose of representation. Latrobe City Council has four wards with a total of nine councillors.

Latrobe City Council Annual Report 2020/2021







Agenda Item: 13.2

Agenda Item: Authorisation of Council Officers under the Planning

& Environment Act 1987

Sponsor: Chief Executive Office

**Council Plan Objective: SMART** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council in the exercise of the powers conferred by section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* resolves that:

- 1. Jacqueline Hartford and Jemma O'Keeffe be appointed and authorised as set out in the instrument;
- 2. The instrument comes into force either immediately the common seal of Council is affixed to the instrument and remains in force until Council determines to vary or revoke it; and
- 3. The instrument be sealed.

#### **Executive Summary:**

This report seeks to authorise Jacqueline Hartford, Senior Urban Growth Planner and Jemma O'Keeffe, Strategic Planning Officer under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Council utilises Instruments of Appointment and Authorisation to identify specific officer's incumbent in roles and, in turn, appoint the officers to be authorised officers for the administration and enforcement of legislation under applicable Acts.

By authorising Jacqueline Hartford, Senior Urban Growth Planner and Jemma O'Keeffe, Strategic Planning Officer the officers will be able to perform their duties with respect to the planning powers and functions of the Council.

#### **Background:**

This report seeks to authorise Jacqueline Hartford and Jemma O'Keeffe under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Council utilises Instruments of Appointment and Authorisation to identify specific officer's incumbent in roles and, in turn, appoint the officer to be an authorised officer for the administration and enforcement of legislation under applicable Acts.

Only a handful of Acts and Regulations require specific roles within an organisation to be identified to undertake a specific function. There are often clauses within Acts or Regulations that state an "authorised officer" can undertake a specific function. This is why Council needs to identify the authorised officer by role and officer name.

Section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* provides for the following:

Any reference in this Act to an Authorised officer of a responsible authority or of the Department is a reference to an officer or employee of the authority or employee of the Department whom the authority or the Secretary to the Department (as the case requires) authorises in writing generally or in a particular case to carry out the duty or function or to exercise the power in connection with which the expression is used.

Section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides for the following:

- (1) The Secretary, a Council or a person authorised by the Council either generally or in a particular case may institute proceedings in the corporate name of the Council for—
  - (a) the recovery of any municipal rates, service charges, special purpose charges, fees or other money due to the Council under any Act, regulation or local law: or
  - (b) the enforcement of any provision of any Act, regulation or local law for which the Council is responsible; or
  - (c) the recovery of any penalty or surcharge in relation to any offence under any Act, regulation or local law the enforcement of which is the responsibility of the Council; or
  - (d) any other purpose specified by the Council.
- (2) A Chief Executive Officer or person authorised by the Council either generally or in a particular case may represent the Council in all respects as though the Chief Executive Officer or person authorised by the Council was the party concerned in any proceedings in which the Council is a party or has an interest.
- (3) Proceedings for a summary offence under this Act may be commenced within the period of 3 years after the commission of the alleged offence.



Section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* and section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020* specifically require that the appointment of an authorised officer must come from Council.

#### Issues:

Strategy Implications

Council endorsing this authorisation will support the Smart theme in the Council Plan 2021 – 2025 by supporting a skilled and appropriate qualified workforce.

Communication

Not Applicable.

Financial Implications

There are no financial or resource implications. However, if Council decides not to authorise the nominated officer, it will impede their ability to fully execute their duties

#### Risk Analysis

If an officer is not authorised by Council, the officer will be unable to adequately perform their duties. Further implications to this are as follows:

- Delays in processing decisions on planning applications.
- Development and subdivision projects within the Latrobe City Council having time delays.
- Risk that developers will become frustrated with delays and appeal to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal.
- Planning officers that do not have the appropriate authorisation and delegation are unable to determine planning applications.

Appointments of authorised officers is also a risk management practice in that it clearly identifies which officer can act on a particular authorisation

#### Legal and Compliance

Section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020 specifically require that the appointment of an authorised officer must come from Council.

By authorising the nominated officer, they will be able to perform and fulfil their role as described in their position description.



Community Implications

No community impact.

Environmental Implications

No environmental impact.

Community Engagement

There is no engagement required as part of this process.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

11. Talenta Authorisation - Jacqueline Hartford

2. S11A Authorissation - Jemma O'Keeffe



# 13.2

# Authorisation of Council Officers under the Planning & Environment Act 1987

1	S11A Authorisation - Jacqueline Hartford	107
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Maddocks Delegations and Authorisations

S11A. Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)



#### **Latrobe City Council**

# Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

Jacqueline Hartford
Senior Urban Growth Planner

November 2021

# Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

In this instrument "officer" means -

#### Jacqueline Hartford

#### By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Latrobe City Council -

- under section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 appoints the
  officer to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the Planning and Environment
  Act 1987 and the regulations made under that Act; and
- under section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020 authorises the officer either generally or in a particular case to institute proceedings for offences against the Acts and regulations described in this instrument.

#### It is declared that this instrument -

- (a) comes into force immediately upon its execution;
- (b) remains in force until varied or revoked;
- (c) is automatically revoked upon the officer referred to in this instrument ceasing employment with the Council.

This instrument is authorised by a resolution of the Council on the third of May 2021.

The Common Seal of LATROBE CITY COUNCIL was affixed in accordance with Local Law No. 1 this day of 2021 in the presence of:

Steven Piasente - Chief Executive Officer

Maddocks Delegations and Authorisations

S11A. Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)



## **Latrobe City Council**

# Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987 only)

Jemma O'Keeffe

Strategic Planning Officer

November 2021

# Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation (Planning and Environment Act 1987)

In this instrument "officer" means -

#### Jemma O'Keeffe

#### By this instrument of appointment and authorisation Latrobe City Council -

- under section 147(4) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 appoints the
  officer to be an authorised officer for the purposes of the Planning and Environment
  Act 1987 and the regulations made under that Act; and
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The Common Seal of LATROBE CITY COUNCIL was affixed in accordance with Local Law No. 1 this day of 2021 in the presence of:

Steven Piasente - Chief Executive Officer



Agenda Item: 13.3

Agenda Item: Working Group Membership - Former Moe Service

**Centre Expression of Interest** 

Sponsor: Chief Executive Office

**Council Plan Objective: HEALTHY** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

#### That Council:

- 1. Endorse the Mayor, Cr Gibson, Cr Law, Cr Harriman and Chief Executive officer as members on the Former Moe Service Centre Expression of Interest Working Group; and
- 2. Note that the Working Group will be administratively supported by council officers and the recommendations of the Working Group will be presented to Council for a future decision regarding the use of Former Moe Service Centre.

#### **Executive Summary:**

At the Council Meeting on 02 August 2021, council passed a motion (in summary) to call for expressions of interest from community groups for the use of the former Moe service centre. The motion is set out in full below under supporting information.

Council officers commenced an Expression of Interest process in late October 2021, publicised via Councils website and social media channels.

In accordance with the council resolution from 02 August 2021, proposals will be considered by a working group consisting of the Chief Executive Officer, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and one other councillor.

It is recommended to increase the membership of the working group to allow for all interested councillors to be included. This has meant that the Deputy Mayor position was replaced by a named councillor. The membership will continue to include the Mayor and Chief Executive Officer.

It is considered that the proposed composition of the working group will provide a suitable variety of members and adequate numbers to provide a recommendation to council.

#### **Background:**

At the Council Meeting on 02 August 2021, council passed the following motion:

#### That Council:

- 1. Advises the community that no decision has been made regarding the future use of the former Council Service Centre at 44 Albert Street, Moe;
- 2. Calls for Expression of interest from interested community groups for the use of the former Council Service Centre located at 44 Albert Street, Moe;
- 3. Forms a Working Group consisting of the Chief Executive Officer, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and one other Councillor to consider proposals presented by any interested community group regarding use of the former Moe Service Centre;
- 4. In the event that the proposed lease with the interested party for the former Library at 32 Kirk Street, Moe does not proceed that the Expression of Interest process detailed in point 4 be expanded to include the former Library;
- 5. Forms a Working Group consisting of the Chief Executive Officer, Mayor, Deputy Mayor and one other Councillor to consider proposals presented by any interested community group regarding use of the former Moe Service Centre; and
- 6. In the event that the proposed lease with the interested party for the former Library at 32 Kirk Street, Moe does not proceed that the Expression of Interest process detailed in point 4 be expanded to include the former Library.

In relation to point 6, the interested party has recently reconfirmed interest and officers working through the steps required to enter into a lease.

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

Council endorsing the working group membership will support the Healthy theme in the Council Plan 2021 – 2025 by supporting health and wellbeing planning.

#### Communication

There is no particular communication proposed in relation to the working group membership. There are separate activities associated with publicising the expression of interest.

#### Financial Implications

There are no financial implications as a result of endorsing the membership. Future consideration of the expression of interest will need to consider the financial considerations of proposals in full.



#### Risk Analysis

Not applicable.

Establishing suitable membership of the working group will assist to mitigate risks by taking a consultative approach to the delivery of this project.

Legal and Compliance

Community Implications

The community would expect the expressions of interests to be fully considered in a transparent and fair fashion. Establishing suitable membership of the working group will assist in achieving this.

Environmental Implications

Not applicable.

Consultation

Not applicable.

Other

Not applicable.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

Nil



# ASSETS AND PRESENTATION



#### 14. ASSETS AND PRESENTATION

Agenda Item: 14.1

Agenda Item: Significant Tree Register of Trees on Private Land

Sponsor: General Manager, Assets and Presentation

Council Plan Objective: SUSTAINABLE

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

#### **That Council:**

- 1. Call for submissions from the public and interested groups for nominations of trees on private land to be placed on a Significant Tree Register (Private Land);
- 2. Undertake an assessment of all submissions received by a suitably qualified arborist, to determine if trees are to be included in a Significant Tree Register (Private Land); and
- 3. A budget submission of \$23,000, to engage a contract Arborist to undertake assessment of submissions for inclusion of trees on a Significant Tree Register (Private Land), is referred to the draft 2022/23 budget for consideration.

#### **Executive Summary:**

- At the Council Meeting on 8 February 2021, Councillors asked for a further report to explore options for a Significant Tree Register on private property.
- A Significant Tree Register (Private Land) has the potential importance to protect trees within private property that have natural, biodiversity and cultural significance. This could gain community support by increasing awareness of significant trees located within Latrobe City.
- Council officers have concluded that there are five available concepts for Councillors to consider, in relation to the implementation of a Significant Tree Register (Private Land). The concepts are as follows:
  - Concept 1 Council take no further action to introduce a Private Property Significant Tree Register



- Concept 2 Accepting Public and interest group nominations
- Concept 3 Spatial Analysis/Visual Surveys
- Concept 4 Local Law Amendment
- Concept 5 Planning Scheme Amendment
- Council officers support Concept 2. This avenue is less restrictive and is in line with the Council resolution of 8 February 2021. This will allow Council to start inviting public and interested groups to nominate significant trees on private property, which will form the volunteer tree register list with no enforcement liability for privately owned trees.
- Each application will need to be assessed by either Council's Arborist or a consultant Arborist, depending on the number of applications.
- To fund the assessments, a budget application for the draft 2022/23 budget will need to be made for \$23,000, based on between 50 to 100 tree assessments.
- Implementing Concept 2 will allow Council to understand the level of support by the community and the consideration of controls in the future.

#### Background:

At the Council Meeting held on 8 February 2021 Council adopted the Significant Tree Register for Council managed trees deemed as significant.

Council resolved as follows:

#### That Council:

- 1. Adopts the Latrobe City Council Significant Tree Register 2021 as detailed in Attachment 1;
- 2. Publishes the list on the Latrobe City website; and
- 3. Is provided with a further report with options for discussion that explores the concept of having the ability for owners of significant trees on private land to have them included on the register without creating undue obligations on Council.

In accordance with the above, Council requested options to recognise and protect significant trees on private land.



Protecting significant trees is an important aspect of protecting environmental, biodiversity, historical, and cultural heritage. The significant tree criteria that Council officers propose for the Public and Private Significant Tree Register, demonstrates the types of values that Council will aim to protect, such as:

- Is the tree outstanding for its large height, trunk circumference or canopy spread?
- Is the tree an outstanding example of its species?
- Does the tree have any Aboriginal and/or cultural significance?
- Is the tree commemorative or have association with an important historical event?
- Does the tree significantly enhance the value of the landscape, remnant vegetation and important landmarks?
- Is the tree rare or not common to the locality?
- Is the tree particularly old and vulnerable?
- Does the tree have genetic value that could be an important source of propagating stock into the future?

Significant trees occur on private property as well as public land, and these private significant trees are important parts of the fabric of our community, even though they are in private ownership or control. Identification and recognition of these private significant trees may be considered to improve the cultural landscape and enhance the understanding of the heritage and environmental values, that are important to the community.

A small number of private trees of significance are already identified and protected under the Heritage Overlay however, these will be only a small fraction of the private significant trees within the municipality that are currently unrecognised and unprotected.

#### Threats to private significant trees

Private significant trees are under the same threats as trees on Council managed land due to inadvertent or deliberate damage, poor management and maintenance, land development, fear of damage or injury, or simply the whim of the owner. To some extent, private significant trees are more at risk as they tend to be larger and as such can be perceived (often wrongly) as a greater risk or greater encumbrance on the land. Having significant trees identified provides the option and imperative to plan for their protection when activity or development occurs around them. Currently only native remnant vegetation is protected within private properties, where the land size is greater than 4000 square metres (one acre).



#### Protecting private significant trees

It is not necessarily required to implement protection controls for private significant trees. A register can simply be an acknowledgement that the trees exist, and a tool to promote their value and the value of the trees more broadly within the community.

The simple presence of a significant tree register can add moral weight to the retention of private significant trees. The National Trust Register of Significant Trees works in this way, as trees on that register have no legal protection through being registered (although trees do have protection through other mechanisms such as the Heritage Act).

There are a range of controls available for protecting trees on private land through Council's Local Laws or the Planning Scheme. Tree protection controls are designed to trigger the need to review threats to, or management of a significant tree through a robust, repeatable and transparent process.

Council officers have explored different concepts for Council's consideration for introducing a Significant Tree Register of Trees (Private Land). This includes benchmarking with other local Victorian Councils (including Metro Councils and Gippsland Councils) refer to the Attachment 1.

#### Concept 1 – No further Action

Council could take no further action to introduce a Significant Tree Register of Trees on private land.

This concept will cease all further works on exploring options to introduce a Significant Tree Register for private land holdings. Council will continue to maintain trees identified within the Significant Tree Register for trees directly under Latrobe City Council's control.

#### Concept 2 - Public and Interest Group Nomination

The simplest way to identify significant trees is by inviting nominations from the public and from interest groups that may hold specialist knowledge such as; historical societies, the RSL, environmental groups and Council personnel etc. This concept will allow the community to nominate trees which will then be assessed by Council staff or contractors to determine if the particular tree meets the criteria to be included within the register. This concept has the potential to miss trees that are obscured either by their location or by having values that are not obvious, such as rarity or historical association.

Some tree owners may not nominate their own private trees out of concerns for privacy or the risk of it becoming an impediment to the use, the sale or development of their land. Some of these trees may be nominated by other interested parties, however some could not be nominated.



Nomination of private significant trees may occur by people or groups that do not own the tree and in this instance, Council will need to contact the property owner of the nominated tree and advise them of this. This could lead to conflict as some owners may not want their tree/s on the Significant Tree Register. In this instance, if the property owner does not support their tree being placed on the register, it will not be included.

#### Concept 3 – Analysis or Surveys

#### Spatial analysis

Spatial analysis using aerial imagery and potentially LIDAR or geospatial analysis, can be useful to identify large trees, it will not however identify small trees, trees that are historical or rare, or trees in groups.

#### Visual surveys

Visual surveys are a useful way to identify private significant trees that are not obvious by other means. In urban areas, visual surveys from the street by a suitably qualified person can identify many private significant trees, although the smaller, rare, or unusual trees may be hidden by structures or other vegetation.

Visual surveys from public land have the advantage of not requiring permission to enter the land, compared to privately owned land which does require permission to enter, especially during an initial identification of candidate significant trees. If it is determined as part of the process that detailed tree assessments are required, owner consultation and permission to access the trees would then be required.

#### Targeted surveys

Targeted surveys can also be undertaken in areas or sites where there are other factors that indicate significant trees could be present, such as old homesteads, old nurseries or gardens, older parts of towns or suburbs, churchyards and cemeteries.

Ultimately, the most comprehensive identification of private significant trees will use a combination of options to identify the trees.

#### Concept 4 -Future options - Local Law Amendment

An advantage of a local law is that it is easier, quicker and can include greater flexibility for Council officers to introduce.

This method is far simpler than Planning Scheme Amendments and can provide immediate protection, however there are limitations, such as:

- The penalties available under a local law are insufficient to be a deterrent to tree damage and removal.
- The local law process lacks the transparency of the planning permit application and review process.



- Local laws prepared under the Local Government Act 1989 may be used to
  protect vegetation. For example, the City of Bayside has introduced a local law
  to protect identified significant trees (listed on Council's significant tree register)
  or existing tree canopies on private properties for their amenity value. This
  approach may be considered as an alternative to using the planning scheme.
- As required by the Local Government Act 2020, consultation on the local law would take place in line with Council's Community Engagement Policy, which would allow a tailored approach to engagement.

The property owner still has full responsibility for the tree and maintenance requirements. This would require additional resourcing from Council to be able to oversee and enforce any breaches of the local law.

#### Concept 5 - Future Options - Planning Scheme Amendment

Planning controls offer the most robust and transparent process for significant tree protection. There are four planning scheme overlays which can be used to provide vegetation controls and they are Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO), Heritage Overlay (HO), Vegetation Protection Overlay (VPO) and the Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO).

The four overlays which provide vegetation controls provide planning permit triggers and can require a permit to be issued to 'remove, destroy or lop' the trees or vegetation specified. Only the HO automatically provides for root zone protection, but other overlays can include additional triggers to protect the rootzone of the tree.

A review of the planning overlays suggests a VPO does not provide inherently adequate protection from buildings and works. The HO does not provide for adequate protection for trees that are not of State or National significance. The SLO does not facilitate the protection of individual trees of significance. Therefore, the Environmental Significance Overlay (ESO) offers the greatest diversity of protection for trees identified as significant.

Planning controls offer the most robust and transparent process for significant tree protection. There are several overlay tools within the Victoria Planning Provisions (VPPs) to assist in vegetation protection of private properties.

Any Planning Scheme Amendment requires strategic justification to be prepared to inform the changes. In this instance, a vegetation survey or study must be undertaken. Depending on the size, scope and sites identified during the study, this would greatly affect the overall pricing for this undertaking. It is likely that a study of this nature would take up to 12 months to complete.

Once completed and depending on the recommendations a Planning Scheme Amendment would need to be prepared. Planning Scheme Amendment generally take between 12-18 months if submissions are received and a planning panel is required to consider these submissions. Budget would need to be allocated to the Strategic Planning Team to undertake this task.



Any tool which is implemented is going to trigger planning permits in relation the vegetation and this is likely to increase the workload of the Statutory Planning Team.

The property owner still has full responsibility for the tree and maintenance requirements and would be required to seek a Council planning permit (Section 60 under the Act) before any maintenance works can be carried out.

Council officers recommend that Concept 2 is implemented initially, as a low cost first step, and once Council understand the level of support by the community gauging by the number of trees nominated along with the feedback comments from community engagement. Council can then determine, if a Planning Scheme Amendment is viable and supported by the community, to be implemented in the future.

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

This is in line with the Council Plan by protecting assets on private property; specially mature trees of significant that contribute to the environment and liveability of the City.

Commentary: This tree register is set out how Council will achieved, protect and preserve our community and its environment for future generations.

#### Communication

A communication plan will be created to inform this project.

This will include highlighting the importance of recognising private significant trees that improve the landscape and enhance the understanding of the heritage and environmental values, that are important to the community.

The most effective way of communication would be sought from the public and from Latrobe City interest groups that may hold specialist knowledge. These could be Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC), historical societies, the RSL and environmental groups.

Using social media allowing the broader Latrobe City community to have their say and seeking advice from Council officers within the organisation.

#### Financial Implications

Financial costs can vary greatly and will vary between the options available.

Currently these options are not funded, and Council officer time is not accounted for.

Concept 1 – No Further Action.

No associated costs identified.



#### Concept 2 - Public and Interest Group Nomination.

Additional time would need to be allocated to Council Arborists or a consultant Arborist to follow up received submissions from the public and interest group nominations. Approximate cost based on 50 to 100 trees is \$23,000.

Concept 3 - Analysis or Surveys.

Additional resource required to collect the initial tree data within all the towns by driving all the streets and/or aerial imagery, approximate costing for data collection based on approximate 200 trees is \$46,000. There would be additional costs for the Local Law or Planning Scheme options.

Concept 4 - Future options - Local Law Options.

Concept 4 would also include the \$23,000 costs associated with option 2, as it would require a vegetation survey or study that identifies the private significant trees and sits behind the Local Law Policy.

In addition to the above, changes to current Local Laws and Enforcement would be approximately \$90,000, plus \$1,000 for advertising and Council officer's time to draft and introduce the required changes.

Currently this in not included in Council's work plans and a resource would not be available for approximately 12 months.

Concept 5 – Future Options - Planning Scheme Options.

Concept 5 would also include the \$23,000 costs associated with option 2. This must be completed before Council officers can apply for a Draft Planning Scheme Amendment.

A Planning Scheme Amendment will cost between \$50,000 to \$100,000 depending on the resources required, experts required such as field experts, lawyers, and engagement of a Planning Panel.

Currently this in not included in Council's 4-yearly work plans. This may also lead to additional costs.



# Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Service Delivery Risk Resourcing	4(Likely)	Depending on the number of trees identified additional resources could be required.
Occupational Health and Safety Risk  Council Staff or consultant performing works	1 (Rare)	NIL, trees on private property.
Financial Risk  There is no budget allocation to undertake this project and/or resource needed.	3 (Possible);	Depending on the number of trees identified. Additional resource and budgets are required
Reputational Risk  Private property owners unhappy with protection of tree on their property.	3 (Possible)	Council to communicate through the Council website and social media.  Council Officers will seek approval from owners of the trees on private property for inclusion on a Significant Tree Register (Private Land).
Legal/Regulatory Risk  Private property owners unhappy with proposed tree/s on their property nominated by public and/or public interest groups could result in tree/s being prematurely removed by property owner/resident.  In future the enforcement of protecting these trees under Local Laws or Planning Scheme Amendments will affect property owners and future developments.	5 (Almost Certain)	Consider whether land owner support is required prior to placing a private tree on the register.  Developing set criteria for the acceptance of trees being placed on the register e.g. quality, size, historical, cultural, land owners support etc.  Developing an appropriate communications plan to address any likely questions/concerns raised.



Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Strategic Risk	3 (Possible)	Trees are located on private
Resourcing		property.

<sup>\*</sup> Inherent likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain) Legal and Compliance

The Significant Tree Register (Private Land) will form the volunteer tree register list with no enforcement liability for privately owned trees.

#### Community Implications

The introduction of a Significant Tree Register (Private Land) for privately owned trees will have different impacts within the community. Through promoting trees of not only significance but trees in general. This can create positive community impacts such as: cleaner air, carbon sequestration, improved mental health and even increase to property values, by highlighting Latrobe City's natural heritage and cultural heritage. This will gain community support though interest groups by increasing awareness of the magnificent trees located within Latrobe City.

On the other hand, it may not appear favourably towards Council. As there will be members from community who do not feel Council should be able to determine that a private tree has been identified as Significant.

Council officer will endeavour to advise these residents. This register of private Significant trees will have no enforcement liability for privately owned trees.

#### Environmental Implications

The introduction of a Significant Tree Register (Private Land) will have positive environmental implications. It will also create public awareness of the significant trees within the municipality and highlight to the community the importance of maintaining these trees for future generations.

#### Consultation

Consultation will involve GLaWAC as the registered Aboriginal Party in the region to identify any trees with cultural heritage significance on Council land.

Engagement with GLaWAC and local heritage and conservation groups offers an opportunity for broader community understanding of the significance of these trees and their cultural and social value.

Consultation would also be conducted with groups such as the historical societies, the RSL, environmental groups and Council personnel.

Further consultation should be undertaken with the wider community to also get a feel and understanding of what the community would like to see.



Other

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

## **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

11. Benchmarking comparisons with Victorian Councils



# 14.1

Significant	Tree	Register	of	<b>Trees</b>	on	<b>Private</b>	Land

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#### Benchmarking comparisons with Victorian Councils:

Current examples from other Victorian Council.

Examples of existing registers and control options for other Victorian Councils are:

Council	Type of register	Protection in place
Baw Baw	Public	No dedicated controls
Bayside	Public and private	Local law + Planning Overlays
Bass Coast	No Register in place	No dedicated controls
Boroondara	Public and private	Local law
Brimbank	Public	No dedicated controls
East Gippsland	No Register in place	No dedicated controls
Frankston	Public and private	Planning scheme (ESO)
Glen Eira	Public and private	Local law
Hepburn	Public and private	Planning scheme (VPO)
Kingston	Public and private	Local law
Maribyrnong	Private	Planning scheme (ESO)
Melbourne	Private	Planning scheme (ESO)
Mildura	Public	No dedicated controls
Moreland	Private (draft)	Nothing to date
South Gippsland	Public and private	No dedicated controls
Yarra	Public and private	Local law
Wellington Shire	Currently investing a register for public and Private	Nothing to date

Through bench marking with other Victorian Councils. Examples have been provided from selected Council's utilizing various controls to provide protection.

#### Frankston Significant Tree Register.

As an example, the Frankston Significant Tree Register was undertaken by identifying candidate trees on private land by closed nominations and a survey of the entire municipality from the street by an independent arborist. An interim planning control was placed on these trees without exhibition to ensure their protection once the list was made public. Owners of these trees were then notified they had a candidate and encouraged to allow a full assessment by an independent arborist. From these assessments, a final list of candidates, with public trees also included, was adopted, and protected under a permanent planning control (ESO4).

#### Bayside City Council.

Bayside Council have a Local Law which covers all Bayside and protects trees with a single or combined trunk circumference greater than 155cm when measured at 1m above ground level unless the tree has a planning control such as a site-specific planning permit or is a native tree in the VPO area. The height of the tree is not relevant. The Local Law is also the measure that protects trees on the Significant Tree Register.

Trees might also be protected by site specific planning permits, Heritage Overlays and under the Native Vegetation Act, clause 52.17.

Mechanism is place also consist of:

VPO1 – all Victorian native vegetation on the foreshore.

VPO2 – all Victorian native vegetation in identified parks.

VPO3 – all Australian native vegetation greater than 2m in height and with a trunk circumference greater than 50cm at 1m above ground level.

Baw Baw Shire Council.

Currently has a localized Significant Tree Register for the area of Drouin only, which includes trees on Council managed lands along with trees on private property. This was introduced by a local community group called "Friends of Drouin Trees"

Wellington Shire Council.

Currently in the early stages of exploring a Significant Tree Register for trees on public and private land, document is still in the early draft stages.

South Gippsland.

Currently has a Significant Tree Register for all areas. This includes trees on Council managed lands along with trees on private property. This document was initially prepared by a local Public Interest Group.

Bass Coast:

Currently has no Significant Tree Register in place. Currently a local community group is exploring the options of creating their own Significant Tree Register for Phillip Island only. This may capture identified trees from the whole area to form this register.

East Gippsland.

Currently has no Significant Tree Register in place. To date the only significant trees identified within the municipality are trees identified on the National Trust Register.

Effectiveness of Tree Protection Controls.

Any tree protection control system will have limitations. It is important that it is understood that trees are biological organisms, and whilst they may have significant attributes that many in the community highly value, they have a finite existence. Therefore, it is logical to consider tree protection controls as a process that triggers a need for professional involvement, discussion, and opinion. Controls *per se* will not prevent tree removals. Ideally controls will reduce unnecessary tree removal, improve pruning, and prevent or limit damage to the tree's root zones and maximise the opportunity for a tree to continue to provide benefits for future generations.

Trees that are hazardous or causing unreasonable property damage that cannot be remedied via other means will have to be removed.

Resources are needed to monitor, review, and enforce any form of protection control. If controls include the other identified groups, significantly greater resources will be required.

Despite these measures, there are still gaps that have the potential to allow the removal of the most important and valuable trees on private land without adequate protections.



Agenda Item: 14.2

Agenda Item: Amendment C134 - South East Traralgon Precinct

Structure Plan, Development Contributions Plan and

**Native Vegetation Precinct Plan** 

Sponsor: General Manager, Assets and Presentation

**Council Plan Objective: CONNECTED** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

#### **That Council**

- 1. Endorses the draft South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan,
  Development Contributions Plan and Native Vegetation Precinct Plan,
  provided at Attachment 1, 2 and 3 for public exhibition as part of
  Amendment C134;
- 2. Requests authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C134 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme, in accordance with section 8A of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987;*
- 3. Prepares Amendment C134 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme to introduce the South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan, Development Contributions Plan, Native Vegetation Precinct Plan, and associated changes, generally in accordance with the documentation provided at Attachment 1, 2 and 3, subject to Ministerial Authorisation; and
- 4. Places Amendment C134 on exhibition in accordance with the requirements of section 19 of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, subject to Ministerial Authorisation.

#### **Executive Summary:**

- A draft South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan (PSP), Development Contributions Plan (DCP), Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (NVPP) and associated background reports have been prepared.
- It is proposed to proceed with a planning scheme amendment process to exhibit and consider the implementation of the PSP, DCP and NVPP and associated zoning, overlay and ordinance changes, into the Latrobe Planning



Scheme (the Scheme).

- The PSP applies to the future residential area identified as Area 13 on the Traralgon Structure Plan and is known as the South East Traralgon growth area. It covers an area of approximately 187ha, contains 94 parcels of land and forms the southern boundary of Traralgon's township boundary.
- The PSP and associated documents have been prepared by Council through both Council budget funds and grants from the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA). The amendment will be a Council-led amendment to complete the strategic planning for the South East Traralgon growth area.
- The PSP provides a framework for the development of approximately 1,437 new dwellings to accommodate a new community of approximately 3,725 residents. The PSP includes a Neighbourhood Activity Centre, community facilities and active open space areas, including a sporting reserve, that will serve the new population as well as providing benefit to the existing surrounding neighbourhood.
- Consultation with relevant stakeholders has been undertaken to inform the draft PSP. This includes 1:1 meetings for landowners with council officers and a consultant land broker as well as consultation with authorities and agencies.
- On behalf of the Minister for Resources, the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR) consider that further work needs to be undertaken to understand geotechnical risks associated with the mine and the suitability of the existing mine buffer prior to the Minister providing his views on the PSP and proposed amendment. Further information is provided at Attachment 7.
- Officers are of the view that the planning scheme amendment process, including an anticipated planning panel, is the appropriate formal and transparent planning process for the mine buffer to be considered. Legal advice has been obtained regarding lodging a request for authorisation which supports this and identifies the potential for engineering and construction controls be put in place as part of any approval associated with future subdivision and development of the land as has been done in other areas with ground subsidence considerations.
- To commence a planning scheme amendment process, Council must lodge a
  request to the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme
  amendment. Requesting authorisation does not adopt or approve the PSP.
  Council's consideration of whether to adopt the PSP and request approval by
  the Minister for Planning occurs after public exhibition and an anticipated
  planning panel.

#### **Background:**

#### The draft South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan

The South East Traralgon precinct has been identified as a residential growth area since the introduction of the Traralgon Structure Plan into the Scheme through Amendment C62 in January 2010. The Environmental Significance Overlay, Schedule 1 (ESO1) implements a buffer to the Loy Yang mine and forms the southern boundary of the precinct and Traralgon's urban growth boundary.

The majority of the precinct (approximately 143ha) was subsequently rezoned by the Minister for Planning to the General Residential Zone (GRZ) in February 2012 through Amendment C58. Together with the rezoning, the amendment applied the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 6 (DPO6) to the land, requiring an overarching plan for the precinct to be prepared and approved before any subdivision and development occurs.

As part of the rezoning amendment, any landowners who objected to their land being rezoned were removed from the rezoning. As a result, some properties in the precinct still remain in the Farming Zone (FZ) and Rural Living Zone (RLZ).

In response to landowner enquiries, the time since the rezoning and the fact that this precinct has been identified as the next growth front, at the 20 June 2016 Ordinary Council Meeting it was resolved to provide funding for the commencement of background reports to inform the preparation of a PSP for the precinct. The PSP replaces the role of the DPO6, and it was considered that it would provide a more appropriate planning mechanism to guide the orderly planning of the growth area as a whole.

Following the preparation of initial background reports in 2017, further background work has been undertaken. The completed background reports include:

- Retail
- Traffic (including concept designs and costings to support the DCP)
- Community Infrastructure
- Flora & Fauna
- Stormwater & Drainage (including concept designs and costings to support the DCP)
- Public Open Space assessment
- Bushfire Risk assessment

Using grant funding from the VPA, Council appointed Ethos Urban to assist officers in preparing the PSP, DCP and NVPP.



The PSP provides a framework for the orderly development of the precinct as an identified residential growth area to the south east of Traralgon's existing residential area. The precinct forms the southern boundary of the Traralgon township boundary and is generally bound by Liddiard Road, Stuart Street and McNairn Road to the west, Lansdown Road and Ellavale Drive to the north and the ESO1 (mine buffer) to the south and east.

The PSP will guide how this large precinct is developed for housing and associated amenities over a 20+ year timeframe. The precinct covers an area of approximately 187 ha and contains 94 parcels of land.

The PSP will deliver approximately 1,437 dwellings to accommodate a new community of approximately 3,725 residents. The PSP includes a Neighbourhood Activity Centre (NAC) with a retail floor space up to 5,500 square meters and commercial floor space up to 1,500 square meters. It is anticipated this would include a full line supermarket, specialty retail and non-retail commercial space. The NAC is co-located with a proposed multi-purpose community facility and active open space reserve that will provide sporting facilities. The NAC, community facility and sports reserve will provide a community focal point that serves the new population as well as providing benefit to the existing surrounding neighbourhood.

It is estimated that the community centre will employ 10 people and neighbourhood activity centre approximately 53, which is a total of 63 jobs for this precinct. Jobs will also be created within the housing and infrastructure industry through the development of the precinct.

Lot density varies throughout the precinct and will range from approximately 8 to 16 dwellings per net developable hectare based on six character areas that provide different opportunities and constraints for development. Medium density development will be located in close proximity to the NAC with lower density expected where the existing fragmentation and constraints of the land limits its development potential.

#### Proposed planning scheme amendment

Following the completion of a draft PSP, DCP and NVPP, the next stage in the planning process is for these documents to be exhibited and considered for approval through the planning scheme amendment process.

To ultimately implement the PSP into the Scheme, the proposed amendment will involve a number of changes to the Scheme:

- Rezone the precinct to the Urban Growth Zone (GRZ) and introduce a new Schedule 2 (UGZ2) implementing the PSP and applied zones.
- Apply a new Development Contributions Plan Overlay Schedule 2 (DCPO2) to the precinct.
- Identify the South East Traralgon Native Vegetation Precinct Plan in the Schedule to Clause 52.17.



- Delete the Development Plan Overlay Schedule 6 (DPO6) and Schedule 2 (DPO2).
- Insert maximum leasable floor spaces for the Neighbourhood Activity Centre in the Schedule to Clause 34.01.
- Apply a specific public open space contribution for the precinct in the Schedule to Clause 53.01.
- Insert referral to the Minister administering the Mineral Resources (Sustainable Development) Act 1990 in the Schedule to Clause 66.04 for all subdivision and development planning permit applications.
- Insert the PSP, DCP and NVPP as incorporated documents in the Schedule to Clause 72.04.
- Insert 25 properties in the Schedule to Clause 52.03 to exempt permit requirements for the removal of restrictive covenants that will be made redundant by the PSP.

To commence a planning scheme amendment process, Council must request authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit a planning scheme amendment.

Under Section 8A(7) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act), if within 10 business days of receiving an application for authorisation from a council, the Minister has not notified the council of his or her decision, the council may prepare the amendment without authorisation.

It is important to note that requesting authorisation does not constitute approval of the amendment. Requesting authorisation seeks to commence the amendment process and provide a formal and transparent process for the PSP to undertake public consultation and be considered for approval. There are a number of stages to the process over the course of approximately 12 months before the PSP amendment is potentially approved.

Through the amendment process all relevant government departments and the public will have an opportunity to make submissions about the PSP. Council will consider all submissions and refer any submissions that can't be resolved to an independent planning panel. The panel will consider the amendment and submissions through a hearing process where all submitters, including both government stakeholders and the public, can be heard and expert witnesses called.

The panel will then make a recommendation to Council about how to progress with the amendment – being whether to abandon, adopt, or adopt with changes. Council does not take a position on whether it supports the PSP and amendment for approval until after the panel has provided a recommendation. If Council decides to adopt the amendment at that point, the Minister for Planning still makes the final decision on whether the amendment gets approved to incorporate the PSP into the Scheme.



#### Removal of restrictive covenants

25 properties within the precinct have a restrictive covenant on their Title that prevents subdivision and development of the land or restricts the nature of development in some way. These restrictions are now redundant given the strategic identification of the land for residential growth.

A map showing the properties affected by the restrictive covenants is provided at Attachment 5.

It is proposed to include the affected properties in the Schedule to Clause 52.02 (Easements, Restrictions and Reserves) as part of the proposed amendment to allow the restrictive covenants to be removed without a planning permit and the land be developed in accordance with the PSP and Traralgon Structure Plan.

#### Issues:

Strategy Implications

The project meets the following Council Plan objectives:

• Facilitate appropriate urban growth, industry diversification, liveability and connectivity throughout Latrobe City.

The proposed amendment will facilitate appropriate urban growth of land identified as a residential growth area and largely zoned residential.

Health Implications

There are no health implications as part of this report.

Communication

#### Landowner discussions

Officers regularly take phone enquiries from landowners within the precinct in relation to the status of the project and the likelihood of when they can develop their land.

Council officers provided an opportunity to all landowners and occupiers to have a discussion to seek their development intentions and thoughts on how the precinct should be developed, 23 meetings and phone discussions were held with landowners in December 2020 and January 2021.

Following this, Council appointed a Land Broker, Gerard Coutts & Associates, to have further detailed discussion with landowners in May 2021, to gain a better understanding of how landowners might be able to work together and form 'development cells', 60 landowners took part in these discussions.



#### **Engagement with internal Council teams**

Input to inform the draft PSP has been sought from the following Council departments:

- Infrastructure Planning
- Infrastructure Design
- Recreation and Open Space
- Community Strengthening
- Environment
- Strategic Planning
- Statutory Planning

A workshop with community services officers was held in July 2017 as part of the preparation of the Community Infrastructure Assessment as a background document to the PSP. A further meeting with officers and review of the recommendations was undertaken in May 2021 which confirmed the appropriate provision of community facilities through the draft PSP.

#### Discussions with external stakeholders

Council have liaised and sought input from relevant stakeholders to inform the draft PSP, including:

- Victorian Planning Authority (VPA)
- Environment Protection Authority (EPA)
- Gippsland Water
- West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA)
- Agriculture Victoria
- Gunaikurnai Land and Waters Aboriginal Corporation (GLaWAC)
- Heritage Victoria
- Regional Roads Victoria (RRV)
- Country Fire Authority (CFA)
- Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR)
- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)

All stakeholders, including landowners in the precinct and the public, will have the opportunity to make submissions to the PSP during the exhibition stage of the amendment process.



#### Planning scheme amendment exhibition

In accordance with the processes prescribed under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (The Act)*, Amendment C134 is proposed to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 1 calendar month following authorisation. As part of the process, a communications strategy will involve:

- Drop in sessions to have 1:1 meetings with a planning officer to be offered to all landowners/occupiers (subject to COVID-19 restrictions);
- Have Your Say page created on Council's website;
- Documents available on Latrobe City Council's website;
- Letters / emails notifying affected owners and occupiers, agencies, public authorities and Ministers believed to be materially affected by Amendment C134 or prescribed under the Act;
- Notice in the Latrobe Valley Express; and
- Notice in the Government Gazette.

Financial Implications

#### Preparation of the PSP

Council was successful in the 18/19 and 19/20 Victorian Planning Authority (VPA) Streamlining for Growth program which provided a total of \$220,000 in grant money and resource assistance.

Council have also provided a total of \$370,000 to progress the project.

#### Planning scheme amendment process

The prescribed fees for planning scheme amendments are detailed in the *Planning and Environment (Fees) Regulations 2012*. The costs associated with a planning scheme amendment include: considering a request to amend a planning scheme, consideration of submissions, providing assistance to a panel and adoption and approval of an amendment.

An application has been lodged for the Victorian Planning Authority's 2021-2022 Streamlining for Growth program seeking funding for planning panel costs including expert witnesses. If this in unsuccessful, a mid-year Council budget bid will be made.

To date, Council has spent \$502,201 on the project including the preparation of background reports, of which \$193,600 has been provided by the VPA in grants through the Streamlining for Growth program.

#### **Development Contributions Plan**

In addition to costs of the amendment process, the approval of the PSP, and in particular the DCP, will have financial implications for Council through the delivery of infrastructure to support the development of the precinct. This will occur in two ways:

- Initial delivery of DCP infrastructure that will be ultimately reimbursed through development contributions;
- The cost of community infrastructure after the capped Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) amount.

Some infrastructure will be provided by developers at the time of development where it is a typical requirement of subdividing and developing land, such as the upgrade of a site's road frontage to urban standard, new local roads, and on-site drainage. However, some infrastructure supports the precinct as a whole, such as the upgrade of intersections to support the increased traffic generated by the precinct and centralised drainage assets. The DCP provides a mechanism for the cost of infrastructure projects that support the precinct as a whole to be shared by all landowners in the precinct through the collection of a Development Infrastructure Levy (DIL) based on the Net Developable Area (NDA) of each property. The DIL is indexed annually.

Table 1 – Development Infrastructure Levy

	Total cost	DIL rate per NDA hectare
Transport	\$1,578,454	\$11,187
Open space	\$4,633,940	\$32,843
Community infrastructure <sup>2</sup>	\$3,452,223	\$24,467
Drainage <sup>1</sup>	\$18,089,375	\$208,556
Structure planning	\$170,000	\$1,204
	Charge Area 1	\$69,703
	Charge Area 2	\$278,260

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Applies to Charge Area 2 only.

Council is both the collecting agency and the developing agency for the DCP. As the developing agency, Council is responsible for delivering DCP infrastructure funded through the development contributions. This can be through Council's capital works program, or Council can agree to allow a developer to construct DCP projects as 'works in kind' (WIK) which get credited against their development contributions and reimbursed if the value of the WIK is greater than the required contributions for that development.



Whether it is through capital works or reimbursement of WIK, it is typical in growth areas for the initial development stages to require Council to provide up front funding for infrastructure before sufficient contributions have been collected.

#### Community Infrastructure Levy

The Act sets out the types of infrastructure that can be included in the DCP under two categories: development infrastructure and community infrastructure.

Development infrastructure is funded through the DIL based on the cost of infrastructure per NDA set out in Table 1. There is a component of community infrastructure that is funded through the development infrastructure category, which is why 'community infrastructure' appears under the DIL as well.

Certain types of community infrastructure must be funded through a CIL which also forms part of the DCP but is calculated and collected separately to the DIL. The CIL is calculated based on the number of dwellings created, rather than NDA, and is capped at \$1225 per dwelling (subject to indexation). Because the CIL is capped by legislation, Council is required to fund the cost of the infrastructure beyond what is collected by the precinct. This is similar to the Council apportionment of DIL infrastructure projects, as the capped CIL seeks to quantify the need for community facilities and services generated by new dwellings and the balance funded by Council generally represents the benefit the facilities will provide to the broader community. Council may apply for grants or other funding programs for the cost to be funded by Council.

The DCP contains one community infrastructure project under the CIL category. As noted above, some types of community infrastructure fall under the DIL category. For this reason, there is a DIL component of community infrastructure (CI-01) and a CIL component (CI-02). Although these are listed in the DCP as separate infrastructure projects due to their separate funding collection mechanism, it is envisaged that they will be constructed together as a combined multi-purpose facility.

Table 2 – Council contribution to CIL

Project ID	Project description	Total cost	Estimated number of dwellings	Cost recovered by CIL <sup>1</sup>	Cost to be funded by Council
CI-02	Construction of multi-purpose pavilion adjacent to active open space	\$2,545,749	1,437	\$1,760,325	\$785,424

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The cost recovered by the DCP is the CIL component based is based on the estimated number of dwellings, the actual amount will vary according to the actual number of dwellings achieved at the subdivision stage.

#### Public open space contribution

The open space component of the DCP relates to the construction of the sports reserve. It does not include the purchase of the land as open space land is provided separately to the DCP under Clause 52.03 (Public open space contribution) of the planning scheme. The rate for public open space contributions in greenfield areas is 8% of the land to be provided in either land or cash.

Because the PSP sets out the size and location for open space across the precinct as a whole, some properties will provide greater than 8% of their land in open space while the majority of properties will provide no open space land. To manage this, an equalisation approach is used for the collection of public open space contributions under Clause 52.03. This means that in addition to the DIL and CIL in the DCP, properties that provide less than 8% of their land for open space pay a cash contribution equivalent to 8% of the land value. This is used to fund reimbursements to properties which provide more than 8% of their land for open space, which equalises the provision of open space of land and cash contributions across the precinct.

#### Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Service Delivery Risk		
Increased workload through planning permit applications once a PSP is approved.	5 – Almost certain	Planning permit applications will be managed through Council's Urban Growth team. Staff resourcing requirements and service delivery timeframes will be monitored.
Financial Risk		
Further delays could result in background reports need updating if policy changes.	3 – Possible	Delays would occur once it is lodged with Minister for Planning, this is out of Council's control.
Reputational Risk		
Negative perception of Council not doing everything possible to get this completed quickly / delaying project.	4 – Likely	Keep submitters informed of the progress of the project.

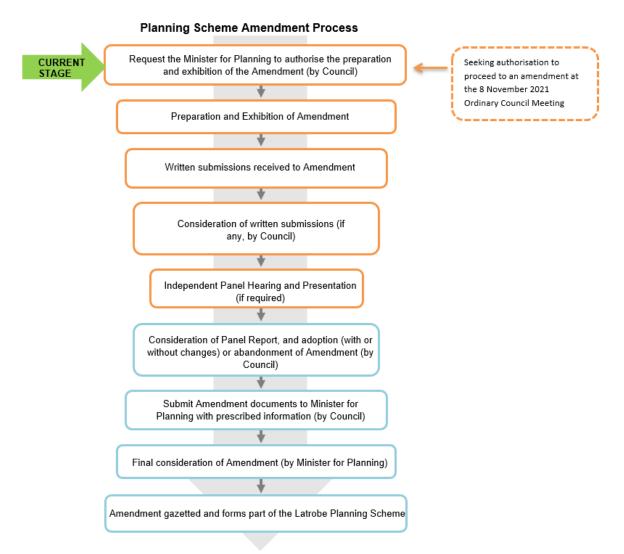


Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Complaints received from landowners regarding paying residential rates on land that can't be developed without an approved PSP in place.	4 – Likely	Keep submitters informed of the progress of the project.

<sup>\*</sup> For example, likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain)

#### Legal and Compliance

The C134 planning scheme amendment process is shown in the figure below and provides an indication of the current stage.





In accordance with section 8A of the Act, the Minister for Planning may authorise Council to prepare an amendment to State and local provisions of the Scheme.

Council, as the planning authority, has a number of duties and powers, which are listed at section 12 of the Act. Under section 12(2), in preparing a planning scheme amendment, Council must have regard to:

- The Minister's directions;
- The Victoria Planning Provisions;
- Any strategic plan, policy statement, code or guideline which forms part of the Latrobe Planning Scheme;
- Any significant effects which it considers a planning scheme amendment might have on the environment or which it considers the environment might have on any use or development envisaged in the planning scheme amendment.
- Any social and economic effects.

Council has had regard to section 12(2) of the Act and considers Amendment C134 to be consistent with these requirements.

In addition, each amendment must address the Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) publication *Strategic Assessment Guidelines for Planning Scheme Amendments*. A response to these guidelines is outlined in the Explanatory Report at Attachment 4.

The proposal is consistent with the State Planning Policy Framework and the Municipal Strategic Statement. This is explained in the attached Explanatory Report.

#### Community Implications

There would likely be a negative community impact if the project is delayed, or authorisation is not provided by the Minister for Planning. The lack of certainty to landowners and them being unable to develop zoned land may have both financial and mental health strains on landowners.

#### Environmental Implications

All known environmental implications have been identified through the preparation of the PSP, DCP & NVPP and associated background reports.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

1. South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. A formal planning or exhibition process has not yet commenced, and if released prior to a formal process perceptions of the affected land may be altered which may affect land value. The appropriate time for all matters to be considered is when the formal exhibition process commences at which time the document will be made publically available.

2. South East Traralgon Development Contributions Plan (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. A formal planning or exhibition process has not yet commenced, and if released prior to a formal process perceptions of the affected land may be altered which may affect land value. The appropriate time for all matters to be considered is when the formal exhibition process commences at which time the document will be made publically available.

3. South East Traralgon Native Vegetation Precinct Plan (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. A formal planning or exhibition process has not yet commenced, and if released prior to a formal process perceptions of the affected land may be altered which may affect land value. The appropriate time for all matters to be considered is when the formal exhibition process commences at which time the document will be made publically available.

4. Amendment C134 Explanatory Report (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. A formal planning or exhibition process has not yet commenced, and if released prior to a formal process perceptions of the affected land may be altered which may affect land value. The appropriate time for all matters to be considered is when the formal exhibition process commences at which time the document will be made publically available.

5. Properties with restrictive covenants proposed to be exempt from permit requirement for removal (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely



released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. A formal planning or exhibition process has not yet commenced, and if released prior to a formal process perceptions of the affected land may be altered which may affect land value. The appropriate time for all matters to be considered is when the formal exhibition process commences at which time the document will be made publically available.

6. Minister for Resources letter to CEO 14.09.2021 (Published Separately)

This attachment is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to land use planning information, being information that if prematurely released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. This document relates to a proposed amendment for which a formal planning or exhibition process has not yet commenced. If released prior to a formal process perceptions of the affected land may be altered which may affect land value. The appropriate time for all matters to be considered is when the formal exhibition process commences at which time the document will be made publically available.

71. Mine buffer considerations



# 14.2

# Amendment C134 - South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan, Development Contributions Plan and Native Vegetation Precinct Plan

7	Mine buffer considerations		6
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#### Attachment 7 – South East Traralgon PSP - Mine Buffer Considerations

The southern boundary of the precinct abuts the Loy Yang mine buffer which is implemented in the Latrobe Planning Scheme (the Scheme) through the Environmental Significance Overlay 1 (ESO1). It provides a buffer of over 1km as set by the state government. The ESO1 buffer is well established, having been refined and validated in July 2009 as part of Amendment C42 which applied a Public Acquisition Overlay (PAO) for the proposed Traralgon bypass within the mine buffer as the location selected by the state government for the bypass. On this basis the ESO1 has underpinned the long-term strategic planning for Traralgon's urban growth for the past ten years, including the identification of the South East Traralgon growth area in 2010 and rezoning in 2012.

The Traralgon Structure Plan was updated in 2017 to implement the Traralgon Growth Areas Review (TGAR) through Amendment C87. Through the exhibition process, Loy Yang made a submission suggesting that the current ESO buffer is insufficient. At the TGAR planning panel hearing, AGL Loy Yang provided expert evidence to the panel regarding their submission. The panel and DELWP subsequently adopted the precautionary principle and recommended that further investigation should be undertaken to determine land stability up to 2km from the mine. It also recommended the ESO1 be extended to 2km in the interim, but this was not adopted by Council or DELWP.

In response to panel's recommendations, Council engaged Golder Associates to undertake a Peer Review (October 2015) and a Risk Assessment (June 2016) of the evidence submitted by AGL Loy Yang, both concluded that the current width of the ESO1 provides a sufficient mine buffer in relation to land stability and that geotechnical issues outside the 1km buffer can be mitigated through engineering standards.

Although the updated structure plan made no change to the South East Traralgon precinct, the township boundary or the ESO1, policy statements were introduced into the scheme directing Council to seek the views of the Minister for Resources and advocate for an independent geotechnical assessment of the suitability of the established mine buffer before any further development occurs in the precinct.

Council subsequently sought the views of the Minister for Resources and requested an independent geotechnical assessment be undertaken in August 2017. Council was advised by letter in October 2019 that an analysis was commissioned in 2018 on geotechnical risks and associated issues, yet the results were not conclusive and that a further independent assessment is required before the Minister for Resources can provide his views. This letter also noted the mine expansion towards Traralgon that occurred since then (beyond the approved works area and depth) as a reason for requiring more data and analysis. Council was not provided with a copy of the report commissioned in 2018 and has been waiting since the conclusion of this report for any further work to be done.

In August 2021 the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions (DJPR), on behalf of the Minister for Resources, advised that a consultant is yet to be appointed to undertake the further work and it is expected to take 12 months, which is an increase since the nine months estimate they advised in April 2021. This was subsequently confirmed in a letter from the Minister for Resources to Council's CEO on 14 September 2021 (Attachment 6 to the Council Meeting Report 8 November 2021).

DJPR has stated that there are currently too many uncertainties about the impacts of the mine on land beyond the established buffer, and that the Minister for Resources will not be in a position to express his views on the suitability of the existing buffer until the further geotechnical work is completed. These uncertainties include future mining and rehabilitation, which council officers consider to be matters relating to the regulation of the mine with regard to the existing planning context which includes land already zoned residential as well as existing dwellings.

Given Council has fulfilled its planning scheme obligation to seek the views of the Minister for Resources and advocate for an independent geotechnical assessment, it is the view of officers that there is no reason Council cannot submit the draft South East Traralgon Precinct Structure Plan and associated documents along with the planning scheme amendment for authorisation and that an amendment process shouldn't be able to commence and proceed. The amendment process provides the appropriate process for all relevant planning matters and the views of all stakeholders to be considered in a formal, rigorous and transparent manner.

In the absence of the Minister for Resources' independent geotechnical investigation being completed, Council may wish to commission further geotechnical advice of its own as part of the amendment process and planning panel. This will be considered following the Minister for Planning's response to the authorisation request.

Under Section 8A(7) of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 (the Act), if within 10 business days of receiving an application for authorisation from a council, the Minister has not notified the council of his or her decision, the council may prepare the amendment without authorisation.

Legal advice has been obtained regarding lodging a request for authorisation which supports this, and identifies the potential for engineering and construction controls be put in place as part of any approval associated with future subdivision and development of the land as has been done in other areas with ground subsidence considerations.



Agenda Item: 14.3

Agenda Item: Traralgon Recreation Reserve - Flood Recovery

**Project** 

Sponsor: General Manager, Assets and Presentation

**Council Plan Objective: HEALTHY** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

#### That Council:

- 1. Allocates \$2 million to the Traralgon Flood Recovery Project from the cash reserve;
- 2. Receive a further report on receipt of the insurance settlement associated with Councils flood impacted buildings at the Traralgon Recreation Reserve; and
- 3. Authorises public exhibition for a period of at least two weeks when the draft project plans are complete.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The June 2021 flood event caused considerable damage to a number of buildings within the Traralgon Recreation Reserve.

It has since become evident that the most appropriate action is for these buildings to be removed, then reconstructed and/or relocated elsewhere within Traralgon.

Council have been supporting all community groups impacted by the floods since the event and although some of the buildings impacted are not owned or managed by Council, the outcomes of this project are designed to support all community groups impacted.

This project includes the following key developments:

- Removal of flood damaged buildings from the Traralgon Recreation Reserve;
- Construction of a Multi-Use Pavilion at the Traralgon Recreation Reserve; and
- Development of a Community Hub, Outdoor Event Space and ancillary



infrastructure at Glenview Park.

Consultant briefs have been prepared for the following plans:

- Masterplans for the Traralgon Recreation Reserve and Glenview Park;
- Concept Plans for a Multi-Use Pavilion at Traralgon Recreation Reserve; and
- Concept Plans for a Community Hub and Event Space at Glenview Park.

Budget has now been allocated to complete these plans, however funds are not yet available to actually develop these sites and buildings.

It is expected that this overall Flood Recovery Project will cost in the order of \$10 million, for which Officers are hopeful both the State and Federal Governments will assist Council in raising the required funds.

Officers are seeking to utilise cash reserves currently held for long service leave liabilities, insurance payouts and other Council allocations to contribute to the overall project to assist in advocacy efforts to the State and Federal Governments.

Best case timing targets for key steps in delivering this project are outlined in Attachment 1.

#### **Background:**

The Traralgon Recreation Reserve is located within a floodway and has been impacted by multiple flood events in recent history.

The June 2021 flood event however has resulted in some very different consequences. It was the worst in recent memory in terms of property damage and is very different in terms of recovery.

This is mostly due to the health regulations which now exist, meaning that contamination analysis and cleaning requirements are more onerous and also the fact insurance companies may not insure these buildings or contents in the future.

This has resulted in Council and the many user groups needing to consider their future within the reserve as this may be the last time insurance will cover some of the damages caused by flood and it is inevitable that the reserve will flood again.

Unfortunately, the Traralgon and Districts Agricultural Society were already in this position, with their insurance company providing very little compensation for the damage caused to their buildings and contents after the June 2021 flood event.

As such, it is time to future flood-proof the Traralgon Recreation Reserve so the land can flood in the future without damaging buildings or continuously displacing these user groups.

In order to flood-proof the Traralgon Recreation Reserve, the following needs to occur:



- Flood damaged buildings within the reserve, particularly those that are below the 1% AED flood level need to be removed:
- A new Multi-Use Pavilion needs to be constructed at the Traralgon Recreation Reserve, above the 1% AED flood level to host the sporting clubs that are tied to the sporting fields located at the reserve, that have had their buildings removed. This pavilion will also provide appropriate space for other user groups such as the Bridge Club should they wish to remain at the site; and
- Provide an opportunity (Community Hub and Event Space) for the user groups displaced from the Traralgon Recreation Reserve to move outside of the floodway to provide a secure future.

These projects are estimated to cost in the order of \$10 million.

The overall project formed part of Council's submission to the 2022-23 State Government budget and therefore is not expected to be completely funded by Council.

A possible funding option is to utilise cash reserves currently held for long service leave liabilities. Cash reserves were previously legislatively required for long service leave provisions. This requirement was removed some years ago however Council decided to maintain the reserve. In recent times, \$5 million of the reserve was used to fund intended borrowings for the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre, leaving a cash balance of \$6.2 million. The finance team have indicated that Council could utilise up to \$2 million of this reserve without any immediate impact. It is expected that this would conservatively leave sufficient funds to meet any unexpected future requirements including the upcoming payout of long service leave entitlements at the conclusion of the HACC program.

It is therefore recommended that Council consider allocating \$2 million from this reserve, which would be combined with any funds offered for insurance settlement.

This would then form Council's contribution to the overall \$10 million project, for which the remaining funds will be sought from the State and Federal Governments.

Officers have already commenced project planning and aim to have this overall project 'shovel ready' by June 2022. See Attachment 1 for best case timing targets for key steps in delivering this project.



#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

The Flood Recovery Project will align with Council Plan as it will provide several community groups with the ability to engage in social, cultural and physical activities. These activities will directly support the health and wellbeing of their users.

#### Health Implications

These projects will provide new and improved infrastructure that will allow our community to engage in social, cultural and physical activities, which in turn will improve the health and wellbeing of the community. Additionally, removing the risk of flood and the unhealthy environment floods create from these buildings and groups will have a direct health improvement.

#### Communication

Council Officers have been communicating with all user groups within the Traralgon Recreation Reserve on a regular basis since the June 2021 floods.

All user groups are aware of these flood recovery projects and are excited for the future they would create for them.

#### Financial Implications

Utilising cash reserves currently held for long service leave liabilities would mean that these funds are no longer available for anything in the future.

Council Officers (Finance) have indicated that \$2 million of this reserve could be utilised without any immediate impact. It is expected that this would conservatively leave sufficient funds to meet any unexpected future requirements.

The overall project is estimated to cost over \$10 million, of which Council would provide approximately one third. The remainder will be sought from both State and Federal Government.

If the State and Federal Governments do not provide financial support for the overall project, Council's allocation would likely only allow for the construction of a smaller than planned Multi-Use Pavilion at the Traralgon Recreation Reserve.

This would leave the Agricultural Society and the many user groups who use their buildings without facilities and it is also unlikely that the user groups of the Council owned buildings would be satisfied with the new pavilion.

If Council do not allocate additional funds towards this project, insurance funds will be used to try and rebuild the Council owned buildings. It is however unlikely that the amount of funds provided would cover the costs associated with making these buildings useable again.



Maintenance costs associated with new infrastructure constructed as part of this project are considered to be comparable to the costs of maintaining the current buildings on site.

#### Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Service Delivery Risk  Allocating this amount of funds could limit other service delivery	2 (Unlikely)	Ensure funds are not required for other purposes.
Financial Risk High cost of construction	3 (Possible)	Clear communication about the potential funding options and opportunities for the project; and  Seek external funding to deliver the project.
Financial Risk  External funding is not obtained	3 (Possible)	Clear and strong advocacy to external funding bodies.
Reputational Risk  Choice in which user groups are being relocated.	3 (Possible)	Engage with all user groups and the wider community to ensure all stakeholders are informed.
Legal/Regulatory Risk  Not 'flood proofing' the Traralgon Recreation Reserve.	4 (Likely)	Undertake appropriate project planning with regards to flood mitigation options and controls available to Council.
Strategic Risk  Not 'flood proofing' the Traralgon Recreation Reserve.	4 (Likely)	Undertake appropriate project planning with regards to flood mitigation options and controls available to Council.

<sup>\*</sup> Inherent likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain)



#### Legal and Compliance

There are no legal or compliance matters in relation to this report.

#### Community Implications

It is considered that these projects would provide a substantially positive impact on not only the community directly involved, but also the wider Traralgon and Latrobe City community.

#### Environmental Implications

Removing the buildings within the floodway would improve environment flows during future flood events.

There are no other environmental implications identified as part of this report.

#### Consultation

A detailed communications plan is currently being prepared to assist with the progression of this project. As mentioned previously in this report, the user groups within the reserve have been engaged with extensively through the flood clean up and recovery processes to date.

Once these projects progress to the draft planning stage, further consultation will occur with the user groups and the surrounding community before any development occurs.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

1. Project Timeline - Flood Recovery Project



### 14.3

Traralgon	Recreation	Reserve -	Flood	Recovery
	Р	roject		

1 Project Timeline - Flood Recovery Project...... 155

## **TIMELINE:**

This timeline has is based on a best-case scenario. The only anticipated delay is in the wider Community Engagement stage, where any significant changes required to plans will delay the process by 4-8 weeks and therefore impact the endorsement of those plans by Council and subsequently when the project is 'shovel ready' for funding etc.

All primary stakeholders will be engaged throughout the process (pre planning, concept/draft and final), so these delays are only likely when the wider community are engaged with in March/April 2022.

Oct 21	Nov 21	Dec 21	Jan 22	Feb 22	Mar 22	Apr 22	May 22	Jun 22	July 22
Project briefs sent to consultant to quote (ASAP)									
	Engage consultants and commence work.								
		Consultants to provide	Draft/concept plans.						
		Glenview Park Concept Plans complete (estimate)	Multi-Use Pavilion and Traralgon Rec Reserve Masterplan complete (estimate)						
		Engagement with prima	ry stakeholders						
				Changes made to plans following primary stakeholder feedback.					
					Community Engagement activities				
						Changes made to plans after community engagement			
							Council endorse: - Traralgon Rec Masterplan (Final); - Multi-Use Pavilion (Concept); and - Glenview Park Plans (Concept).		
								Multi-Use Pavilion design progresses to detailed design.	
								Glenview Park progresses to detailed plans (Masterplan and Event Space) and/or detailed design (community hub).	
									Council Endorse: - Glenview Park Plans; and - Multi-Use Pavilion detailed plans.



Agenda Item: 14.4

Agenda Item: Strzelecki Range Landslips Remediation Update

Sponsor: General Manager, Assets and Presentation

Council Plan Objective: SUSTAINABLE

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council delegates to the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) the power to award contracts up to \$1,500,000 including GST associated with landslip remediation as a result of June 2021 storm event at locations where a Natural Disaster Funding Agreement claim is in place.

#### **Executive Summary:**

- At the 5 Juily 2021 Council Meeting, Council delegated the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) authority to award contract works up to \$650,000 including GST at; Upper Middle Creek Road, Budgeree; Summerfield Track, Jumbuk; Livingston Road, Boolarra South; and Morwell River East Branch Road, Grand Ridge. An additional delegation is sought to expedite remediation of landslips that occurred after the June 2021 storm and flood event and ongoing landslip remediations from 2019 storms where a Natural Disaster Funding Arrangement (NDFA) claim are being progressed.
- Not delegating the authority would result in the tenders being presented to Council and delay the start of the work packages by three to five weeks.
- There are currently 69 landslips of varying severity that have been identified throughout the Strzelecki Ranges the majority of which arose from the June storm event. 37 of these sites are subject to NDFA claims.
- Of these, 49 are considered to be of medium risk or higher and require remediation to prevent further damage to the road or to restore the road to its original functionality. 25 landslip sites were present before the June 2021 storm event, 43 arose from that event and one occurred later.

Post-June 2021 Storm Event Landslips and Funding Summary					
Landslip category	Major	High	Medium	Low	Total
Number of sites	6	6	21	11	44
Arbitrary remediation works estimate (including contingency)	\$4.48 million	\$3.01 million	\$5.60 million	\$1.75 million	\$14.84 million
DRFA21 funding claim (including contingency)	\$4.48 million	\$3.01 million	\$5.25 million	\$1.75 million	\$14.49 million
Pre-June	2021 Land	dslips and	Funding	Summary	
Landslip category	Major	High	Medium	Low	Total
Number of sites	2	4	10	9	25
Remediation works estimate	\$1.85 million	\$1.61 million	\$1.21 million	\$0.90 million	\$5.57 million
DRFA19 funding claim	-	\$0.56 million	\$0.36 million	-	\$0.92 million
LRCI 2 & 3 funding (note Phase 3 yet to be announced)	\$0.96 million	\$0.65 million	-	-	\$1.61 million

- Roads traversing sites categorised as a medium risk or higher, currently have reduced functionality through a variety of impacts and controls including reductions in available road width, lane closures, reduced speed, and load limit capacity, which also reduces emergency vehicle access in certain cases.
- Geotechnical investigations and concept designs have been completed on 7 sites and detailed design is underway on 4 sites. Construction has not been programmed on any of the slips as detailed designs have not been completed. Because resources have been focused on high-risk high impact sites, limited overall progress in terms of the volume of sites has been made. 12 18 months is the anticipated timeframe for remediation of most sites.



- A new Disaster Relief Funding Arrangement (DRFA) claim has been commenced for 43 sites from the June 2021 storm event at an arbitrarily estimated value of \$14.49 million, more accurate estimates are being developed.
- There are risks associated with the DRFA process that could lead to funding liabilities falling on Council. Also, not all the currently identified landslips are eligible to the DRFA process as they could not be linked to specific disaster events. Local Roads Community Infrastructure program and Council funds have been used to progress investigations, designs, and upcoming remediations where they have been otherwise ineligible, but it is anticipated that there will be a shortfall within the non-DRFA funded remediations.
- Accordingly, despite low-risk sites being included in the 2021 DRFA claim no remediation works are currently planned for low-risk sites from that event or earlier where impacts are primarily aesthetic and not structural at this time.
   As the remediation works progress and projects are investigated and scoped more accurate estimates of funding requirements and possible shortfalls will become available.
- These roads are essential public assets and, at minimum, must be remediated to reinstate safe access to private properties.
- A dedicated engineering resource commenced in October to drive the DRFA process and remediation works and further briefings will be provided to Council at regular intervals.

#### **Background:**

There are currently 69 landslips of varying severity that have been identified throughout the Strzelecki Ranges to the south of the municipality. A full list is included in Attachment 1. Of these, 49 are considered to be of medium risk or higher and require remediation to prevent further damage to the road or to restore the road to its original functionality. The remaining 20 low risk sites are generally small or superficial slips which are not impacting on road functionality and pose limited risk of causing further damage to the road. Figure 1 shows these sites with major/high, medium, and low risk corresponding to red, yellow, and blue markers.

Sites 1 through 25 were slips that had occurred prior to the 2021 June storm event. Sites 26 through 68 were identified following the 2021 June storm event which has been identified by Emergency Management Victoria as "AGRN 969". The failure at Site 69 occurred late August 2021 and is not eligible to be part of the June 2021 DRFA claim. Attachment 2 includes photos of several of the higher impact sites.

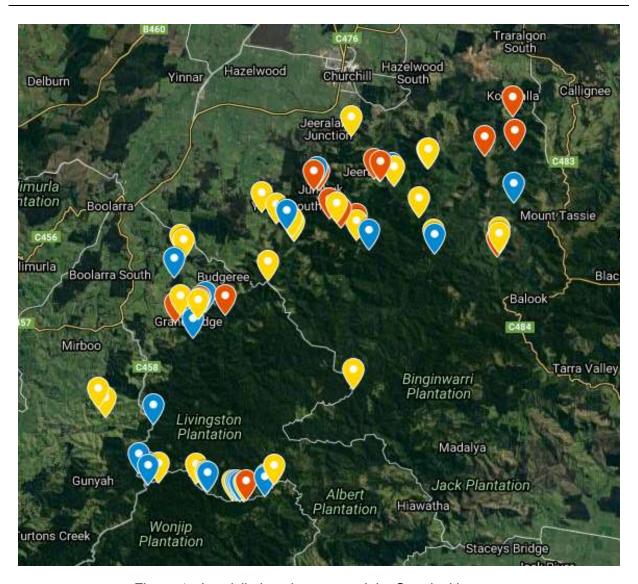


Figure 1 - Landslip locations around the Strzelecki ranges

Roads traversing sites categorised as a medium risk or higher currently have reduced functionality through a variety of impacts and controls including reductions in available road width, lane closures, and reduced speed and load capacity. Key ongoing community impacts are highlighted in Table 1. Where there is no emergency vehicle to properties it is noted otherwise detours are in place.



Site No.	Location	Current Controls
Site 10	Summerfield Track, Jumbuk	Limited access reinstated over slip site, no emergency vehicle access
Site 14	Upper Middle Creek, Budgeree	Limited access reinstated over slip site, no emergency vehicle access
Site 27	Jumbuk Road, Jumbuk	Single lane contra flow with temporary traffic lights
Site 33 - 35, 54	Morwell River East Branch Road, Grand Ridge	Road closed. Local access to property permitted and no emergency vehicle access
Site 42	Hallams Road, Jeeralang	Reduced road width, precarious current state
Site 51	Jumbuk Road, Jumbuk	Unsealed section closed between O'Reillys Hill Road intersections, local access to property permitted.
Site 65	900 Jeeralang West Road, Jeeralang	Road closed in this vicinity. Detour through Jeeralang North Road.

Table 1 – Key community impacts

Primarily the damage caused by the landslips has been to the road reserve and road related infrastructure though private assets such as fences have been impacted by the landslip material. However, at 900 Jeeralang West Road, Jeeralang a significant landslip has catastrophically impacted a house and to a lesser extent the road below. See Figure 2.





Figure 2 – Site 65, 900 Jeeralang West Road, Jeeralang impacted house



Figure 3 - Site 27, Jumbuk Road, 15 June 2021 currently has traffic lights





Figure 4 - Site 33, Morwell River East Branch Road, 23 June 2021 river erosion



Figure 5 - Upper Middle Creek Road landslip October 2021 with temporary works completed



There are nine individual sites that based on preliminary inspections have been arbitrarily estimated to exceed the value of CEO's delegated amount of \$500,000 (including GST). Several roads have multiple landslips on the same road or in nearby areas that would likely be combined into larger value packages. The advantage of this is:

- better value tenders due to the scale of the works attracting more competition;
- more efficient delivery (fewer rain delays and muddy worksites, and combining projects in close proximity for the contractors); and
- increased contractor interest in remote and difficult to access worksites.

Combining works in this manner will also likely exceed the value of CEO delegation. Where that occurs, the tender must be taken to Council for approval, adding three to five weeks to the process, dependent upon the timing of the tender closing and the timing of the tender evaluation against the Council report schedule.

An *Expression of Interest* (EOI), LCC-719, was held in August 2021 to secure local contractor capability, capacity, and interest. The EOI received several promising responses and a shortlist of Preferred Tenderers has been created to streamline the tendering process.

Given the current level of community impact, an increased CEO delegation of \$1,500,00 (inclusive GST) is considered appropriate to continue to expedite the remediation works where there are active NDFA claims in place.

#### **Risk and Impact**

A very high level "risk" and "impact" assessment is undertaken on each landslip site to help prioritise remediation. These ratings are subjective to varying degrees and also consider the volume of traffic the road carries, particularly for the low to medium risk sites. The risk and impact ratings are detailed below. Please note that these are subjective, they are intended for internal guidance only.

#### Risk

The risk of the slip progressing further and causing damage to the road.

- Major Road has already failed or extremely likely to fail, further movement will probably require road closure.
- High High chance of further failure occurring which will impact road use.
   Presence of a steep tall scarp, poor water management, cracks in road.
- Medium Medium chance that further failure will occur, although probably will not close road or lane. Steep scarp, close to road edge.
- Low Low chance of further failure. Superficial failure of topsoil material, small failure.



#### Impact

The impact of the slip on the road use.

- Major Road closed.
- High Lane closed or restricted width, road still trafficable by local traffic.
- Medium The failure is restricting width to some degree or cutting along the very edge of the road.
- Low Failure offset from road, or if low traffic volume road, cutting along the very edge of road

#### **Progress**

#### Investigation and Design Status

The general stages of remediation are:

- Geotechnical Investigation
- Concept Design
- Detailed Design
- Procurement
- Remediation Construction (this is covered in the following section of this report)



The steep terrain, complex nature of landslip failures, and limited road reserve width combine to make the assessment and remediation of these failures protracted, complex and highly specialised work.

A complexity-based approach has been used to match appropriate consultants to the risks of each site. Higher tier specialists have been procured for the higher impact, higher risk sites and a more fit for purpose approach for the remaining sites. Because officer resources have been focused on these high-risk high impact sites, it appears that limited overall progress has been made, but when a lens of treating risk is used the sites progressed furthest are those that pose the biggest risk.

A summary of the progress for the 49 medium risk and higher sites is provided in Table 2.

	Number of Sites (excluding "Low" risk sites)				
Investigation and Design Status	Yet to commence	Proposal for works received	Work underway	Completed	
Geotechnical Investigation	30	8	4	7	
Concept Design	31	7	4	7	
Detailed Design	35	10	4	0	
Procurement and Construction	49	0	0	0	

Table 2 - Remediation Progress

The detailed design for two of the 2019 major risk sites, Site 10 – Summerfield Track, and Site 14 – Upper Middle Creek Road, are nearing completion. The ongoing focus of internal resources has been to treat the highest risk and impact sites as soon as possible.

These sites are considered to be:

- Summerfield Track
- Upper Middle Creek Road
- Grand Ridge Road
- Jumbuk Road (Site 27)
- 900 Jeeralang West Road

#### Remediation Construction

No remediation construction is currently programmed.

Temporary works have been undertaken at both Summerfield Track and Upper Middle Creek Road, where there was no other option for property access.

#### **DRFA Application**

There are three types of work under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA):

- Emergency works urgent activities conducted immediately after a disaster (e.g., clearing trees)
- Immediate reconstruction works immediate works carried out to fully reconstruct an essential public asset (e.g., reinstating a section of road damaged by flood water). These must be completed within 3 months of the disaster.
- Essential public asset reconstruction permanent works carried out to reconstruct an essential public asset damaged by the disaster, to its predisaster function (e.g., repairing a road damaged by landslip). The asset must be restored to its pre-disaster function, no betterment is permitted. Essential public asset reconstruction works must be completed within two financial years after the end of the financial year in which the disaster occurred. Before essential public asset reconstruction works are to commence, approval must be sought from the Assessing Authority and the Administering Authority.

#### **Pre-disaster Condition**

To establish a basis that the damage sustained was a direct result of an eligible disaster, Council is required to provide evidence of the exact location, nature, and extent of damage to the essential public asset, through photographic evidence. This must include details of latitude, longitude and date taken.

The Natural Disaster Financial Assistance (NDFA) guidelines recommend that this evidence is collected up to six months, but not later than twelve months, following the eligible disaster. This evidence may also be supported by satellite or aerial imagery that depicts the extent of damage sustained. It should be noted that satellite imagery in the Strzelecki Ranges is generally of low quality and it is possible that this may not be sufficient as evidence for condition pre-disaster, due to low resolution, shadows, and tree cover. The majority of landslip sites within the municipality do not have photographic evidence of the pre-disaster condition of the asset.

Where an eligible event has caused damage to an asset and the pre-disaster condition of the asset cannot be sufficiently represented in photographs, the proof of damage can be provided through a pre-disaster asset condition assessment report. This report (undertaken at the time of the damage assessment or as soon as reasonably practicable) must be conducted or verified by a suitably qualified professional, with the appropriate level of expertise and experience. This report is to



confirm that the damage was caused by the eligible disaster event. The pre-condition report requires the Delivery Agency (Council) to provide evidence that the damage was not present prior to the storm event, and that the damage was caused by the storm event. This can include asset maintenance or inspection logs.

#### **Timeline Requirements**

Cost estimates for reconstruction of essential public assets must be submitted to the Assessing Authority (Regional Roads Victoria (RRV)) and the Administering Authority (Emergency Management Victoria (EMV)) concurrently within nine months after the end of the financial year in which the eligible disaster occurred. The deadline for cost estimates submitted under Australian Government Reference Number (AGRN) 969 is 31 March 2022.

The State (through the Assessing Authority) must approve and lodge to the Commonwealth Government the estimated cost of reconstruction works within 12 months after the end of the financial year in which the eligible disaster occurred.

Essential public asset reconstruction works are to be completed within two years after the end of the financial year in which the eligible disaster event occurred. The deadline for reconstruction works under AGRN 969 is 30 June 2023. Before essential public asset reconstruction works are to commence, approval must be sought from the Assessing Authority and the Administering Authority.

The Commonwealth Government has established specific reporting requirements, whereby updated estimates must be submitted by each state for each eligible disaster on a quarterly basis. To meet these reporting requirements, it is critical that each Delivery Agency regularly review and update estimates. The Administering Authority will email each impacted Delivery Agency on a quarterly basis requesting that updates be provided in the automated claims management system (ACMS). Estimates relating to essential public asset reconstruction works cannot be updated once the estimate is approved.

#### Betterment

As per the DRFA guidelines, betterment works will not be funded:

"Where there has been an increase in functionality, capacity, or aesthetics of an asset beyond that which existed prior to the eligible disaster, this will be considered as enhancement rather than betterment (for example, additional lanes on a bridge) as it will not result in increasing the asset to a more disaster resilient standard. Enhancement is not eligible for reimbursement under the DRFA and as such, costs associated with the enhancement component are required to be borne by the Delivery Agency which is responsible for the asset."

This approach appears simple but becomes complex when applied to these remediation works. For example:

• If a road had an existing culvert and a remediation design specified a larger culvert size, a Council contribution is required for the portion of works to increase the size beyond the existing. How that will be applied to other road



and drainage elements involved in remediation works has a level of subjectivity and uncertainty.

Essential assets must be reconstructed like for like. If remediation designs
cannot achieve an acceptable factor of safety on the original alignment, the
funding is not eligible to be used to relocate the asset on a new alignment.

#### Risks for claim approval

The primary concern for the DRFA applications is the lack of pre-condition photo evidence. Largely, these largely remote and rural roads do not have up to date Streetview photos but do have large tree canopy which obfuscates historic aerial imagery of the road.

In the absence of photos, Council is required to submit pre-condition assessment reports for each essential public asset being claimed. These pre-condition assessment reports require Council to:

- Prove the asset was damaged by the June 2021 storm event
- Prove the damage was not evident prior to the June 2021 storm event, for which the basis is asset inspection reports

These reports are being prepared with available data but whether they meet the evidentiary requirements is not yet confirmed.

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

This aligns with the Council Plan as it reinstating access of landslip affected roads is in line with the Connected theme indicator of community satisfaction with streets, footpaths and sealed roads

#### Communication

Communications have been primarily with directly impacted property owners. When road closures have been enacted additional communications have been completed with the support of the Communications team.

#### Financial Implications

The list provided in Attachment 1 provides the following financial information (where available):

- Funding source:
- Geotechnical investigation + concept design cost (these are almost always included together)
- Detailed design cost
- P50 reconstruction cost estimates were completed
- Arbitrary estimate of reconstruction cost

The current spend on investigation and design is approximately \$420k. There is an additional \$130k in proposals for investigation and design.

Officers were requested to provide an arbitrary cost estimate for reconstruction costs for the June 2021 DRFA claim commencement. To provide this a notional remediation amount for each risk category was estimated and multiplied by the total number of sites within that category and a 40% contingency applied. That estimate was for a total \$14.49 million of works to be claimed and is very preliminary in nature. More accurate estimates will be provided as works progress to investigate each site beyond a preliminary impact assessment.

Post-June 2021 Storm Event Landslips and Funding Summary					
Landslip category	Major	High	Medium	Low	Total
Number of sites	6	6	21	11	44
Arbitrary remediation works estimate (including contingency)	\$4.48 million	\$3.01 million	\$5.60 million	\$1.75 million	\$14.84 million
DRFA21 funding claim (including contingency)	\$4.48 million	\$3.01 million	\$5.25 million	\$1.75 million	\$14.49 million

Table 3 - Post-June 2021 Storm Event Landslips and Funding Summary

Pre-June 2021 Landslips and Funding Summary					
Landslip category	Major	High	Medium	Low	Total
Number of sites	2	4	10	9	25
Remediation works estimate	\$1.85 million	\$1.61 million	\$1.21 million	\$0.90 million	\$5.57 million
DRFA19 funding claim	-	\$0.56 million	\$0.36 million	-	\$0.92 million
LRCI 2 & 3 funding (note Phase 3 yet to be announced)	\$0.96 million	\$0.65 million	-	-	\$1.61 million

Table 4 - Pre-June 2021 Landslips and Funding Summary

#### **Funding Sources**

The expected funding source for each slip site (where applicable) is shown in the table in Attachment 1.

#### DRFA AGRN 873 - 2019 Storm Event

An application for funding for a storm event in 2019 (AGRN 873) was submitted to EMV. This was for Sites 1 through 5. The application required an updated cost estimate to be provided by 31 March 2021. This deadline was not satisfied, and an application has been made to request an extension to this deadline. Initial feedback has been positive and advice that a formal response will take a significant amount of time and that remediation works should be progressed to avoid further delay.

#### DRFA AGRN 969 - June 2021 Storm Event

The application for DRFA funding for the AGRN 969 event is underway. This covers Sites 26 through 68.

#### LRCI Phase 2 and 3

Council has secured \$960,000 (ex. GST) in the LRCI Phase 2 and \$650,000 (ex. GST) Phase 3 programs, for the remediation of landslips in the Strzelecki ranges. This funding was sought primarily for landslips at Summerfield Track, Upper Middle Creek Road, and Grand Ridge Road which could not be linked to specific storm events and subsequently not eligible for a DRFA claim.

#### Council Funds

Where DRFA application are not applicable Council has allocated funds to undertake geotechnical investigations.

#### Key funding risks

The key funding risks are summarised as follows:

- DRFA AGRN 873 application voided due to missing deadline for cost estimates.
- Construction deadlines not able to be met for all three external grant sources.
- Construction costs exceed DRFA claim estimates.
- DRFA dispute construction costs.

#### Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Service Delivery Risk Road network access is interrupted	Almost certain (5)	Safe road access reinstated as soon practicable within
Occupational Health and Safety Risk  General public injured as a result of continued landslip failure or reduced road widths	Possible (3)	Increased signage and delineation  Addition traffic management controls, traffic lights, road closures where applicable  Specialist independent advice on high impact sites
Financial Risk  DRFA claims denied or disputed	Likely (4)	Dedicated internal resource has been allocated to progress the claims process.
Reputational Risk  Remediation works are not completed in line with community expectation	Likely (4)	Ad hoc and open communication with affected residents on remediation timelines



Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Legal/Regulatory Risk  Property owner access is not reinstated as soon as practicable.	Possible – Likely (3 - 4)	Works progressing as fast as practicable with available resources

#### Legal and Compliance

Council was previously the subject of an ombudsman investigation in relation to the delayed reconstruction of Summerfield Track and associated protracted loss of access to the property owners.

These roads are essential public assets and, at minimum, must be remediated to reinstate safe access to private properties.

#### **Community Implications**

The loss or reduction of access to property is a significant impact to affected residents particularly when the timeframe for remediation works to be completed is in the order of 6 – 18 months. Beyond the inconvenience of detours specific risks such as a reduction in access for emergency vehicles is a key concern in these communities

#### **Environmental Implications**

Impact to native vegetation will assessed and managed as part of detailed design process in accordance with planning requirements.

#### Consultation

No current engagement however engagement with the Yinnar Community Recovery Committee and directly affected residents is planned.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Attachment 1 – Landslips List

Attachment 2 - Photos

#### **Attachments**

- 1. TALL Attachment 1 Landslip List
- 21. Attachment 2 Landslip Photos
- 31. Attachment 3 Contributing Factors to Landslips



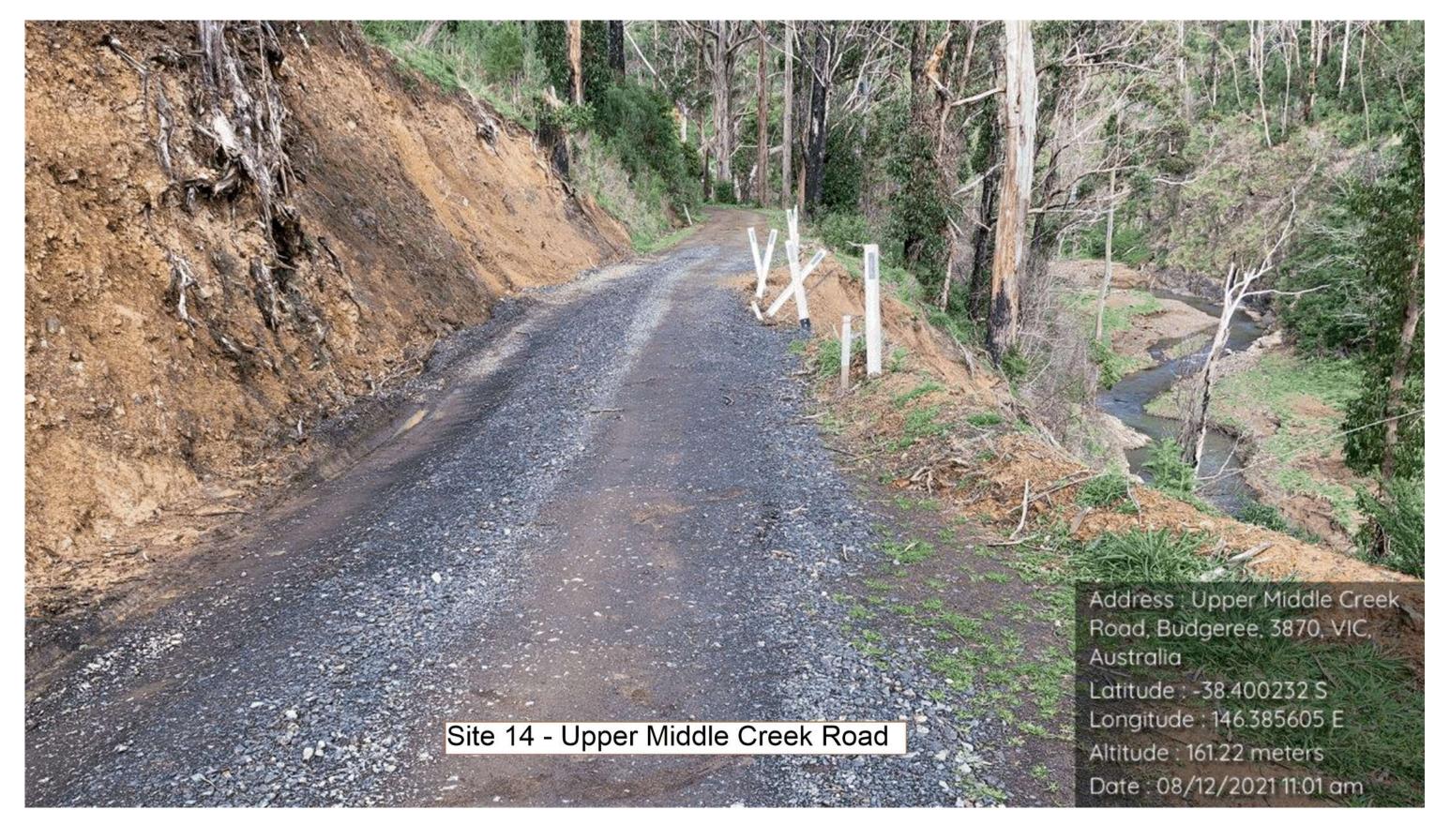
# 14.4

# Strzelecki Range Landslips Remediation Update

1	Attachment 1 - Landslip List	174
2	Attachment 2 - Landslip Photos	176
3	Attachment 3 - Contributing Factors to Landslips	185

Slip Site#	Road	Locality	Risk	Impact	Geotech Investigation	Concept Design	Detailed Design	Funding Source	eotech + I ept ex GST	Detailed Design ex GST	Con	struction P50 ex GST	Arbita	ry Estimate
1	Prosper Valley Rd	Budgeree	Medium	Low	Completed	Completed	Nil	DRFA 873	\$ 5,280	TBC	\$	100,000		
2	Prosper Valley Rd	Budgeree	Medium	Medium	Completed	Completed	Nil	DRFA 873	\$ 5,280	TBC			\$	200,000
	Morwell River East Branch	Grand Ridge	High	Medium	Completed	Completed	<b>Proposal Received</b>	DRFA 873	\$ 20,382	TBC	\$	240,000	\$	-
3	Road													
4	Livingston Rd	Boolara Sth	High	Medium	Completed	Completed	Proposal Received	DRFA 873	\$ 20,382	TBC	\$	320,000	\$	-
5	Grandridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Medium	Medium	Completed	Completed	Underway	DRFA 873	\$ 5,280	\$ 3,800	\$	60,000	\$	-
6	Morwell River Rd	Budgeree	Low	Low	NR	NR	NR	Nil					\$	100,000
7	Grand Ridge Rd	Gunyah	Low	Low	NR	NR	NR	Nil					\$	100,000
8	Grand Ridge Rd	Wonyip	Medium	Medium	Report Pending	Underway	Provisional Item	LRCI 3	\$ 10,880	\$ 10,000	)		\$	150,000
9	Jumbuk Rd	Jumbuk	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	100,000
10	Summerfield Tk	Jumbuk	Major	Low	Completed	Completed	Underway	LRCI 2	\$ 48,000	\$ 30,200	\$	950,000	\$	-
11	Whitelaws Tk	Budgeree	Low	Low	NR	NR	NR	NR					\$	100,000
12	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	100,000
13	195 O'Reilly Hill Rd	Jumbuk	High	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	LRCI 3					\$	250,000
14	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Major	High	Completed	Completed	Underway	LRCI 2	\$ 92,622	included			\$	900,000
15	Grand Ridge Rd	Gunyah	Low	Low	NR	NR	NR	Nil					\$	100,000
16	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Low	Low	NR	NR	NR	Nil					\$	100,000
17	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Low	Low	NR	NR	NR	Nil					\$	100,000
18	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Medium	Medium	Report Pending	Underway	Provisional Item	LRCI 3	\$ 13,220	\$ 12,000	)		\$	200,000
19	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	High	Low	Report Pending	Underway	Provisional Item	LRCI 3	\$ 13,220	\$ 18,000	)		\$	800,000
20	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	150,000
21	Grand Ridge Rd	Wonyip	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	150,000
22	Grand Ridge Rd	Gunyah	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	100,000
23	Grand Ridge Rd	Gunyah	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	50,000
24	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	50,000
25	Morwell River Rd	Boolarra South	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil					\$	100,000
26	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Yinnar South	Medium	Medium	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	<b>Proposal Received</b>	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included			\$	210,000
27	Jumbuk Rd	Yinnar South	Major	High	Report Pending	Underway	Included In	DRFA 969	\$ 110,000	included			\$	560,000
28	Jumbuk Rd	Jumbuk	High	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	210,000
29	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Medium	Medium	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	<b>Proposal Received</b>	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included			\$	280,000
30	Grand Ridge Rd	Mirboo	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
31	Grand Ridge Rd	Gunyah	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
32	Morwell River East Branch	Budgeree	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
33	Morwell River East Branch	Budgeree	Major	High	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included			\$	700,000
34	Morwell River East Branch	Budgeree	High	High	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included			\$	560,000
35	Morwell River East Branch	Budgeree	High	Medium	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	<b>Proposal Received</b>	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included			\$	420,000
36	Morwell River Rd	Latrobe	Medium	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	210,000
37	Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	350,000
38	Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	70,000
39	Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
	Tgon Creek Rd, Guntzlers	Koornalla	High	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	700,000
40	Bridge													
41	Jumbuk Rd	Jumbuk	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	420,000
42	Hallams Rd	Jeeralang	High	High	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	700,000
43	Shelcotts Rd	Mirboo	Medium	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	420,000
44	Shelcotts Rd	Mirboo	Medium	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	210,000
45	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
46	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	210,000
47	Budgeree Rd	Budgeree	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
48	Grand Ridge Rd	Grand Ridge	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	140,000
49	Grand Ridge Rd	Gunyah	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969					\$	210,000

Slip Site#	Road	Locality	Risk	Impact	Geotech Investigation	Concept Design	Detailed Design	Funding Source	Geotech + Concept ex GST		Construction P50 ex GST	Arbitar	ry Estimate
50	Grand Ridge Rd	Wonyip	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	140,000
51	Jumbuk Rd	Jumbuk	Major	Major	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	840,000
52	Jumbuk Rd	Jumbuk	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	350,000
53	Jumbuk Rd	Jeeralang	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	140,000
54	Morwell River East Branch	Budgeree	Medium	High	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	<b>Proposal Received</b>	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included		\$	140,000
55	Jeeralang North Rd	Jeeralang	Medium	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	210,000
56	Jeeralang North Rd	Jeeralang	Medium	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	210,000
57	Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	420,000
58	Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	140,000
59	Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	140,000
60	Taylors Rd	Koornalla	Major	High	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	700,000
61	Traralgon Creek Rd	Koornalla	Major	High	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	Proposal Received	DRFA 969	\$ 10,400	included		\$	840,000
62	Traralgon Creek Rd	Balook	High	High	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	420,000
63	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	420,000
64	Upper Middle Creek Rd	Budgeree	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	140,000
65	900 Jeeralang West Rd	Jeeralang	Major	Major	Proposal Received	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969	\$ 58,890*			\$	840,000
66	Traralgon Creek Road	Koornalla	Low	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	280,000
67	Traralgon Creek Road	Balook	Medium	Low	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	420,000
68	Traralgon Creek Road	Balook	Medium	Medium	Nil	Nil	Nil	DRFA 969				\$	280,000
69	Lindners Road	Jeeralang Junction	Medium	High	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil				\$	350,000



















#### **Contributing Factors to Landslips**

Tectonic uplift, the presence of faults, and susceptible geology combine in the Strzelecki Ranges to make landslides common. Tectonic uplift created the Strzelecki Ranges in the recent geological past. Instead of the mountain range being formed from igneous rock (volcanic above or below ground lava flows), old sedimentary rock has instead been pushed up to create mountains that are weaker than igneous rock mountains – such as the granite mountains in Wilsons Promontory.

The uplift is partially responsible for the moderate to steep slopes and the incision of steep river valleys. Uplift means that the landscape becomes higher and steeper. The increasingly higher and steeper landscape slopes lead to further landslide risk. There is observable evidence onsite and in publicly available photographs of landslides occurring in the area for at least two million years.

Additionally, the Strzelecki Ranges area is more seismically active compared to surrounding regions. The presence of faults illustrates the geologically active nature of the region. Examples include the Bass fault near Loch, the Yarragon monocline south of Yarragon, the Kongwak fault north of the Powlett River, and the Budgeree fault south of Churchill. Faults allow the blocks of rock deep below the surface to move beside each other. When this occurs quickly the resulting earthquake can shake the surface material loose so that it slides downhill creating landslides.

Finally, the geological materials that the Strzelecki Ranges are composed of contribute to the occurrence of landslides. The range is formed of loose soils overlying highly weathered sedimentary rock of low strength. Localised perched aquifers and springs are also present. Landslides are more likely to occur where there is a combination of loose material overlying low strength rock with nearby sources of water.

Over the past two years and particularly in the last year there has been a rise in the total rainfall and frequency of storm events compared to the preceding years. This increase in rainfall leads to an increased amount of surface runoff particularly when it falls on areas of cleared land – be that from recent fire activity, forestry activity or private land use.

This increased runoff exceeds the capacity of the mostly informal drainage networks present on these remote roads leading to water overtopping the road. This causes erosion and saturates the natural ground and constructed road formations. Saturation increases the soil weight and decreases its effective strength, which leads to slope failure.

Roads adjacent to rivers have also been significantly impacted from erosion resulting from recent riverine flood events. Where the increased height, volume, and velocity of river flows has eroded and undermined road formations.



Agenda Item: 14.5

Agenda Item: Amendment C131 - Update the Floodway Overlay and

Land Subject to Inundation Overlay - Request for

Authorisation

Sponsor: **General Manager, Assets and Presentation** 

**Council Plan Objective: HEALTHY** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

#### That Council:

- 1. Endorses the draft Latrobe River Flood Study (2015) and the draft Traralgon Flood Study (2016), provided at Attachment 1 and 2 for public exhibition as part of Amendment C131;
- 2. Requests authorisation from the Minister for Planning to prepare and exhibit Amendment C131 - Flood Overlays to the Latrobe Planning Scheme, in accordance with section 8A of the Planning and Environment Act 1987.
- Prepares Amendment C131 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme to update 3. flood overlays within Latrobe, generally in accordance with the documentation provided at Attachment 3, subject to Ministerial Authorisation; and
- 4. Places Amendment C131 on exhibition in accordance with the requirements of section 19 of the Planning and Environment Act 1987, subject to Ministerial Authorisation.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The West Gippsland Floodplain Management Strategy (2018-2027) identifies flood risk across the region and explores options for mitigating these flood risks by applying planning controls to ensure appropriate development in these locations. A priority flood mitigation action within the Strategy is for Latrobe City Council to update the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay (LSIO) and Floodway Overlay (FO) areas within the municipality.



Amendment C131 proposes to implement this recommendation through reviewing the extent of existing flood overlays, which were last updated in 2012. Additional flood mapping has become available since then for areas including the Latrobe River, Eaglehawk Creek, Rintouls Creek and urban Traralgon. Approximately 1,531 properties will have flood overlays added or amended on their land, and 335 properties will have flood overlays removed from them.

The amendment will ensure that new development in flood affected areas requires a planning permit. The relevant flood controls in the planning scheme should be updated to reflect the best available flood mapping.

The updated flood mapping has been informed by two flood studies which were the Latrobe River Flood Study (2015) and the Traralgon Flood Study (2016) with revised flood modelling.

In May 2021, a funding agreement was entered into with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority (WGCMA) for the delivery of a Planning Scheme Amendment to update flood overlays within the municipality.

This Council Report is being presented to Councillors for consideration to seek authorisation to prepare and exhibit through a formal Planning Scheme Amendment process.

#### **Background:**

Flooding is a natural hazard that is predictable in terms of location, depth and extent. Floodplains have a role in the storage and conveyance of floodwater. Flooding can have significant economic impacts on municipalities and the community as a result of loss of life, damage to public and private assets, and property and agricultural losses. The amendment will ensure that new development is protected from the effects of flooding and that the flood plain is not adversely affected by inappropriate development.

The amendment will discourage inappropriate new development that would be impacted by flooding or that may have adverse impacts on flood behaviour. Land use planning is recognised as being the best means for avoiding future flooding problems. Through careful planning, flood risks to life, property and community infrastructure can be minimised and environmental significance of floodplains protected. This is recognised in previous Planning Scheme Amendments undertaken to update these overlays, with the previous overlays approved through Amendment C9 in 2012.

In recent years, the Latrobe River Flood Study (2015) (Attachment 1) and the Traralgon Flood Study (2016) (Attachment 2) each undertook sensitivity testing and flood simulations to identify the extent of potential flooding from the rivers through computer-based models of the flood plains. This was able to generate detailed flood maps for a range of flood events from one in 10 years, to one in 200 year floods.



Both studies recommended that the Latrobe Planning Scheme be amended to introduce updated mapping of the Floodway Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay to reflect the modelling undertaken. Climate Change is expected to increase the intensity and frequency of storms across the Gippsland Region, as well as change catchment moisture and increase areas burnt by bushfires. Recent flood studies have included Climate Change sensitivity testing to understand what the likely impact will be to our communities. These results show that our waterways are not particularly sensitive to Climate Change impacts other than those areas exposed to sea level rise changes. This flood modelling is the most recent modelling provided by the WGCMA, and considered to represent the current flood risk in Latrobe.

#### Latrobe River Flood Study (2015)

The West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority, in collaboration with Latrobe City, Baw Baw Shire and Wellington Shire Councils, commissioned a flood study for the floodplains of the Latrobe River from Moe to Lake Wellington and for the Moe River (a major tributary of the Latrobe) from Yarragon to Moe. The *Latrobe River Flood* study relied on data from the 2012 event along with data from a number of previous investigations in the region. The accuracy of the data was observed in the 2021 event. The Latrobe River Flood Study was completed in 2015 by Cardno consultants.

#### Traralgon Flood Study (2016)

The WGCMA commissioned Water Technology Consultants to undertake the *Traralgon Flood Study*. The study included detailed hydrological and hydraulic modelling of Traralgon Creek and the Latrobe River, flood mapping of Traralgon, recommendations for flood mitigation works, and a review of planning controls. The Traralgon Creek Flood study developed and calibrated a model based on the 1993, June 2007, July 2011, June 2012 and June 2013 flood events. The study prepared updated flood modelling and mapping.

#### Planning Scheme Amendment

Council is required to ensure that planning identifies "at risk" areas in the municipality using best available data and to identify land affected by flooding, including land inundated by the 1 in 100 year flood event or as determined by the floodplain management authority in planning schemes. The 1 in 100 year flood event is the designated flood event for land use planning and building purposes and is known as the 1% AEP (Annual Exceedance Probability) event. It is the basis for declaring flood events and flood areas under the *Water Act 1989* and setting minimum floor levels for new buildings under the *Building Act 1993*.

The Planning Scheme provides guidance on floodplain management through state and local policy at *Clause 13.03-1S* (*Floodplain management*) which specifies that any floodplain management strategy be considered in decision making, which is the *West Gippsland Floodplain Management Strategy* (2018-2027).



Local policy at *Clause 13.03-1L (Floodplain management)* relates to land affected by the Urban Floodway Zone (UFZ), Floodway Overlay or Land Subject to Inundation Overlay. The policy discourages residential development (unless a replacement dwelling), raised earthworks, and subdivision.

The Amendment proposes to both apply and remove the Floodway Overlay and Land Subject to Inundation Overlay, according to updated flood risk modelling, from 65,614ha of land (Source: VicMap) in Latrobe. See Attachment 3 for the Amendment package and Attachment 4 township flood maps.

Properties	New FO	Delete FO	New LSIO	Delete LSIO
Municipal	652	34	879	301
Total				

A detailed breakdown on changes to individual towns in provided in Appendix 2 of the Explanatory Report at Attachment 3.

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

The project meets the following Council Plan objectives:

- Ensure health and wellbeing planning to the centre of council planning in promoting safe communities, positive mental and physical health programs, resilience and connection to natural and built environments.
- Support community preparedness aligned to growing responsibilities for Local Government in emergency management systems, response and recovery.

The update to Flood Overlays assists in building community resilience to natural disasters by directing new development to areas of less risk, and building to a standard where it offers resistance to the risk of flooding.

#### Health Implications

The proposed Planning Scheme Amendment seeks to prioritise and protect human life in the event of a flood.

#### Communication

The two flood studies on which the revised mapping is based each involved extensive community consultation and community input. The preparation of the proposed amendment has been based on the revised mapping prepared by the WGCMA and the amendment will be finalised in close consultation with the WGCMA and DELWP.

The flooding studies involved consultation with the community, including members from Traralgon who were on the Steering Committee for the flood studies. The community engagement process for the Traralgon study was coordinated by the WGCMA and Latrobe City Council. The following community meetings were held as part of the consultation process:



- Initial community meeting, 9th December, 2014 in Traralgon held to outline the objectives of the study to the community and invite submission of any flood information the community may be able to provide;
- Second community meeting, 31st March, 2015 to provide an update on the project and to gather additional flood intelligence information from the community.
- Third community meeting, 29th September 2015 at which the results of the flood modelling were presented. Community feedback was sought on the flood modelling results and potential mitigation ideas.

In accordance with the processes prescribed under the *Planning and Environment Act 1987 (The Act)*, Amendment C131 is proposed to be placed on public exhibition for a period of 1 calendar month following Authorisation. As part of the process, a communications strategy will involve:

- Drop in sessions to have 1:1 meetings with a planning officer to be offered to all landowners/occupiers (subject to COVID-19 restrictions).
- A 'Have Your Say' page on the C131 webpage within Councils website.
- Documents available on Latrobe City Council website;
- Two notices within the Latrobe Valley Express and Government Gazette.
- Direct notice to landowners and stakeholders, including; prescribed ministers, government authorities and local businesses.
- Social Media mentions and publication of a promotional video explaining the amendment.
- External GIS feature on the Council Website whereby community members can search for their property to see how the Amendment impacts them.

#### Financial Implications

A funding agreement between the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority has provided \$30,000 to Council to assist with the delivery of the amendment.

Part of the funding (\$15,000) was used to appoint consultants to assist in the preparation of the Planning Scheme Amendment documents. A further \$15,000 remains to assist in covering any Planning Panel fees associated with the progression of this Amendment.

The prescribed fees for planning scheme amendments are detailed in the (*Planning and Environment [Fees] Regulations 2016*). The costs associated with a Planning Scheme Amendment include the adoption and approval of an amendment which is currently \$469.60.



Other unknown costs can occur during the amendment process including requiring legal advice, and engagement of expert advice. If funds are required, these costs are likely to occur in the 2021/2022 financial year.

#### Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Reputational Risk  Negative perception of Council that the flood studies were completed in 2015 and 2016 and Council is only now updating flood mapping in the planning scheme.	4 (Likely)	Progress the Planning Scheme Amendment and ensure that timeframes are communicated to stakeholders.  Clearly advise the number of new properties affected, only 1,531 having new or amended flood overlays.  The timeframe proposed for this work to commence is the 2020/2021 financial year, which was met.
Strategic Risk  Potential impact on strategic planning and future designation of growth areas due to new areas being identified as vulnerable to flood.	4 (Likely)	Planning policy requires environmental hazards to be recognised in the Planning Scheme so that decisions can take that risk into account. Council is required to use best available data to identify land affected by flooding.
Legal/Regulatory Risk  Landowners whose land was not previously identified in the flood mapping may challenge the proposed amendment.	4 (Likely)	Any objections would be referred to the WGCMA for review and changes that cannot be resolved would be referred to an independent planning panel for consideration.  The WGCMA website offers written flood advice for properties regardless of whether they are within a flood overlay.

<sup>\*</sup> For example, likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain)



#### Legal and Compliance

In accordance with the Act, the municipal council, as a planning authority, has a number of duties and powers when considering a Planning Scheme Amendment. These duties and powers are listed at Section 12 of the Act. Under Section 12 a planning authority must have regard to (among other things):

- The objectives of planning in Victoria;
- The Minister's directions;
- The Victoria Planning Provisions;
- The Latrobe Planning Scheme;
- Any significant effects which it considers a planning scheme amendment might have on the environment or which it considers the environment might have on any use or development envisaged by the amendment.

Amendment C131 has had regard to Section 12 of the Act and is consistent with the requirements of Section 12. A response to Section 12 of the Act is outlined in the Explanatory Report at Attachment 1.

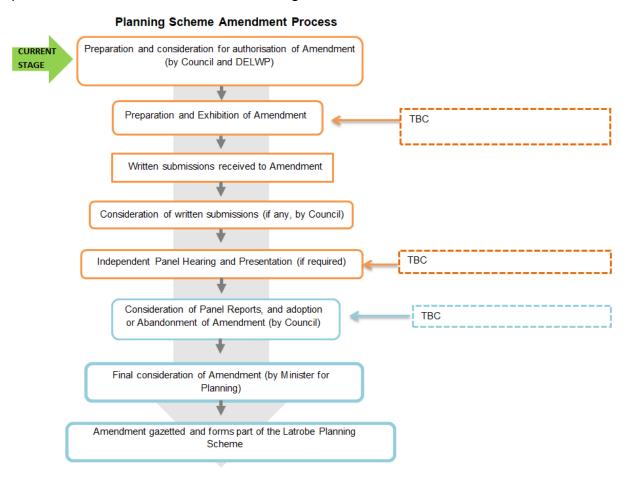
#### Planning Scheme Amendments

Amendment C126 to the Latrobe Planning Scheme, previously on exhibition (06/08/21-6/08/21), and seeks to implement the findings of the West Gippsland Catchment Management Authority 2016 Flood Study for Toongabbie in addition to the recently completed Toongabbie Structure Plan 2020. The Amendment amends the Land Subject to Inundation Overlay and introduces the Floodway Overlay to Toongabbie Planning Scheme Maps based on the flood layers produced by the Floodplain Mapping for Toongabbie Township (WGCMA, 2016).



#### Community Implications

The C131 Planning Scheme Amendment process is shown in the figure below and provides an indication of the current stage of the amendment:



#### Environmental Implications

The revised mapping will only have a positive environmental impact in allowing Council to plan for new development in low-risk locations and avoid intensifying the impact of flooding through inappropriately located use and development.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil



#### **Attachments**

- 1. Attachment 1 Latrobe River Flood Study (2015) (Published Separately)
   2. Attachment 2 Traralgon Flood Study (2016) (Published Separately)
   3. Attachment 3 Amendment Package (Published Separately)

- 4. Attachment 4 Maps (Published Separately)



# COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING



#### 15. COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Agenda Item: 15.1

Agenda Item: Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025

consideration of community submissions

Sponsor: General Manager, Community Health and Wellbeing

**Council Plan Objective: HEALTHY** 

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

#### That Council:

1. Considers submissions received during the community engagement period;

- 2. Adopts the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025;
- 3. Forwards the adopted Plan to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture; and
- 4. Releases the Plan to the community.

#### **Executive Summary:**

- Under the provisions of the *Domestic Animals Act 1994* (the Act) all Victorian Councils are responsible for developing a Domestic Animal Management Plan (the Plan).
- The Plan outlines Councils services, programs and policies relating predominately to the management of dog and cat issues in their community.
- A six-week period of community engagement was finalised on 13 August 2021, and a total of eight submissions were received. Seven submissions related to the potential implementation of a 24-hour cat curfew.
- The review of the 24-hour cat curfew Standing Order will be undertaken in 2022. This will provide Councillors, Officers, and community a single point of focus for discussion.



- One submission was received noting two issues outside of the scope of the Plan and one issue regarding resourcing, which was responded to.
- Council can now consider these community submissions and resolve to adopt the Plan and forward the Plan to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture as required by the Act.

#### **Supporting Information:**

The Plan addresses key criteria as prescribed in Section 68(a) of the Act. pertaining to Councils management of dogs and cats.

The Plan must provide precise detail in relation to the following key areas:

- Strategies to promote responsible pet ownership.
- Strategies that address overpopulation and high rates of euthanasia in dogs and cats.
- A strategy to deal with dangerous, menacing, and restricted breed dogs and dog attacks.
- Policies that encourage community members to register and identify their cats and dogs.
- A review of all existing Council standing Orders pertaining to dogs and cats.
- A review of all existing Council policies and procedures that are currently in place relating to cats and dogs.
- A defined training plan for Authorised Officers.

#### Standing Order – 24 Cat Curfew

In relation to community feedback on the 24-hour cat curfew standing order review, a decision to separate the process of preparing a revised Plan for Council and reviewing Standing Orders was made to ensure that the two issues were not confused. This also provided clarity and focus on the Plan alone, otherwise there was the potential of delaying the statutory process of endorsing the Plan while dealing with the very contentious issues often raised between animal owners and non-animal owners in relation to cat curfews.

The review of the Standing Order will be undertaken in 2022 – this will provide Councillors, Officers, and community a single point of focus for discussion.

#### Issues:

#### **Strategy Implications**

This report aligns with the Council Plan as it ensures health and wellbeing planning to the centre of council planning in promoting safe communities, positive mental and physical health programs, resilience and connection to natural and built environments.

#### **Health Implications**

The Plan is used as a tool to support the effective and responsible management of domestic animals within the community which can have a positive influence on the community's health and wellbeing.

#### Communication

A six-week period of community engagement commenced on the 6 July 2021 and ended on the 13 August 2021. The engagement activities included utilising social media, local press and one to one telephone consultation meetings with the Coordinator Local Laws.

#### **Financial Implications**

The cost of the development of the Plan is absorbed by Councils approved operating budget. All other initiatives contained within the Plan are funded as a component of the approved operating budget.

#### **Risk Analysis**

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Service Delivery Risk	3	Implement the Plan
Enhanced and improved services may not be delivered if a DAMP is not implemented.		
Occupational Health and Safety Risk	1	Risk is managed by existing policy and
Nil		procedure.
Reputational Risk	3	Implement the Plan
Lack of planning and transparency, loss of trust in Councils ability to manage domestic animals.		



Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Legal/Regulatory Risk	4	Implement the Plan
Failure to adhere to this statutory requirement would place Council at risk of operating outside of prescribed legal guidelines.		

<sup>\*</sup> Inherent likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain)

#### **Legal and Compliance**

The provision of a Domestic Animal Management Plan is a statutory requirement, failure to adhere to this requirement would place Council at risk of operating outside of prescribed legal guidelines.

#### **Community Implications**

The implementation of the Plan will allow the community to have input into the provision of domestic animal management services in the municipality.

#### Consultation

Whilst there is no statutory obligation to undertake consultation, due to the considerable interest that community members take regarding animal related matters it is deemed appropriate to complete a period of consultation.

The following engagement activities were undertaken:

- Notices in the Latrobe Valley Express, and on Councils Facebook page and website advising of the draft Plan;
- The draft Plan was on display at Council Service Centres;
- Community Consultation phone conversations were available where members
  of the community were invited to examine the draft Plan with the purpose of
  sourcing more information and allowing discussion and feedback with Council
  staff in relation to domestic animal issues;
- Stakeholders who have current 84Y animal re-homing agreements with Council were invited in writing to respond to the Plan; and
- The Latrobe City Council's Animal Welfare Advisory Committee were provided with the draft Plan for perusal and feedback and provided support for the draft as presented.

#### Standing Order - 24 Cat Curfew

In relation to community feedback on the 24 hour cat curfew standing order review, a decision to separate the process of preparing a revised Plan for Council and reviewing Standing Orders was made to ensure that the two issues were not confused. This also provided clarity and focus on the Plan alone, otherwise there was the potential of delaying the statutory process of endorsing the Plan while dealing with the very contentious issues often raised between animal owners and non-animal owners.

The review of the Standing Order will be undertaken in 2022 – this will provide Councillors, Offices and community a single point of focus for discussion.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

11. Domestic Animal Management Plan submissions table

21. Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025



### 15.1

# Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 consideration of community submissions

1	Domestic Animal Management Plan submissions table	202
2	Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025	203

Submitter	Submission	Officer Response	
1.	Support for a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
2.	Support for a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
3.	Opposition to a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
4.	Support for a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
5.	Support for a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
6.	Support for a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
7.	Opposition to a proposed Cat Curfew.	Community member contacted by the Coordinator of	
		Local Laws and advised that the issue will be addressed	
		as part of a review of Standing orders in the 22/23 year	
8.	Enquiry in regards to:	Community member advised that:	
	<ol> <li>The keeping of bees;</li> </ol>	Bee Keeping is not in the scope of the Plan and	
	2. Off Leash Dog parks; and	was provided with DELWP contact details;	
	3. The requirement to secure	2. Advised that this was not in the scope of the Plan	
	dogs in order to impound	but is now an Infrastructure project, contact	
	them.	details of Officer in charge of the project	
		provided; and	
		3. Resources did not allow Officers to retrieve all	
		dogs at large, however all reports would be	
		followed up and that aggressive dogs are a	
		priority.	

# Domestic Animal

MANAGEMENT PLAN 2021-2025



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#### Introduction

The primary focus of this Domestic Animal Management Plan is the management of companion animals, namely dogs and cats. Latrobe City Council acknowledges the role it plays in promoting responsible pet ownership and enforcing legislation. We are committed to balancing the needs of pet owners with those in our community who do not own pets. Consideration has been given to both parties in the development of our Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025.

This Plan has been developed in accordance with Section 68A of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and sets out a formalised approach to increase the awareness of domestic animal management practices within Latrobe City.

Latrobe City Council recognises the value domestic pets contribute in making Latrobe City a vibrant and liveable City. Domestic pets are not only considered part of a family, but are an integral part of a wider community. Research demonstrates that pets contribute to building a strong sense of community and developing active social capital; vital to any vibrant, healthy community.

Pet ownership is positively associated with social interactions, community involvement and increased feelings of neighbourhood friendliness and sense of community.

With about 62 percent of Australians owning a dog or cat, these benefits, when aggregated across the whole community, are of significant interest to Council and others concerned with building healthier, happier neighbourhoods.

In addition, these benefits create a ripple effect that extends beyond pet owners into the broader community, with pets helping to smooth the way for social interaction and general recreation.

Pets provide increased opportunities for families to be more active; companionship to those who may be feeling isolated or lonely and assist people with a disability or illness to maintain independence and participate more fully in community life.

#### Background

Local Government has long been the level of government primarily responsible for domestic animal management.

Section 68A of the Domestic Animal Act 1994 (the Act) requires all Victorian councils to prepare a Domestic Animal Management Plan (the Plan) at four yearly intervals. A copy of the plan and any subsequent amendments must be provided to the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture. Council is required to then report on the plan's implementation in its annual report.



#### 1. Primary objective

The primary objective of the Plan is to provide a strategic map to support the community towards the goal of responsible pet ownership and to assist Council in achieving a professional, consistent and proactive approach to domestic animal management practices.

The Plan identifies current activities and future actions to address the following areas, as required by Section 68A of the Act: -

- · Identify methods for evaluating animal control services;
- Promote responsible pet ownership;
- Ensure compliance with the Domestic Animals Act 1994 and Regulations;
- · Minimise the risk of dog attacks;
- Address over population and high euthanasia rates for dogs and cats;
- Encourage registration and identification of dogs and cats;
- Minimise the potential for nuisance;
- Identify dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs;
- · Review all existing Council orders and local laws that relate to dogs and cats;
- Identify programs for training of authorised animal management officers;
- Provide for the periodic evaluation of programs and service strategies.

#### 1.1. Guiding Principles

The following principles underpin the actions of this Plan with regard to domestic animals:

- The belief that pets contribute to quality of life.
- A requirement to balance the needs of those who own pets and those who do not.
- Valuing responsible pet ownership.
- · Proactive animal management and education within the community.
- Protection of the environment from any negative impacts of dogs and cats.
- Working in partnership with others to achieve positive outcomes for the community.
- · Local Government plays a leadership role in animal management.



#### 2. Latrobe City Snapshot

Latrobe City, Victoria's only regional city situated in the eastern part of the state, encompasses an area of 1,422 square kilometers with a population of approximately 73257. (ABS 2016)

Situated approximately 150 km east of Melbourne, in the centre of Gippsland and the Latrobe Valley, Latrobe City is one of four Victorian regional cities.

Latrobe City includes the four major towns of Churchill, Moe/Newborough, Morwell and Traralgon as well as the seven outer lying townships of Boolarra, Glengarry, Toongabbie, Traralgon South, Tyers, Yallourn North and Yinnar.

During the 2019/2020 Registration period there were 10977 dogs and 3390 cats registered within the municipality. There were 17 registered domestic animal businesses, including 2 pet shops, 4 boarding establishments, 8 breeding and rearing establishments, 2 training establishments and 1 Municipal Pound.

#### 3. Current Programs and Service Levels

Latrobe City's Local Laws Team administers and provides a broad range of services to ensure that Council meets its legislative responsibilities relating to the management of domestic animals. They include but are not limited to:

- Educating residents and promoting responsible pet ownership.
- Management of Council's domestic animal pound facility.
- · Maintaining a domestic animal register.
- Providing advice on domestic animal matters.
- · Dealing with and investigating animal complaints for the community.
- Impounding of wandering, unwanted/surrendered and/or feral dogs and cats.
- Undertaking registration door knocks.
- Administration and control of Dangerous and Restricted Breed dogs for compliance with legislation.
- Investigating dog attacks.
- Providing a 24-hour 7 day a week emergency service.
- · Inspection and registration of domestic animal businesses.
- Developing and maintaining partnerships with organisations.

#### 3.1. Guiding Principles

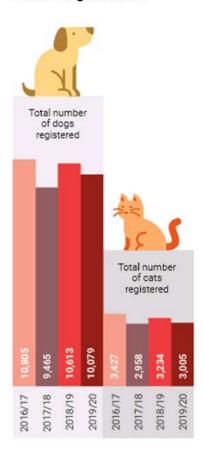
The Local Laws team consists of the following complement of staff undertaking general local laws activities, animal management services and parking management services.

- Coordinator Local Laws (1 EFT)
- Team Leader Local Laws General Compliance/Traffic (1 EFT)
- Team Leader Local Laws Animal Management (1 EFT)
- Local Laws Administration Officers (1.8 EFT)
- Local Laws Officers (6 EFT)
- Pound Keeper (1 EFT)



#### 3.2. Statistical Data

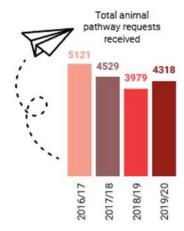
#### **Animal Registrations**



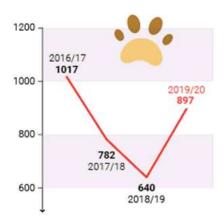
#### **Declared Dogs and Attacks**



#### **Animal Requests**



#### **Animal Infringements Issued**





#### **Impounded Animals**



		<b>,</b>	ı
Total number of cats impounded	Total number of cats returned to owner	Total number of cats rehoused	
741	70	189	2016/17
914	71	128	2017/18
1142	96	250	2018/19
1195	110	284	2019/20

#### 3.3. Council Orders

Latrobe City Council has the following Orders, Local Laws and Procedures in place to assist in the effective management of dogs and cats.

- Compulsory de-sexing of all cats registered for the first time (unless member of applicable organisations or registered as Domestic Animal Business or upon veterinary advice) effective from 10 April 2008.
- Cat curfew between 9 pm to 6 am, seven days a week.
- Dogs must be kept on leash except when in a designated off leash area.

An amendment to our current standing orders will be investigated in 2022 which is: -

1. A 24-Hour Cat Curfew.



#### 3.4. Community Amenity Local Law No. 2 2016

#### **Division 21 Keeping of Animals**

#### 110. Keeping of Animals

1. An owner or occupier of land must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept any more in number for each type of animal than as set out in the following table except for farming areas:

Type of Animal	Definition	Multi-unit Development	All other areas (except farming area)
Dogs		2	2
Cats		2	2
Poultry	Fowls, Bantams, Pheasants, Ducks and Geese	Not permitted	5
Free flying pigeons		0	0
Rooster		0	0
Domestic Mice		10	10
Guinea Pigs		2	4
Ferrets, Hamsters		2	4
Domestic Rabbits		2	4
Reptiles		2	2
Other Animals	Cattle, Horse, Goat, Pig, Sheep, Alpaca, Lama, Ostrich and any other agricultural animal	Not permitted	Residential: 0 Rural Living Zone: 10

- 2. A permit issued for the keeping of dogs and /or cats under this division will be granted for the life of the animal although if an offence or nuisance be proven the permit can be revoked.
- 3. Sub clause 110.1 does not apply where animals are kept in accordance with a planning permit or where a Wildlife Licence has been obtained in accordance with the Wildlife Regulations 2013.
- 4. A person keeping animals in accordance with clause 110.1 must ensure that the animals do not create a nuisance or danger to neighbours or other persons.



#### 111. Dogs and Cats on Farming Properties

Except where a planning permit is issued an owner or occupier of a working farm within a farming area must not, without a permit, keep or allow to be kept more than four adult dogs and/or four adult cats on that land except where allowed by the planning scheme.

#### 112. Maximum number of Dogs and Cats on any land

Except where a planning permit is issued a person must not keep more than five dogs or five cats on any land except where allowed by the planning scheme.

#### 113. Litters of Animals

For the purpose of calculating the maximum limit of the numbers of animals kept, the progeny of any animal lawfully kept will be exempt for a period of 3 months after their birth.

#### 114. Animal Excrement

A person in charge of an animal on a road or other Municipal Place must:

- a) Carry a device suitable for the removal of any excrement that may be deposited by the animal; and
- b) Not allow any part of the animal's excrement to remain on a road or other Municipal Place; and
- c) Produce the device on demand by an authorised officer.

#### 3.5. Council Procedures

- Animal Registration Renewal forms are reviewed annually and amended as required.
- Animal Registration Fees are considered and determined by Council during the annual budget process.
- Animal Deterrent Spray Procedure 2018
- Barking Dog Procedures 2018
- Cat Trap Loan Procedure 2018
- Dealing with Sick or Injured Animals Procedure 2018
- De-sexing of Dogs and Cats released from the Pound Procedure 2018
- Dog and Cat Impounding Procedure 2018
- Dog and Cat Pound Release Procedure 2017
- Infringement Management System 2017
- Keeping of Animals Permit Approvals Guidelines 2017
- Notice of Seizure (Dogs and Cats) Procedure 2018
- · Notice to Comply Procedure 2017
- Scanning of Impounded Dogs and Cats Procedure 2018
- Removal and Identification of Dead Dogs and Cats Procedure 2018
- Voluntary Surrender of Dogs and Cats Procedure 2017
- Dog Handling and Seizure Procedure 2017
- Pound Pest and Parasite Inspection Procedure 2017
- Working on Roads Procedure 2018



#### 3.6. Training of Authorised Officers

Latrobe City Council is committed to the training of our Local Laws Officers. An annual training program is developed for each officer to ensure they receive appropriate training. The objective of any training and development is to support all Local Laws staff in having the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their work.

A training register detailing all qualifications and training courses completed by each Local Laws Officer is maintained and updated annually to reflect any training undertaken or required.

In addition to specialised training, all staff have access to a suite of personal and professional training opportunities delivered through Council's Learning and Development programs

#### 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

- Local Laws Officers attended regional training seminars sponsored by Animal Welfare Victoria.
   Seminars included Identification of Dangerous Dogs, Legislation changes and general updates.
- All Local Laws officers enrolled and have completed a Prosecutions and Legal Proceedings Course.
- Monthly team meetings held encompassing an update on Animal Legislation and an update of all current animal issues
- 3 Local Laws Officers attended Animal Welfare Victoria canine anatomy training.
- All Local Laws Officers completed 4 x 4 training.

#### 3.7. Registration and Identification

Latrobe City Council issues registration renewal notices prior to 10 April each year.

Any renewal payments not received by the due date of 10 April are followed up with a reminder notice advising of penalties for failing to register a dog or cat.

Registration renewal forms are also used as an opportunity to advertise legislative changes i.e. requirement to register dog/cat by age three months and compulsory microchipping and desexing of all new cats being registered.

When issuing these notices, we include inserts to further inform and educate our community on domestic animal matters.

New registration applications are available at all Council service centres and libraries in Churchill, Moe, Morwell and Traralgon; via Council's website; and at Council's pound facility.

Latrobe City currently partners with local contracted veterinarians to run a microchipping week in March where microchipping is offered at the discounted rate.



#### 2016-2020 Animal Registration Comparisons:

Financial Year	Cats	Dogs
2016/17	3427	10805
2017/18	2958	9465
2018/19	3234	10613
2019/20	3005	10079

#### **Educational and/or Promotional Activities**

- Animal Registration forms available at Council service centres and libraries; on Council's website and can be requested by telephoning Council.
- Advertising and administration of the discount microchipping week held in conjunction with Council's contracted veterinarians.
- Door knock "hot spot" areas or areas where complaints have been received in relation to registration requirements.
- Maintenance of computerised registration database.
- · Advertisements in local newspapers and guest spot on local radio.
- Local Laws Officers to conduct structured presentations at schools to educate children about responsible pet ownership.

#### Compliance Activities

- Investigate all complaints received.
- Encourage complainants to speak directly to dog owners to alert them to their dog barking.
- · Record all nuisance complaints in Council's record management systems.
- Provide cat cages to residents for containing trespassing cats as requested.
- · Impound all unregistered dogs found at large.
- Issue infringements for dogs found at large.
- Impound or return wandering registered pets to owners.
- Attending properties unannounced to conduct on the spot inspections where there have been ongoing
  or serious complaints against a property or person.

#### 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

- Conducted an annual Pet Expo event for the community. This is an annual event organized by the Local
  Laws Team in conjunction with our contracted vets and local dog obedience clubs, the event features a
  number of specialist obedience dog demonstrations, competitions and prizes. Members of our
  community can bring their own dogs to the event to participate, speak to expert dog obedience trainers
  and veterinary practitioners and take advantage of a discounted microchipping offer.
- The focus of the day is community members having fun with their pets with an emphasis on responsible pet ownership and free advice from experts in the field.



- Due to COVID 19 Restrictions the 2020 Pet Expo was cancelled.
- Conducted an annual Pets in the Pound program with Lavalla College, designed to promote responsible pet ownership to school children.
- Participated in Latrobe Cities Children's Expo, with an emphasis on fun and responsible pet ownership for young children.

#### 3.8. Animal Nuisance Complaints

All animal complaints received are investigated in a timely manner to minimise the potential for complaints escalating. Officers will make every effort to resolve complaints to the satisfaction of both parties.

For the most part, nuisance complaints received by Latrobe City Council relate to either barking dogs or stray cats. It is recognised that barking dog complaints can at times cause great frustration for both parties. Local Laws Officers work hard to balance the interests and rights of both the dog owner and the complainant.

Dog owners can become desensitised to the sound of their own dog barking and may be unaware it is a nuisance to neighbours. An effective resolution is often achieved by alerting the dog owner to the fact their dog's barking is becoming a nuisance.

Neighbours who are unable, or find it difficult, to speak to their neighbours regarding this matter should contact Latrobe City Council for assistance.

Council Officers will first work with the dog owner to support them in identifying the cause of the barking and discuss possible solutions. The majority of cases involve dogs that are bored or responding to visual stimulation. Both causes are often easily resolved with training, toys, blocking a view or exercising the dog more frequently.

Complainants may be asked to keep noise logs (records of dates, times and duration of barking) should the matter continue and further intervention be required. Noise logs form part of the Barking Dog Complaint Form and are available from the Latrobe City web page or from Service Centres and Libraries, and Local Laws Officers can assist with explaining how these are to be completed.

In response to nuisance complaints received on stray cats Latrobe City offers residents' cat cages to assist in safely containing offending animals trespassing on their property or wandering during the curfew period. Local Laws Officers will then attend during normal business hours and impound any contained cats. These cages are available to members of our community free of charge.

#### **Educational and/or Promotional Activities**

- Make information available at Council service centres and libraries and on Council's website.
- Promote the various resources available to encourage the correct selection of a new pet such as Animal Welfare Victoria and RSPCA website.
- Provide a wide range of pamphlets.
- Distribute brochures to residents when requested and when investigating complaints.
- · Signage to identify the areas designated for exercising dogs off lead.
- Advertisements in local newspapers and guest spot on local radio.



#### **Compliance Activities**

- Investigate all complaints received.
- Encourage complainants to speak directly to dog owners to alert them to their dog barking.
- · Record all nuisance complaints in Council's record management systems.
- · Provide cat cages to residents for containing trespassing cats as requested.
- · Impound all unregistered dogs found at large.
- Issue infringements for dogs found at large.
- Impound or return wandering registered pets to owners.
- Attend properties unannounced to conduct on the spot inspections where there have been ongoing or serious complaints against a property or person.

#### 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

- The procedure for barking dog complaints was revised and improved in March 2017.
- Cat cage waiting list reduced from 12 months to 3-4 weeks.

#### 3.9. Dog Attacks

Latrobe City Council considers any reported dog attacks as the highest priority and dispatches a Local Laws Officer immediately to investigate and action as appropriate.

#### **Educational and/or Promotional Activities**

- Promote responsible pet ownership to new and existing dog owners.
- · Promote the benefits of dog training, socialisation and frequent exercise.
- Provide a range of pamphlets that raise awareness of the risk of dog attacks in the home, on the street and in parks which include information on how to reduce risks.
- Distribute brochures to residents when requested and when investigating complaints.
- Promotion of the need for dogs to be under effective control, at all times, including the need to ensure dogs can be effectively contained and/or fenced on their own property to ensure they cannot escape.
- Promote de-sexing of dogs to reduce aggressive tendencies and wandering at large.
- Promote the need for supervision of children when dogs are present.
- Promote Council's emergency 24-hour 7 day a week service for reporting a dog attack.

#### **Compliance Activities**

- Declaration of all identified dangerous/menacing dogs in line with the Domestic Animals Act 1994.
- Respond to all reported dog attacks immediately as the top priority for Local Laws Officers.
- Record all reported dog attacks in Council's record management systems.
- Ensure all reported dog attacks are thoroughly investigated with findings and evidence accurately recorded and maintained.
- Ensure owners of declared dogs are fully informed of their requirements under the Act.
- Proactively declaring dogs dangerous or menacing.



- Ensure unclaimed dogs at the pound are temperament tested to determine whether they are suitable for re-housing.
- Seize dogs involved in serious attacks.
- Provision of a 24 hour 7 days a week emergency service to report a dog attack.
- Conduct regular patrols at locations where there is a high incidence of wandering dogs.

#### 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

- All investigations of dog attacks finalised within required timeframes.
- Court and Prosecutions training for all Local Laws Officers that will result in an increased number of prosecutions for dog attacks
- Implementation of the Compliance, Assessment and Review Panel to make independent recommendations in the instances where owners make submissions regarding proposed dangerous or menacing dogs.

#### 3.10. Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs

Latrobe City Council Local Laws Officers investigate all reports or complaints regarding dangerous, menacing or restricted breed dogs, immediately.

Local Laws Officers currently use the Department of Primary Industry 'Standard for Restricted Breed Dogs in Victoria' to identify restricted breeds.

#### Council Orders

Latrobe City Council currently utilises the Domestic Animals Act 1994 in relation to dangerous, menacing and restricted breed dogs.

Reports of suspected undeclared restricted breed dogs are rare in Latrobe City. Officers believe there is a high level of compliance regarding the ownership and management of declared dogs within the municipality.

#### **Educational and/or Promotional Activities**

- Media releases in local papers from Council and th Animal Welfare Victoria.
- · Radio spots on local radio.
- Information pamphlets at all Council service centres and libraries.
- Information available on council's website.
- Ensuring all owners of declared dogs are aware of their obligations under the Act regarding identification and the keeping of these dogs.
- Promotion of regulations for restricted breed dogs.
- Promote the 'Dangerous Dogs Hotline' 136 186 on Council's website.



# Compliance Activities

- Ensure that all Declared Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed dogs are registered accurately with the Victorian Declared Dog Registry.
- Inspect commercial and industrial areas to identify guard dogs guarding non-residential properties.
- Attending properties unannounced to conduct on the spot inspections and annual audits where there
  are registered declared dogs.
- Follow-up non-compliance issues found during inspections and audits.
- Review all dog attack cases to determine if it is appropriate to declare the dog dangerous or menacing.
- Maintain a register of all declared dogs registered and housed in Latrobe City Council.
- Seize un-registered, suspected Restricted Breed dogs.
- Completion of investigations of complaints of these types of dog breed.

# 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

- Audited all properties where there are registered declared dogs.
- Declared Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed dogs registered accurately with the Victorian Declared Dog Registry.

# 3.11. Over-Population and High Euthanasia

Latrobe City Council is aware of the high euthanasia rates for dogs and in particular cats and continues to promote the benefits of de-sexing. The introduction of compulsory de-sexing for all cats registered for the first time or released from the pound facility was implemented in 2008. Council continues to facilitate a discounted microchipping week prior to the registration date of 10 April each year.

Council has in place twenty Section 84Y Domestic Animal Act agreements to re-house dogs and cats that have ended up in the pound

# What are s84Y agreements?

In Victoria, dogs and cats may be impounded due to a large number of reasons. When an owner is unidentifiable, unable or unwilling to collect that animal it may require extra care or be assessed as suitable for rehoming.

Under the provisions of the Domestic Animals Act 1994 (the Act), section 84Y allows for Councils to enter into a written agreement for the seizure, holding and disposal of dogs and cats. These agreements may be made between the Council and a pound, shelter, vet clinic, community foster care network or foster carer depending on the needs of the animals.

The provisions of the Act, allow for a person or body (that has an 84Y (a)(b) &/or (c) with a Council ie a pound, shelter or vet clinic) to have an 84Y(ca) agreement with a community foster care network on the condition that the dog or cat is desexed and microchipped prior to leaving the ownership of the person or body.



Animals moving to a Community Foster Care Network under an 84Y(c) agreement are not required to have been desexed or microchipped prior to leaving the pound. Under an 84Y(c) agreement it is the responsibility of the person or group that take possession of the animal directly from the pound to desex and microchip the animal before it leaves their ownership. Carers are limited to caring for the number of animals permitted by their municipal (local) council.

# **Educational and/or Promotional Activities**

- Promote responsible pet ownership to new and existing dog owners.
- Promote the benefits of dog training, socialisation and frequent exercise at the annual Pet Expo and ongoing.
- Promote Council's cat curfew.
- Promote the benefits of de-sexing; such as no surprise litters, fewer unwanted animals in the community, fewer animals euthanised, reduced aggression and reduced wandering, via local radio spots, local newspaper articles and on Council's website.
- Offer dogs and cats for sale from the pound at an affordable price which includes de-sexing and microchipping costs.

# Compliance Activities

- Investigating complaints and reports of numbers of dogs/cats on residential properties.
- · Provide cat cages to residents for containing trespassing cats as requested, subject to availability.
- Investigate reports of animal hoarding and work with owners to reduce these to permitted numbers.
- Enter into Section 84Y Domestic Animal Act agreements with local organisations and vets to re-house dogs and cats that have ended up in the pound.
- Investigate reports of unauthorised 'backyard breeders' to ascertain whether they should be registered as a domestic animal business.
- Implementation of Council resolution for the de-sexing of all dogs and cats being registered for the first time from April 2008.



# 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

- Renegotiation of 84Y Domestic Animal Act agreements with local organisations and vets to re-house dogs and cats that have ended up in the pound.
- Creation of the Animal Welfare Advisory Committee, the Committee was set up to provide advice to Council on domestic animal management matters including ways in which animal welfare can be continuously improved in the Council pound.
  - a) Assist with the review of Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan and provide advice on the implementation of actions in the Domestic Animal Management Plan;
  - b) Review progress of the actions in the Domestic Animal Management Plan; and
  - c) Assist in promoting a positive view on options of responsible pet ownership and investigate, provide advice and recommendations relevant to programs that achieve this.
- Implementation of receipting at the Pound Facility
- Appointment of a dedicated Pound Keeper
- · Upgrade of the Pound Facility to include exercise yards for dogs, an extra cat room

# 3.12. Domestic Animal Businesses

Latrobe City Council currently has 17 Registered Domestic Animal Businesses. These businesses are issued with registration renewal notices each year and Council conducts annual inspections in relation to their compliance with relevant codes of practices.

In Victoria, the Domestic Animals Act 1994 defines Domestic Animal Businesses as any of the following:

- A Council pound (operated by the Council or a contractor on behalf of Council)
- A dog and/or cat breeding business where there are three or more fertile females and animals are sold (whether a profit is made or not), and the proprietor is not a member of an Applicable Organisation. If the proprietor is a member of an Applicable Organisation, they are exempt from registering as a breeding Domestic Animal Business if they have less than 10 fertile female animals AND no more than 2 are not registered with an Applicable Organisation.
- A dog training establishment (where the business is run for profit)
- A pet shop (operated in a permanent location that must be open at least 5 days per week)
- An animal shelter (e.g. welfare organisations such as the RSPCA and The Lost Dogs' Home)
- An establishment boarding dogs or cats (where the business is run for profit to provide overnight, daycare or homecare boarding)
- An establishment that is rearing dogs or cats (where the business is run for profit).

All domestic animal businesses must be registered annually with their local council and comply with the appropriate mandatory Code of Practice. Local council will often require an inspection of the facilities prior to registration each year. Councils are required to report the number of domestic animal businesses registered with them to DEDJTR on an annual basis.

Council provides all registered Domestic Animal Businesses with any changes to the legislation or Code of Practice information relevant to the business and encourages business owners to be involved in any review of the mandatory Code of Practice.



Any new registration applications are received and processed in line with the Code of Practice.

# **Educational and/or Promotional Activities**

- Provide relevant mandatory Code of Practice to proprietors of existing and proposed domestic animal businesses.
- Ensure all relevant Domestic Animal Businesses are advised and involved in any review of the mandatory Code of Practice for their type of business.
- Invite Domestic Animal Businesses to be involved in Council's animal related community events.

# Compliance Activities

- Conduct annual 'unscheduled' inspections/audits of each Domestic Animal Business premises to determine compliance with the Act, relevant mandatory Code of Practice, and any terms, conditions, limitations or restrictions on that registration.
- Use the audit documents on Animal Welfare Victoria Animal Management website.
- Follow-up Domestic Animal Business non-compliance issues with information on required actions and timeframe for resolution, further inspections, and prosecutions where necessary.
- In the case of serious non-compliance issues, suspend or cancel registration.
- Liaise with other units within Council to provide advice when planning applications for Domestic Animal Businesses are received, to ensure appropriate conditions are placed on construction, operation, etc.
- Use of the Pet Exchange Register to identify unknown breeders.

# 2017-2021 Domestic Animal Management Plan Highlights:

 All registered Domestic Animal Businesses have been inspected annually for compliance in the fouryear period.



# 4. Four-year action plan

The following pages outline Latrobe City Council's four-year action plan which has been designed to build on the successes of the previous Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Actions have been developed with a focus on staff training; community awareness; the provision of accessible, relevant and timely information and a simplified process for the reporting of issues.

Feedback received during Council's Community Consultation period has also been considered in the development of actions.

# 4.1. Training of Authorised Officers

**GOAL:** To ensure all staff involved in animal management have the knowledge and skills necessary to carry out their work safely and effectively.

**OUTCOMES:** Confident, skilled and knowledgeable team members responding to customers which will result in an increased customer confidence that their enquiry will be professionally dealt with.

Action	Measure	When
Review and finalise, in consultation with relevant team members, training required for all Authorised Officers undertaking animal management duties.	Consultation with relevant team members, agreed list of skills required to undertake animal management duties developed.	Annually
Ensure all Authorised Officers have commenced or are enrolled to commence relevant training programs within 24 months of appointment.	The number of newly appointed officers who are undertaking or have completed training in required skills.	Ongoing
Maintain a central training register which includes individual Authorised Officers current level of training and agreed future training requirements.	Central training register reviewed and maintained on a regular basis.	Annually
Ensure that all team members are kept informed of and trained in changes to relevant legislation, policies, procedure and compliance codes within reasonable timeframes.	Changes to legislation, policy, procedure and compliance codes to be distributed to all team members via e- mail. All changes to be highlighted as agenda items during team meetings. Ongoing training as required.	Ongoing
Update all Local Laws Procedures to ensure compliance with current legislation and in line with industry best practice.	Completion of all animal procedure updates by end of 2022.	2021/2022



# 4.2. Registration and Identification

**GOAL:** Maximise the number of registered and identifiable domestic animals residing within Latrobe City to aid compliance and facilitate reuniting lost pets with their owners in a timely manner.

**OUTCOMES:** Improved accuracy of Councils pet registration database. Improved adherence to legislation and increased registration of new animals.

Action	Measure	When
Registration reminder notices to be sent out to all animal owners that have failed to re- register their pets by the 10th of April each year.	Reminder notices mailed out to owners of previously registered animals that have not been renewed.	Mail out completed by May 31st each year
Partner with local veterinarians and 84 Y agreement holders to distribute animal registration information to new animal owners.	The number of veterinarians and 84 Y agreement holders actively distributing registration information.	Ongoing
Facilitate a discount microchipping period with our contracted vets prior to the registration renewal in April each year.	Annual discount microchipping period to be conducted each year.	Annually
Ensure that all seized and impounded animals are registered in accordance with legislation prior to release to their owner.	Cross check pound release forms with Councils animal registration database	Ongoing
Undertake targeted annual door knocks of the municipality to check for unregistered dogs and cats.	Completion of targeted door knocks undertaken in the municipality.	Annually



# 4.3. Animal Nuisance Complaints

**GOAL:** Minimise the number of complaints received by Council while increasing community satisfaction with Council's response to investigating complaints.

**OUTCOMES:** Improved community awareness and education to residents with an emphasis on responsible animal ownership. A reduction in animal complaints and an enhanced level of customer service and improved adherence to legislation.

Action	Measure	When
Provide / make available the most current educational material to animal owners in the municipality.	Preparation, sourcing and distribution of educational material to residents of the municipality.	Ongoing
Maintain a supply of cat cages for the community to utilise to control problem or feral cats.	Ensure a register of community members interested in utilizing cat cages is current and that they are contacted as soon as cages become available.	Ongoing
Maintain accurate and relevant information on Councils website advising how customers can make a complaint about nuisance animals.	A dedicated page has been set up this needs to be maintained and updated on a regular basis.	Bi-monthly
Support the development of the Fenced off leash dog park implementation guidelines.	Assist with provision of technical advice and support to the Coordinator of Recreation Open Space during the project.	2021/2022

# 4.4. Dog Attacks

**GOAL:** Minimise the risk to the community of dog attacks while increasing community understanding of potential aggressive animal behaviour and the benefits of dog socialisation and obedience training.

**OUTCOMES:** Increased community awareness of responsible pet ownership. A reduction in complaints and increased adherence to legislation.

Action	Measure	Outcome	When
Increased public awareness of what constitutes a dog attack and how to report them.	Update Councils web site with a dedicated section on dog attacks. Use Councils Social Media page to inform the community of dog attack information. Utilise local press to highlight successful prosecutions, when appropriate.	Increased community awareness of responsible pet ownership; a reduction in complaints and increased adherence to legislation.	2021-2025



# 4.5. Dangerous, Menacing and Restricted Breed Dogs

**GOAL:** Meeting legislative requirements relating to dangerous, menacing and Restricted Breed dogs while educating the community about such breeds.

**OUTCOME:** Improved community awareness of responsible pet ownership and a reduction in complaints and improved adherence to legislation.

Action	Measure	When
Random property inspections of declared dogs to ensure compliance.	Review internal register of declared dogs and determine checks to be conducted, undertake an inspection of each property.	Annually
Prosecute repeat offenders or serious breaches detected.	Number of successful outcomes from prosecutions conducted.	As occurs
After hours patrols for unregistered guard dogs.	Number of patrols conducted and the number of unregistered guard dogs detected.	As occurs
Educate the community about what is a declared dog.	Half year updates on council social media site.	Half yearly

# 4.6. Over-Population and High Euthanasia

**GOAL:** Encourage responsible pet ownership by promoting de-sexing and confinement of dogs and cats to reduce the incidence of unwanted pet litters and feral domestic animals; while increasing the number of animals successfully re-housed.

**OUTCOME:** Improved community awareness of responsible pet ownership. A reduction in complaints and improved adherence to legislation and reduction in the number of animals euthanised.

Action	Measure	When
Promote Animal Welfare Victoria's responsible pet ownership program.	Regular utilisation of Councils Social Media site to promote responsible pet ownership.	Ongoing
Review existing 84Y Agreements and seek out other potential 84Y providers to enhance the re-homing of unclaimed dogs and cats.	Minimum 85% of impounded animals returned to owner, adopted or re-housed.	Ongoing
Maximum utilisation of Social Media to promote animals available for adoption.	Regular utilisation of Councils Social Media site to promote animals for adoption.	Ongoing



# 4.7. Domestic Animal Businesses

GOAL: To support and regulate domestic animal businesses established within the municipality.

**OUTCOME:** Improved accuracy of Councils pet registration database and greater adherence to legislation and improved community awareness and education with an emphasis on responsible animal ownership. A reduction in animal complaints and greater adherence to legislation. Increased access to Council services.

Action	Measure	When
Audit all Domestic Animal Businesses annually to ensure compliance to legislation.	Number of Audits conducted.	Annually
Maintain accurate and relevant information on Councils website advising how to register a Domestic Animal Business.	Dedicated page on Domestic Animal Businesses to be developed and regularly checked for accuracy. Number of hits the webpage receives.	Bi-monthly
Ensure that details of all registered Domestic animal Businesses are reported to Animal Welfare Victoria annually.	Number of Domestic Animal Businesses reported annually to Animal Welfare Victoria.	Annually



# 5. Annual Review and Annual Reporting

Actions identified in this Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 will commence in the 2021/2022 financial year and conclude at the end of the 2024/2025 financial year.

Latrobe City Council will review the Domestic Animal Management Plan 2021-2025 annually and, if appropriate, amend. Any amendment of the Plan will be provided to the Department of Primary Industries' Secretary. An evaluation of our implementation of the Plan will be published in Latrobe City Council's Annual Report.

A full review of this Plan will be undertaken during the 2024/2025 financial year and will inform the development of any future Domestic Animal Management Plan.

Any questions relating to this Plan should be directed to the Coordinator Local Laws on 1300 367 700; or via email at latrobe@latrobe.vic.gov.au; or via post to Latrobe City Council, PO Box 264, Morwell Victoria 3840.

To obtain this information in languages other than English, or in other formats including audio, electronic, Braille or large print, please contact Latrobe City Council on 1300 367 700.





Agenda Item: 15.2

Agenda Item: Visitor Information Centre Building

Sponsor: General Manager, Community Health and Wellbeing

Council Plan Objective: CREATIVE

Status: For Decision

# **Proposed Resolution:**

# **That Council:**

- 1. Give delegation to the Chief Executive Officer to engage a contractor to demolish the Visitor Information Centre building (the Old Church) at 41 Princes Street, Traralgon;
- 2. Recover salvageable items with social or cultural value from the building; and
- 3. Run a community expression of interest and information process and report back to Council with recommendations for locations to display the items within Latrobe City.

# **Executive Summary:**

- On 1 February 2021 a briefing was presented to Councillors outlining potential options for the future use of the current Visitor Information Centre building once the visitor information service is relocated to the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre and the building becomes vacant at the end of 2021.
- At the February briefing feedback identified the need to seek input from community groups interested in the future of the building to gain a better understanding of their preferences for the building.
- In preparation for seeking this feedback, a structural engineer was engaged to complete a *Structural Inspection and Assessment Report*. The report outlined significant structural issues with the building and questioned the capacity for the building to withstand relocation.
- A briefing report was provided to Councillors on 21 June 2021 presenting the Structural Inspection and Assessment Report and highlighting its outcomes.
   At this briefing, Councillors agreed to meet with stakeholders who had expressed an interest in the future use of the Visitor Information Centre



building – namely Traralgon Community Development Association and Traralgon Historical Society who had both written to Council seeking further information on plans for the building.

- Meetings were held with these two groups on 15 July 2021 and 16 July 2021 respectively.
- The Structural Inspection and Assessment Report findings were presented at each of the meetings along with the options available that were contained in the briefing report.
- The most pertinent options covered and discussed were:
  - Relocation of the building at a cost of \$600,000+
  - Demolition of the building and salvage of legacy items (bespoke doors and windows), for display in other locations to honour the history of the building at a cost of approximately \$80,000
- Both stakeholder groups were requested to consider the options and seek additional feedback from their respective committees. Their feedback was provided back to Council in writing in August and are attached to this report.
- While relocation was initially preferred by both stakeholder groups, both groups understood that the expense, associated risk and difficulty in locating to a new site were prohibitive factors.
- Feedback from both stakeholder groups indicated that demolition would be the most suitable option, with salvaged legacy items distributed amongst identified buildings across Latrobe City as it was agreed that there is a need to maintain Traralgon's heritage and the importance of living history.
- Based on the Structural Inspection and Assessment Report, identified costs
  and feedback received from stakeholder groups that expressed interest in the
  future of the building, officers recommend the demolition and salvage of
  legacy items as the most suitable option.
- Officers further recommend that the demolition occur as soon as possible after the building is vacant as a vacant building may be subject to vandalism and damage to legacy items.
- Legacy items will be safely stored and preserved and an expression of interest process would be undertaken to determine distribution of items.
- Community groups such as the Traralgon Historical Society will be engaged to provide advice and input into documenting the historical significance of each item and displaying this with the various pieces.

# **Background:**

Council have been considering the future use of the Visitor Information Centre building once the service has been relocated to the foyer of the Gippsland Performing Arts Centre at the end of 2021.

Options presented to Councillors have included:

- Demolition of the building and salvage of legacy items;
- Selling the building with removal or demolition required by the new owner;
- Retaining the building in its current location for a period of at least five years and lease it to a local business or community group via an expression of interest process followed by demolition;
- Retention of the building in its current location but no longer occupying the space (i.e., leaving it vacant) followed by demolition;
- Retaining the building for use as a co-working space for corporate and community projects followed by demolition; and/or
- Relocation of the building.

While Councillors sought to identify the aspirations of the wider community, officers recognised an overarching community wish for relocation of the building. However, after completion of the *Structural Inspection and Assessment Report* it became clear that relocation was going to be prohibitive based on cost, risk and identifying a potential location.

A second briefing was presented to Councillors on 21 June 2021 and Councillor feedback was to engage with the stakeholder groups who had already corresponded with Council to express an interest in the future of the building; namely Traralgon Community Development Association and Traralgon Historical Society. Meetings were held with these groups on 15 July and 16 July 2021.

Following the meetings and provision of formal minutes, each group was asked to seek and provide additional feedback from their respective committees. Written responses have been received from both groups and are provided in the attachments.

Both stakeholder groups have identified that relocation is not a viable option, and that demolition of the building with salvage and display of legacy items is an acceptable alternative. The Traralgon Historical Society have offered their expertise in "determining a site that could incorporate some of the windows and doors, thus retaining some of the history of the building", while the Traralgon Community Development Association "would like to be notified when a formal expression of interest process is held to distribute any salvaged items."

# Issues:

# Strategy Implications

This briefing aligns with the following elements of the Council Plan:

#### Creative

We have a vibrant and diverse community where there are various opportunities for arts, culture and tourism.

# Strategies:

Promote economic growth and job creation through events and recreation related tourism capitalising on our arts, cultural and sporting facilities.

# Connected

A regional City which recognises the connectedness between our goals and towns and efficiently utilises the assets that we have for the benefit of our whole community while protecting the environment.

# Strategies:

Promote our role as Gippsland's Regional City to support economic growth and events programming, cultural events and recreation and sporting attractions.

# Health Implications

There are no health implications identified as part of this briefing.

# **Communication**

A comprehensive communication strategy will be developed and implemented advising the wider community of:

- The level of consultation already completed;
- The reasoning behind the decision;
- The expression of interest process for salvaged legacy items.

# Financial Implications

Quotes sought from two independent contractors have identified the cost of demolition ranges from \$78,000 to \$86,000. This figure is not budgeted for in the 2021-22 budget.

This includes salvage of legacy items (bespoke doors and windows) from the building which can be retained by Council for utilisation in future projects or offered to community groups to honour the history of the building.

A budget allocation for demolition will be required as part of a future budget process for the following:



- 1. Demolition costs (in the order of \$86,000);
- 2. Advertising costs for the Expression of Interest process to determine the new locations of legacy items; and
- 3. Consideration of plaques to accompany legacy items in their new locations with historical information honouring their origin.

# Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Financial Risk Funds unavailable for the demolition	3 (possible)	Council to provide a budget allocation for the demolition as part of a future budget process.
Reputational Risk  Reduction in Council's goodwill with the community	3 (possible)	Development and implementation of a comprehensive community information strategy.

<sup>\*</sup> Inherent likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain)

# Legal and Compliance

There are no legal and compliance issues identified in relation to this briefing.

# **Community Implications**

Consultation already conducted, along with a planned communications strategy, is intended to mitigate any negative community implications.

# **Environmental Implications**

There are no environmental implications identified in relation to this briefing.

# Consultation

Consultation with stakeholders who have already sought feedback on this issue has allowed for informed decisions about community preferences.

# **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

# **Supporting Documents:**

Nil



# **Attachments**

1 ♣ Stakeholder Feedback - Historical Society 2 ♣ Stakeholder Feedback - TCDA



# **15.2**

# **Visitor Information Centre Building**

1	Stakeholder Feedback - Historical Society	234
2	Stakeholder Feedback - TCDA	235

# Traralgon and District Historical Society Incorporated

ABN 83 077 806 233



Office and Library: Kath Teychenne Centre
11 Breed Street, Traralgon 3844
P.O. Box 697, Traralgon 3844
Email: secretary@traralgonhistory.asn.au

URL: www.traralgonhistory.asn.au

Phone: 03 5174 8399

17 August 2021

Att: Clint Hong Latrobe City Council clint.hong@latrobe.vic.gov.au

Dear Clint

# Relocation of VIC building (Methodist Church)

Traralgon & District Historical Society Inc. Committee discussed the proposals for the future of the VIC Building in Traralgon (formerly Methodist Church) at its meeting on 2 August 2021. The following points were made –

- a/. TDHS commends the Council for its thorough deliberations on the possible outcomes for the future of the VIC Building Traralgon, and the costings associated with each option.
- b/. The overall sentiment expressed by the committee was 'we need to save our heritage.' Too many of our buildings have gone.
- c/. The link to our past is being lost AND today's generation are unaware of the past ie what has brought us to where we are today?!
- d/. Another option could be demolish the building in parts and reassemble it on another site. Obviously there are several issues with this idea namely, expense of demolishing and re-erecting and where to re-erect?
- e/. The reclamation of doors, windows and any other relevant aspects of the former Church, to be placed elsewhere is most acceptable and better than none of the building being kept! We are in the process of determining a site that could incorporate some of the windows and doors, thus retaining some of the history of the building.

Thank you for the opportunity to have such a frank discussion about the ideas for the VIC building that the council have been considering. TDHS much appreciated this time and the offer of future involvement in this and other decisions about "historic" matters.

Regards

Barbara Johnson President Traralgon & District Historical Society Inc.

> Postal Address: PO Box 697, Traralgon, VICTORIA 3844 ABN: 83 077 806 233 Incorporation Number: A0012134B

# **Andrea Stanlake**

From: Traralgon Community Development Assn <tcdainformation@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, 28 August 2021 12:50 AM

To: Clint Hong

Cc: Andrea Stanlake; Cr Dale Harriman; Cr Darren Howe; Gail Gatt

**Subject:** Future use of the Visitor Information Centre Building

# Dear Councillors and Officers

We are responding as requested at the meeting held Thursday 15th July 2021 between Councillors, Officers and Representatives from Traralgon Community Development Association (TCDA) regarding the Visitor Information Centre building (Old Church) located at Traralgon Railway Station. TCDA will definitely not persue the relocation of the building.

We have spoken to a local building consultant who verified the move will most likely compromise the building and the costs involved are not conducive with the risk.

However, we would like to be notified when a formal expression of interest process is held to distribute any salvaged items.

At a later date, we may look into replicating the old church at another site for community purposes.

Kind regards

Anne Wilson

Secretary

Traralgon Community Development Association Inc.





# ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE



# 16. ORGANISATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Agenda Item: 16.1

Agenda Item: Quarterly Budget Report - September 2021

Sponsor: General Manager, Organisational Performance

Council Plan Objective: SUSTAINABLE

Status: For Information

# **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council receives and notes the Quarterly Budget Report for the three months ended 30 September 2021, prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

# **Executive Summary:**

- The September 2021 Budget Report is presented for Council's consideration.
- This report meets the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) to present a quarterly budget report to Council as soon as practicable after the end of each quarter of the financial year.
- The report shows that Council overall is operating within the parameters of its adopted budget with most variances relating to carry forward funds from the previous year and the timing of revenue and expenditure within the current financial year.
- The report forecasts a deficit result for the full financial year of \$2.0M which is a favourable variance of \$2.0M to the original budget. The deficit is largely a result of non-cash items with depreciation expense increasing as a result of major new assets being commissioned and revaluation of existing assets.
- The forecasted reduction in the deficit result forecasted in 2021/22 is largely generated by additional Government grants for capital works \$17.0M for which the associated expenditure is not included in the "Comprehensive Income Statement" but is reported directly to the balance sheet and is also reflected in the Statements of Cash Flow and Capital Works. This has been largely offset by increased expenditure as a result of funds carried forward from previous financial years.
- The report is provided for Council's information.

# **Background:**

Under Section 97 (1) of the Act, as soon as practicable after the end of each quarter of the financial year, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a quarterly budget report is presented to the Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public. This report ensures compliance with this legislative requirement.

The attached report as at 30 September 2021 is provided for the information of Council and the community. The financial report compares budgeted income and expenditure with actual results as at the end of the first quarter of the financial year. The key issues of note are:

- The "Comprehensive Income Statement" report forecasts a deficit result for the full financial year of \$2.0M which is a favourable variance of \$2.0M to the original budget. The forecasted reduced deficit result is largely generated by additional Government grants for capital works \$17.0M. In accordance with the requirements of the Australian Accounting Standards the expenditure associated with these grants (i.e. Capital expenditure) is not included in the "Comprehensive Income Statement" but is reported directly to the balance sheet under the "Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment" assets classification and is also reflected in the Statements of Cash Flow and Capital Works. This has been largely offset by increased expenditure as a result of funds carried forward from previous financial years.
- The "Balance Sheet" shows that Council maintains a strong liquidity position with \$171.5M in current assets compared to \$26.2M current liabilities (a liquidity ratio of 6.5:1).
- The "Statement of Cash Flows" shows that Council has \$90.4M in Cash and Financial assets (i.e. investments). The level is higher than anticipated due to carry forward funds from previous financial years including capital works, reserves funds and government grants advanced earlier than expected.
- The "Capital Works Statement" shows a forecast expenditure of \$55.4M compared to the budget of \$31.3M. The variance is mainly due to funds carried forward from 2020/21 and additional government funding received for various programs e.g. Regional Car Parks Fund and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program.
- The "Financial Performance Ratios' indicate that Council remains within the industry expected ranges.

Further details on these and other items are provided in the attached report including year to date and full year forecast income and expenditure variances and explanations, balance sheet and cash flow movements to date, capital works expenditure to date and full year forecasts, together with the financial performance ratios as per the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF).



# Issues:

Strategy Implications

Council has a legislative requirement to report quarterly to our community on our financial progression against budget to ensure that Council continues to act in a financially sustainable manner.

Communication

No consultation required.

Financial Implications

The attached report provides details of budget variances for the year to date and the forecasted full financial year. The result indicates that Council remains in a strong financial position and has sufficient funds to meet current and forecast financial commitments.

Risk Analysis

This report ensures legislative requirements are met and informs Council as to whether it is acting within the parameters of its Adopted Budget.

Legal and Compliance

This report meets the requirements of the Section 97 of the Act.

Community Implications

Not applicable

Environmental Implications

Not applicable

Consultation

Not applicable

Other

Not applicable

# **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

# **Supporting Documents:**

2021/22 Annual Budget



# **Attachments**

1₫. Taluarterly Budget Report - September 2021



# 16.1

1 Quarterly Budget Report - September 2021 ......242



# **Quarterly Budget Report** September 2021

# LatrobeCity

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- Statement of Cash Flows	11
- Statement of Capital Works	12
- Financial Performance Ratios	15

# September 2021 Quarterly Budget Report Summary

#### **KEY ISSUES**

The attached report provides the overall outcomes to the end of the first quarter of the 2021/22 financial year together with forecasted year end results compared to budget. The key issues of note are:

- The "Income Statement" report forecasts a surplus result for the full financial year of \$2.0M which is a favourable variance of \$2.0M to the original budget.
- The "Balance Sheet" shows that Council maintains a strong liquidity position with \$171.5M in current assets compared to \$26.2M current liabilities (a liquidity ratio of 6.5:1).
- The "Statement of Cash Flows" shows that Council has \$90.4M in Cash and Financial assets (i.e. investments).
   The level is higher than anticipated due to carry forward funds from previous financial years including capital works, reserves funds and government grants advanced earlier than expected.
- The "Capital Works Statement" shows a forecast expenditure of \$55.4M compared to the budget of \$31.3M. The
  increase is mainly due to funds carried forward from 2020/21 and additional government funding received for
  various programs e.g. Regional Car Parks Fund and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program.
- The "Financial Performance Ratios' indicate that Council remains within the industry expected ranges.

### BACKGROUND

Under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020 Section 97 (1) (the Act)*, As soon as practicable after the end of each quarter of the financial year, the Chief Executive Officer must ensure that a quarterly budget report is presented to the Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public.

#### **INCOME STATEMENT ANALYSIS**

#### Overview

The deficit amounts shown in the Income Statement are largely a result of non-cash items with depreciation expense increasing as a result of major new assets being commissioned and revaluation of existing assets. Ideally a surplus result would be generated to enable Council to invest in new assets and to upgrade and expand existing assets. They also enable Council to repay its borrowings. On a cash basis Council budgets for a break even result, with any cash remaining at year end required to meet current and future liabilities together with current commitments. Therefore any variances to budget in the operating result are generally caused by changes in non-cash items (e.g. depreciation), variances in grants and monetary contributions for capital works and expenditure that is funded from revenue that has been received in a previous financial year. At the end of the 2020/21 financial year Council held \$110.7M in cash and other financial assets (i.e. cash based investments with a maturity term greater than 90 days) which was \$35.7M favourable to budget largely due to funds generated/received that had not yet been spent for ongoing projects and commitments.

The "Income Statement" report forecasts a surplus result for the full financial year of \$2.0M which is favourable variance of \$2.0M to the original budget. This result is due to a number of variances with a forecast increase in income of \$17.1M and additional expenditure of \$15.1M. The increased income is mainly a result of capital grants largely due to unbudgeted grants announced after the budget was developed together with timing variances related to the recognition of funds that were budgeted in the 2020/21 financial year. The forecasted additional expenditure is primarily a result of funding carried forward relating to works funded but not completed in 2020/21 together with unbudgeted government grants to be received in 2021/22 including additional expenditure associated with Council's response to the June 2021 flood and storm event.

#### Year to date

The year to date result shows an operating position of \$72.762M surplus which is \$10.887M favourable to budget. The key items that make up this variance are as follows;

Grants - Capital - (\$9.554M favourable) mainly related to a number of unbudgeted capital grants as a result of the timing of recognition of grants received in previous financial years and funding that was not known when the budget was developed. E.g. Regional Car Parks Fund \$2.179M, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program \$1.966M, Free Public Wifi Services program \$1.350M, Hazelwood South Reserve Change Pavillion \$0.974M, Safe Traffic in Local Streets Program \$0.766M and Gippsland Logistic Precinct and Intermodal Freight Terminal Project \$0.535M.

# September 2021 Quarterly Budget Report Summary

- Grants Operating (\$4.086M favourable) mainly due to later than expected recognition of grants income as a result of timing for projects carried over from prior years e.g. Drought Communities funding \$1.569M,sports lighting projects \$1.151M, Traralgon South tennis/netball courts \$0.341M, Working for Victoria \$0.196M, Moe CBD Safety improvements \$0.149M together with unbudgeted grants received for the June Storm/Flood event \$0.900M and preschool grants \$0.527M mainly due to the State Government funding the parent fees component in 2021. These have been partially offset by unfavourable variances of \$0.892M as a result of the State Government advancing \$5.933M of the 2021/22 Grants Commission funding to Council in the 2020/21 financial year.
- Rates & Charges (\$0.718M favourable) due to higher than expected rates raised from supplementary valuations to date.
- Materials and Services (\$3.905M unfavourable) mainly due to unbudgeted expenditure incurred as a result of the
  June 2021 flood/storm event, which will largely be recouped through Natural Disaster and other State Government
  funding streams \$2.921M with the balance being mainly attributable to projects carried forward from previous
  financial years and unbudgeted government grant funding.

#### Full year forecast

The full year forecasted result shows an operating deficit of \$2.010M which is a \$1.969M favourable variance to the adopted budget. The key items that make up this variance are as follows;

- Grants Capital (\$17.008M favourable) largely due a number of unbudgeted capital grants as a result of the timing of recognition of grants received in previous financial years and funding that was not known when the budget was developed. E.g. Regional Car Parks Fund \$4.121M, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program \$3.063M, Gippsland Performing Arts Centre \$2.548M, Free Public Wifi Services program \$1.350M, Hazelwood South Reserve Change Pavillion \$0.974M, Safe Traffic in Local Streets Program \$1.034M and Gippsland Logistic Precinct and Intermodal Freight Terminal Project \$0.535M.
- Employee Costs (\$3.643M unfavourable) the additional expenditure is mainly as a result of the unbudgeted state government funded June Flood/Storm event response programs and funding carried over from previous years for family services programs.
- Materials and Services (\$10.811M unfavourable) mainly due to mainly due unbudgeted expenditure incurred as a
  result of the June 2021 flood/storm event, which will largely be recouped through Natural Disaster and other State
  Government funding streams and projects carried forward from previous financial years and unbudgeted
  government grant funding.

# **BALANCE SHEET**

The significant movements in the balance sheet over the first guarter were as follows:

- Cash and Cash Equivalents together with Other Financial Assets (i.e. investments). The overall reduction of \$20.276M is mainly due to expenditure of funds carried over from prior financial years, together with the profile of receipt of rates income being minimal in the first quarter of the year.
- Trade and Other receivables (\$71.246M increase) this is primarily due to the annual rates notices being raised in
  the first quarter and is part of the normal pattern. This amount will continue to reduce as rate payments are
  received over the remainder of the year in line with the quarterly instalment and full payment due dates.
- Other Assets (\$2.204M decrease) is primarily due to prepayments and accrued revenue as at 30 June 2021 having now been reversed/received in the current financial year.
- Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment (\$1.796M increase) total capital expenditure has exceeded depreciation to date.
- Payables (\$24.036M decrease) is primarily due to amounts that were outstanding to suppliers and grants that
  were received in advance as at 30 June 2021. These amounts have now been paid/recognised in the current
  financial year.
- Trust funds and deposits (\$2.497M increase) relates to the collection of first quarterly instalments of the Fire Services Property Levy which will be passed on to the State Revenue Office in October.

# September 2021 Quarterly Budget Report Summary

# STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

The budgeted cash & cash equivalent investments at the beginning of the year was \$75.0 million, the actual opening balance was \$110.7 million. The additional \$35.7 million was largely the result of higher than anticipated surplus funds and carry forward funding for capital and operational projects and programs. Total Cash and financial assets (investments) as at the end of September stand at \$90.4M which represents a net outflow cash movement of \$20.3M from the start of the financial year.

# STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS

The statement of capital works includes all expenditure that is expected to be capitalised during the financial year, it excludes some amounts which for "Accounting" purposes are not capitalised e.g. Landfill Rehabilitation which is a reduction in a provision liability and other items which are included in operating expenditure.

As at the 30 September 2021 Council had spent \$9.3M on capital works mostly on Property (land & buildings) \$4.9M and Infrastructure projects \$3.6M (including Roads projects \$2.1M). Full year forecasted capital expenditure is \$55.4M compared to the budget of \$31.306M. This increase is mainly due to funds carried forward from 2020/21 and additional government funding received for various programs e.g. Regional Car Parks Fund and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program.

# FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE RATIOS

The final part of the report is the Financial Performance Ratios as per the Local Government Performance Reporting
Framework (LGPRF). The results of the financial year to date show that Council is expected to remain within the
expected ranges by the end of the financial year. Some of the ratios when measured part way through the year will fall
outside the ranges in the year to date figures purely because they are designed to look at an annual result.

# **COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT**

For The Quarter Ended 30 September 2021

		YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Variance YTD Act/Bud	Variance Type (P)ermanent/ (T)iming	Full Year Forecast	Annual Budget	Variance Annual Budget /Forecast
	NOTE	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000		\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
INCOME								
Rates and charges	1	84,431	83.713	718	Р	83,713	83.713	0
Statutory fees and fines	2	619	417	202	T	2,545	2,545	0
User fees	3				' T		,	0
		2,440	2,666	(226)		11,666	11,666	_
Grants - operating	4	10,532	6,446	4,086	P	26,416	26,630	(214)
Grants - capital	5	9,554	0	9,554	P P	18,708	1,700	17,008
Contributions - monetary	6	173	15	158		88	90	(2)
Contributions - non monetary	7	0	0	0	P	4,000	4,000	0
Net gain (loss) on disposal of property,	8	172	45	127	Т	0	0	0
infrastructure, plant and equipment Other income	9	450	570	(120)	т	3,386	3,074	311
TOTAL INCOME	Ü	108,371	93,872	14,499	·	150,522	133,418	17,104
1017L 11100IIIL		100,011	00,012	11,100		100,022	100,110	,
EXPENSES								
Employee costs	10	14,730	14,881	152	Т	70,288	66,645	(3,643)
Materials and services	11	12,741	8,836	(3,905)	Р	46,999	36,188	(10,811)
Bad and doubtful debts	12	1	1	1	Т	11	11	(0)
Depreciation	13	7,472	7,557	84	Т	30,226	30,226	0
Amortisation - intangible assets	14	92	90	(2)	Р	93	93	0
Amortisation - right of use assets	15	10	9	(0)	Р	38	38	0
Borrowing costs	16	79	146	67	Р	547	562	15
Finance costs - leases	17	11	7	(4)	Т	28	28	0
Other expenses	18	475	470	(5)	Р	4,302	3.607	(695)
TOTAL EXPENSES		35,610	31,998	(3,612)		152,533	137,398	(15,135)
								•
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		72,762	61,874	10,887		(2,010)	(3,980)	1,969

#### NOTES TO THE COMPREHENSIVE INCOME STATEMENT - Year to Date and Full Year Variances

#### 1. Rates and charges

Year to Date - \$0.718M Favourable
Higher than expected rates raised from supplementary valuations to date.
Full Year - \$0.000M Nil Variance

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next quarter

#### 2. Statutory fees and fines

#### Year to Date - \$0.202M Favourable

Favourable variances to date for planning permits \$0.089M, Council Election fines \$0.068M, local laws animal registrations and fines \$0.050M and works permits \$0.044M partially offset by reduced parking fines income \$0.062M mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Full Year - \$0.000M Favourable

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next quarter

#### 3. User fees

#### Year to Date - (\$0.226M) Unfavourable

Lower than expected fees & charges mainly due to COVID shutdowns and restrictions on council services. Latrobe Leisure programs \$0.341M, pre-school & pre-kinder \$0.072M (funded by state government) and creative arts \$0.058M. This has been partially offset by favourable variances to date in full cost aged Care services \$0.117M and childcare fees \$0.088M.

#### Full Year - \$0.000M Favourable

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next guarter

#### 4. Grants - operating

#### Year to Date - \$4.086M Favourable

The favourable variance is mainly due to later than expected recognition of grants income as a result of timing for projects carried over from prior years e.g. Drought Communities funding \$1.569M, sports lighting projects \$1.151M, Traralgon South tennis/netball courts \$0.341M, Working for Victoria \$0.196M, Moe CBD Safety improvements \$0.149M together with unbudgeted grants received for the June Storm/Flood event \$0.900M and preschool grants \$0.527M mainly due to the State Government funding the parent fees component in 2021. These have been partially offset by unfavourable variances of \$0.892M as a result of the State Government advancing \$5.933M of the 2021/22 Grants Commission funding to Council in the 2020/21 financial year.

#### Full Year - (\$0.214M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance is mainly due to the State Government advancing \$5.933M of the 2021/22 Grants Commission funding to Council in the 2020/21 financial year. This has been largely offset by the later than expected recognition of grants income as a result of timing for projects carried over from prior years e.g. Drought Communities funding \$1.590M, sports lighting projects \$1.151M, Traralgon South tennis/netball courts \$0.341M, Working for Victoria \$0.196M, Moe CBD Safety improvements \$0.149M together with unbudgeted grants received for the June Storm/Flood event \$0.900M and preschool grants \$0.527M mainly due to the State Government funding the parent fees component in 2021.

#### NOTES TO THE INCOME STATEMENT - Year to Date and Full Year Variances

5. Grants - capital

Year to Date - \$9.554M Favourable

The favourable variance is due to a number of unbudgeted capital grants as a result of the timing of recognition of grants received in previous financial years and funding that was not known when the budget was developed. E.g. Regional Car Parks Fund \$2.179M, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program \$1.966M, Free Public Wifi Services program \$1.350M, Hazelwood South Reserve Change Pavillion \$0.974M, Safe Traffic in Local Streets Program \$0.766M and Gippsland Logistic Precinct and Intermodal Freight Terminal Project \$0.535M.

Full Year - \$17.008M Favourable

The favourable variance is due to a number of unbudgeted capital grants as a result of the timing of recognition of grants received in previous financial years and funding that was not known when the budget was developed. E.g. Regional Car Parks Fund \$4.121M, Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program \$3.063M, Gippsland Performing Arts Centre \$2.548M, Free Public Wifi Services program \$1.350M, Hazelwood South Reserve Change Pavillion \$0.974M, Safe Traffic in Local Streets Program \$1.034M and Gippsland Logistic Precinct and Intermodal Freight Terminal Project \$0.535M.

6. Contributions - monetary

Year to Date - \$0.158M Favourable

The favourable variance mainly due to the higher than expected receipt of contributions for open space, street trees and future infrastructure works from property developers.

Full Year - (\$0.002M) Unfavourable

Minor variance. To be further assessed next quarter.

7. Contributions - non monetary

Year to Date - \$0.000M Nil Variance

No variance.

Full Year - \$0.000M Nil Variance

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next quarter

8. Net gain (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment

Year to Date - \$0.127M Favourable

Minor gain to date on disposal of plant and vehicles.

Full Year - \$0.000M Nil Variance

Minor gain forecast on disposal of plant and vehicles.

9. Other income

Year to Date - (\$0.120M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance is primarily due to reduced kiosk sales and other income in Latrobe Leisure and Creative Arts due to COVID closures \$0.142M.

Full Year - \$0.311M Favourable

The favourable variance is primarily due to unbudgeted reimbursements in relation to the June 2021 flood/storm event.

#### NOTES TO THE INCOME STATEMENT - Year to Date and Full Year Variances

#### 10. Employee costs

Year to Date - \$0.152M Favourable

Minor variance to date mainly as a result of staff vacancies.

Full Year - (\$3.643M) Unfavourable

The additional expenditure is mainly as a result of the unbudgeted state government funded June Flood/Storm event response programs and funding carried over from previous years for family services programs.

#### 11. Materials and services

Year to Date -

(\$3.905M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance is mainly due to unbudgeted expenditure incurred as a result of the June 2021 flood/storm event, which will largely be recouped through Natural Disaster and other State Government funding streams \$2.921M with the balance being mainly attributable to projects carried forward from previous financial years and unbudgeted government grant funding.

Full Year - (\$10.811M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance is mainly due unbudgeted expenditure incurred as a result of the June 2021 flood/storm event, which will largely be recouped through Natural Disaster and other State Government funding streams and projects carried forward from previous financial years and unbudgeted government grant funding.

#### 12. Bad and doubtful debts

Year to Date - \$0.001M Favourable

Minor variance.

Full Year - (\$0.000M) Unfavourable

Minor variance.

13. Depreciation

Year to Date - \$0.084M Favourable

Variance mainly due to later than expected capitalisation of some new facilities in Council's capital works program.

Full Year - \$0,000M Nil Variance

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next quarter

14. Amortisation - intangible assets

Year to Date - (\$0.002M) Unfavourable

Minor variance.

Full Year - \$0.000M Nil Variance

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next guarter

15. Amortisation - right of use assets

Year to Date - (\$0.000M) Unfavourable

Minor variance.

Full Year - \$0.000M Nil Variance

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next guarter

#### NOTES TO THE INCOME STATEMENT - Year to Date and Full Year Variances

16. Borrowing costs

Year to Date - \$0.067M Favourable

Reduced loan repayments due to later than expected and reduced drawdown of loan funds for major projects.

Full Year - \$0.015M Favourable

Reduced loan repayments due to later than expected and reduced drawdown of loan funds for major projects.

17. Finance costs - leases

Year to Date - (\$0.004M) Unfavourable

Minor variance.

Full Year - \$0.000M Nil Variance

No variance identified to date, to be assessed in next quarter

18. Other expenses

Year to Date - (\$0.005M) Unfavourable

Minor variance.

Full Year - (\$0.695M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance is mainly due to unexpended community grants funds carried over from the 2020/21 financial year to be paid out in 2021/22.

# COMPARISON TO PREVIOUS FINANCIAL YEAR For the corresponding September quarter

YTD Actuals	2021/22 YTD Budgets	Variance YTD Act/Bud	YTD Actuals	2020/21 YTD Budgets	Variance YTD Act/Bud
84,431	83,713	718	83,713	81,318	2,395
619	417	202	417	183	234
2,440	2,666	(226)	2,647	2,932	(285)
10,532	6,446	4,086	9,796	12,240	(2,444)
9,554	0	9,554	8,558	888	7,671
173	15	158	15	15	0
0	0	0	188	0	188
172	45	127			0
		, ,			(378)
108,371	93,872	14,499	106,098	98,716	7,382
14.730	14.881	152	15.770	14.473	(1,296)
					(2,088)
1	1	1	1	0	(1)
7,472	7,557	84	0	7,456	7,456
		(2)	0	153	153
10	9		0	0	0
79	146	67	143	168	26
11	7	(4)	0	0	0
475	470		671	710	39
35,610	31,998	(3,612)	27,197	31,484	4,288
72 762	61 874	10.897	78 001	67 221	11,669
	84,431 619 2,440 10,532 9,554 173 0 172 450 108,371 14,730 12,741 1 7,472 92 10 79 11	84,431 83,713 619 417 2,440 2,666 10,532 6,446 9,554 0 173 15 0 0 0 172 45 450 570 108,371 93,872  14,730 14,881 12,741 8,836 1 1 7,472 7,557 92 90 10 9 79 146 11 7 475 470 35,610 31,998	S4,431   83,713   718	YTD Act/Bud         84,431       83,713       718       83,713         619       417       202       417         2,440       2,666       (226)       2,647         10,532       6,446       4,086       9,796         9,554       0       9,554       8,558         173       15       158       15         0       0       0       188         172       45       127       45         450       570       (120)       762         108,371       93,872       14,499       106,098         14,730       14,881       152       15,770         12,741       8,836       (3,905)       10,611         1       1       1       1         7,472       7,557       84       0         92       90       (2)       0         10       9       (0)       0         79       146       67       143         11       7       (4)       0         475       470       (5)       671         35,610       31,998       (3,612)       27,197	YTD Act/Bud         Budgets           84,431         83,713         718         83,713         81,318           619         417         202         417         183           2,440         2,666         (226)         2,647         2,932           10,532         6,446         4,086         9,796         12,240           9,554         0         9,554         8,558         888           173         15         158         15         15           0         0         0         188         0           172         45         127

### **BALANCE SHEET**

As at 30 September 2021

	Current Balance \$'000s	Opening Balance 01/07/21 \$'000s	Movement for Year to Date \$'000s	Balance as at 30/09/20 \$'000s
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and Cash Equivalents	24,630	39,905	(15,276)	49,807
Other Financial Assets	65,800	70,800	(5,000)	40,000
Other Assets	4,247	6,451	(2,204)	2,469
Trade and Other Receivables	76,782	5,536	71,246	77,583
Total Current Assets	171,459	122,692	48,766	169,859
NON CURRENT ASSETS				
Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment	1,277,719	1,275,923	1,796	1,227,458
Intangible Assets	1	93	(92)	564
Right-of-use assets	674	684	(10)	714
Trade and Other Receivables	5	5	0	9
Financial Assets	2	2	0	2
Total Non-Current Assets	1,278,403	1,276,708	1,694	1,228,746
TOTAL ASSETS	1,449,861	1,399,401	50,460	1,398,606
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Payables	3,554	27,590	(24,036)	4,485
Interest-bearing Liabilities	1,157	1,459	(302)	2,349
Provisions - Employee Benefits	12,827	13,206	(379)	13,850
Provisions - Landfill	2,366	2,432	(66)	2,064
Trust Funds and Deposits	6,276	3,779	2,497	4,968
Lease Liabilities	16	27	(12)	17
Total Current Liabilities	26,195	48,494	(22,299)	27,733
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Interest-bearing Liabilities	15,215	15,215	0	7,749
Provisions - Employee Benefits	1,111	1,111	0	1,553
Provisions - Landfill	14,421	14,421	0	15,342
Lease Liabilities Total Non-Current Liabilities	677	677 <b>31,424</b>	0 0	706
	31,424			25,349
TOTAL LIABILITIES	57,619	79,918	(22,299)	53,082
NET ASSETS	1,392,242	1,319,483	72,759	1,345,523
EQUITY				
Current Year Surplus/(Deficit)	72,762	25,239	47,522	71,688
Accumulated Surplus	809,836	784,772	25,063	784,676
Reserves	509,645	509,471	173	489,159
TOTAL EQUITY	1,392,242	1,319,483	72,759	1,345,523

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

For the Quarter ended 30 September 2021

NOTE	YTD Cash Flow \$'000s	Adopted Budget Annual Cashflow \$'000s	Cash Flow 2020/21 \$'000s
	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)	Inflows (Outflows)
	(0.00000)	(000000)	(0.0000)
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	10.515	00.707	00.750
Rates and charges	16,515 623	83,707	83,753
Statutory fees & fines User fees	2,522	2,800	2,427 9,518
Grants - operating	7,302	12,832 26,630	36,690
Grants - capital	2,053	1,700	27,980
Contributions - monetary	173	90	698
Interest received	178	250	1,467
Trust funds and deposits taken/(repaid)	2,497	50	532
Other receipts	(3,185)	3,105	2.186
Net GST refund/(payment)	303	4,581	3,137
Employee costs	(16,829)	(67,518)	(59,466)
Materials & services	(22,491)	(41,290)	(45,915)
Short-term, low value and variable lease payments	(20)	(60)	(159)
Other payments	(457)	(8,303)	(3,909)
Net cash from operating activities	(10,815)	18,574	58,939
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Proceeds from sale of property, plant & equipment	213	531	165
Proceeds from sale of investments	45,000	119,000	210,169
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant & equipment	(9,309)	(34,436)	(63,355)
Payments for investments	(40,000)	(100,000)	(210,800)
Loans and advances made	0	0	0
Payments of loans and advances	3	0	4
Net Cash Flows used in investing activities	(4,093)	(14,905)	(63,817)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Finance costs	(43)	(562)	(288)
Proceeds from borrowings	Ó	Ó	7,125
Repayment of borrowings	(302)	(2,466)	(727)
Interest paid - lease liability	(11)	(28)	(29)
Repayment of lease liabilities	(12)	(29)	(29)
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities	(368)	(3,085)	6,052
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash held	(15,276)	584	1,174
Cash & cash equivalents at beginning of year	39,905	14,861	38,731
Cash & cash equivalents at end of period	24,630	15,445	39,905
	0	Current	0
Summary of Cash & Investments	Current Balance	Current year Movement	Opening Balance
Cash & Cash Equivalents	24,630	(15,276)	39,905
Other Financial Assets (Investments)	65,800	(5,000)	70,800
Total Cash & Investments 1	90,430	(20,276)	110,705
			,
<b>Budgeted Opening Balance of Cash &amp; Investments</b>			75,030
Variance in Opening Balance		-	35,675

#### NOTES

<sup>1.</sup> The budgeted cash & investments at the beginning of the year was \$75.0 million, the actual opening balance was \$110.7 million. The additional \$35.7 million was largely the result of higher than anticipated surplus funds and carry forward funding for capital and operational projects and programs.

#### STATEMENT OF CAPITAL WORKS

For The Quarter Ended 30 September 2021

		YTD Actuals	Full Year Forecast	Annual Budget	Variance Annual Budget /Forecast
	NOTE	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property					
Land	1	255	279	0	(279)
Buildings Heritage buildings	2 3	4,662 7	20,641 383	4,771 0	(15,870) (383)
Total Property	3	4,925	21,302	4,771	(16,531)
Total Troperty		4,525	21,002	4,771	(10,551)
Plant and Equipment					
Plant, machinery & equipment	4	708	3,166	2,605	(561)
Fixtures, fittings & furniture	5	0	150	10	(140)
Computers & telecommunications	6	92	1,950	600	(1,350)
Artwork collection	7	0	28	15	(13)
Total Plant and Equipment		801	5,294	3,230	(2,064)
Infrastructure					
Roads	8	2.089	13.792	10,206	(3,586)
Bridges & culverts	9	26	983	445	(538)
Footpaths & cycleways	10	312	1,842	1,208	(634)
Drainage	11	29	1,207	503	(704)
Waste management	12	457	3,802	2,530	(1,272)
Parks, open space and streetscapes	13	308	1,342	8,170	6,828
Recreational, leisure & community facilities	14	312	596	0	(596)
Aerodromes	15	0	0	0	0
Offstreet carparks	16	11	4,575	243	(4,332)
Other infrastructure Total Infrastructure	17	3,584	656 <b>28,795</b>	23,305	(656) ( <b>5,490</b> )
Total Illiastructure		3,364	20,793	23,303	(3,490)
Total Capital Works expenditure		9,309	55,392	31,306	(24,086)
REPRESENTED BY;					
New asset expenditure	18	4,586	22,579	7,945	(14,634)
Asset renewal expenditure	19	4,277	27,814	20,801	(7,013)
Asset expansion expenditure	20	11	254	0	(254)
Asset upgrade expenditure	21	435	4,745	2,560	(2,185)
Total Capital Works expenditure		9,309	55,392	31,306	(24,086)

#### NOTES TO THE CAPITAL WORKS STATEMENT - Full Year Forecast Variances

#### 1. Land

#### (\$0.279M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance reflects the funds carried forward from 2020/21 associated with a land exchange in relation to the Churchill Central Activity Plan.

#### 2. Buildings

#### (\$15.870M) Unfavourable

The forecast increased expenditure is due expenditure that has carried over from budget allocations and grant funding received in pevious financial years e.g. Gippsland Performing Arts Centre \$13.2M, together with unbudgeted projects as a result of government funding announcements not known when the budget was developed e.g. Hazelwood South Reserve Change Pavillion \$1.1M.

#### 3. Heritage buildings

#### (\$0.383M) Unfavourable

The unfavourable variance reflects the funds carried forward from 2020/21 associated with the Traralgon Courthouse upgrades together with unbudgeted Local Roads & Community Infrastructure grants allocated to the Hare House stabilisation at Mathison Park project.

#### NOTES TO THE CAPITAL WORKS STATEMENT - Full Year Forecast Variances

#### 4. Plant, machinery & equipment

#### (\$0.561M) Unfavourable

The forecasted increase in expenditure is mainly due to an item of Landfill plant and some Fleet items that were ordered in the 2020/21 financial year but unable to be delivered by the supplier until the current year. The funds have been carried forward to pay for these items.

#### 5. Fixtures, fittings & furniture

#### (\$0.140M) Unfavourable

The additional expenditure relates to funding carried forward from the previous financial year to replace office furniture.

#### 6. Computers & telecommunications

#### (\$1.350M) Unfavourable

The forecasted additional expenditure is funded from an unbudgeted government grant to upgrade free public WiFi services in the Latrobe Valley.

#### 7. Artwork Collection

#### (\$0.013M) Unfavourable

Minor unfavourable variance reflecting funding carried over from the 2020/21 financial year.

#### 8. Roads

#### (\$3.586M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure mainly relates to funds carried forward from 2020/21 and unbudgeted government funding e.g. Safe Traffic in Local Streets program (\$1.0M), National Blackspot program (\$0.7M) and Local Road and Community Infrastructure Program (\$1.0M).

#### 9. Bridges & culverts

#### (\$0.538M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to unbudgeted government grant funding for the Downies Lane bridge (\$0.4M) and funding carried forward from 2020/21 Bridge and Major Culvert Works.

#### 10. Footpaths & cycleways

#### (\$0.634M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to unbudgeted government grant funding for new footpaths (\$0.5M) and funding carried forward from 2020/21 to complete the Morwell to Traralgon Shared Pathway.

#### 11. Drainage

#### (\$0.704M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to unbudgeted government grant funding and funds carried forward for Gross Pollutant traps and rehabilitation of the Translgon Railway Reserve dam.

#### 12. Waste management

#### (\$1.272M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to funds carried forward to complete cell 6 at the Highland Highway landfill and the completion of the Biogas to energy project.

#### 13 Parks, open space and streetscapes

#### \$6.828M Favourable

The forecast reduced expenditure mainly relates the Moe Revitalisation Project Stage 2 \$7.3M which will span over multiple financial years, partially offset on expenditure on projects carried forward from 2020/21 and relating to unbudgeted government grants.

#### 14. Recreational, leisure & community

### (\$0.596M) Unfavourable

facilities

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to funds carried forward to complete the pool deck renewal at Latrobe Leisure Morwell and works at Morwell Recreation Reserve.

#### 15. Aerodromes

#### \$0.000M Nil Variance

No current year projects.

#### 16. Offstreet carparks

#### (\$4.332M) Unfavourable

The additional expenditure is related to unbudgeted government grants for the Regional Car Parks fund \$4.3M.

#### 17. Other infrastructure

#### (\$0.656M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to funds carried forward for the Gippsland Logistics Precinct and Intermodal Freight Terminal \$0.6M.

#### NOTES TO THE CAPITAL WORKS STATEMENT - Full Year Forecast Variances

#### 18. New asset expenditure

#### (\$14.634M) Unfavourable

The overall increase is due to the timing of project works spanning multiple financial years e.g. Gippsland Performing Arts Centre (\$13.2M) together with expenditure related to unbudgeted government grants approved e.g. Regional Car Parks Fund \$4.3M, Free Public WiFi Services \$1.35M and Hazelwood South Reserve Change Pavillion \$1.1M. This is partially offset by a reduction in the amount forecast to be spent in the current year on the Moe Revitalisation Project Stage 2 which will be delivered over multiple years.

#### 19. Asset renewal expenditure

#### (\$7.013M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to unexpended funds carried over from the 2020/21 financial and unbudgeted additional government funding e.g. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program projects.

#### 20. Asset expansion expenditure

#### (\$0.254M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to unexpended funds carried over from the 2020/21 financial year for the Traralgon Sports Stadium & Catterick Crescent Pavilion.

#### 21. Asset upgrade expenditure

#### (\$2.185M) Unfavourable

The forecast additional expenditure is mainly due to unexpended funds carried over from the 2020/21 financial year and unbudgeted government grants e.g. Safe Traffic in Local Streets program \$1.0M, Multi Purpose Facility Development Latrobe Leisure Moe Newborough \$0.6M, National Blackspot program \$0.7M and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure program \$0.4M.

### **LGPRF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE RATIOS**

As at 30 September 2021

	Year	to Date Ra	tios			
	\$'000s	Ratio at 30/09/21	Ratio at 30/09/20	Forecast at 30/06/22	-	Expected Range
Adjusted Underlying Result Indicator (Indicator of the broad objective that an adjusted underlying surplus should be generated in the ordinary course of business. A surplus or increasing surplus suggests an improvement in the operating position) Adjusted underlying surplus (or deficit)  Adjusted net Surplus/(Deficit) Adjusted underlying revenue  The ratio takes out the effect of once off capital grants & developer contributions.  Note: The forecasted lower ratio of (17.9%) is mainly due to additional expenditure as a result of unspent 2020/2021 recurrent project and program expenditure which led to a greater than expected 'cash' surplus result at the end of the financial year together with government funding advanced to Council in 2020/21 that was budgeted in 2021/22.	63,034 98,644	- 63.9%	68.0%	(17.9%)	(6.2%)	-20% - +20%
LIQUIDITY  Working Capital Indicator (Indicator of the broad objective that sufficient working capital is available to pay bills as and when they fall due. High or increasing level of working capital suggests an improvement in liquidity)  Current assets compared to current liabilities  Current Assets Current Liabilities	171,459 26,195	- 654.5%	609.6%	181.0%	181.0%	100% - 300%
Unrestricted Cash Indicator (Indicator that sufficient cash which is free of restrictions is available to pay bills as and when they fall due. High or increasing level of cash suggests an improvement in liquidity )  Unrestricted Cash Current Liabilities	18,353 26,195	- 70.1%	161.7%	32.1%	32.1%	0.0% - 200%
<b>Note:</b> Unrestricted cash does not include funds held in term deposits with a maturity term of greater than 90 days. These deposits are managed to ensure they mature in time for payment runs and are available to meet liabilities when they fall due.						

Year to Date Ratios						
	\$'000s	Ratio at 30/09/21	Ratio at 30/09/20	Forecast at 30/06/22	Budget at 30/06/22	Expected Range
OBLIGATIONS Loans and borrowings Indicator						
(Indicator of the broad objective that the level of interest bearing loans and borrowings should be appropriate to the size and nature of a council's activities. Low or decreasing level of loans and borrowings suggests an improvement in the capacity to meet long term obligations)						
Loans and borrowings compared to rates						
Interest Bearing loans and borrowings	16,372	19.4%	12.4%	27.6%	28.0%	0% - 50%
Rate Revenue	84,431					
Loans and borrowings repayments compared to rates						
Interest & principal repayments Rate Revenue	382 84,431	0.5%	0.3%	3.6%	3.6%	0% - 10%
Indebtedness Indicator (Indicator of the broad objective that the level of long term liabilities should be appropriate to the size and nature of a Council's activities. Low or decreasing level of long term liabilities suggests an improvement in the capacity to meet long term obligations)  Non-current liabilities compared to own source revenue (to ensure Council has the ability to pay its long term debts & provisions)	•					
Non Current Liabilities Own Source Revenue	31,424 87,940	35.7%	30.2%	29.1%	29.2%	0% - 50%
Own Source Revenue is adjusted underlying revenue excluding revenue which is not under the control of council (including government grants)						
Asset Renewal Indicator						
(Indicator of the broad objective that assets should be renewed as planned. High or increasing level of planned asset renewal being met suggests an improvement in the capacity to meet long term obligations)  Asset Renewal & Upgrade Expenditure Depreciation	4,712 7,472	63.1%	43.3%	107.7%	77.3%	50%-100%
<b>Note</b> : The forecasted increase in this ratio is a result of renewal works carried forward from the previous financial works and funded from unbudgeted government grants.						

Year to Date Ratios						
	\$'000s	Ratio at 30/09/21	Ratio at 30/09/20	Forecast at 30/06/22	Budget at 30/06/22	Expected Range
STABILITY						
Rates Concentration Indicator						
(Indicator of the broad objective that revenue should be generated from a range of sources. High or increasing range of revenue sources suggests an improvement in stability)						
Rates compared to adjusted underlying revenue						
Rate Revenue Adjusted underlying revenue	84,431 98,644	85.6%	87.5%	64.7%	64.7%	40% - 80%
Rates Effort Indicator (Indicator of the broad objective that the rating level should be set based on the community's capacity to pay. Low or decreasing level of rates suggests an improvement in the rating burden)						
Rates compared to property values						
Rate Revenue property values (CIV)	84,431 13,885,547	0.6%	0.7%	0.6%	0.6%	0.2% to 0.7%
EFFICIENCY Expenditure Level Indicator (Indicator of the broad objective that resources should be used efficiently in the delivery of services. Low or decreasing level of expenditure suggests an improvement in organisational efficiency)  Expenses per property assessment  Total expenses Number of property assessments  Note: The forecasted increase in expenses per assessment is mainly related to employee costs and materials and services expenditure funded from additional government funding and carry forward funds.	35,610 39	\$ 903	\$ 764	\$ 3,866	\$ 3,483	\$2000 - \$4000
Revenue Level Indicator (Indicator of the broad objective that resources should be used efficiently in the delivery of services. Low or decreasing level of rates suggests an improvement in organisational efficiency)  Average residential rate per residential property assess  Total General Rates and Municipal Charges Number of property assessments	<b>ment</b> 61,699 39	\$ 1,564	\$ 1,556	\$ 1,564	\$ 1,564	\$800 - \$1,800



Agenda Item: 16.2

Agenda Item: Latrobe City Council Submission to the Victorian

Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy

Sponsor: General Manager, Organisational Performance

Council Plan Objective: SMART

Status: For Decision

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council endorses the draft Latrobe City Council submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy.

#### **Executive Summary:**

The Legislative Council's Environment and Planning Committee is seeking submissions to its inquiry on Renewable Energy in Victoria, the submission deadline is the 26 November 2021.

This purpose of the Inquiry is to assess what steps Victoria needs to take to prepare for a clean energy future and what resources will be needed to transition to 100 per cent renewable energy, while ensuring economic benefits and job creation opportunities.

The inquiry is seeking input particularly on:

- measures to enable Victoria to transition to renewable energy;
- jobs and economic benefits and implications of the transition;
- investment required to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy generation
- further opportunities for Victoria to reduce emissions;
- government action that would be needed to support workers in impacted industries; and
- the economic risks of not urgently reducing emissions by transitioning to renewable energy.

The Latrobe City Council submission highlights the following key points:

the existing opportunities for renewables in Latrobe City through the high-



quality infrastructure as well as highly skilled workforce;

- the risks associated with losing the skilled workers to other regions and the need to build skills and capability;
- the need for long term investment security to move effectively to 100 % renewable energy supply; and
- the opportunities in Latrobe City associated with geothermal and hydrogen and other industries such as circular economy, automotive technologies, carbon innovation, advanced manufacturing and defence to aid the region's economic transition.

#### **Next steps:**

The Committee will be holding limited public hearings in early 2022, before tabling its final report in the first half of 2022. In the submission, Council has indicated that it would welcome an opportunity to attend a public hearing as a witness.

#### Issues:

#### Strategy Implications

This project will align with the council Plan by attracting investment in key industries including working towards net zero emissions energy generation, food and fibre, engineering, manufacturing, hydrogen, education and health services through the delivery of Council's investment roadmap.

#### Communication

No communication activities have been undertaken in relation to this report.

#### Financial Implications

No foreseen financial implications arising from this report.

#### Risk Analysis

Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Reputational Risk  Negative impact on the reputation of Latrobe City Council if we did not prepare a submission	3	Prepare a formal submission



Identified risk	Risk likelihood*	Controls to manage risk
Strategic Risk  Potential loss of impetus for investment growth in the renewable space growth to our city.	3	LCC submission outlining our strong recommendations

<sup>\*</sup> Inherent likelihood ratings: 1 (Rare); 2 (Unlikely); 3 (Possible); 4 (Likely); 5 (Almost Certain)

#### Legal and Compliance

There are no legal or compliance issues from this report.

#### Community Implications

There are no direct community implications in this report. It is expected that the community will be supportive of this submission being lodged.

#### Environmental Implications

No environmental implications from this report.

#### Consultation

Internal consultation undertaken with affected Council divisions.

#### **Declaration of Interests:**

Officers preparing this report have declared they do not have a conflict of interest in this matter under the provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

#### **Supporting Documents:**

Nil

#### **Attachments**

11. Draft Latrobe City Council Submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy

21. Terms of Reference



## 16.2

# Latrobe City Council Submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy

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## Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy

**Latrobe City Council Submission** 

Oct 2021



For any enquiries about this submission, please contact:

**Steven Piasente** 

**Chief Executive Officer** 

Tel: 1300 367 700

Email: Steven.Piasente@latrobe.vic.gov.au





#### Introduction

#### Introduction

Latrobe City welcomes the opportunity to provide its submission to the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy, we would also be happy to attend as a witness to any public hearing associated with this inquiry.

#### About Latrobe City

Latrobe City is one of Victoria's four major regional cities, less than two hours from Melbourne. It is home to approximately 75,000 people; the Gippsland regional population exceeds 260,000 people. Latrobe City is resource rich with abundant forests, rich agricultural land, water resources and large deposits of brown coal. Latrobe City is home to 5,000 businesses and currently around 32,000 jobs. Its Gross Regional Product (GRP) is over \$5.6 billion per annum.

Latrobe City is a significant centre of Victoria's energy industry, historically it has produced approximately 85% of the electricity for the entire state of Victoria. The low-cost electricity generated from the Latrobe Valley's extensive brown coal resources has contributed to the Victoria's economic prosperity for nearly the past 100 years.

As a result of our long history of electricity generation, the region hosts an extensive electricity distribution infrastructure that connects to the existing generation facilities in Melbourne and broader Victoria. Not surprisingly, historically this sector has dominated the economic profile of Latrobe City, with employment and economic prosperity of the region relying heavily upon electricity generation.

There is a growing interest in renewable energy as we transition away from coal-fired power generation in line with the rest of the state. Recently Latrobe City Council endorsed its Investment Roadmap which provides a high-level strategy looking at new and emerging industries and technology to aid in this transition, which includes renewables such as hydrogen and geothermal. This Investment Roadmap can be viewed here-

https://www.latrobe.vic.gov.au/sites/default/files/2021-01/Investment%20Roadmap%20%28document%202021%29%20spreads2.pdf

Latrobe City is ideally placed to embrace emerging new industries and leading-edge innovation to stabilise and grow the region's and Australia's economy in the midst of the energy sector transition. These opportunities are driven by the existing strengths and competitive advantages that the region has to offer due its long-standing history as the hub of Victoria's power generation.

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To this end, Latrobe City Council can play an active role in our state's renewable energy future and as such supports the Victorian Parliamentary Inquiry into Renewable Energy as well as providing the following feedback.

#### Submission

This section provides Latrobe City's submission to the Terms of Reference of this Inquiry.

(a) measures to enable Victoria to transition its energy supply to 100 per cent renewable energy;

One of the biggest measures to an effective 100 % renewable energy supply is that both industry and investors need long term security to make significant investment decisions.

Providing incentives to enable and encourage industry to innovate and research is another important part the Victorian Government can play.

(b) jobs and economic benefits and implications of Victoria transitioning to 100 per cent renewable energy;

As mentioned throughout our submission the risk to Latrobe City by not transitioning to renewables is with our highly skilled workforce leaving the area in search of alternative employment potentially interstate. Any loss of our skilled labour force will be a barrier to new investors in the high-tech industries such as renewables who need a readily available skilled labour force.

An economic benefit for Victoria will be more and more financial institutions will consider to potential green content of any investor and this will encourage future investment here in Latrobe City.

(c) investment, both public and private, required to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy generation in Victoria, including investment in grid infrastructure and energy storage;

The Victorian draft 30 Year Infrastructure Strategy states that;

"Victoria's electricity transmission infrastructure has historically been configured to carry power from the Latrobe Valley power stations to places with high energy use, like Melbourne......

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In some areas, weak transmission networks cannot currently carry large amounts of electricity and renewable energy generators are already having trouble exporting their electricity".

Latrobe City has significant energy production and distribution industries and infrastructure, including an electricity grid with connections to Tasmania, South Australia and New South Wales. These assets provide Latrobe City with significant opportunities to attract alternative and new energy technology investments, leveraging not only existing infrastructure but the extensive skill base and engineering capabilities of this region. This places Latrobe City at an advantage as an ideal location to generate and transmit large-scale renewable energy, supported by its abundant natural resources.

Governments at all levels can capitalise on existing transmission infrastructure by working with local communities on the siting of suitable renewable energy projects in Latrobe City subject to appropriate siting and social licence.

Despite this significant existing and proven infrastructure, The State Government's recent Renewable Energy Zone's Directions paper identifies only one project for Gippsland, which connects projects further west of the Latrobe City municipality into the existing infrastructure network. This project is identified as part of the Stage 2 projects.

Therefore, the Directions Paper indicates a failure to capitalise on the existing grid network of the Latrobe Valley and the skilled workforce that currently exists here? It also failed to encourage suitable renewable projects and battery storage projects in the Latrobe City municipality and we question is enough being done to inform, consult and involve the community so that social licence is achieved. This is a missed opportunity!

(d) further opportunities for Victoria to reduce emissions, including through finding alternatives to industrial and household gas consumption;

With the era of coal-fired power plants slowly drawing to a close, and whilst there has been much to attention paid to other sources of energy such as hydrogen and we note the continued successful progress of the world-first Hydrogen Energy Supply Chain (HESC) Project, which aims to safely produce and transport clean liquid hydrogen from Australia's Latrobe Valley in Victoria to Kobe in Japan. A key objective of the pilot project is to demonstrate an end-to-end supply chain between both

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countries.

However, there is another source of energy beneath the Latrobe Valley—vast reserves of natural hot water.

The opening of the Gippsland Regional Aquatic Centre (GRAC) in Traralgon in early 2021 marked a significant moment in the history of the Latrobe Valley. Not only does the GRAC provide the region with a world class sporting and leisure centre, but it is also the first major facility in the region to incorporate a geothermal heating system. The pools and buildings of the GRAC are heated using naturally hot 65°C water drawn from an aquifer 650 m beneath the town.

Geothermal is now the cheapest option for heating. The price of natural gas <u>roughly doubled</u> in eastern Australia when LNG terminals began exporting out of Queensland in 2016, and is <u>projected</u> to stay high. The high price of natural gas affects the whole of Australia. Furthermore, a <u>2019 report</u> commissioned by the Australian Renewable Energy Agency found that 52% of energy used by the nation's industrial sector is consumed as heat. Most residential and industrial heat comes from burning natural gas, with coal the second biggest source for industry. For many heat requirements, however, natural hot aquifers offer a clean alternative to fossil fuel combustion.

Elsewhere in the world, natural hot aquifers provide renewable heat to a wide range of residential and industrial consumers. For instance, large parts of suburban Paris are heated by geothermal energy from a hot (56–85°C) aquifer 1,600–1,800 m beneath the city; industrial scale greenhouses in the Netherlands are gradually replacing natural gas with natural hot water (65–80° from 1,800-2,200 m depth) as their heat source; Beijing is one of the world's leading urban centres using geothermal energy, where wells as deep as 2,600 m produce up to 70°C water for many industrial purposes; a small town in Hungary circulates natural hot water (64–72°C from 1,450–1,700 m depth) through a network of distribution pipes to dozens of end users; even in Perth, Western Australia, natural hot water (40–52°C from 750–1,150 m) heats at least 14 leisure and aquatic centres. Importantly, in almost every case, the water itself is returned to the aquifer after delivering its heat, so water is not consumed in the production of geothermal energy.

Globally it is interesting and significant to note how shallow the hot water is beneath the Latrobe Valley; only 650 m for 65°C. The thermal blanketing effect of the world's thickest brown coal deposit results in a truly world class geothermal energy resource that has, until now, been largely under-utilised. Drilling is a major cost factor for geothermal energy, so these costs should be relatively low in the Latrobe Valley.

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The remaining coal fired power stations in the Latrobe Valley are all scheduled to close in the coming years, casting great uncertainty over the future of the skilled workers and the communities that support them. Victoria's heavy reliance on natural gas for heat also presents a huge challenge for the state to meet its <a href="legislated">legislated</a> greenhouse gas emission reduction targets of 28–33% by 2025, 45–50% by 2030, and net zero emissions by 2050. Producing geothermal energy from hot aquifers can help on both fronts, by avoiding greenhouse gas emissions and by reemploying skilled workers into new industries.

Latrobe City Council and the University of Melbourne are now working closely with the Geological Survey of Victoria, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), Regional Development Victoria, Federation University, local businesses, and community groups to help the Latrobe Valley sustainably develop its world class natural endowment of geothermal energy. The Latrobe Valley Authority is coordinating our efforts under the Gippsland Smart Specialisation Strategy. Across several projects, we are collectively mapping the geothermal energy resource; developing economic assessment tools; connecting with international experts; investigating the potential for power generation from deeper hotter rocks; testing the economic feasibility of a geothermal energy distribution network; identifying and clearing policy and regulatory barriers; and raising awareness of the economic opportunity represented by geothermal energy. The lessons we learn in the Latrobe Valley will be relevant for other regions around the state and country where hot aquifers are deeper but still very accessible.

(e) government investment or action that would be needed to support workers in impacted industries to facilitate a just transition and ensure workers and communities are not left behind as Victoria transitions to 100 per cent renewable energy;

The Victorian Government made a notable and immediate contribution to Latrobe City through a comprehensive package of funding support for major social capital projects such as Latrobe Creative Precinct, Gippsland High-Tech Precinct (which has morphed into a Call Centre), Latrobe Health Innovation Zone and Gippsland Regional Aquatics Centre.

The Yallourn Power Station and associated Mine that are scheduled to close in 2028 employs more than 500 permanent workers on site plus many more in the associated supply chain. During some years, for three to four months, the Yallourn workforce increases to 1000 when major unit outages are undertaken, along with four yearly integrity maintenance works adding an extra 150-200 workers. Each

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Yallourn worker is estimated to generate an additional four to five jobs in the Latrobe Valley. In addition, at any given time, Yallourn has at least 15 apprentices on site. The Yallourn Power Station and associated Mine contracts with over 240 small businesses and contributes over \$25 million in royalties and \$3 million in payroll tax to the state of Victoria annually. 5

The AGL Loy Yang A Power Station and associated Mine and nearby Alinta Loy Yang B Power Station, on the other hand, have licences expiring by 2048. The AGL Loy Yang A employs approximately 600 FTE and 300 contractors, and is estimated to contribute millions of dollars every week to the local community through procurement, labour and the hiring of contractors 1 At 30 June 2020, Loy Yang B employed 162 people 2 as well as estimated up to 50 contractors 3 Loy Yang B's total FY20 economic value distributed was approximately \$339 million, including the value generated through suppliers, employees, financiers, owners and the Government 4 As there was (correctly) with Yallourn, there is considerable industry and community speculation that environmental pressure will result in both Loy Yang Power Stations closing well before scheduled.

In relation to securing Victoria's Energy Future, Latrobe City is ideally placed to embrace emerging new industries and leading-edge innovation such as new clean energy industries, hydrogen, circular economy, automotive technologies, carbon innovation, advanced manufacturing and defence to stabilise and grow the region's and Australia's economy in the midst of the energy sector transition. These opportunities are driven by the existing strengths and competitive advantages that the region has to offer due its long-standing history as the hub of Victoria's power generation.

With this in mind it is recommended that the state government consult with the community through Latrobe City Council on providing training and incentives, that would assist current employees transition to new skills in collaboration with the local education sector such as TAFE Gippsland and Federation University.

4 Latrobe Valley Power Loy Yang B Power Station Sustainability Report FY20

<sup>1</sup> AGL Loy Yang Mine Sustainability Report 2017 - 2018

<sup>2</sup> Latrobe Valley Power Loy Yang B Power Station Sustainability Report FY20

<sup>3</sup> The contractor numbers can vary; e.g. an additional 500 contractors were engaged during the major upgrade of Unit 2 in April and May 2019; Latrobe Valley Power Loy Yang B Power Station Sustainability Report FY19



## (f) the economic risks of not urgently reducing emissions by transitioning to 100 per cent renewable energy; and

Latrobe City Council has no comment on this particular section of the Terms of Reference'

#### (g) any other related matters

In addition to renewables there are other industries such as the circular economy and others that Latrobe city is keen to develop that can also go to assisting in reducing our carbon footprint such as the following.

1. Circular economy and related industries: Gippsland requires the establishment of a Regional Material Recovery Facility to improve product quality and quantity; and attract new markets, job creation and investment in our region. The Morwell Heavy Industry Precinct in Latrobe City has been earmarked as an ideal location for such a facility.

This is a key opportunity for the Gippsland region to secure regional jobs within a future circular economy. Gippsland is well placed to be leaders of the circular economy; we have a high-skilled workforce and current expertise in reprocessing of green waste, plastics, cardboard and paper. The site will also improve recycling and local reprocessing of paper and cardboard, plastics and glass, and the quality of materials for reprocessing and re-manufacturing

Gippsland councils are working together to achieve greater recovery and re-use of waste products through the establishment of a Gippsland Material Recovery Facility. This will be achieved by leveraging partnerships established through One Gippsland that brings together education, industry and local government leaders to respond to challenges and advance opportunities to support the prosperity of our region.

In association with Gippsland Waste and Resource Recovery Group (GWRRG), One Gippsland has been testing the market through the facilitation of collaborative procurement opportunities for future kerbside collection and material processing contracts.

This process consistently identified the need for a Regional Material Recovery Facility, which aligns with independent recommendations provided to Government by Infrastructure Victoria and Deloitte as part of their review of state-wide recycling infrastructure needs.

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The \$30 million facility could be funded jointly by the Victorian and Commonwealth Governments, alongside with private investment.

2. Automotive technologies: Opportunities for Latrobe City to lead the advancement of automotive innovation through the proposed Centre for Australian Automotive Futures (CAAF).

The CAAF is designed to be an innovation centre for future automotive technologies and renewable energy, whilst retaining its original concept for hosting motorsport and events. To progress the project, Council committed \$60,000 for the first stage of the business case and \$1.2 million is required for business case stage 2.

The CAAF would serve as a centre for research and education, technology and innovation, and commercialisation aspects of automotive technology development, alongside attracting tourism and visitors to the region. The aim is to combine emerging technologies such as renewable energy power (electric, hydrogen), future mobility technologies including connected and autonomous vehicles, and manufacture of materials for automotive equipment and parts, into one purpose-built venue. The Centre will encompass research, development and commercialisation activities. It will have education, training and test-bed facilities onsite for industry and the development community.

The Centre will partner with government, universities, vocational training, research organisations and, importantly, industry and investors. These partners will include national and international organisations. In addition, the Centre will provide facilities and tracks for motorsport such as Formula E as well as petrol powered vehicles; driver education; and automotive company and Centre partner activities. There will be onsite accommodation, event areas and areas for commercial development and business.

Finally, for many years, Council has advocated for historical coal protection overlays that have applied to large areas of industry zones land in Latrobe City to be removed. The Department of Jobs Precinct and Regions (DJPR) commenced Coal Protection Provision Review in 2018. Some overlays south of Morwell were removed in 2018, while the redundant coal overlays, Morwell North West and Area H remain. Council is also concerned that the Review has not significantly progressed in 2020. Therefore, Council Officers requested an update on 7 April 2021 from DJPR in particular status of the review and directions on Area H and Morwell North West area. Council has received early advice that the removal of these overlays is not expected as part of the current Review.

The coal overlays continue to hamper investment in as much that investors need to have certainty about the land they wish to invest in. Currently, the lengthy delays in attempting to remove the overlay on parcels of land is dissuading investment. This is also compounded by the uncertainty of the removal being granted. This is particularly challenging given the imminent need to reboot our economy post-COVID.

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Therefore, Latrobe City Council is calling on the Victorian Government to re-consider its position in relation to the Area H and Morwell North West overlays, and release publicly the Coal Policy Review alongside the exhibition of a relevant Planning Scheme Amendment so that appropriate planning controls can be put in place to support further development of this land.

**ENDS** 



#### PARLIAMENT OF VICTORIA - COMMITTEES

## LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

#### **Terms of Reference**

59th Parliament

#### Inquiry into Renewable Energy in Victoria

#### On 4 March 2020 the Legislative Council agreed to the following motion:

That this House requires the Environment and Planning Committee to inquire into, consider and report, by July 2021, on —

- (a) measures to enable Victoria to transition its energy supply to 100 per cent renewable energy;
- jobs and economic benefits and implications of Victoria transitioning to 100 per cent renewable energy;
- (c) investment, both public and private, required to achieve 100 per cent renewable energy generation in Victoria, including investment in grid infrastructure and energy storage;
- further opportunities for Victoria to reduce emissions, including through finding alternatives to industrial and household gas consumption;
- (e) government investment or action that would be needed to support workers in impacted industries to facilitate a just transition and ensure workers and communities are not left behind as Victoria transitions to 100 per cent renewable energy;
- (f) the economic risks of not urgently reducing emissions by transitioning to 100 per cent renewable energy; and
- (g) any other related matters.



## **URGENT BUSINESS**



#### 17. URGENT BUSINESS

Business may be admitted to the meeting as urgent business in accordance with clause 17 of the Governance Rules, by resolution of the Council and only then if it:

- 17.1 Relates to or arises out of a matter which has arisen since distribution of the agenda; and
- 17.2 Cannot reasonably or conveniently be deferred until the next Council meeting.



# MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION



## 18. MEETING CLOSED TO THE PUBLIC TO CONSIDER CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

The information in this section was declared to be confidential information under section 77 of the *Local Government Act 1989* and as a result this information is also confidential information under the Local Government Act 2020.

For the avoidance of doubt, section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (which came into effect on 01 May 2020) also enables the Council to close the meeting to the public to consider confidential information as this term is defined under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

#### **Proposed Resolution:**

That Council closes this Ordinary Meeting of Council to the public to consider confidential information on the following grounds:

- (a) the information to be considered has been declared to be confidential information under section 77 of the *Local Government Act* 1989 and as a result this information is also confidential information under the Local Government Act 2020; and
- (b) pursuant to section 66 of the *Local Government Act 2020* on the following grounds:
- 18.1 LCC-727 Reconstruction of Nuttals Road and Speargrass Road, Yinnar

Agenda item 18.1 *LCC-727 Reconstruction of Nuttals Road and Speargrass Road, Yinnar* is designated as confidential under subsection (g) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the *Local Government Act 2020*, as it relates to private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—

- (i) relates to trade secrets; or
- (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage. Releasing this information publicly and/or prematurely may prejudice the undertaking of this process
- 18.2 LCC-726 Reconstruction of Switchback Road Hazelwood Agenda item 18.2 LCC-726 Reconstruction of Switchback Road Hazelwood is designated as confidential under subsection (e) and (g) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to legal privileged information, being information to which legal professional privilege or client legal privilege applies; and



- private commercial information, being information provided by a business, commercial or financial undertaking that—
- (i) relates to trade secrets; or
- (ii) if released, would unreasonably expose the business, commercial or financial undertaking to disadvantage. Releasing this information plublicly and/or prematurely may prejudice the undertaking of this process.
- 18.3 Social & Affordable Housing Strategy Stage 1
  Agenda item 18.3 Social & Affordable Housing Strategy Stage 1
  is designated as confidential under subsection (c) of the
  definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of
  the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to land use
  planning information, being information that if prematurely
  released is likely to encourage speculation in land values. Land
  value speculation may occur if prematurely released
- 18.4 Centre for Australian Automotive Futures Business Case Agenda item 18.4 Centre for Australian Automotive Futures Business Case is designated as confidential under subsection (a) of the definition of confidential information contained in section 3(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, as it relates to Council business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released. Publication at this time may prejudice consideration of a grant application