

AGENDA

Council Meeting

Thursday, 24 June 2021 commencing at 6:00 PM

**This Council Meeting will be held remotely and will be
available for viewing via:**

livestreaming at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/councilmeeting
and broadcast live on Phoenix FM 106.7

VENUE:

www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/councilmeeting

NEXT MEETING:

Monday 19 July 2021
Livestream

Copies of the City of Greater Bendigo Council's Agendas & Minutes
can be obtained online at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

This Council Meeting is conducted in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 as amended by the COVID19 Omnibus (Emergency Measures) Act 2020 and the Governance Rules 2020

Council Vision

Greater Bendigo - creating the world's most liveable community.

Council Values

Six values inform everything we as Council do in working together to be the best we can for all of our community.

Seeking to achieve the best value for our use of the community's public funds and resources, by:

- We Lead;
- We Learn;
- We Contribute;
- We Care;
- We Respond;
- We Respect.

Goals

- Presentation and Managing Growth
- Wellbeing and Fairness
- Strengthening the Economy
- Environmental Sustainability
- Embracing our Culture and Heritage
- Lead and Govern for All

ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Acknowledgement of Country	5
2. Traditional Language Statement	5
3. Opening Statement	5
4. Moment of Silent Reflection	5
5. Attendance and Apologies	5
6. Suspension of Standing Orders	5
7. Community Recognition	5
8. Public Question Time	5
9. Resumption of Standing Orders	5
10. Cr Sloan's Report	5
11. Declarations of Conflict of Interest	5
12. Confirmation of Previous Minutes	6
12.1. Confirmation of Minutes	6
13. City of Greater Bendigo Budget 2021/2022	13
13.1. Adoption of 2021/2022 Budget	13
14. Petitions and Joint Letters	150
14.1. Petition: Request for Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Service at Marong	150
14.2. Outdoor Dining - Response to Petition from View Street Traders	178
14.3. Response to Quarry Hill Skate Park Petition	184
15. Presentation and Managing Growth	215
15.1. 153 McNiffs Road, Redesdale 3444 - Use and Development of Land for a Dwelling, Outbuilding (shed) and Ancillary Buildings and Works	215
15.2. 2 Club Court, Strathfieldsaye - Works to Construct a Mixed-Use Development and Medical Centre, the Use of an Enterprise Park and Service Station, Display Advertising Signage, Remove Native Vegetation & Alterations of Access to a Road Zone 1	229
15.3. Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study - Adoption of Amendment C235gben	251
16. Wellbeing and Fairness	258
16.1. Heathcote Civic Precinct (Community Hub) Project	258
16.2. Huntly Camping Ground	265
16.3. Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy	269
16.4. International Relations Policy 2021	289
17. Strengthening the Economy	325
17.1. Local Public Holiday - Bendigo Cup	325
18. Environmental Sustainability	328

19. Embracing Our Culture and Heritage	328
20. Lead and Govern For All	329
20.1. Q3 - Community Plan 2017-2021 Highlights	329
20.2. Q3 Finance & Capital Management Report	337
20.3. Councillor Allowances	343
20.4. Audit and Risk Committee's Biannual Chairperson Report	346
20.5. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (Phase 2) Grant Agreement	350
21. Urgent Business	352
22. Notices of Motion	352
23. Councillors' Reports	352
24. Mayor's Report	352
25. Chief Executive Officer's Report	352
26. Confidential (Section 66) Reports	352
26.1 Confidential Report pursuant to Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 relating to Council business information	352

1. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

2. TRADITIONAL LANGUAGE STATEMENT

3. OPENING STATEMENT

4. MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

5. ATTENDANCE AND APOLOGIES

6. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

That Standing Orders be suspended to allow the conduct of the Community Recognition Section and Public Question Time.

7. COMMUNITY RECOGNITION

8. PUBLIC QUESTION TIME

9. RESUMPTION OF STANDING ORDERS

That Standing Orders be resumed.

10. CR SLOAN'S REPORT

11. DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic) (**the Act**) provides that a relevant person must disclose a conflict of interest in respect of a matter and exclude themselves from the decision making process in relation to that matter including any discussion or vote on the matter at any Council meeting or delegated committee meeting and any action in relation to that matter.

The procedure for declaring a conflict of interest at a Council Meeting is set out at rule 18.2.4 of the Governance Rules.

Section 126 of the Act sets out that a relevant person (Councillor, member of a delegated Committee or member of Council staff) has a conflict of interest if the relevant person has a **general conflict of interest** or a **material conflict of interest**.

A relevant person has a **general conflict of interest** in a matter if an impartial, fair minded person would consider that the person's private interests could result in that person acting in a manner that is contrary to their public duty.

A relevant person has a **material conflict of interest** in a matter if an *affected person* would gain a benefit or suffer a loss depending on the outcome of the matter.

12. CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

12.1. Confirmation of Minutes

The following items as outlined below, were considered at the Council Meeting held on Monday 17 May 2021 at 6:00pm.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 17 May 2021, as circulated, be taken as read and confirmed.

Report

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
13.1	Response to Petition: Sprinkler Timing at Lake Neangar	That Parks and Open Space officers coordinate a meeting onsite with the petition organisers to investigate avenues to improve system function so as to avoid the need (where possible) for water to pass over designated walking paths.
13.2	Response to Petition: Maternal and Child Health Services for Elmore and Surrounds	That Council: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acknowledge the importance of the highly valued maternal and child health service and reinstate face-to-face consultations as soon as possible for families in the Elmore and surrounding districts in a safe and accessible MCH service provision site in Elmore. 2. Review the delivery of the service in consultation with the community and ward councillors within

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
		<p>twelve months of the commencement of the MCH Service.</p>
14.1	<p>113-133 Mollison Street, 106, 108 & 114 Williamson Street, Bendigo - Use and Development of the Land for a Residential Hotel and Associated Buildings and Works; Use of the Land to Sell or Consume Liquor; Reduction in Car Parking and Bicycle Facilities</p>	<p>Pursuant to section 61 of the Planning and Environment Act (1987), Council resolve to issue a Notice of Decision to Grant a Permit for use and development of the land for a residential hotel and associated buildings and works; use of the land to sell or consume liquor; reduction in car parking and reduction in bicycle facilities at 113-133 Mollison Street 106, 108 & 114 Williamson Street, BENDIGO 3550 subject to the conditions at the end of this report.</p>
14.2	<p>4 Wills Street, Bendigo 3550 - Display an Electronic Promotion Sign</p>	<p>Pursuant to section 61 of the Planning and Environment Act (1987), Council resolve to issue a Notice of Decision to Refuse to Grant a Permit for display an electronic promotion sign at 4 Wills Street, BENDIGO 3550 on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposal is not in accordance with the objectives and policy of Clause 22.29 of the Planning Scheme. 2. The proposal is not in accordance with the purpose and decision guidelines of Clause 52.05 of the Planning Scheme. 3. The proposal would result in unreasonable impacts on amenity, character and the visual appearance of the area.

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
14.3	136 Olinda Street, Quarry Hill 3550 - Partial Demolition and Extension of an Existing Dwelling	Pursuant to section 61 of the Planning and Environment Act (1987), Council resolve to issue a Permit for partial demolition and extension of an existing dwelling at 136 Olinda Street, QUARRY HILL 3550 subject to the conditions at the end of this report.
14.4	Lot 2 Mt Ida Lane, Heathcote 3523 - Use and Development of a Dwelling	<p>That the original recommendation be put and carried:</p> <p>Pursuant to section 61 of the Planning and Environment Act (1987), Council resolve to issue a Notice of Decision to Refuse to Grant a Permit for use and development of a dwelling at Lot 2 Mt Ida Lane, HEATHCOTE 3523 on the following grounds:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The proposal does not align with the purpose of the Farming Zone by not supporting a meaningful agricultural activity. 2. The proposal does not align with the Rural Dwellings Policy at Clause 22.02 by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Not being a subdivision created since the introduction of planning controls • Not having significant infrastructure in support of an agricultural activity • The land has agricultural potential and the proposed agricultural activity is insufficient to warrant

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
		the use of the land for a dwelling.
14.5	Heritage Overlay for 55 Condon Street, Kennington	<p>That Council resolve to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Request the Minister for Planning to authorise Council to prepare Amendment C271 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme. 2. When authorised by the Minister, exhibit Amendment C271 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme giving notification as required for the minimum statutory exhibition period of one month. 3. Support the Director of Strategy and Growth requesting the Minister for Planning, under delegation, to apply an interim heritage overlay to the site if a report and consent application to demolish under the <i>Building Act</i> 1993 is received for the site.
16.1	Bendigo Airport Lease of Lot HX12, N4 and N5	<p>That Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Acting under section 190 and section 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act): <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Resolves that the statutory procedures be commenced to consider a proposal to lease the land comprising approximately 658 square metres of land, being part of the land in certificate of Title Part Lot 3 PS 422204F, Volume 10557, Folio 954, known as

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
		<p>Lot HX12 at the Bendigo Airport situated on 35 Victa Road, East Bendigo, (Land) for the purposes of an airport hangar (Lease Proposal);</p> <p>b) Resolves that the statutory procedures be commenced to consider a proposal to lease the land comprising approximately 440 square metres of land, being part of the land in certificate of Title Part Lot 3 PS 422204F, Volume 10557, Folio 954, known as Lot N4 and N5 at the Bendigo Airport situated on 35 Victa Road, East Bendigo, (Land) for the purposes of an airport hangar (Lease Proposal);</p> <p>c) Directs that under section 223 of the Act public notice of the Lease Proposal be given in the Bendigo Advertiser and on the City's website;</p> <p>d) Authorises the Manager Business Services to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable Council to carry out its functions under section 223 of the Act in relation to the Lease Proposal;</p> <p>e) Directs that any submissions received under section 223 of the Act about the Lease Proposal will be considered by the Council at its July ordinary meeting to be held at the Bendigo Town Hall.</p> <p>2. Directs that a further report to Council in respect</p>

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
		of the Lease Proposal include an assessment of all submissions received and of any submissions heard pursuant to section 223 of the Act.
16.2	Bendigo Airport Lease of Lot M6	<p>That Council, having complied with sections 190 and 223 of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) by having given public notice in the Bendigo Advertiser on March 20, 2021 and that no submissions were received:</p> <p>1. Grant a lease to Reidie Pty Ltd for 216 square metres of land, being part of the land in certificate of Title Part Lot 3 PS 422204F, Volume 10557, Folio 954, known as Lot M6 at the Bendigo Airport situated on 35 Victa Road, East Bendigo, (Land) for the purposes of an airport hangar, a space to operate his recreational aviation school, and storage of related equipment and consumables (Lease Proposal), for a term of five (5) years (with four (4) five (5) year options), with a commencing rent of \$1,680 per annum plus GST.</p>
16.3	Outdoor Dining	<p>That Council:</p> <p>1. Extend the expanded outdoor dining trial until 30 April 2022, with individual hospitality businesses to apply for a local laws permit should they wish to continue to trade under the current conditions after 30 June 2021.</p>

Report No.	Item	Recommendation
		2. Receive a further report in late 2021 around longer-term arrangements around expanded outdoor dining including costs and further evaluation.
19.1	Change of June Council Meeting Date and Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly	That Council: 1. Support the change to the advertised June Council Meeting from Monday June 21 to Thursday June 24 at 6.00pm to facilitate the attendance of the Mayor, Cr Jennifer Alden and Chief Executive Officer, Mr Craig Niemann at the Australian Local Government Association National General Assembly in Canberra from June 20 – 23, 2021; and 2. Endorse the submitted motion and supporting argument as outlined in this report to the National General Assembly.
19.2	Contracts Awarded Under Delegation Report - May 2021	That the contracts awarded under delegation, as outlined in this report, be acknowledged by Council.
25.1 - 25.4	Four (4) x Confidential Section 66 Reports	Confidential Reports pursuant to Section 66(2)(a) and (g) of the Local Government Act 2020 relating to private commercial information and Council business information

13. CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO BUDGET 2021/2022

13.1. Adoption of 2021/2022 Budget

Author	Nathan Morsillo, Manager Financial Strategy
Responsible Director	Jenn Spelling, Acting Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present Council with the 2021/2022 Budget for consideration.

Summary

Council considered the 2021/2022 Proposed Budget at its meeting on 19 April 2021 and made the proposed Budget available for comment.

At the conclusion of the community engagement process, 34 submissions were received.

This report presents the Council with the updated 2021/2022 Budget in line with relevant legislation and regulations.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Greater Bendigo City Council, having considered the submissions to the 2021/2022 Proposed Budget:

1. Adopt the Budget annexed to this resolution, in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 and relevant regulations.
2. Acknowledges the contribution of submitters to the budget consultation process, and thank them for their contribution.
3. Authorises officers to provide a formal response to each submitter.
4. Note that for the Revenue and Rating Plan, it was determined for 2021-22:
 - The farm land differential rate would decrease from 85% to 75% of the general rate.
 - The vacant land differential rate would remain at 125% of the general rate (no change in 2021-22), with the previously drafted increase to be incorporated in 2022/2023.
5. Note that the budget in May 2021 utilised preliminary valuations. Final valuations have now been received from the Valuer General, and minor adjustments have been made to differential rates to ensure compliance with the Fair Go Rates System and with the City's Rating & Revenue Plan.
6. Implements rates and service charges as detailed in the Budget, Rating & Revenue Plan and the following report.

7. Grants an early full rate payment discount of 1.5% on current year rates and charges, if full payment (including any arrears and interest) is received on or before 30 September 2021.
8. Note that the Community Plan 2017-2021 was used to develop this budget and that a new Community Vision and Council Plan is currently in development. Annual Actions for 2021/2022, in advance of that process being finalised, are included within the same document.
9. Approve new loan borrowings of up to \$19.4M in line with Budget and authorise the CEO, Director Corporate Performance or Manager Financial Strategy to:
 - negotiate the loan
 - approve the successful tender (any two of above officers); and
 - execute the loan documentation (any two of above officers).

Policy Context

Community Engagement Policy

The City is committed to ensuring that the Community is as well informed as they can be on major issues, plans and projects. Where the Community can influence part or all of a decision, that they are provided the necessary information to form an opinion and opportunity to provide input through an engagement process.

Imagine Greater Bendigo

The City of Greater Bendigo is in the process of developing Imagine Greater Bendigo, a long-term planning project where residents are asked to imagine Greater Bendigo in 30 years' time. This will help Council to prepare a Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, and Asset Plan to guide Council's future work.

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

<u>Strategic Goal</u>	<u>Lead and govern for all</u>
Objective:	Be innovative and financially responsible

Legislative Requirements

In accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council must:

- Prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year and the subsequent 3 financial years commencing 1 July by 30 June (Section 94(1)).
- Ensure that the budget gives effect to the Council Plan and contains the information required under Section 94(2).
- Prepare the budget in accordance with:
 - Section 96(1)(a) the financial management principles
 - Section 96(1)(a) the City's Community Engagement Policy
 - Comply with guidelines established under Sec 161; *Ministerial Guidelines for Differential Rating*.

Background Information

The City of Greater Bendigo is in the process of developing *Imagine Greater Bendigo*, a long-term planning project where residents are asked to imagine Greater Bendigo in 30 years' time. This is a requirement of the new Local Government Act and will help Council prepare a Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan and an Asset Plan.

This Budget supports the six key goals outlined in the existing Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021. Council has also considered the ongoing impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on businesses and communities.

Previous Council Decision(s) Date(s):

19 April 2021 – Ordinary Meeting.

Council resolved to advertise the 2021/2022 Proposed Budget and to invite submissions from the community.

Report

The 2021/2022 Budget is a sustainable and strategic plan that seeks to build on existing initiatives to support Greater Bendigo's recovery from COVID-19, and to prioritise significant long-term infrastructure projects that enhance the liveability of our community.

In allocating funding to initiatives which continue Greater Bendigo's COVID-19 recovery, Councillors have been guided by the principles of supporting those experiencing hardship; providing social and economic support; long term community sustainability; operational efficiency; and the delivery of capital projects.

To continue to aid economic recovery, the City will allocate new funding to attracting additional major events; increase tourism destination marketing campaigns to promote Greater Bendigo to visitors; and allocate funding towards business grants to assist organisations adapt to the COVID environment. Council will continue to invest in a comprehensive ongoing COVID-safe cleaning program to ensure hygiene is maintained at all City facilities.

Several community fees and charges were frozen last year in response to COVID-19 and have been frozen for another year as community recovery continues. These include parking, some pools and the majority of community facilities (Refer Appendix A of the Budget). There are also some waivers for businesses applicable under Local Laws.

Funding has been allocated for infrastructure projects and additional events to boost the economy and create local jobs. The budget features a range of initiatives across different sectors including sport and recreation, tourism and events, business, economic development, the arts and creative industries. By investing in new and existing infrastructure, the City plays an important role in the local economy supporting our businesses and residents, and enabling confidence in the direction of our community and our economy.

Council considered the 2021/2022 Proposed Budget at its meeting on 19 April 2021 and resolved to make the proposed Budget available for comment in accordance with the Community Engagement Policy. This occurred on 20 April 2021.

At the conclusion of the community engagement process, 34 submissions were received. Councillors heard 12 verbal submissions on 20 May 2021. A summary of submissions received is attached to this report (Attachment 2).

Consideration of submissions and adjustments to the 2021/2022 Proposed Budget (Recommendation 1)

As a result of stimulus, or changed circumstances, including improved estimates, changed assumptions since the Proposed Budget was exhibited, a range of adjustments have been made. These include adjustments subsequent to the consideration of the 34 public submissions received:

Adjustments identified during advertising period:

Federal Assistance Grant Funding increased in line with updated information	\$664,816
Various adjustments due to improved estimates or changes identified since development of the proposed Budget	(\$683,414)
Economic Development - Business Support Grants**	(\$500,000)
Reallocations from Operational Budget to Capital Works (reclassifications)	\$164,000
Reallocations from Capital Works to Operational Budget (reclassifications)	(\$160,000)
Funding for the Easter Festival to enable 4 day celebration that was not able to be held last year.	(\$105,000)

** this line item contributes to the total of the COVID package to \$2M – being the same advertised at the time of the proposed budget. Further details available at <https://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au/About/Media-Releases>

Public Budget Submissions supported by Council with specific allocations:

Bendigo East Swimming Pool – operating support	\$25,000
Friends of Truscott Reserve Dog Park (gates / pathways)	TBC
Bendigo Stadium Limited (Bendigo Spirit sponsorship)	\$100,000
Golden Dragon Museum	\$62,500

A summary of the Public Budget Submissions is provided at Attachment 2. The submissions received contained valuable contributions to the Budget and feedback on operations of Council. Where additional funds were required, Council have allocated specific additional budget support to a number of the submissions. Some other requests were able to be accommodated as part of existing allocations within the base budget, and others will be considered in future years or could not be supported at this time.

All individuals and organisations who made a submission to the Budget will receive a response to the content of their submission following the adoption of the Budget.

Budget Details:

The key features of the 2021/2022 Budget are:

Capital works of \$66.2M

During 2021/2022, Council will continue to deliver on commitments to undertake significant capital projects which improve the liveability of the City. Some of these projects have been the subject of extensive planning, community engagement and investment over many years. Projects include continuing construction of the new pavilion at Kennington Recreation Reserve (Harry Trott Oval), construction of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens central hub and funding for a key initiative of the Rosalind Park Masterplan – the redevelopment of the municipal baths area. Other infrastructure categories continue to be renewed and expanded. This includes \$15M on roads; \$1.2M on bridges and \$3M for drainage works across the municipality. Council will also invest \$3M in footpaths and shared paths.

Rates and Charges

An amount of \$132.9M to be raised by general rates and service charges as follows:

General Rates	\$108.3M
Service Charges	\$23.0M
Supplementary Rates*	\$1.60M (estimated to be raised during the year)

** Supplementary rates are a result of Supplementary Valuations. A Supplementary Valuation occurs when there is a change to a property that will affect the Valuation such as construction of a dwelling or shed, installation of a swimming pool or a demolition*

An increase in budgeted income from General Rates of \$3.7M from 2020/2021 adopted budget. This is in line with an increase of 1.5 per cent, in line with the rate Fair Go Rates System cap.

The Budget includes a General Rate and nine (9) differential rates to be declared as detailed in the following table:

Rates detail (Recommendation 6)

General Rate	0.377628%
Commercial/Industrial A (Urban/non-CBD) - (185% of General)	0.698617%

Commercial/Industrial B (Rural areas) - (180% of General)	0.679731%
Commercial/Industrial C (CBD) - (190% of General)	0.717493%
Farm Land - (75% of General) – reducing from 85%	0.283221%
Vacant Land (residential and rural residential) - (125% of General) – no movement in 2021/2022	0.472035%
Other Land - (125% of General)	0.698617%
Vacant Land - Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully properties - (125% of General) – no movement in 2021/2022	0.472035%
Residential - Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully properties - (100% of General)	0.377628%
Commercial/Industrial - Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully properties. - (185% of General)	0.698617%

The Budget includes service charges to be declared as detailed in the following table:

Service charges detail (Recommendation 8)

Garbage Charge 120/140 Litre Bin (Within Organic collection area)	\$179.00
Garbage Charge 240 Litre Bin (Within Organic collection area)	\$328.00
Garbage Charge 120/140 Litre Bin (Outside Organic collection area)	\$206.00
Garbage Charge 240 Litre Bin (Outside Organic collection area)	\$356.00
Garbage Charge 120/140 Litre Bin (other Commercial)	\$206.00
Garbage Charge 240 Litre Bin (other Commercial)	\$356.00
Recycling Charge	\$98.00
Organics Charge	\$94.00
Garbage Charge (Business Areas) One Day per Week	\$356.00
Garbage Charge (Business Areas) Two Days per Week	\$712.00
Garbage Charge (Business Areas) Three Days per Week	\$1,068.00

Garbage Charge (Business Areas) Five Days per Week	\$1,780.00
Garbage Charge (Business Areas) Seven Days per Week	\$2,492.00

Other Items

A full year's funding of the financial assistance Commonwealth grant is included in the 2021/2022 Budget.

New debt to a maximum of \$19.4M is included to support capital expenditure, including strategic land purchases and repayment of debt over the coming financial year of approximately \$16.4M. This will result in an estimated balance of a total debt of \$43.5M as at 30 June 2022.

Timelines

The Council must adopt its Budget by the end of June 2021 and forward a copy to the Minister for Local Government within 28 days of adoption.

Consultation/Communication

Internal Consultation:

The Budget has been prepared with extensive input from Councillors, the Executive Management Team and Managers.

External Consultation:

Following consideration of the Proposed Budget by Council at its meeting on 19 April 2021 the community engagement period was undertaken, commencing on 20 April 2021. Information regarding the Proposed Budget was made available on the City of Greater Bendigo's Let's Talk Greater Bendigo website and through local print media. As outlined in the report, 34 submissions were made in response to the Proposed Budget, and all were considered by Councillors.

Resource Implications

The formal budget documentation details the resources required and applied to deliver services, programs and capital works during 2021/2022.

Attachments

1. City of Greater Bendigo Budget 2021/2022 (incorporating the 2021-2025 Revenue & Rating Plan)
2. Public Budget submissions summary

Attachment 1 - Cr Briefing 07 June 2021 Budget - ATT 3 Summary Public Submissions 2021/2022 Budget

Attachment 2 – Public Budget submissions summary

Please note that all submitters are written to with an individual response to their submission.

Ref	Name of Organisation / Committee (if applicable)	Summary of Public Submission Details for 2021/2022 Budget
1	Friends of the Bendigo-Kilmore Rail Trail Inc.	Upgrading of the O'Keefe Rail Trail Crossing of Bobs St and Napier St White Hills and, provision of public toilet facilities and car parking at Peppercorn Park Longlea
2	Bendigo East Swimming Pool	Seeking increased funding (\$50,000) for the operational costs of the Bendigo East Swimming Pool
3	<i>Individual submission</i>	Request for extension of the cycle/walking track on Maiden Gully Road to Albert Street
4	<i>Individual submission</i>	Seeking Maiden Gully shopping centre expansions
5	<i>Individual submission</i>	Funding for dealing with the rubbish that is in the bush land
6	Friends of the Truscott Reserve Dog Park	Request for upgrades to Truscott Reserve Dog Park including; changes to the gates to make access easier for wheel-chair bound park users and other accessibility issues, properly orientated seating around the park, an under-cover area, access to public toilet facilities
7	Bendigo Stadium Limited	Funding/partnership request for Bendigo Spirit
8	Be.Bendigo	Seeking a three year commitment from the City on the alliance partnership / COVID-19 recovery funding
9	Golden Dragon Museum	Seeking \$125,000 over two years for the Collection Redevelopment Project 2021-2023
10	<i>Individual submission</i>	Various comments on the budget including; budget consultation; waste and reuse; heritage studies; and the Council website
11	Saltworks Bendigo	Seeking \$11,500 for the restumping of a heritage listed building which is part of a medium term plan for Saltworks to become a sustainable social enterprise benefitting the community
12	<i>Individual submission</i>	Various comments on the budget covering a wide variety of topics, including but not limited to: annual planning processes; seeking clarity on the strategic framework for the City; better links between budget line items and dollars; concern over decrease in net overall capital expenditure (infrastructure focused); and a variety of requests related to Strathfieldsaye.
13	Maiden Gully Progress Association	The key points of this submission are: 1. Council commitment of funding for the re-development and expansion of the Maiden Gully Hall so it can be used as a multi-user community space immediately 2. Connected and safe bike and multi-user paths to focus on reducing reliance on cars and connecting communities 3. Improved green space, public toilets and community BBQ facilities
14	Bendigo Manufacturing Group	Budget allocation for resources to support ongoing execution of the Bendigo Manufacturing Group's Strategic Plan objectives
15	Bendigo Mountain Bike Club Inc.	Funding for development of a Walking and Mountain Biking Trail strategy to assist Parks Victoria in managing the forests surrounding Bendigo
16	<i>Individual submission</i>	Concern relating to the budget proposal: 'Development of two ovals at Catherine McAuley College to provide additional community sport facilities'
17	<i>Individual submission</i>	Comments on the use of land in Maiden Gully town precinct
18	<i>Individual submission</i>	Removal of 'no parking' signs at Maiden Gully Primary School, and parking availability at the school.
19	<i>Individual submission</i>	Comments on shared paths in Maiden Gully
20	<i>Individual submission</i>	Comments; suitable shopping precinct; better parking around Maiden Gully Primary School; and petrol station
21	<i>Individual submission</i>	Request for toilets at the Maiden Gully Estate playground
22	<i>Individual submission</i>	Allocation of funds to enable the closure of one end (Hope Street end) of Barkly Street a residential street in Bendigo.
23	<i>Individual submission</i>	Request for skate park in Maiden Gully
24	<i>Individual submission</i>	Requesting consideration for more footpaths and walkways between Marong estates and main street

Ref	Name of Organisation / Committee (if applicable)	Summary of Public Submission Details for 2021/2022 Budget
25	Individual submission	Requests and comments for Maiden Gully; park that has drinking water and toilet facilities; restoration of recreation facility; outdated community centre and scout hall; service road sealing, parking and lighting; shopping village and skate park
26	Individual submission	Requests and comments for Maiden Gully; upgrade to town centre; provision to expand supermarket and post office; upgrade of parks to include toilet and BBQ facilities; skate park; community hall upgrade; service station
27	Individual submission	Comments on the speed limits and signage, condition and widening and strengthening of Monsants Road Maiden Gully
28	Individual submission	Requests and comments on community facilities in Maiden Gully; communal space; better bike facilities; better walking paths and completed footpaths; redevelopment of the Lions Park; toilet facilities at the Janelle Drive play space
29	Electric Pro	Comments on footpaths needed along Midland Highway and Taylor Street Epsom
30	Individual submission	Requests and comments for Maiden Gully; concrete pathways in Glenelg Drive; inadequate parking near the school; upgrades to the highway; community hall upgrades; skate park and additional playground; larger recreational facility
31	Individual submission	Comment on the omissions from the budget of any support for community heritage collecting groups.
32	Currie & Brown (Australia) Pty Ltd	Objections to the three proposed differential rates on behalf of their client.
33	Currie & Brown (Australia) Pty Ltd	Objection to the proposed vacant land differential rate on behalf of the landowner
34	Friends of Crusoe Reservoir and No. 7 Park	Request for \$60,000 for an update of the Interim Management Plan of Crusoe Reservoir and No. 7 Park 2006.

Attachment 2 - Adopted Budget 2021-2022



Acknowledgement of Country

The ancestors and descendants of the Dja Dja Wurrung and Taungurung are the traditional owners of this Country.

The City of Greater Bendigo acknowledges that they have been custodians for many centuries and continue to perform age old ceremonies of celebration, initiation and renewal.

We all acknowledge their living culture and their unique role in the life of this region.

Main cover image:

Love Your Local

Sub images:

1. Footpaths and walking tracks
2. Municipal Baths redevelopment project
3. Ewing Park skate and scooter park
4. Bendigo Botanic Gardens Central Hub Precinct

Table of Contents

Mayor and Chief Executive Officer's introduction.....	4
Annual Plan	
1. Link to the Integrated Strategic Planning and Reporting Framework	6
2. Services, initiatives and service performance indicators.....	9
Budget Reports	
3. Financial statements and Budget Projections	20
4. Notes to the financial statements	28
5. Financial performance indicators	46
Appendices	
A. Fees and Charges Schedule	51
B. Budget process	81
C. Budget context, budget principles and capital investment framework.....	82
C1. List of capital works program	86
D. Draft Revenue and Rating Plan	90
E. Long Term Financial Plan - Key Assumptions.....	123
F. Glossary of Terms.....	125

Mayor and Chief Executive Officer's introduction

BUDGET 2021/2022 – BUILD AND SUSTAIN

MAYOR AND CEO'S MESSAGE

We are very pleased to introduce the Greater Bendigo City Council's 2021/2022 Budget. Like previous years, the Budget is presented with an Annual Plan highlighting key Council actions for our community for this financial year. The City of Greater Bendigo is in the process of developing *Imagine Greater Bendigo*, a long-term planning project where residents are asked to imagine Greater Bendigo in 30 years' time. This is a requirement of the new Local Government Act and will help Council prepare a Council Plan to guide Council's work for the next four years. This Budget supports the six key goals outlined in the existing Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

- Lead and govern for all
- Wellbeing and fairness
- Strengthening the economy
- Presentation and managing growth
- Environmental sustainability
- Embracing our culture and heritage

The 2021/2022 Budget is a sustainable and strategic budget that seeks to build on existing initiatives to support Greater Bendigo's recovery from COVID-19 and to prioritise significant long-term infrastructure projects that will enhance the liveability of our community. Councillors have given priority to projects and services included in the Community Plan which support residents to live healthy, active and connected lives, while protecting and enhancing our built and natural heritage and reducing our impact on the environment.

Like last year, in allocating funding to initiatives to continue Greater Bendigo's COVID-19 recovery, Councillors have been guided by the principles of supporting those experiencing hardship, as well as providing social and economic support, long term community sustainability, operational efficiency and the delivery of capital projects.

To continue to aid economic recovery, the City will allocate new funding to attracting additional major events, a tourism destination marketing campaign to promote Greater Bendigo to visitors and funding for new business innovation grants to help businesses continue to adapt to a post-COVID environment. Council will also invest in a comprehensive ongoing COVID-safe cleaning program to ensure hygiene is maintained at all City facilities to help keep the community safe.

The Budget includes a \$55.2M investment in construction projects to develop and maintain our various public spaces. Some of these projects have been the subject of extensive planning, community engagement and investment over many years. Projects include continuing construction of the new pavilion at Kennington Recreation Reserve (Harry Trott Oval), construction of the Bendigo Botanic Gardens central hub and funding for a key initiative of the Rosalind Park Masterplan – the redevelopment of the municipal baths area.

Other significant capital works projects include the construction of a median with trees in Brougham Street, a \$1M new footpath program and stage 1 of the renewed Bendigo Skate Park which is to be constructed in Ewing Park. Hargreaves Mall will also receive funding for more trees, plants and other landscape improvements to complement the new shade pavilion which is due to be constructed this year.

Constructing new and renewing existing roads, footpaths, bridges and drainage is a key Council responsibility and the 2021/2022 adopted Budget will see \$15M spent on roads; \$1.2M on bridges and \$3M for drainage works across the municipality. Council investment of \$3M in footpaths and shared paths across the municipality will continue to boost active transport opportunities.

In 2019, Council adopted a notice of motion that acknowledged the urgent need for action to address environmental and climate breakdown and ensure future budgets responded to the challenges that climate change presents. This financial year the City will invest \$80,000 to make several changes and further investigate how improvements can be made to one of its largest facilities and therefore emitters, Gurri Wanyarra Wellbeing Centre. Future efficiencies at this site will make a significant contribution towards our goal of net zero emissions by 2036.

Faith Leech and Brennan Park pools will undergo significant renewal works. Allies Road and Axedale Kimbolton Road have been prioritised to receive funding for much needed reconstruction works.

The Budget also includes \$202M in operating expenditure, continuing to fund important services for our community. The operating Budget will continue to fund maintenance of our fantastic parks, gardens and recreation facilities, environmental health, statutory planning, maintenance of buildings and infrastructure, tourism and visitor services, Bendigo Art Gallery, The Capital and Ulumbarra theatres, early years services, waste collection, street cleaning and much more.

The Budget is based on a 1.5 per cent increase to rate revenue, in line with the Victorian Government's Fair Go Rates System. Like previous years, Council will not seek a variation to the rate cap, as it seeks to absorb the effects of increasing costs and significantly lower forecast revenue. This requires efficiencies to be made to ensure there are no significant impacts on service delivery. Due to rising landfill fees levied by the Environmental Protection Authority, the general waste charge will increase this financial year. For a property with a 140L bin, this equates to an extra \$27. The recyclable waste and organic waste charges increase by 1.5 per cent. This rise reflects the costs of providing the service; Council does not make a profit from waste services.

Several community fees and charges were frozen last year in response to COVID-19 and have been frozen for another year as the community recovery continues. These include parking, pools and community facilities. Council also acknowledges the ongoing financial hardship that many businesses will face until travel and physical distance restrictions further ease. The City has provided various support measures to businesses over the past year and will continue to listen and respond to community need, including by offering businesses experiencing financial hardship relief from local laws and environmental health fees.

We are pleased to present the 2021/2022 Budget and Annual Plan for our community and encourage residents to read them both online or contact customer service to request a copy to be sent by post. These documents outline Council's commitments to shape a positive future for our municipality.

Mayor Cr Jennifer Alden
Chief Executive Officer Craig Niemann

Annual Plan

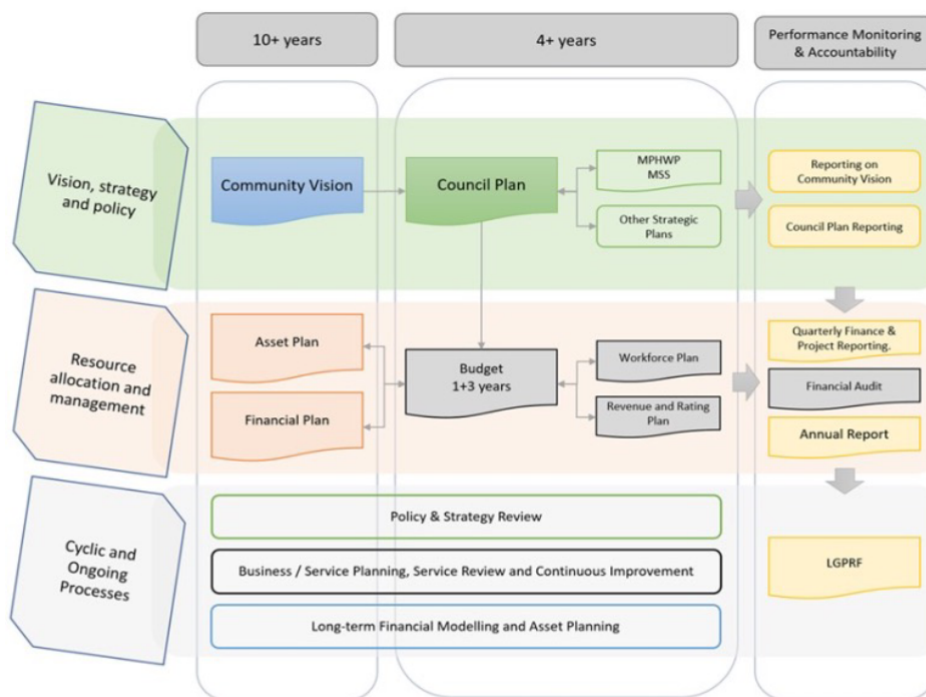
The City of Greater Bendigo is in the process of developing Imagine Greater Bendigo, a long-term planning project where residents are asked to imagine Greater Bendigo in 30 years' time. This will help Council to prepare a Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, and Asset Plan to guide Council's future work. The following Annual Plan details the settings and plans incorporated into planning in the current financial year, in advance of finalising this work.

1. Link to the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework

This section describes how the Budget links to the achievement of the Community Vision and Council Plan within an overall integrated planning and reporting framework. This framework guides the Council in identifying community needs and aspirations over the long term (Community Vision and Financial Plan), medium term (Council Plan, Workforce Plan, and Revenue and Rating Plan) and short term (Budget) and then holding itself accountable (Annual Report).

1.1 Legislative planning and accountability framework

The Budget is a rolling four-year plan that outlines the financial and non-financial resources that Council requires to achieve the strategic objectives described in the Council Plan. The diagram below depicts the integrated planning and reporting framework that applies to local government in Victoria. At each stage of the integrated planning and reporting framework there are opportunities for community and stakeholder input. This is important to ensure transparency and accountability to both residents and ratepayers. The timing of each component of the integrated planning and reporting framework is critical to the successful achievement of the planned outcomes.



Source: Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions
 MHPWP – Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
 MSS – Municipal Strategic Statement
 LGPRF – Local Government Performance Reporting Framework

1.1.2 Key planning considerations

Although councils have a legal obligation to provide some services— such as animal management, local roads, food safety and statutory planning—most council services are not legally mandated, including some services closely associated with councils, such as libraries, building permits and sporting facilities. Further, over time, the needs and expectations of communities can change. Therefore councils need to have robust processes for service planning and review to ensure all services continue to provide value for money and are in line with community expectations. In doing so, councils should engage with communities to determine how to prioritise resources and balance service provision against other responsibilities such as asset maintenance and capital works.

Community consultation needs to be in line with a councils adopted Community Engagement Policy and Public Transparency Policy.

1.2 Our purpose

Greater Bendigo - creating the world's most liveable community

A liveable community is one that enables people to live healthy, safe, harmonious lives in attractive and affordable settings. Liveable places have an excellent range of services for children and adults of all ages and facilities that are accessible to all, and do not make unsustainable demands on the environment.

Our staff values and behaviours – The following values and behaviours outline how the organisation works together to be the best we can be for our community.



1.3 Strategic goals

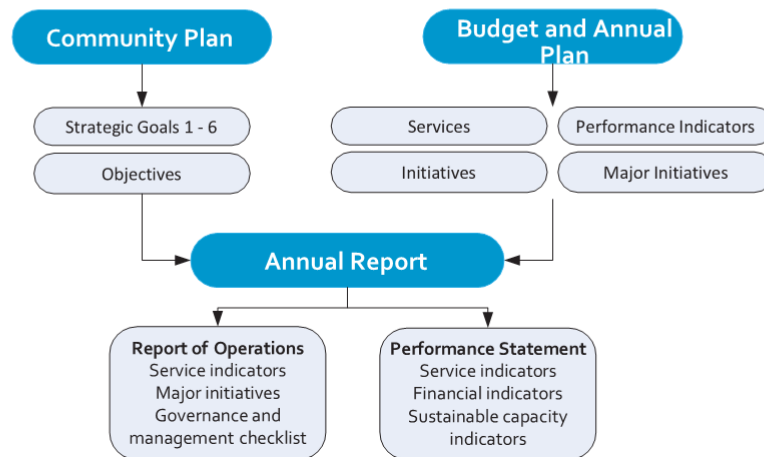
The City delivers activities and initiatives under 25 major service objectives. Each contributes to the achievement of one of the six goals as set out in the Community Plan 2017 – 2021. The following table lists the six strategic goals as described in the current Community Plan.

Strategic goals	Objectives
1. Lead and govern for all	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engage with all communities • Explain the reason for its decisions • Be innovative and financially responsible • Be accountable and efficient in its use of the community's money • Take a leadership role in regional planning, advocacy and work in partnership with regional councils
2. Wellbeing and fairness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Create a much healthier Greater Bendigo • Promote positive wellbeing across the Greater Bendigo community • Promote community connections • Support participation and development for residents of all ages and abilities • Create safe and resilient communities
3. Strengthening the economy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support our local businesses and industry to be strong, vibrant and to grow and develop • Make it easier for people to transition from education to employment • Ensure Greater Bendigo is a welcoming place for new businesses and industries and supports creativity and innovation and visitor attraction
4. Presentation and managing growth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for a growing population • Plan to meet future housing needs • Continue to implement strategies that increase the capacity of transport networks to better move people and goods and encourages walking, cycling and the use of public transport • Keep Greater Bendigo attractive with good quality public facilities and places • Provide and maintain urban and rural infrastructure to support the liveability of our community
5. Environmental sustainability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drawing on the One Planet Living framework to connect the health of the natural environment to the health and prosperity of our community • Demonstrate leadership in sustaining the rich biological diversity of the Greater Bendigo region that sustains healthy ecosystems
6. Embracing our culture and heritage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Celebrate our unique heritage • Build pride in and shared responsibility for our public spaces • Offer and support a diverse range of events that attract and connect people • Embrace diversity • Advance reconciliation

2. Services, initiatives and service performance indicators

This section provides a description of the services and initiatives to be funded in the Budget for 2021/2022 and how these will contribute to achieving the strategic goals outlined in the Community Plan. It also describes a number of major initiatives and service performance outcome indicators for key areas of the City's operations.

The City is required by legislation to identify initiatives and service performance indicators in the Budget and report against them in the Annual Report to support transparency and accountability. The relationship between these requirements in the Community Plan, the Budget and the Annual Report is shown below.



This Budget also includes an Annual Plan which is current as at drafting this document. The Council is currently updating its Community Vision and Council Plan which will be finalised before October 2021.

The City has continued to endorse a vision for improved liveability for our community. Knowing where we are making progress towards this vision requires us to set measures and benchmarks for Greater Bendigo to be compared with other municipalities and monitor our performance against these.

Further detail on services are on the following pages and summarised by goal – noting there are often cross-overs between delivery of some goals. The City's organisational structure is available on its website at www.bendigo.vic.gov.au.

2.1 Goal 1: Lead and govern for all

Effective community engagement will guide well-informed, responsive decision-making and financially responsible resource allocations, which are transparent and accountable.

The objectives for goal 1 are:

- Engage with all communities
- Explain the reason for its decisions
- Be innovative and financially responsible
- Be accountable and efficient in its use of the community's money
- Take a leadership role in regional planning, advocacy and work in partnership with regional councils

Services

Service unit / Description of services provided		2019/2020 Actual \$'000	2020/2021 Adopted Budget \$'000	2021/2022 Adopted Budget \$'000
Office of CEO and Communications	Exp	1,638	1,715	1,698
	Rev	(17)	-	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	1,621	1,715	1,698
The Office of the CEO and Communications provides strategic leadership to the organisation, implementation of Council decisions including the Community Plan and other key strategic directions. It provides representation and advocacy on key issues of importance to Greater Bendigo and the region. Communications ensure the community is well informed of City news and information is distributed using various communication channels available. It also promotes the City's services and events to the community.				
Director of Corporate Performance	Exp	401	382	378
	Rev	-	-	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	401	382	378
The Corporate Performance Directorate leads, enables and strengthens our organisation to ensure it has the resources and capability to deliver on the Community Plan. The Directorate does this through developing our people and culture, systems and processes, good governance practices and financial stewardship to ensure the delivery of high-quality services and programs. The Directorate leads innovation and business transformation to ensure we are ready to meet the challenges and opportunities of the future in partnership with our community.				
Business Transformation	Exp	2,473	2,615	2,540
	Rev	(8)	(4)	(4)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	2,465	2,611	2,536
The Business Transformation unit supports the organisation to continuously review and improve its service and program delivery. Operations are continually transformed and renewed, using the opportunities provided by technology, to deliver services that are customer focused. Customer service needs are met effectively and efficiently, including providing multiple options for customers to access council services.				
Financial Strategy	Exp	8,900	6,663	6,813
	Rev	(27,882)	(30,447)	(31,187)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	(18,982)	(23,784)	(24,374)
The Financial Strategy unit is responsible for finance operations, rates, project management framework and strategic asset management. The unit provides long-term financial planning to ensure the ongoing financial sustainability of Council's operations and delivers the annual budget, financial, and asset reporting programs.				
Governance	Exp	3,847	4,838	4,976
	Rev	(55)	(252)	(167)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	3,792	4,586	4,809
The Governance unit is responsible for providing advice and support to the Councillors and organisation to aid decision making and ensure that the Council is compliant with legislative responsibilities and good governance practices. The unit also supports effective risk management; legal advice; and ensures procurement is undertaken in a considered and responsible way to deliver on Council's and the community's objectives.				

Information Management	Exp	4,136	4,569	4,407
	Rev	-	-	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	4,136	4,569	4,407
The Information Management unit provides efficient and effective corporate systems and infrastructure to enable the functions of Council to be delivered at a high level of service in a cost-effective way.				
Our Future Workplace	Exp	2,035	2,089	2,059
	Rev	(2)	(750)	(750)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	2,033	1,339	1,309
The Our Future Workplace unit leads the implementation of our Organisation Strategy, which maximise the benefits from new ways of working. The changes include the physical relocation to the Bendigo GovHub.				
People and Culture	Exp	2,422	*8,733	3,592
	Rev	(43)	*(5,092)	(224)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	2,379	3,641	3,368
The People and Culture unit supports the organisation to recruit, develop and retain the people and skills required to deliver the best services we can for the community. The unit works across the organisation to embed our preferred culture and values to ensure our workplaces are safe and inclusive.				

* The 2020/2021 adopted Budget included \$4.8M of grant revenue and offsetting expenditure relating to the Working for Victoria program.

Major initiatives 2021/2022

- Advocate for priority issues that impact on the region including:
 - Long term solution for Bendigo's rising groundwater
 - Funding for further expansion of the Bendigo Airport
 - Funding for world heritage listing
 - Transport links for Bendigo including improved connections to the Bendigo metro rail network
 - Recycling and resource recovery

Initiatives 2021/2022

- Implement changes required by the new Local Government Act 2020
- Implementation of flexible work arrangements components of the Organisation Strategy
- Implement an improved Project Program and Portfolio Management IT system
- Complete a Core Systems review

Service performance outcome indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance measure	Actual 2019/2020
Governance	Satisfaction	Satisfaction with council decisions	57

Refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.2 Goal 2: Wellbeing and fairness

Inclusive policies, partnerships and projects that increase access, improve health and learning opportunities, by building better connections and quality of life for all.

The objectives for goal 2 are:

- Create a much healthier Greater Bendigo
- Promote positive wellbeing across the Greater Bendigo community

- Promote community connection
- Support participation and development for residents of all ages and abilities
- Create safe and resilient communities

Services

Description of services provided		2019/2020 Actual \$'000	2020/2021 Adopted Budget \$'000	2021/2022 Adopted Budget \$'000
Director Health and Wellbeing	Exp	806	889	838
	Rev	(203)	(204)	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	603	685	838
The Health and Wellbeing Directorate plans and delivers a broad and diverse range of community services and programs aimed at supporting people to live their lives fully and be active, safe, engaged and healthy. The focus of the directorate is on developing policy, plans and programs in partnership with the community, delivering services, and supporting the delivery of community infrastructure projects.				
Active and Healthy Lifestyles	Exp	10,474	10,249	10,292
	Rev	(1,216)	(286)	(359)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	9,258	9,963	9,933
The Active and Healthy Lifestyles unit delivers integrated policy, planning, programs and infrastructure that support our community by providing healthier options that are aligned with the Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan priorities and framework.				
Community Partnerships	Exp	4,478	4,917	4,846
	Rev	(1,133)	(251)	(1,225)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	3,345	4,666	3,621
The Community Partnerships unit works closely with the community to plan and develop policy and programs that increase community safety, engagement and connection, prevent discrimination and improve access and inclusion for diverse groups across the community.				
Community Wellbeing	Exp	12,076	12,272	11,766
	Rev	(11,024)	(10,800)	(10,874)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	1,052	1,472	892
The Community Wellbeing unit delivers a broad range of services to children and families across the City that aim to promote children's learning and development. It also provides community-based services to frail aged residents to promote independent living and prevent premature admission to long term residential care.				
Goldfields Library Services	Exp	3,373	3,467	3,503
	Rev	(120)	(94)	(95)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	3,253	3,373	3,408
The Goldfields Library Corporation provides a public library service from six sites throughout the municipality, with branches in Bendigo, Kangaroo Flat, Eaglehawk and Heathcote, along with Library agencies at Axedale and Elmore. The Bendigo Library also includes the Bendigo Regional Archive Centre. This service is delivered under a Funding and Service Agreement in partnership with Loddon, Mount Alexander and Macedon Ranges Shires.				
Safe and Healthy Environments	Exp	8,104	8,144	8,554
	Rev	(8,929)	(7,130)	(9,162)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	(825)	1,014	(608)
The Safe and Healthy Environments unit's purpose is to advocate, enable and mediate with and on behalf of the community to promote and protect health, prevent the spread of infectious disease, ensure safe development and support the protection of our environments, and operate the City's pound and animal shelter services at BARC. This is achieved by delivering integrated regulation, policy, planning and programs.				

Major initiatives 2021/2022

- Deliver a range of facility improvements to support active and healthy lifestyles including:
 - Ewing Park Skate Park
 - Kennington Recreation Reserve Pavilion upgrade
 - Hard Court Renewal
 - Heathcote bowls synthetic turf renewal

- Pool improvements at Faith Leech, Peter Krenz and Brennan Park aquatic centres
 - White Hills Recreation Reserve - Pavilion changeroom and amenities renewal
 - Renewal works at Strathfieldsaye Club Court building
 - Bendigo Stadium roof painting
7. Development of two ovals at Catherine McAuley College to provide additional community sport facilities
 8. Development of the 2021 - 2025 Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan

Initiatives 2021/2022

9. Develop and deliver initiatives to provide relief and support to our community to recover from the impact of COVID-19 including community grants for community groups that support vulnerable people
10. Implement the Active and Healthy Bendigo Framework
11. Advance Gender Equity by implementing a workplace action plan and a Gender Impact Assessment tool

Service performance outcome indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance Measure	Actual 2019/2020
Animal Management	Health and Safety	Animal management prosecutions	100%
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities	4.26
Food Safety	Health and Safety	Critical and major non-compliance notifications	85.18%
Libraries	Participation	Active library members	12.47%
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in the Maternal and Child Health (MCH) service	78.02%
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in MCH service by Aboriginal children	82.97%

Refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.3 Goal 3: Strengthening the economy

Advocacy, innovation and support to grow jobs, attract visitors and diversify the local and regional economy.

The objectives for goal 3 are:

- Support local businesses and industry to be strong, vibrant, and to grow and develop
- Make it easier for people to transition from education to employment
- Ensure Greater Bendigo is a welcoming place for new businesses and industries, and supports creativity, and innovation and visitor attraction

Services

Description of services provided		2019/2020 Actual \$'000	2020/2021 Adopted Budget \$'000	2021/2022 Adopted Budget \$'000
Director Strategy and Growth	Exp	447	410	403
	Rev	-	-	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	447	410	403
The Strategy and Growth Directorate incorporates responsibility for Bendigo Art Gallery, Business Services, Bendigo Venues and Events, Strategic Planning, Economic Development and Environment, Statutory Planning, and Tourism and Major Events. The overarching role of the Strategy and Growth Directorate is to contribute to the economic, cultural and social prosperity of our region by identifying and supporting investment opportunities, employment generation and the integrated planning for the sustainable growth of our City and region. In doing so, the directorate continues to work towards Greater Bendigo being the world's most liveable community.				
Business Services	Exp	2,957	3,080	2,911
	Rev	(1,375)	(1,417)	(1,732)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	1,582	1,663	1,179

The Business Services unit operates the Bendigo Airport and Bendigo Livestock Exchange in line with all regulatory requirements. It also supports other businesses including Bendigo Heritage Attractions, Golden Dragon Museum, Discovery Science and Technology Centre and the Bendigo Stadium.

Major initiatives 2021/2022

12. Implementation of priority actions in the Industrial Land Development Strategy
13. Further development of the Bendigo Airport Terminal and Business Park and upgrade of the entry road intersection

Initiatives 2021/2022

14. Support businesses during the pandemic by waiving or reducing fees
15. Support business and the community with additional events; tourism destination marketing and targeted grants
16. UNESCO City of Gastronomy initiatives

2.4 Goal 4: Presentation and managing growth

Planning, development and infrastructure that increases our liveability and pride in where we live.

The objectives for goal 4 are:

- Plan for a growing population
- Plan to meet future housing needs
- Continue to implement strategies that increase the capacity of transport networks to better move people and goods and encourages walking, cycling and the use of public transport
- Keep Greater Bendigo attractive with good quality public facilities and places
- Provide and maintain urban and rural infrastructure to support the liveability of our community

Services

Description of services provided		2019/2020 Actual \$'000	2020/2021 Adopted Budget \$'000	2021/2022 Adopted Budget \$'000
Director Presentations and Assets	Exp	31,866	32,760	33,344
	Rev	-	-	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	31,866	32,760	33,344

The Presentation and Assets Directorate provides and maintains high quality assets and services that help make Greater Bendigo a great place to live, while planning and delivering new assets and services to support Bendigo's ongoing growth. Demonstrating and committing to environmentally responsible thinking and practices, and encouraging this throughout the organisation and community, is an important focus for the directorate. Business units include Engineering, Resource Recovery and Education, Works, Parks and Open Space and Property Services.

NOTE: Expense disclosed above is predominantly depreciation expense of the City's infrastructure assets.

Engineering	Exp	5,312	5,580	5,507
	Rev	(4,264)	(4,145)	(4,357)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	1,048	1,435	1,151
The Engineering unit develops and delivers physical infrastructure to support a broad range of services to the community. This includes the development of capital works projects to provide renewal and new assets to meet the expanding population of Bendigo and increasing community expectations. The unit is responsible for strategic planning of infrastructure through asset management and development of strategic plans for asset groups. The Unit also provides support services across the organisation in areas of asset management and GIS.				
Property Services	Exp	9,079	9,374	10,124
	Rev	(929)	(1,063)	(1,241)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	8,150	8,311	8,883
The Property Services unit's main purpose is to ensure that community assets (buildings and properties) are developed, upgraded, maintained and utilised to ensure the greatest benefit and lifestyle for members of the community. The team is committed to ensure that council facilities are safe for public use and comply with the relevant codes and standards.				
Strategic Planning	Exp	1,212	1,080	2,296
	Rev	(285)	(200)	(101)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	927	880	2,195
The newly created Strategic Planning unit is strategic and visionary in its outlook. It develops integrated, long term strategies and plans to guide the physical, social, environmental, heritage and cultural development of Greater Bendigo. The Unit strategically positions Greater Bendigo to plan and prepare for a population of 200,000 by the year 2050, including implementing planning scheme amendments and contributing to Council's vision of creating the world's most liveable community.				
Economic Development and Environment	Exp	3,911	4,100	3,805
	Rev	(159)	-	-
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	3,752	4,100	3,805
The Economic Development and Environment unit is both strategic and practical in its outlook. It encourages sustainable economic growth and prosperity and balances this with integrated, long term strategies and plans to protect and sustain Greater Bendigo's natural environments, including strategic energy and water management to support resilience and climate change adaptation.				
Statutory Planning	Exp	2,861	3,012	2,945
	Rev	(3,205)	(3,098)	(2,957)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	(344)	(86)	(12)
The Statutory Planning unit facilitates the delivery of timely and quality planning decisions and advice, and ensures compliance with relevant legislation and permit requirements. Many of the services delivered by the Statutory Planning unit are in accordance with State Government legislation and local strategies and policies adopted by Council following intensive community consultation.				
Works	Exp	12,984	13,815	13,283
	Rev	(193)	(108)	(110)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	12,791	13,707	13,173
The Works unit is responsible for the construction of new projects and renewal maintenance of the City's existing civil infrastructure. The team undertake the construction and maintenance of the City's roads, drains and footpaths, and the civil works construction of sporting facilities, car parks and other civil projects. The unit is responsible for the organisation's plant and fleet assets, including purchase, maintenance and disposal. The unit also delivers maintenance works in accordance with the Road Management Plan.				

Major initiatives 2021/2022

17. Bendigo Botanical Garden Central Hub Design and Construct
18. Playspace renewals at Maxwell Drive and Bren Street
19. Public toilet improvements in Elmore (male, female, unisex and changing place)
20. Howard Street bridge strengthening and widening
21. Deliver major drainage projects including
 - Bendigo Creek – Nolan Street, High Street – Myrtle Street and Laurel Street to Booth Street
 - Aspinall Street
 - Edwards Road, Jackass Flat
 - Lowe Street/Yarunga Drive

22. Seal local roads and road safety work including:

- Axedale Kimbolton Road
- Allies Road
- Strickland Road
- Various road safety upgrade projects

Initiatives 2021/2022

- 23. Footpath program including renewal at High Street, Heathcote, Queen Street Bendigo, High Street Eaglehawk, Hargreaves Street, Bendigo and Wattle Street Bendigo
- 24. Dam wall inspection and maintenance program
- 25. Construct a shelter at Heathcote dog park
- 26. Improvements to recreation reserves including Janelle Drive, Garden Drive, Coinda Park and Golden Square Recreation Reserve

Service performance outcome indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance measure	Actual 2019/2020
Roads	Satisfaction	Satisfaction with sealed local roads	60
Statutory Planning	Decision Making	Council planning decisions upheld by VCAT	75.00%

Refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.5 Goal 5: Environmental sustainability

Protect and enhance our environment, conserve our resources and increase resilience to a changing climate.

The objectives for goal 5 are:

- Drawing on the One Planet Living framework to connect the health of the natural environment to the health and prosperity of our community.
- Demonstrate leadership in sustaining the rich biological diversity of the Greater Bendigo region that sustains healthy ecosystems.

Services

Description of services provided		2019/2020 Actual \$'000	2020/2021 Adopted Budget \$'000	2021/2022 Adopted Budget \$'000
Parks and Open Space	Exp	12,701	12,882	12,798
	Rev	(310)	(269)	(336)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	12,391	12,613	12,462
The Parks and Open Space unit is responsible for the management and design of a large portfolio of parks, gardens, reserves, sports fields and areas of open space for the City. The unit has a range of specialised park, design, horticultural and environmental management techniques and practices. The aim of the unit is to effectively and sustainably manage these assets through the efficient use of available resources and the provision of high levels of customer service whilst meeting both Council and stakeholder needs.				
Resource Recovery and Education	Exp	25,378	25,122	29,160
	Rev	(7,431)	(7,006)	(7,829)
<i>Description of services provided:</i>	NET	17,947	18,116	21,331
The Resource Recovery and Education unit provides waste management and resource recovery services to efficiently and effectively meet our customers' expectations and in compliance with current legislation. The unit is responsible for street and footpath cleaning, weed management and the cleaning at bus stops, bus shelters and roundabouts. The rehabilitation of landfills to community expectations and EPA standards is also the responsibility of the unit.				

Major initiatives 2021/2022

- 27. Implement key actions from the Circular Greater Bendigo project
- 28. Continue remediation of the Eaglehawk Landfill site in line with EPA requirements
- 29. Upgrade of major road street lighting to increase energy efficiency
- 30. Remote lighting control system at Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve
- 31. Implement solutions to reduce energy consumption at Gurri Wanyarra Wellness Centre

Initiatives 2021/2022

- 32. Environmental Sustainability initiatives in buildings
- 33. Increase tree planting as part of the Greening Greater Bendigo strategy
- 34. Expansion of the organics collection into rural areas

Service performance outcome indicators

Service	Indicator	Performance measure	Actual 2019/2020
Waste collection	Waste diversion	Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill	50.80%

Refer to table at end of section 2.6 for information on the calculation of Service Performance Outcome Indicators

2.6 Goal 6: Embracing our culture and heritage

Recognise and celebrate our unique history and diverse cultures.

The objectives for goal 6 are:

- Celebrate our unique heritage
- Build pride in and shared responsibility for our public spaces
- Offer and support a diverse range of events that attract and connect people
- Embrace diversity
- Advance reconciliation with our Traditional owners and local Aboriginal communities

Services

Description of services provided		2019/2020 Actual \$'000	2020/2021 Adopted Budget \$'000	2021/2022 Adopted Budget \$'000
Bendigo Art Gallery	Exp	4,847	4,527	5,547
	Rev	(1,520)	(1,538)	(2,750)
	NET	3,327	2,989	2,797
<i>Description of services provided:</i>				
Bendigo Art Gallery develops and delivers exhibitions, public programs and associated events for Bendigo Art Gallery and the Post Office Gallery that are educational and appealing to a diverse range of audiences and add to the attraction of Bendigo as a centre for arts and culture.				
Bendigo Venue and Events	Exp	6,559	6,623	7,243
	Rev	(3,445)	(3,816)	(4,409)
	NET	3,114	2,807	2,834
<i>Description of services provided:</i>				
The Bendigo Venues and Events unit provides quality performing arts programming and activities to the central Victorian region and provides facilities and opportunities for participation in the arts.				
Tourism and Major Events	Exp	4,318	5,376	5,368
	Rev	(779)	(1,199)	(1,215)
	NET	3,539	4,177	4,153
<i>Description of services provided:</i>				
The Tourism and Major Events unit promotes Greater Bendigo as an attractive destination for business, leisure and tourism to domestic and international visitors. The unit's role is to deliver key initiatives that have a positive economic and social impact for our region that positions Greater Bendigo to be the world's most liveable community.				

Major initiatives 2021/2022

- 35. Commence delivery of the redeveloped Old Municipal Baths in Rosalind Park
- 36. Renewal of our buildings and heritage assets for the benefit of the community including various works at:

- Eaglehawk Town Hall
 - Bendigo Town Hall
 - Conservatory Gardens painting and repairs
 - Golden Dragon Museum Water Gardens renewal
 - Fire Station, The Capital and Ulumbarra Theatre
 - Bendigo Art Gallery
37. Renewal support for Bendigo Heritage Attractions

Initiatives 2021/2022

38. Provide support programs for outdoor performing arts including:
- Summer in the Parks Program with live local music artists
 - Bendigo Easter Festival with live local music artists
 - Continue to facilitate Bendigo Blues and Roots Music Festival
39. Advance reconciliation by place naming, exhibitions, public art and cultural interpretation activities and improve cultural safety in City facilities
40. Completion of detailed design for the redeveloped Old Municipal Baths in Rosalind Park
41. Promote Greater Bendigo as a welcoming City for all by developing a new Cultural Diversity and Inclusion Plan including actions to increase access and inclusion for multicultural communities and opportunities for creativity, respect and celebration.
42. Advance reconciliation by implementing actions from Reconciliation Plan including actions to increase procurement opportunities, advance place naming and cultural interpretation activities and improve cultural safety in City facilities

Service performance outcome indicators (computation methods)

Service	Indicator	Performance measure	Computation
Animal Management	Health and Safety	Animal management prosecutions	[Number of successful animal management prosecutions / Total number of animal management prosecutions]
Aquatic Facilities	Utilisation	Utilisation of aquatic facilities	[Number of visits to aquatic facilities/Municipal population]
Food Safety	Health and Safety	Critical and major non-compliance notifications	[Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance notifications about a food premises followed up / Number of critical non-compliance outcome notifications and major non-compliance outcome notifications about a food premises] x100
Governance	Satisfaction	Satisfaction with Council decisions	Community satisfaction rating out of 100 with how Council has performed in making decisions in the interests of the community
Libraries	Participation	Active library members	[The sum of the number of active library borrowers in the last 3 financial years / The sum of the population in the last 3 financial years] x100
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in the Maternal and Child Health (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
Maternal and Child Health	Participation	Participation in MCH service by Aboriginal	[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
		children	
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
Statutory Planning	Decision making	Council planning decisions upheld by 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
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

2.7 Reconciliation with budgeted operating result

	Attributed Revenue	Expenditure	Net Cost
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Lead and govern for all	32,332	26,463	(5,869)
Wellbeing and fairness	21,715	39,799	18,084
Strengthening the economy	1,732	3,314	1,582
Presentation and managing growth	8,767	71,304	62,537
Environmental sustainability	8,165	41,958	33,793
Embracing our culture and heritage	8,374	18,158	9,784
Total services and initiatives	81,085	200,996	119,911
Other non-attributable revenue/expenditure	8,667		
Deficit before funding sources	111,244		
Funding sources			
Rates and charges	132,935		
Surplus for the year	21,691		

Budget Reports

3. Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources

This section presents information regarding the Financial Statements and Statement of Human Resources. The budget information for the year 2021/2022 has been supplemented with projections to 2024/2025.

This section includes the following financial statements prepared in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*:

- Comprehensive Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Statement of Changes in Equity
- Statement of Cash Flows
- Statement of Capital Works
- Statement of Human Resources

Comprehensive Income Statement

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

		Adopted	Adopted	Budget		
		Budget	Budget	Projections		
		2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Income						
Rates and charges	4.1.1	126,592	132,935	136,861	141,199	145,623
Statutory fees and fines	4.1.2	4,479	5,429	5,510	5,621	5,733
User charges, fees and fines	4.1.3	24,791	29,090	29,526	30,117	30,719
Grants - operating	4.1.4	30,646	27,620	27,988	28,487	28,995
Grants - capital	4.1.4	7,212	13,397	4,990	5,050	5,111
Contributions - monetary	4.1.5	3,227	3,453	3,791	3,856	3,940
Contributions - non-monetary	4.1.5	15,000	15,225	13,000	13,000	13,000
Net gain/ (loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(4,857)	(4,100)	(5,000)	(5,000)	(5,000)
Other income	4.1.6	1,174	373	800	816	832
Total income		208,264	223,422	217,466	223,146	228,953
Expenses						
Employee costs	4.1.7	76,788	73,217	74,681	76,324	78,003
Materials and services	4.1.8	79,457	80,689	83,383	85,020	86,690
Depreciation and amortisation	4.1.9	41,131	45,501	46,169	46,088	47,037
Bad and doubtful debts		268	335	236	242	248
Borrowing costs		1,849	1,639	1,622	1,618	1,481
Finance costs - leases			258	159	97	56
Other expenses		92	92	92	92	92
Total expenses		199,585	201,731	206,342	209,481	213,607
Surplus for the year		8,679	21,691	11,124	13,665	15,346
Other comprehensive income						
Items that will not be reclassified to surplus or deficit in future periods						
Net asset revaluation increment		39,311	61,099	43,082	67,022	46,246
Share of losses/(profits) of associates		94	95	49	49	46
Total comprehensive result		48,084	82,885	54,255	80,733	61,633

Balance Sheet

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

		Adopted	Adopted	Budget		
		Budget	Budget	Projections		
		2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Current Assets						
Cash and Cash Equivalents		46,761	57,520	59,606	57,247	59,550
Trade and Other Receivables		22,488	13,076	13,051	13,377	13,787
Other Assets/Prepayments		199	201	203	205	207
Total Current Assets	4.2.1	69,448	70,797	72,860	70,829	73,544
Non-Current Assets						
Trade and Other Receivables		142	142	142	142	142
Investments in Associates		3,339	3,339	3,339	3,339	3,339
Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure		1,711,935	1,796,396	1,857,082	1,938,682	1,995,587
Right of use assets	4.2.4	-	4,336	2,521	1,452	785
Intangible Assets		2,482	2,482	2,482	2,482	2,482
Total Non-Current Assets	4.2.1	1,717,898	1,806,695	1,865,566	1,946,097	2,002,335
TOTAL ASSETS		1,787,346	1,877,492	1,938,426	2,016,926	2,075,879
Current Liabilities						
Trade and Other Payables		15,856	15,611	16,032	16,320	16,704
Trust funds and deposits		3,372	3,406	3,440	3,474	3,509
Provisions		16,311	16,311	16,311	16,311	16,311
Interest Bearing Liabilities and Borrowings	4.2.3	4,552	6,540	8,168	9,097	9,394
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	-	1,809	1,083	699	474
Total Current Liabilities	4.2.2	40,091	43,677	45,034	45,901	46,392
Non-Current Liabilities						
Provisions		10,745	10,745	10,745	10,745	10,745
Interest Bearing Liabilities and Borrowings	4.2.3	35,939	36,965	43,369	40,969	38,272
Lease liabilities	4.2.4	-	2,649	1,566	867	392
Total Non-Current Liabilities	4.2.2	46,684	50,359	55,680	52,581	49,409
TOTAL LIABILITIES		86,776	94,036	100,714	98,482	95,801
NET ASSETS		1,700,571	1,783,456	1,837,712	1,918,444	1,980,078
Equity						
Accumulated Surplus		736,349	757,935	769,363	785,573	802,203
Reserves		964,222	1,025,521	1,068,349	1,132,871	1,177,874
TOTAL EQUITY		1,700,571	1,783,456	1,837,712	1,918,444	1,980,078

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

		Total	Accumulated Surplus	Revaluation Reserves	Other Reserves
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Adopted 2021 Budget					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,652,487	727,968	894,656	29,863
Surplus for the Year		8,773	8,773	-	-
Net Asset Revaluation Increment		39,311	-	39,311	-
Transfers to/from Other Reserves		-	(392)	-	392
Balance at end of the financial year		1,700,571	736,349	933,967	30,255
Adopted 2022 Budget					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,700,571	758,349	934,913	29,309
Surplus for the year		21,786	21,786	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment		61,099	-	61,099	-
Transfers to/from Other Reserves	4.3.1	-	(200)	-	200
Balance at end of the financial year	4.3.2	1,783,456	757,935	996,012	29,509
Budget Projections 2023					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,783,456	757,935	996,012	29,509
Surplus for the year		11,174	11,174	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment		43,082	-	43,082	-
Transfers to/from Other Reserves		-	253	-	(253)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,837,712	769,362	1,039,094	29,256
Budget Projections 2024					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,837,712	769,362	1,039,094	29,256
Surplus for the year		13,710	13,710	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment		67,022	-	67,022	-
Transfers to/from Other Reserves		-	2,500	-	(2,500)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,918,444	785,572	1,106,116	26,756
Budget Projections 2025					
Balance at beginning of the financial year		1,918,444	785,572	1,106,116	26,756
Surplus for the year		15,388	15,388	-	-
Net asset revaluation increment		46,246	-	46,246	-
Transfers to/from Other Reserves		-	1,243	-	(1,243)
Balance at end of the financial year		1,980,078	802,203	1,152,362	25,513

Statement of Cash Flows

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

		Adopted	Adopted	Budget		
		Budget	Budget	Projections		
		2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Cash flows from operating activities						
Rates and charges		117,493	139,082	136,365	140,761	145,122
Statutory fees and fines		4,511	5,630	5,499	5,610	5,721
User charges, fees and fines		24,969	30,169	29,463	30,060	30,652
Grants - operating		30,864	28,644	27,930	28,437	28,936
Grants - capital		7,263	13,894	5,432	5,043	5,102
Contributions - monetary		3,226	3,453	3,791	3,856	3,940
Interest received		1,174	374	800	816	832
Trust funds and deposits taken		33	34	34	34	35
Other receipts		23	128	(23)	(7)	(9)
Net GST refund/ payment		(86)	-	-	-	-
Employee costs		(76,506)	(73,335)	(74,535)	(76,179)	(77,814)
Materials and services		(66,822)	(76,470)	(77,377)	(78,909)	(80,442)
Other payments		(12,437)	(4,441)	(5,826)	(6,063)	(6,148)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	4.4.1	33,705	67,163	51,553	53,460	55,929
Cash flows from investing activities						
Payments for property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		(47,947)	(55,299)	(53,960)	(51,596)	(49,029)
Proceeds from sale of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment		1,034	-	-	-	-
Loans and advances made		-	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from investments		61	95	49	46	41
Payments of loans and advances		-	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided by/ (used in) investing activities	4.4.2	(46,852)	(55,204)	(53,911)	(51,550)	(48,988)
Cash flows from financing activities						
Finance costs		(1,849)	(1,639)	(1,622)	(1,618)	(1,481)
Proceeds from borrowings		3,000	19,462	15,247	7,007	7,007
Repayment of borrowings		(4,233)	(16,448)	(7,215)	(8,478)	(9,407)
Interest paid - lease liability			(258)	(159)	(97)	(56)
Repayment of lease liabilities			(2,339)	(1,809)	(1,083)	(699)
Net cash provided by/ (used in) financing activities	4.4.3	(3,083)	(1,222)	4,442	(4,269)	(4,637)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash & cash equivalents		(16,230)	10,737	1,412	(3,046)	1,601
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the financial year		62,991	46,783	57,520	59,606	57,247
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the financial year		46,761	57,520	59,606	57,247	59,550

Statement of Capital Works

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

		Adopted Budget	Adopted Budget	Budget Projections		
		2020/2021	2021/2022	2022/2023	2023/2024	2024/2025
	NOTES	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property						
Building		10,148	14,343	13,395	15,247	12,902
Land		530	5,950	10,600	1,755	2,000
Total Property		10,678	20,293	23,995	17,002	14,902
Plant and Equipment						
Fixtures, fittings and furniture		515	962	624	636	649
Plant, machinery and equipment		4,231	3,840	4,556	4,647	4,740
Total Plant and equipment		4,746	4,802	5,180	5,283	5,389
Infrastructure						
Land improvements		4,180	4,212	5,226	7,291	3,707
Bridges		510	1,254	676	690	703
Sealed roads		8,570	11,640	9,520	11,710	14,804
Unsealed roads		2,850	3,200	3,381	3,449	3,518
Pathways		3,450	3,000	1,769	2,086	1,840
Drainage		1,510	3,160	2,705	2,759	2,814
Public furniture and fittings		1,860	3,683	1,269	1,082	1,104
Fountains, statues and monuments		55	55	239	244	248
Total infrastructure		22,985	30,204	24,785	29,311	28,738
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.2	38,409	55,299	53,960	51,596	49,029
Represented by:						
New asset		9,557	20,788	18,890	16,037	11,900
Renewal		28,072	34,188	35,070	35,559	37,129
Expansion		-	-	-	-	-
Upgrade		780	323	-	-	-
Total capital works expenditure	4.5.2	38,409	55,299	53,960	51,596	49,029
Funding sources represented by:						
Grants		7,212	8,796	4,990	5,050	5,111
Contributions		1,185	1,180	1,204	1,228	1,252
Council Cash		27,012	39,373	32,519	38,311	35,659
Borrowings		3,000	5,950	15,247	7,007	7,007
Total annual capital works program	4.5.2	38,409	55,299	53,960	51,596	49,029
Carry forward projects from prior year	4.5.3	9,538	11,000	8,094	7,739	7,354
Total capital works expenditure including carry forwards		47,947	66,299	62,054	59,335	56,383

Statement of Human Resources

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

Regulation 8(1)(b) requires that the budget must contain a statement of human resources and has certain categories for these disclosures. This is a new requirement, and the below have been updated to align with those regulations.

	2021/22 \$'000	2022/23 \$'000	2023/24 \$'000	2024/25 \$'000
Office of The CEO				
Permanent - Full time	1,248	1,254	1,282	1,310
Female	693	697	712	728
Male	555	557	570	582
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	75	75	77	79
Female	75	75	77	79
Male	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Office of the CEO	1,323	1,329	1,359	1,389
Corporate Performance				
Permanent - Full time	9,086	9,131	9,332	9,537
Female	5,084	5,109	5,221	5,336
Male	4,002	4,022	4,110	4,201
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1,630	1,638	1,674	1,711
Female	1,358	1,365	1,395	1,426
Male	272	273	279	285
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Performance	10,716	10,769	11,006	11,248
Presentation and Assets				
Permanent - Full time	21,806	21,913	22,395	22,888
Female	3,196	3,211	3,282	3,354
Male	18,516	18,607	19,017	19,435
Self-described gender	94	94	97	99
Permanent - Part time	604	607	620	634
Female	302	303	310	317
Male	302	303	310	317
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Presentation and Assets	22,410	22,520	23,016	23,522
Health and Wellbeing				
Permanent - Full time	11,263	11,318	11,567	11,822
Female	7,684	7,722	7,892	8,065
Male	3,579	3,596	3,676	3,756
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	7,921	7,960	8,135	8,314
Female	6,841	6,874	7,026	7,180
Male	1,080	1,085	1,109	1,134
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Health and Wellbeing	19,184	19,278	19,702	20,136
Strategy and Growth				
Permanent - Full time	10,371	10,422	10,651	10,886
Female	6,266	6,297	6,435	6,577
Male	3,997	4,017	4,105	4,195
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	2,694	2,707	2,767	2,828
Female	2,086	2,096	2,142	2,189
Male	608	611	625	639
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Strategy and Growth	13,065	13,129	13,418	13,713
Casuals, temporary and other expenditure	6,518	6,550	6,694	6,841
Capitalised labour costs	1,100	1,105	1,130	1,155
Total staff expenditure	74,316	74,681	76,324	78,003

Statement of Human Resources – cont.

For the four years ending 30 June 2025

	2021/22 FTE	2022/23 FTE	2023/24 FTE	2024/25 FTE
Office of The CEO				
Permanent - Full time	9.0	9.0	9.1	9.1
Female	5.0	5.0	5.1	5.1
Male	4.0	4.0	4.0	4.1
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Female	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Male	-	-	-	-
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Office of The CEO	10.0	10.1	10.1	10.2
Corporate Performance				
Permanent - Full time	84.0	84.4	84.9	85.3
Female	47.0	47.2	47.5	47.7
Male	37.0	37.2	37.4	37.6
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	18.0	18.1	18.2	18.3
Female	15.0	15.1	15.2	15.2
Male	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Corporate Performance	102.0	102.5	103.1	103.6
Presentation and Assets				
Permanent - Full time	232.0	233.2	234.4	235.6
Female	34.0	34.2	34.4	34.5
Male	197.0	198.0	199.1	200.1
Self-described gender	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
Permanent - Part time	6.0	6.0	6.1	6.1
Female	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Male	3.0	3.0	3.0	3.0
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Presentation and Assets	238.0	239.2	240.5	241.7
Health and Wellbeing				
Permanent - Full time	107.0	107.6	108.1	108.7
Female	73.0	73.4	73.8	74.1
Male	34.0	34.2	34.4	34.5
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	110.0	110.6	111.1	111.7
Female	95.0	95.5	96.0	96.5
Male	15.0	15.1	15.2	15.2
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Health and Wellbeing	217.0	218.1	219.3	220.4
Strategy and Growth				
Permanent - Full time	96.0	96.5	97.0	97.5
Female	58.0	58.3	58.6	58.9
Male	37.0	37.2	37.4	37.6
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Permanent - Part time	31.0	31.2	31.3	31.5
Female	24.0	24.1	24.3	24.4
Male	7.0	7.0	7.1	7.1
Self-described gender	-	-	-	-
Total Strategy and Growth	127.0	127.7	128.3	129.0
Casuals and temporary staff	53.0	53.3	53.6	53.8
Capitalised labour	19.0	19.1	19.2	19.3
Total staff numbers	766.0	770.0	774.0	778.0

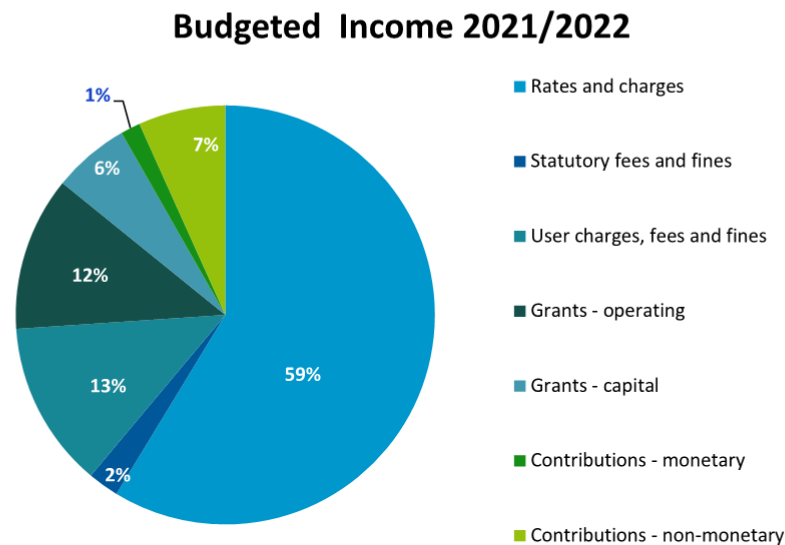
4. Notes to the financial statements

This section presents detailed information on material components of the financial statements. The City needs to assess which components are material, considering the dollar amounts and nature of these components.

4.1 Comprehensive Income Statement

Income

The following graph presents a snapshot of income budgeted for the 2021/2022 financial year.



4.1.1 Rates and charges

Rates and charges are required by the Act and the Regulations to be disclosed in Council's budget.

As per the *Local Government Act 2020*, Council is required to have a Revenue and Rating Plan which is a four-year plan for how Council will generate income to deliver the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over a four-year period. Note also Appendix D, which contains additional detail on Rating Information.

In developing the Budget, rates and charges are identified as an important source of revenue. Planning for future rate increases has therefore been an important component of the financial planning process. The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For 2021/22 the FGRS cap has been set at 1.5 per cent. The cap applies to general rates and is calculated based on council's average rates and charges.

The level of required rates and charges has been considered in this context, with reference to Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for the community.

To achieve these objectives while maintaining service levels and a strong capital expenditure program, the average general rate and the municipal charge will increase by 1.5 per cent in line with the rate cap.

Due to the additional costs associated with running the City's waste services, largely attributed to the increased landfill levy as set by the Environmental Protection Agency, effective 1 July 2021, the general waste and landfill charge will increase this financial year. General waste charges cover costs per tonne of waste for landfill; future year landfill remediation costs; and costs to ensure the ongoing responsible management of waste. These fees only recoup the costs involved in providing waste management services. The general waste and landfill charge have been increased by 18 per cent. For a property with

a 140L bin in an organics area, this equates to an extra \$27.70 per property. The recyclable waste and organic waste charges increase by 1.5 per cent.

This will raise total rates and charges for 2021/2022 of \$132.9M, including an estimated \$1.6M generated from supplementary rates.

The City acknowledges the COVID-19 pandemic may impact on some people's ability to pay rates and charges. Financial Hardship Guidelines have been developed to support anyone experiencing financial difficulties, these can be accessed on the City's website or by contacting customer service via the City's website.

Differential rates for properties located within the Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully are in place to recover the future cost of maintaining a fire buffer (after the completion of a 24 month maintenance period in which the property developer will pay the cost of maintaining the fire buffer, commencement date not yet determined) for the estate being vacant land, a residential and a Commercial/Industrial differential rate.

4.1.1(a) The reconciliation of the total rates and charges to the Comprehensive Income Statement is as follows:

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
General rates*	104,639	108,307	3,668	3.51%
Waste management charge	20,295	22,981	2,686	13.23%
Supplementary rates and rate adjustments	1,610	1,600	(10)	(0.62)%
Revenue in lieu of rates	48	47	(1)	(2.08)%
Total rates and charges	126,592	132,935	6,343	5.01%

*These items are subject to the rate cap established under the FGRS. The increase in average rates is 1.5%, please refer to 4.1.1(j) for a reconciliation of compliance with the rate cap calculations as per the Essential Services Commission. The remainder of the growth is predominantly due to supplementary assessments and other growth in the number of overall assessments.

4.1.1(b) The rate in the dollar to be levied as general rates under section 158 of the Act for each type or class of land compared with the previous financial year. Final valuations will be declared generally true and correct and certified by the Minister in May 2021.

Type or class of land	2020/2021 cents/\$CIV	2021/2022 cents/\$CIV
Local Government Act 1989		
General Rate	0.392841%	0.377628%
A differential rate for rateable Commercial/Industrial A properties	0.726761%	0.698617%
A differential rate for rateable Commercial/Industrial B properties	0.707114%	0.679731%
A differential rate for rateable Commercial/Industrial C properties	0.746397%	0.717493%
A differential rate for rateable farm	0.333914%	0.283221%
A differential rate for rateable vacant Land	0.491051%	0.472035%
> Residential and rural Residential		
A differential rate for rateable other land	0.726761%	0.698617%
A differential rate for rateable vacant land properties	0.491051%	0.472035%
> Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully		
A differential rate for rateable residential properties	0.392841%	0.377628%
> Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully		
A differential rate for rateable Commercial/Industrial properties	0.726761%	0.698617%
> Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully		
Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963		
Rate concession for rateable CRLA properties	0.000000%	0.000000%
Rate concession for rateable CRLA properties	0.000000%	0.000000%
Rate concession for rateable CRLA properties	0.000000%	0.000000%
Rate concession for rateable CRLA properties	0.000000%	0.000000%
Rate concession for rateable CRLA properties	0.000000%	0.000000%

4.1.1(c) The estimated total amount to be raised by general rates in relation to each type or class of land, and the estimated total amount to be raised by general rates, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
General rate	73,756	77,848	4,092	5.55%
Commercial/Industrial	23,112	22,982	(130)	(0.56)%
Farm rate	2,977	2,646	(331)	(11.12)%
Vacant - residential and rural residential	4,752	4,790	38	0.80%
Cultural and recreational *	-	-	-	-
Rating agreements	48	47	(1)	(2.08)%
Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully	42	41	(1)	(2.38)%
Total amount to be raised by general rates	104,687	108,354	3,669	3.50%

*Council has determined to levy a nil rate in the dollar for properties eligible to be rated under the provisions of the Cultural and Recreational Lands Act (1963). Please refer to section 6 for further detail.

Council continues to comply with the Essential Service Commission's FGRS. The cap has been set at 1.5 per cent for the 2021/2022 financial year. Please see 4.1.1(j) for the compliance reconciliation.

4.1.1(d) The number of assessments in relation to each type or class of land, and the total number of assessments, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	2020/2021 Number	2021/2022 Number
General Rate	50,088	51,118
Commercial/Industrial A	2,525	2,539
Commercial/Industrial B	272	270
Commercial/Industrial C	1,133	1,121
Farm rate	1,156	1,162
Vacant land - residential and rural	4,223	4,243
Cultural and recreational class 1	5	5
Cultural and recreational class 2	9	9
Cultural and recreational class 3	7	7
Cultural and recreational class 4	15	15
Cultural and recreational class 5	19	19
Rating agreements	146	146
Vacant land - Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully	1	1
Total number of assessments	59,599	60,655

4.1.1(e) The basis of valuation to be used is the Capital Improved Value (CIV).

4.1.1(f) The estimated total value of each type or class of land, and the estimated total value of land, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
General rate	18,775,009	20,614,428	1,839,419	9.80%
Commercial/Industrial A	1,967,640	2,031,202	63,562	3.23%
Commercial/Industrial B	147,492	161,056	13,564	9.20%
Commercial/Industrial C	1,040,859	1,072,744	31,885	3.06%
Farm rate	891,581	934,819	43,238	4.85%
Vacant land - residential and rural residential	967,817	1,014,667	46,850	4.84%
Cultural and recreational and rating agreements	78,120	86,201	8,081	10.34%
Vacant - Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully	8,550	8,600	50	0.58%
Total Value of land	23,877,068	25,923,717	2,046,649	8.57%

4.1.1(g) The rate or unit amount to be levied for each type of service rate or charge under Section 162 of the Act compared with the previous financial year

Type of charge	Per Rateable 2020/2021	Per Rateable 2021/2022	Change %
General waste and landfill charge - 120/140 Litre bin (property located within organic waste collection)	151.30	179.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 240 Litre bin (property located within organic waste Collection)	278.00	328.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 120/140 Litre bin (property located outside organic waste collection)	174.60	206.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 240 Litre bin (property located outside organic waste collection)	301.40	356.00	18%
Recyclable waste charge	96.30	98.00	1.5%
Recyclable waste charge in excess of one bin (per additional bin)	47.60	48.00	0.8%
Organic waste charge	92.60	94.00	1.5%
Organic waste charge in excess of one bin (per additional bin)	47.60	48.00	0.8%
Garbage collection and disposal - Commercial/Industrial			
General waste and landfill charge - commercial properties - 120/140 Litre bin*	174.60	206.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - commercial properties - 240 Litre bin*	301.40	356.00	18%
Garbage collection and disposal in specific commercial			
General waste and landfill charge - 1 day per week*	301.40	356.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 2 days per week*	603.00	712.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 3 days per week*	904.00	1,068.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 5 days per week*	1507.00	1,780.00	18%
General waste and landfill charge - 7 days per week*	2110.00	2,492.00	18%

*Increases in general waste and landfill charges is reflective of changes to the EPA landfill levy, a levy payable by the City per tonne of waste disposed of via landfill, which is set to increase substantially on 1 July 2021.

4.1.1(h) The estimated total amount to be raised by each type of service rate or charge, and the estimated total amount to be raised by service rates and charges, compared with the previous financial year

Type or class of land	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
General waste and landfill charge - 120/140 Litre bin (property located within organic waste collection area)	4,547	5,816	1,269	27.91%
General waste and landfill charge - 240 Litre bin (property located within organic waste Collection area)	3,652	4,384	732	20.04%
General waste and landfill charge - 120/140 Litre bin (property located outside organic waste collection area)	862	798	(64)	(7.42)%
General waste and landfill charge - 240 Litre bin (property located outside organic waste collection area)	646	564	(82)	(12.69)%
Recyclable waste charge	5,004	5,187	183	3.66%
Organic waste charge	3,766	4,091	325	8.63%
Garbage collection and disposal - Commercial/Industrial				
General waste and landfill charge - commercial properties - 120/140 Litre bin	119	145	26	21.85%
General waste and landfill charge - commercial properties - 240 Litre bin	873	1,031	158	18.10%
Garbage collection and disposal in specific commercial				
General waste and landfill charge - 1 day per week	275	322	47	17.09%
General waste and landfill charge - 2 days per week	77	93	16	20.78%
General waste and landfill charge - 3 days per week	194	230	36	18.56%
General waste and landfill charge - 5 days per week	149	171	22	14.77%
General waste and landfill charge - 7 days per week	131	149	18	13.74%
Total	20,295	22,981	2,686	13.23%

4.1.1(i) The estimated total amount to be raised by all rates and charges compared with the previous financial year.

Type or class of land	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
General Rates	104,687	108,354	3,667	3.50%
General waste and landfill, recyclable and organic	20,295	22,981	2,686	13.23%
Rates and Charges	124,982	131,335	6,353	5.08%
Supplementary rates	1,610	1,600	(10)	(0.62)%
Total rates and charges	126,592	132,935	6,343	5.01%

4.1.1(j) Fair Go Rates System Compliance. The City of Greater Bendigo is compliant with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System.

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021	Adopted Budget 2021/2022
Total rates	102,644,538	106,752,364
Number of rateable properties	59,599	60,655
Base average rates	1,722	1,760
Maximum rate increase (set by the State Government)	2.00%	1.50%
Capped average rate	1,757	1,786
Maximum general rates and municipal charges revenue	104,697,429	108,353,649
Budgeted general rates and municipal charges revenue	104,687,411	108,353,649

4.1.1(k) Any significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges.

There are no known significant changes that may affect the estimated amounts to be raised by rates and charges. However, the total amount to be raised by rates and charges may be affected by:

- The making of supplementary valuations (2021/2022: estimated \$1.6M, 2020/2021: \$1.61M)
- The variation of returned levels of value (e.g. valuation appeals)
- Changes of use of land such that rateable land becomes non-rateable land or vice versa
- Changes of use of land such that residential land becomes business land or vice versa
- The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on some people's ability to pay rates and charges

General waste charges increase to cover higher costs per tonne of waste for landfill, as levied by the Environmental Protection Agency; landfill remediation costs; and costs to ensure the ongoing responsible management of waste. These fees only recoup the costs involved in providing waste management services.

At the time the general valuation is supplied for the annual proposed budget in March 2021, it is comprised of the Stage 3 valuation which is submitted to the Valuer-General Victoria (VGV) for review. The general valuation is provisional until Stage 4, where the complete and final revaluation is submitted with a signed statutory declaration of valuation return to the VGV by 30 April 2021. The VGV will certify the valuation to the Minister who will declare the valuation true and correct and suitable to be adopted and used for the purposes of a rating authority. Changes to the general revaluation between Stages 3 and 4 could result in differential rates being amended from the proposed budget. This amendment has no impact on the income or expenditure projections contained within the budget.

4.1.2 Statutory fees and fines

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Building and Planning	2,456	2,546	90	3.65%
Parking	314	420	106	33.84%
Regulatory Service	145	147	2	1.50%
Fines	1,252	1,819	566	45.21%
Other Fees and Charges	312	497	186	59.56%
Total statutory fees and fines	4,479	5,429	950	21.21%

Statutory fees relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include animal registrations, Public

Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 registrations and parking fines. Increases in statutory fees are made in accordance with legislative requirements. Statutory fees are projected to increase by 21.21 per cent or \$949,000 compared to 2020/2021 budget. This is largely related to fees and fines returning to previous levels as the economy recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Department of Treasury and Finance sets the value of a penalty unit annually. There are also a small number of additional fees related to registration of pools and spas fencing, which will continue in the financial year. A detailed listing of statutory fees and fines is included in Appendix A – Fees and Charges Schedule.

4.1.3 User fees, charges and fines

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Aged and health services	605	640	35	5.76%
Recreation	315	461	146	46.50%
Children's services	3,514	3,371	(143)	(4.08)%
Parking	2,724	3,723	999	36.68%
Saleyard yarding	1,166	1,290	124	10.63%
Regulatory service	1,074	1,150	75	7.02%
Ticket income	3,405	5,314	1,908	56.04%
Sales income	785	807	22	2.82%
Waste management services	6,963	7,829	866	12.44%
Other fees and charges	4,240	4,505	265	6.26%
Total use fees	24,791	29,090	4,299	17.34%

User fees, charges and fines relate to the recovery of costs to deliver services through the charging of fees to users of the City's services. These include separate rating schemes, use of leisure, entertainment and other community facilities, and the provision of human services such as childcare and home and community care services.

In order to support the community to recover from the impacts of COVID-19 a number of user fees and charges were frozen for 2020/2021. In a similar fashion, a number of fees, charge and rates have not been increased from the 2020/2021 rate.

The 2021/2022 user fees and charges are budgeted to increase by 17.34 per cent or \$4.3M from 2020/2021. The main areas contributing to the estimated increase are parking (\$999,000) and ticket income (\$1.9M). The increased income is predominantly due to the 2020/2021 adopted budget having made significant adjustments for the impacts of COVID-19 taking into account the forecast decrease in use of community facilities. Whilst some of these impacts are forecast into 2021/2022, and a number of hospitality (for example) fees will be waived, overall income for events and other areas are forecast to rise in this budget.

A detailed listing of user fees, charges and fines is included in Appendix A - Fees and Charges Schedule.

4.1.4 Grants

The Act and the regulations require the City to disclose estimated operating and capital grants in the Budget.

Any additional funding secured during the year will be incorporated into future adjustments to the City's budget.

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Grants are budgeted to be received in respect of the following:				
Summary of grants				
Commonwealth funded grants	26,080	25,085	(995)	(3.82)%
State funded grants	11,778	15,932	4,154	35.27%
Total grants received	37,858	41,017	3,159	8.34%
(a) Operating grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Victorian Grants Commission - Unallocated	13,698	14,597	899	6.56%
Victorian Grants Commission - Local Roads	3,613	3,737	124	3.43%
Aged care	4,267	4,496	229	5.37%
Health Services - Immunisation	10	10	-	0.00%
Recurrent - State Government				
Youth	73	72	(1)	(1.37)%
Aged care	772	772	-	0.00%
School crossing supervisors	265	262	(3)	(1.13)%
Tourism / Events Projects	145	-	(145)	(100.00)%
Maternal and child health	860	860	-	0.00%
Family and children	687	643	(44)	(6.40)%
Arts and Culture	295	315	20	6.78%
Emergency Management	61	60	(1)	(1.64)%
Environment	56	56	-	0.00%
Health Services - Immunisation	65	65	-	0.00%
Total recurrent grants	24,867	25,945	1,078	4.34%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Working for Victoria	4,881	-	(4,881)	(100.00)%
GovHub Transition	750	750	-	0.00%
Youth	15	-	(15)	(100.00)%
Business Development	100	-	(100)	(100.00)%
Arts and Culture	33	-	(33)	(100.00)%
Community Partnerships	-	925	925	100.00%
Total non-recurrent grants	5,779	1,675	(4,104)	(71.02)%
Total operating grants	30,646	27,620	(3,026)	(9.87)%

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
(b) Capital Grants				
Recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Roads to recovery	2,246	2,246	-	0.00%
Recurrent - State Government				
Total recurrent grants	2,246	2,246	-	0.00%
Non-recurrent - Commonwealth Government				
Federal Stimulus Funding	496	-	(496)	(100.00)%
Buildings	1,750	-	(1,750)	(100.00)%
Non-recurrent - State Government				
Bridges	-	594		100.00%
Buildings	2,050	3,715	1,665	81.22%
Land improvement	330	1,250	920	100.00%
Pathways	340	-	(340)	(100.00)%
Sealed roads	-	5,592	5,592	100.00%
Total non-recurrent grants	4,966	11,151	6,185	124.55%
Total capital grants	7,212	13,397	6,185	85.76%
Total Grants	37,858	41,017	3,159	8.34%

Operating grants (\$3M decrease)

Operating grants include monies from State and Commonwealth Government sources for the purposes of funding the delivery of the City's services to residents.

The level of operating grants is projected to decrease by 10 per cent or \$3M compared to the 2020/2021 budget. This is predominately due the 2020/2021 budget including \$4.8M for Working for Victoria stimulus funding which provided paid employment for unemployed Victorians for a period of 6 months. A list of operating grants by type and source, classified into recurrent and non-recurrent is included above. For comparative purposes an adjustment has been made to the classification of the Aged Care funding from non-recurrent to recurrent in the 2020/2021 adopted budget.

Capital grants (\$6.2M increase)

Capital grants include monies from State and Commonwealth government sources which contributes to funding the capital works program. The level of capital grants has increased by 86 per cent or \$6.2M compared to 2020/2021. It has been announced that the City will receive \$4.6M from the Commonwealth Government as stimulus in infrastructure development. Section 4.5 Capital Works Program includes further analysis of the grants and contributions expected to be received during the 2021/2022 financial year.

4.1.5 Contributions

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Monetary	3,227	3,453	226	7.02%
Non-Monetary	15,000	15,225	225	1.50%
Total contributions	18,227	18,678	451	2.48%

Contributions - Monetary (\$226,000 increase)

Overall level of monetary contributions are budgeted to increase by 7 per cent or \$226,000 compared to 2020/2021. Monetary contributions represent funds received from community groups to contribute toward specific projects.

Contributions - Non-Monetary (\$225,000 increase)

Non-monetary assets include developer constructed assets contributed by developers in accordance with planning permits issued for property development, including land, roads, footpaths, play spaces and drainage. Contributions are projected to increase by \$225,000 or 1.5 per cent compared to 2020/2021.

4.1.6 Other income

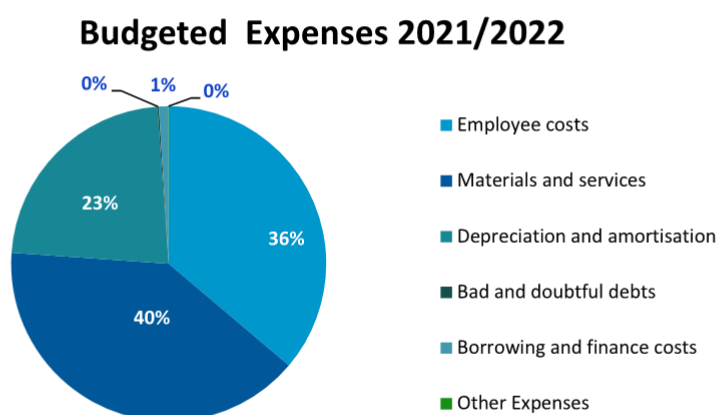
	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Interest	1,174	374	(800)	(68.15)%
Total other income	1,174	374	(800)	(68.15)%

Other income (\$800,000 decrease)

Other income includes interest revenue on investments and rate arrears. Interest revenue is budgeted to decrease by 68 per cent in line with reduction in commercial investment rates for deposits and based on the forecast actual interest revenue generated by the City in 2020/2021.

Expenditure

The following graph presents a snapshot of expense types in the 2021/2022 financial year.



4.1.7 Employee costs

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Wages and salaries	60,443	56,945	(3,498)	(5.79)%
Annual, sick and long service leave	9,472	8,935	(536)	(5.66)%
Superannuation	6,230	6,408	178	2.86%
WorkCover	462	750	288	62.34%
Fringe Benefits Tax	181	178	(3)	(1.65)%
Total employee costs	76,788	73,217	(3,571)	(4.65)%

Employee costs (\$3.6M decrease)

Employee costs include all labour-related expenditure such as wages, allowances and salaries and on-costs such as leave entitlements, WorkCover and employer superannuation.

The 2020/2021 Adopted Budget included \$4.8M, representing employment for 115 FTE for 6 months as part of the *Working for Victoria* program to provide fixed term employment for job seekers. This program and these positions were funded by the Victorian Government. The program has not been funded to continue in 2021/2022 and these costs are not part of the 2021/2022 Adopted Budget.

Employee costs are budgeted to decrease by 4.65 per cent compared to the adopted 2020/2021 budget. There have been no pay increases beyond the City's enterprise agreements, however there are some additional services now being provided by staff which were previously outsourced such as, the Greening Greater Bendigo program.

The change between budget years relates to the following:

- Working for Victoria employee costs removed from 2021/2022 budget
- Some additional positions supported by successful grant funding secured to enable additional services to be provided to the community – predominantly through State or Commonwealth Government programs
- New budget initiatives (often offset by funding arrangements) to ensure Council is achieving outcomes set out in the annual actions
- Transition of the delivery of certain services "in-house", which were previously outsourced through contracts (this sees some decreases in 4.1.8 Materials and services)
- Anticipated pay increases in line with the City's Enterprise Agreement (EA), estimated at 1.7 per cent in 2021/2022.
- Band movements and reclassification of employees as prescribed by the EA awards.

A summary of human resources expenditure categorised according to the organisational structure of the City can be found in the Statement of Human Resources.

4.1.8 Materials and services

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Contract payments	41,712	39,246	(2,466)	(5.91)%
Administration expenses	7,838	7,380	(458)	(5.84)%
Utility expenses	6,426	6,330	(96)	(1.50)%
Materials, concrete products and hardware	5,003	4,884	(119)	(2.38)%
Maintenance and consumables	9,232	11,928	2,696	29.21%
Plant and equipment	5,579	6,007	429	7.69%
Contributions and donations	2,215	2,734	519	23.43%
Insurance	1,452	2,180	728	50.14%
Total materials and services	79,457	80,689	1,232	1.55%

Materials and services (\$1.2M increase)

Materials and services include the purchases of consumables, payments to contractors for the provision of services and utilities. Materials and services are budgeted to increase by 1.55 per cent compared to the 2020/2021 Adopted budget.

The increase is mainly attributable to a rise in maintenance costs (\$2.7M) and insurance (\$0.7M) partially mitigated by a reduction in contract payments (\$2.5M). The reduction in contract payments is in part due to the transition of the delivery of certain services "in-house". There were also around \$0.5M in costs related to the 2020 Councillor election incorporated into the 2020/2021 Adopted budget. A material balance within contract payments is expenditure relating to the EPA landfill levy which is budgeted at \$7.7M for 2021/2022.

Operating costs are subject to review annually, and the City has continued to identify and implement efficiencies across services.

4.1.9 Depreciation and amortisation

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000	Change %
Property	8,582	9,012	430	5.01%
Plant and equipment	3,383	3,430	47	1.39%
Infrastructure	27,931	28,975	1,044	3.74%
Intangible assets (Landfill Airspace)	1,235	1,645	410	33.20%
Intangible assets (Right of Use Assets)	-	2,439	2,439	100.00%
Total depreciation and amortisation	41,131	45,501	4,370	10.62%

Depreciation and amortisation (\$4.4M Increase)

Depreciation is an accounting measure and is a non-cash item, which attempts to allocate the value of an asset over its useful life for the City's property, plant and equipment and infrastructure assets such as roads and drainage. Increases budgeted for the 2021/2022 financial year account for the City's increasing asset base.

In addition, \$2.4M relates to the amortisation of right of use assets, this movement is the result of the new accounting standard, AASB 16, which requires the City to recognise leased assets and amortise them over the life of the lease agreement.

4.2 Balance Sheet**4.2.1 Assets****Current assets \$70.1M and non-current assets \$1.8B**

Key points related to the City's balance sheet asset disclosures:

- Cash and cash equivalents include cash and investments such as cash held in the bank and in petty cash, and investments held in deposits or other highly liquid investments with short term maturities of three months or less.
- Trade and other receivables are monies owed to the City by ratepayers and other debtors. All receivables are managed in accordance with the City's Revenue and Debt Collection policy and COVID Hardship policy.
- Investments in associates reflect the City's investment in the North Central Goldfields Library Corporation.
- Other assets include items such as prepayments for expenses that the City has paid in advance of service delivery, inventories or stocks held for sale or consumption in the City's services, and other revenues due to be received in the next 12 months. These are not expected to change significantly in 2021/2022.

Property, infrastructure, plant and equipment make up the largest component of the City's assets and represents the value of all the land, buildings, roads, vehicles, equipment, etc. which has been built up by Council over many years.

4.2.2 Liabilities

Current liabilities \$43.7M and non-current liabilities \$50.4M

- Trade and other payables are those to whom the City owes money as at June 30. These liabilities are budgeted to remain at similar levels to 2020/2021.
- Provisions include accrued long service leave, annual leave and rostered days off owing to employees. An increase for Enterprise Agreement outcomes has been factored into these employee entitlements. Provisions also include a provision for landfill rehabilitations. Overall provision balances have remained steady.

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000	Change \$'000
Current assets	69,448	70,797	1,349
Current liabilities	40,091	43,677	3,586
Working capital	29,357	27,120	(2,902)
Restricted cash and investment current assets			-
Statutory reserves	7,847	7,589	(258)
Cash used to fund carried forward capital works	1,285	11,000	9,715
Trust funds and deposits	3,372	3,406	34
Unrestricted working capital	41,861	49,115	7,254

4.2.3 Borrowings

The table below shows information on borrowings as specifically required by the Regulations.

	Adopted Budget 2020/2021 \$'000	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$'000
Amount borrowed as at June 30 of the prior year	41,724	40,491
Amount proposed to be borrowed	3,000	19,462
Amount projected to be redeemed	(4,233)	(16,448)
Amount of borrowings as at June 30	40,491	43,505

The opening balance of the amount borrowed for 2021/2022 reflects the projected balance of Council's loan portfolio as at 30 June 2021. 2021/2022 accounts for the principal repayment of an \$11M interest only loan facility, and additional borrowings of \$19.4M to fund strategic land purchases, capital projects and future development (residential and industrial) land related investments.

Note that the projected balance of \$43.5M by 30 June 2022 is disclosed on the balance sheet as current (\$6.5M) and non-current (\$36.9M).

4.2.4 Leases by category

As a result of the introduction of *AASB 16 Leases*, right-of-use assets and lease liabilities have been recognised as outlined in the table below:

	Adopted Budget 2021/2022 \$,000
Right-of-use assets	
Property	848
Plant and equipment	3,446
Other	42
Total right-of-use assets	4,336
Lease liabilities	
Current lease liabilities	
Land and buildings	691
Plant and equipment	1,081
Other	37
Total current lease liabilities	1,809
Non-current lease liabilities	
Land and buildings	236
Plant and equipment	2,386
Other	27
Total non-current lease liabilities	2,649
Total lease liabilities	4,458

Where the interest rate applicable to a lease is not expressed in the lease agreement, Council applies an average incremental borrowing rate in the calculation of lease liabilities. The current incremental borrowing rate is 4.54%.

4.3 Statement of changes in equity

4.3.1 Reserves

Reserve cash and investments (\$29.3M)

Council has cash reserves which it is currently using to fund various programs. These include statutory and discretionary reserves. Current cash reserves set funds aside for drainage, land and buildings, resource recovery and education and superannuation (defined benefit risk) reserves.

The City's Financial Reserves Management policy was updated in 2019 and continues to include a specific reserve to support Resource Recovery and Education related expenditure.

Contributions (via related income and charges) are utilised to support Resource Recovery and Education expenses, and may include:

- Remediation works of past and existing landfill sites
- Future works at current resource and recovery sites to extend their useful life
- A replacement waste treatment facility when the current landfill site is exhausted
- Capital works directly associated with resource recovery
- Purchase of capital items related to the collection and disposal of waste (e.g. garbage trucks)
- Other projects directly linked to resource recovery and education

Long term, the reserve enables peaks and troughs related to waste expenditure to be managed efficiently and transparently.

The forecast balance of the Waste Reserve as at 30 June 2021 is \$6.3M and is budgeted to be \$4.2M at 30 June 2022, in advance of future further landfill remediation works and forecast increased waste expenditure.

The EPA landfill levy, a levy payable by the City per tonne of waste disposed of via landfill, is set to increase substantially on 1 July 2021 (2020/2021: \$65.90/tonne, 2021/2022: \$105.90/tonne). The 2020/2021 forecast expenditure is \$4.8M. As a result of the increased EPA landfill levy rates the 2021/2022 budgeted EPA landfill levy expenditure is \$7.7M. Taking into account increased expenditure for the landfill levy and other major capital works, the waste reserve balance is forecast to be Nil by 2025.

During the year an amount of \$61M (net) is budgeted to be transferred to the asset revaluation reserve. Buildings and land are revalued every two years and are due to be revalued in 2021/2022. For 2021/2022 the City will revalue roads, drainage, footpaths, bridges and artwork, which will result in an increase to the asset revaluation reserve.

4.3.2 Equity

Equity – total \$1.78B

Total equity always equals net assets and is made up of the following components:

- Asset revaluation reserve represents the difference between the previously recorded value of assets and their current valuations.
- Other reserves that are funds that the City wishes to separately identify as being set aside to meet a specific purpose in the future and to which there is no existing liability. These amounts are transferred from the accumulated surplus of the City to be separately disclosed.
- Accumulated surplus is the value of all net assets less reserves that have accumulated over time.

4.4 Statement of cash flows

This section analyses the expected cash flows from the operating, investing and financing activities of the City for the 2021/2022 year. Budgeting cash flows for the City is a key factor in setting the level of fees and charges. This provides a guide to the level of capital expenditure that can be sustained with or without using existing cash reserves.

4.4.1 Net cash flows provided by/used in operating activities

Operating activities (\$66.5M inflow)

Operating activities refers to the cash generated or used in the normal service delivery functions of the City. Cash remaining after paying for the provision of services to the community may be available for investment in capital works or repayment of debt.

The increase in cash inflows from operating activities is mostly attributed to a return to a more usual rates collection pattern, following the deferrals and payment arrangements introduced in 2020/2021 to assist the community through the COVID-19 pandemic. These continue to a limited extent in 2021/2022.

The net cash flows from operating activities does not equal the surplus (deficit) for the year as the expected revenues and expenses of the Council include non-cash items, which have been excluded from the Cash Flow Statement.

4.4.2 Net Cash Flows provided by/used in investing activities

Investing Activities (\$55.2M outflow)

Investing activities refers to cash generated or used in the enhancement or creation of infrastructure and other assets. These activities also include the acquisition and sale of other assets such as vehicles, property and equipment. The cash outflow from investing activities is tied to the expenditure in the capital program.

4.4.3 Net cash flows provided by/used in financing activities

Financing activities (\$1.2M outflow)

Financing activities refers to cash generated or used in the financing of the City's functions and include borrowings from financial institutions and advancing of repayable loans to other organisations. Activities also include repayment of the principal component of loan repayments for the year.

The cash flows from financing activities are comprised of new borrowings of \$19.4M, which is partially offset by repayment of an \$11M interest only facility in November 2021. Financing activities includes lending and repayment of approved loans for private heritage works and community organisations. Due to a change in accounting standards, financing activities now include lease payments.

4.5 Capital works program

This section presents a listing of the capital works projects that will be undertaken for the 2021/2022 year, classified by expenditure type and funding source. Works are also disclosed as 2021/2022 budget or carried forward from prior year. A carry forward refers to an allocation of funds that has not been used and/or received by the end of the financial year; however, these funds will be used and/or received in the following financial year. Carry forwards are often needed for projects that are delivered across multiple financial years.

4.5.1 Summary

	Project	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	Grants	Contrib.	Council	Borrowings
	Cost	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property	27,093	19,530	7,457	106	-	8,010	-	13,133	5,950
Plant and equipment	4,814	444	4,343	27	-	0	1,180	3,634	-
Infrastructure	34,392	8,615	25,587	190	-	5,081	-	29,311	-
Total	66,299	28,589	37,387	323	-	13,091	1,180	46,078	5,950

Council will be undertaking \$66.3M worth of Capital Works projects during the 2021/2022 financial year, with \$55.3M of newly committed projects. \$11M of the total expenditure relates to project funds that are expected to be carried forward from the 2020/2021 financial year. Of the capital works budget, 58% has been allocated to renewing and upgrading Council's existing assets. The remainder of the program is for delivery of new assets within the municipality.

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	Grants	Contrib.	Council	Borrowings
	Cost	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Property									
Buildings	14,343	8,580	5,657	106	-	3,715	-	10,628	-
Land	5,950	5,950	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,950
Total Property	20,293	14,530	5,657	106	-	3,715	-	10,628	5,950
Plant and Equipment									
Fixtures, fitting and furniture	962	432	503	27	-	-	200	762	-
Plant, machinery and equipment	3,840	-	3,840	-	-	-	980	2,860	-
Total Plant and Equipment	4,802	432	4,343	27	-	-	1,180	3,622	-

Capital Works Area	Project	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New	Renewal	Upgrade	Expansion	Grants	Contrib.	Council	Borrowings
	Cost	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Infrastructure									
Land Improvements	4,212	1,518	2,694	-	-	60	-	4,152	-
Bridges	1,254	-	1,154	100	-	594	-	660	-
Sealed Roads	11,640	1,220	10,420	-	-	3,238	-	8,402	-
Unsealed Roads	3,200	-	3,200	-	-	-	-	3,200	-
Pathways	3,000	1,000	2,000	-	-	-	-	3,000	-
Drainage	3,160	510	2,650	-	-	-	-	3,160	-
Public furniture and fittings	3,683	1,579	2,014	90	-	1,189	-	2,494	-
Fountains, statues and monuments	55	-	55	-	-	-	-	55	-
Total Infrastructure	30,204	5,827	24,187	190	-	5,081	-	25,123	-
Total Capital Works	55,299	20,789	34,187	323	-	8,796	1,180	39,373	5,950

Property (\$20.3M)

The Property asset category comprises of buildings including community facilities, sports facilities and pavilions and land acquisitions. The City has budgeted to deliver \$5.6M on renewing existing buildings. Of Council's total allocation to new assets, 68% has been attributed to new buildings and large land acquisitions. \$5.95M has been included in the capital works budget in line with Councils Industrial Land Strategy.

Plant and Equipment (\$4.8M)

Plant and equipment category includes plant, machinery, equipment, computers and telecommunications.

Ongoing replacement and renewal of existing plant and light fleet is budgeted to be \$4.3M. \$962,000 has been allocated to renewing and improving information technology equipment.

Infrastructure (\$30.2M)

The range of Infrastructure assets that are owned and maintained by Council include roads, bridges, footpaths/shared paths, drainage, public furniture and fittings, and land improvements. Over 2021/2022, planned investments include:

- \$24.6M will be spent on renewing and upgrading existing infrastructure assets and \$5.8M will be allocated to construction of new infrastructure assets within the City of Greater Bendigo.
- Sealed and unsealed roads will have combined expenditure of \$13.6M to go towards renewing the 1,700km's of local roads within the municipality. Council will also undertake \$3M worth of works on both new and renewing the existing footpath network.
- \$2.65M has been allocated to the renewal of Council's existing drainage network, \$850,000 of this has been allocated to renewing sections of the Bendigo Creek.
- Significant investment towards Council's recreation assets with \$4.2M to be spent on the Land Improvement asset class. Larger projects include works to be undertaken at the former Municipal Baths and the renewal of hard courts and sports lighting.
- Public furniture and fittings have a budget allocation of \$3.9M. Items included within this category include sports field lighting, playgrounds, bus shelters and public furniture such as park benches.

A listing of all capital works projects can be viewed at Appendix C1 of this document

4.5.2 Works carried forward from the 2020/2021 year

Capital Works Area	Project Cost \$'000	Asset expenditure types				Summary of Funding Sources			
		New \$'000	Renewal \$'000	Upgrade \$'000	Expansion \$'000	Grants \$'000	Contrib. \$'000	Council Cash \$'000	Borrowings \$'000
Property									
Buildings	6,800	5,000	1,800	-	-	4,295	-	2,505	-
Total Property	6,800	5,000	1,800	-	-	4,295	-	2,505	-
Plant and Equipment									
Fixtures, fitting and furniture	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Total Plant and Equipment	12	12	-	-	-	-	-	12	-
Infrastructure									
Land Improvements	2,600	1,400	1,200	-	-	-	-	2,600	-
Pathways	500	500	-	-	-	-	-	500	-
Public furniture and fittings	1,088	888	200	-	-	-	-	1,088	-
Total Infrastructure	4,188	2,788	1,400	-	-	-	-	4,188	-
Total Carried Forward	11,000	7,800	3,200	-	-	4,295	-	6,705	-

At the end of each financial year there are projects that are forecast to extend across multiple years for a variety of factors, including extended construction periods, planning issues, weather delays and extended consultation. For the 2020/2021 year it is forecast that a total of \$11M of capital works will be carried forward for completion in the 2021/2022 financial year.

5. Financial performance indicators

The following table highlights the City's current and projected performance across a range of key financial performance indicators. These indicators provide an analysis of Council's financial position and performance and should be interpreted in the context of the organisation's objectives.

Indicator	Measure		Actual	Adopted Budget	Adopted Budget	Budget Projections			Trend
		NOTES	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	+/-
Operating position									
Adjusted underlying result	Adjusted underlying surplus (deficit) / Adjusted underlying revenue	1	(5.17)%	(7.96)%	(4.19)%	(0.63)%	(1.86)%	(1.05)%	+
Liquidity									
Working capital	Current assets / current liabilities	2	185.97%	173.22%	162.09%	161.79%	154.31%	158.53%	-
Unrestricted cash	Unrestricted cash / current liabilities	3	73.67%	41.17%	64.55%	67.80%	66.82%	73.76%	+
Obligations									
Loans and borrowings	Interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue	4	34.27%	33.45%	33.96%	38.84%	36.60%	33.75%	-
Loans and borrowings	Interest and principal repayments on interest bearing loans and borrowings / rate revenue		4.89%	4.80%	13.61%	6.46%	7.15%	7.48%	+
Indebtedness	Non-current liabilities / own source revenue		36.95%	29.73%	30.01%	32.24%	29.58%	27.01%	-
Asset renewal	Asset renewal expenditure / depreciation	5	99.74%	68.25%	75.14%	75.96%	77.15%	78.94%	+
Stability									
Rates concentration	Rate revenue / adjusted underlying revenue	6	66.18%	68.48%	68.66%	66.74%	68.66%	68.89%	o
Rates effort	Rate revenue / CIV of rateable properties in the municipality		0.53%	0.53%	0.53%	0.54%	0.55%	0.56%	+
Efficiency									
Expenditure level	Total expenditure / no. of property assessments		\$3,279	\$3,351	\$3,326	\$3,355	\$3,357	\$3,375	+
Revenue level	Residential rate revenue / No. of residential property assessments		\$1,710	\$1,448	\$1,509	\$1,544	\$1,596	\$1,637	+
Workforce turnover	No. of permanent staff resignations and terminations / average no. of permanent staff for the financial year		8.50%	9.88%	9.09%	8.95%	8.93%	8.91%	+

Key to forecast trend:

- + Forecasts improvement in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator
- o Forecasts that Council's financial performance/financial position indicator will be steady
- Forecasts deterioration in Council's financial performance/financial position indicator

Notes to indicators

1. Adjusted underlying result

An indicator of the sustainable operating result required to enable Council to continue to provide core services in the long term, which is not impacted by capital income items which can often mask the operating result. There is a higher amount of non-capitalisable expenditure in 2021/2022 (including landfill remediation), influencing the negative result.

This indicator will improve over the long term. Impacting on this measure is the finalisation of non-capitalised, waste-related expenses and GovHub operational expenses which are forecast to commence in 2022/2023 (shifting some costs from capital to operational long term).

2. Liquidity

The proportion of current liabilities represented by current assets. The trend in later years remains steady. Current loans will be repaid over future years. The City plans to borrow to support the funding of new projects in the Capital Works program.

3. Unrestricted cash

This represents the availability of the City to pay its short-term liabilities as required. The City is forecasting long term reserves being held of approximately \$29.3M in 2021/2022.

4. Debt compared to rates

Additional borrowings are forecast at \$19M and \$15M in the next two years to support additional land development and capital works. In the longer term, Council's debt is forecast to reduce against its annual rate revenue as long-term debt is redeemed.

5. Asset renewal

This is a percentage calculation of the amount Council invests in renewing its assets against its depreciation costs (which is an indication of the decline in value of existing capital assets). A percentage greater than 100 indicates Council is investing more than an efficient level towards maintaining existing assets. A percentage less than 100 means asset replacement costs may be increasing faster than they are being renewed and future capital expenditure will be required to renew assets. Impacting this number is a higher allocation in 2021/2022 of works which are categorised as major expenditure (non-capitalisable), including some works on joint-use facilities.

6. Rates concentration

The modelling suggests that the extent of Council's reliance on rate revenues to fund all of Council's on-going services remains steady. It is difficult to accurately forecast any future Government Grant revenue due to shifting State and Federal priorities.

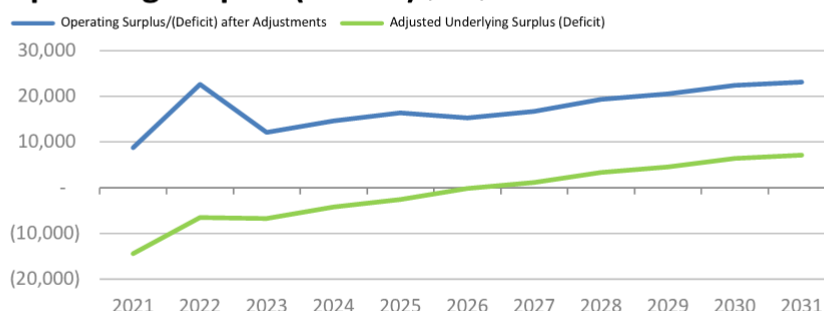
5.1.2 Long Term Financial Planning

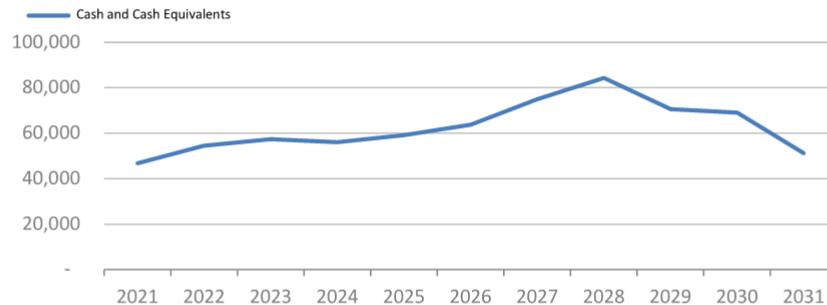
The City maintains a long term financial plan (LTFP) model that supports the annual Budget and Projections (4 to 10 years). The Local Government Act 2020 requires Councils to produce 10-year Financial Plans and 10-year Asset Plans. The next iteration of the 10-year Financial Plan is currently being developed and will be available in coming months for comment.

The following summary graphs are base model projections from the City's current LTFP. These are included for information – noting that next year's budget will be a 4-year budget and will include greater detail on the 10-year Financial Plan.

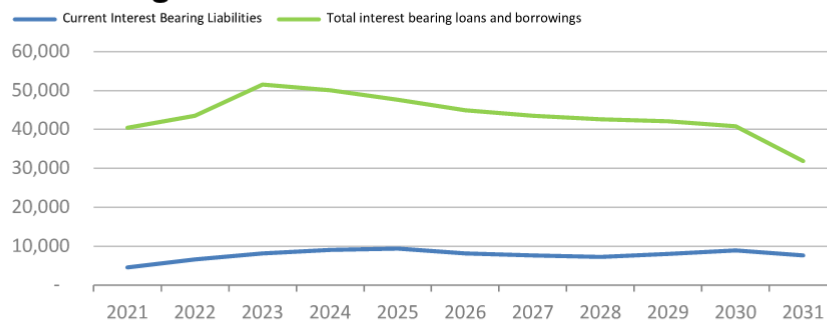
Operating Surplus and Adjusted underlying result

Operating Surplus (Deficit) (\$'000)



Working capital:**Cash Balance (\$'000)**

The City's cash holdings are projected to increase as borrowings are made to fund future capital works. The projected cash holdings as at 30 June are between \$47M and \$84M from 2021 to 2031.

Borrowings (supporting Capital growth):**Borrowings (\$'000)**

The City borrows to support new capital investment. In addition, future investment associated with Developer Contribution Plans (DCP) and strategic land purchases are projected to increase total borrowings to \$51M over coming years. In 2021/2022 the City also has a significant loan principle repayment of an \$11M interest only facility.

Appendices

The following appendices include voluntary and statutory disclosures of information which provide support for the analysis contained in sections 1 to 5 of this report.

This information has not been included in the main body of the Budget in the interests of clarity. The City has decided that while the Budget needs to focus on the important elements of the Budget and provide appropriate analysis, the detail upon which the Budget is based should be provided in the interests of open and transparent local government.

The contents of the appendices are summarised below:

Appendix	Nature of Information
A	Fees and Charges Schedule
B	Budget Process
C	Budget Context, Principles and Capital Investment Framework
C1	List of capital works program
D	Revenue and Rating Plan
E	Long Term Financial Plan assumptions
F	Glossary of terms

Appendix A

User Fees and Charges Schedule

This appendix presents the fees and charges of a statutory and non-statutory nature which will be charged in respect to various goods and services provided during the 2021/2022 year. Certain prices may change over the course of the year due to external or statutory requirements. Where these do change, the City will update the relevant part of the City's website and endeavour to communicate with all relevant stakeholders.

Pricing type definitions:

- **Accessible pricing** - a discount on the full cost of providing the service. The discounted rate is determined on the community benefit or social good and can be set between 100% discount up to full cost recovery.
- **Full cost pricing** - applied where the objective is to achieve a financial return for the City.
- **Incentive Pricing** - utilised where certain behaviours are encouraged by pricing above full cost recovery.
- **Market pricing** - applied to services considered discretionary and is without strong social benefit, or ancillary to the social benefit of the service.
- **Statutory** - set by legislation or by other external agreement, normally providing no discretion for the City to influence the amount charged. Fees in this budget are subject to change, in line with the relevant legislation.

CORPORATE PERFORMANCE FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE 2021/2022

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
FINANCIAL STRATEGY						
Dishonoured Cheque - Dishonoured by Post Office	Full Cost	Each	F	28.00	28.45	1.61
Dishonoured Cheque - Dishonoured by Bank	Full Cost	Each	F	28.00	28.45	1.61
RATES AND CHARGES						
Supply of Garbage Bins - 240 Litre Commercial Only	Full Cost	Bin	T	125.00	126.90	1.52
Supply of Garbage Bins - 140 Litre	Full Cost	Bin	T	93.50	94.95	1.55
Supply of Recycle Bin - 240 Litre	Full Cost	Bin	T	93.50	94.95	1.55
Supply of Organic Bin - 240 Litre	Full Cost	Bin	T	93.50	94.95	1.55
Land Information Certificate	Full Cost	Certificate	F	27.05	27.50	1.66
Property Ownership Detail	Full Cost	Property	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Rate Searches 15 year	Full Cost	Per hour	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Rate Searches 30 year	Full Cost	Per hour	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Sales Information to Valuers	Full Cost	Per month	T	66.30	67.30	1.51
Reprint of Rates Notice - previous years	Full Cost	Per year	F	15.00	15.25	1.67
RISK MANAGEMENT						
Public Liability Ins for venue booking (up to 3 consecutive days)	Full Cost	Function	T	26.50	26.90	1.51
GOVERNANCE						
Freedom of Information						
Application fee	Statutory	Unit	F	2 Units	2 Units	Varies
Search Time	Statutory	Per Hour	F	1.5 Units	1.5 Units	Varies
Supervision Charge	Statutory	Per Hour	F	1.5 Units	1.5 Units	Varies
Black and White Photocopy	Statutory	A4	F	0.20	0.20	Varies
Photocopy other than Black and White	Full Cost	A4	F	0.50	0.55	Varies
CUSTOMER SUPPORT						
Heathcote Service Centre - Community Art/Meeting Spaces for Commercial/Corporate Use	Accessible	Up to 4 hours	T	36.70	36.70	-
Heathcote Service Centre - Community Art/Meeting Spaces for Commercial/Corporate Use	Accessible	Over 4 hours	T	60.20	60.20	-
CBD Public Spaces	Accessible	Varies	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
CBD Public Space Marquee's for Commercial/Corporate Use	Market	Per Marquee	T	65.00	66.00	1.54
CBD Public Space Marquee's for CBD Traders	Accessible	Per Marquee	T	30.00	30.00	-
CBD Public Space Stage for Commercial/Corporate Use	Market	Varies	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY						
File retrieval charge	Full Cost	Each	T	10.00	10.15	1.50

STRATEGY AND GROWTH FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE 2021/2022

Program/Service		Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
					2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
BENDIGO AIRPORT							
Airport Rental Rates							
Airport unserviced lease rate		Accessible	Site Value	T	0.0660	0.0670	1.52
Airport serviced lease rate		Accessible	Site Value	T	0.1100	0.1117	1.50
Airport License Fees - applicable to new leases only based on use (annual CPI applies)							
Private use		Accessible	Licence	T	306.35	310.95	1.50
Commercial use		Accessible	Licence	T	612.70	621.90	1.50
Premium use		Accessible	Licence	T	976.35	991.00	1.50
Landing fee ^A	Per landing	Accessible	\$p/1,000kg	T	11.00	11.20	1.82
Local user fee ^{AB}	Annual	Accessible	\$p/1,000kg	T	330.00	334.95	1.50
Non local user fee ^{AB}	Annual	Accessible	\$p/1,000kg	T	550.00	558.25	1.50
Passenger fee	Per passenger	Accessible	Per passenger	T	13.20	13.40	1.52
Flight training - Bendigo Airport leaseholder	Annual	Accessible	Per aircraft	T	1,100.00	1,116.50	1.50
Flight training- non local	Annual	Accessible	Per aircraft	T	2,200.00	2,233.00	1.50
Hardstand parking ^C	Per day	Accessible	Per aircraft	T	12.10	12.30	1.65
Grassed parking	Per day	Accessible	Per aircraft	T	5.50	5.60	1.82
Grassed parking	Annual	Accessible	Per aircraft	T	1,100.00	1,116.50	1.50
Grassed parking	Annual	Accessible	Per aircraft	T	1,100.00	1,116.50	1.50
^A Aircraft below 1,000kg will be charged at a 1,000kg minimum. ^B Aircraft over 3,000kg cannot apply for an annual option. ^C First 3 nights of aircraft parking per calendar month are free for non locals.							
LIVESTOCK EXCHANGE							
Cattle Yard Dues		Full Cost	Per head	T	9.65	9.80	1.55
Cow and Calf Yard Dues		Full Cost	Per head	T	11.20	11.40	1.79
Bull Yard Dues		Full Cost	Per head	T	12.15	12.35	1.65
Calf Yard Dues		Full Cost	Per head	T	1.60	1.65	3.12
Sheep and Lamb Yard Dues		Full Cost	Per head	T	0.82	0.85	3.66
Pig Yard Dues		Full Cost	Per head	T	1.80	1.85	2.78
Market Fee Sheep & lambs		Full Cost	Dist over 6 Agts	T	3,026.35	3,071.75	1.50
AV Data		Full Cost	Per minute	T	1.45	1.50	3.45
Rental of Pig Pavilion		Full Cost	Per month	T	373.50	379.15	1.51
Pig Sale		Full Cost	Per sale	T	373.50	379.15	1.51
Store Sales Cattle - Market fee		Full Cost	Per head	T	1.55	1.60	3.23
Store Sales Sheep Fee		Full Cost	Dist over operating Agents	T	1,466.70	1,488.75	1.50
Paddocking Fees Sheep & Lambs Outwards		Full Cost	Per head per day	T	0.10	0.15	50.00
Paddocking Fees Sheep & Lambs Inwards		Full Cost	Per head	T	0.05	0.10	100.00
Sheep loading fee		Full Cost	Per head	T	0.10	0.15	50.00
Truck Wash Keys		Full Cost	Each	T	37.90	38.50	1.58
Complex Hire - Full Day		Full Cost	Day	T	465.40	472.40	1.50
Complex Hire - Half Day		Full Cost	1/2 Day	T	232.70	236.20	1.50
Complex Hire - Conference Room		Full Cost	Weekday	T	205.70	208.80	1.51
Complex Hire - Conference Room - Weekends		Full Cost	Weekend	T	465.40	472.40	1.50
Complex Hire hourly rate		Full Cost	Per hour	T	16.20	16.45	1.54
Agents Flagfall Sheep		Full Cost	Dist over 6 Agts	T	58.45	59.35	1.54

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service			Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		
						2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	% Change
Paddocking Fees Cattle			Full Cost	Per head per day	T	2.20	2.25	2.27
Cattle Market Ring Sale			Full Cost	Dist over 6 Agts	T	2,800.00	2,842.00	1.50
Cattle Market Post Weigh			Full Cost	Dist over 6 Agts	T	2,300.00	2,334.50	1.50
Agents Flagfall Cattle (Rental)			Full Cost	Dist over 6 Agts	T	55.20	56.05	1.54
Agents Flagfall Pigs (Rental)			Full Cost	Dist over 2 Agts	T	20.55	20.90	1.70
RFID Replacement			Full Cost	Device	T	21.60	21.95	1.62
Unfit Livestock Disposal Fee			Full Cost	Animal	T	104.05	105.65	1.54
Unfit Livestock Disposal Fee - Selling Pen			Full Cost	Per head	T	208.10	211.25	1.51
Office Rental - MLA			Full Cost	Per month	T	124.50	126.40	1.53
Office Rental - Wignalls			Full Cost	Per month	T	99.55	101.05	1.51
Office Rental - BASA			Full Cost	Per month	T	99.55	101.05	1.51
RFID Replacement - Sheep and lambs			Full Cost	Per month	T	2.10	2.15	2.38
PLANNING								
Planning Permits								
Application to change or allow a new use of the land	Class 1	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-	
Amendment to change the statement of what the permit allows; or change any or all conditions	Class 1	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-	
Single Dwelling - Permit Application								
Development up to \$10,000	Class 2	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	13.5 units	13.5 units	-	
Development \$10,001 to \$100,000	Class 3	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	42.5 units	42.5 units	-	
Development \$100,001 to \$500,000	Class 4	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	87 units	87 units	-	
Development \$500,000 to \$1,000,000	Class 5	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	84 units	84 units	-	
Development \$1M to \$2M	Class 6	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	101 units	101 units	-	
Single Dwelling - Amendment to Permit								
Development up to \$10,000	Class 2	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	13.5 units	13.5 units	-	
Development \$10,001 to \$100,000	Class 3	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	42.5 units	42.5 units	-	
Development \$100,001 to \$500,000	Class 4	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	87 units	87 units	-	
Development \$500,000 to \$1,000,000	Class 5	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	94 units	94 units	-	
Development \$1M to \$2M	Class 6	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	94 units	94 units	-	
All Other Development - Permit Application								
Development up to \$100,000	Class 10	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	77.5 units	77.5 units	-	
Development \$100,001 to \$1M	Class 11	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	104.5 units	104.5 units	-	
Development \$1M to \$5M	Class 12	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	230.5 units	230.5 units	-	
Development \$5M to \$15M	Class 13	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	587.5 units	587.5 units	-	
Development \$15M to \$50M	Class 14	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	1732.5 units	1732.5 units	-	
Development more than \$50M	Class 15	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	3894 units	3894 units	-	
All Other Development - Amendment to Permit								
Development up to \$100,000	Class 10	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	77.5 units	77.5 units	-	
Development \$100,001 to \$1M	Class 11	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	104.5 units	104.5 units	-	
Development \$1M to \$5M	Class 12	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	230.5 units	230.5 units	-	
Development \$5M to \$15M	Class 13	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	230.5 units	230.5 units	-	
Development \$15M to \$50M	Class 14	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	230.5 units	230.5 units	-	
Development more than \$50M	Class 15	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	230.5 units	230.5 units	-	

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service		Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
					2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
VicSmart - Application for Permit and Amendment to Permit							
Development up to \$10,000	Class 7	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	13.5 units	13.5 units	-
Development more than \$10,000	Class 8	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	29 units	29 units	-
Application to subdivide or consolidate land	Class 9	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	13.5 units	13.5 units	-
Any other VicSmart application	Class 10	Statutory	Fee Unit		13.5 units	13.5 units	-
Subdivision - Application for Permit and Amendment to Permit							
To subdivide an existing building	Class 16	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-
To subdivide land into two lots	Class 17	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-
To effect a realignment of a common boundary between 2 lots or to consolidate 2 lots	Class 18	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-
To subdivide land - \$1,241 for each 100 lots created	Class 19	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-
To create, vary or remove a restriction within the meaning of the Subdivision Act 1988; or to create or move a right of way; or to create, vary or remove an easement other than a right of way; or to vary or remove a condition in the nature of an easement other than a right of way in a Crown grant.	Class 20	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-
A permit not otherwise provide for in this Regulation, including a reduction in car parking requirements	Class 21	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	89 units	89 units	-
Permit Applications for More Than One Class							
An application for more than one class of permit set out in the above table		Statutory	Fee Unit		The sum of the highest of the fees which would have applied if separate applications were made; and 50% of each of the other fees which would have applied if separate applications were made.		
An application to amend a permit in more than one class set out in the above table		Statutory	Fee Unit				
Planning Scheme Amendments							
Stage 1: • Considering a request to amend a planning scheme; and • Exhibition and notice of the amendment; and • Considering any submissions which do not seek a change to the amendment; and • If applicable, abandoning the amendment.		Statutory	Fee Unit	F	206 units	206 units	-
Stage 2: • Considering submissions which seek a change to an amendment and where necessary, referring the submission to a panel:							
i. Up to 10 submissions		Statutory	Fee Unit	F	1021 units	1021 units	-
ii. 11 to 20 submissions		Statutory	Fee Unit	F	2040 units	2040 units	-
iii. More than 20 submissions		Statutory	Fee Unit	F	2727 units	2727 units	-
• Providing assistance to a panel; and • Making a submission to the panel; and • Considering the panel's report; and • After considering submissions and the report, if applicable, abandoning the amendment.							
Stage 3: • Adopting the amendment or part of an amendment; and • Submitting the amendment for approval by the Minister; and • Giving notice of the approval of the amendment.		Statutory	Fee Unit	F	32.5 units	32.5 units	-
Stage 4: • Consideration by the Minister of a request to approve an amendment; and • Giving notice of approval of an amendment.		Statutory	Fee Unit	F	32.5 units	32.5 units	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Fees to Amend After Notice Has Been Given						
Section 57A - Request to amend an application for permit after notice has been given	Statutory	Amend Permit	F	40% of the application fee for that class of permit or amendmet to permit; and where the class of application is changing to a new class of higher application fee, the difference between the fee for the application to be amended and the fee for the new class.		
Section 57A - Request to amend an application for an amendment to a permit after notice has been given	Statutory	Amend Permit	F			
Advertising of Applications by Council						
Notice	Full Cost	Each	T	7.15	7.30	2.10
On-Site Notice	Full Cost	Each	T	140.45	142.55	1.50
Subdivision Certification						
Certification of a plan of subdivision	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	11.8 units	11.8 units	-
Alteration of a plan	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	7.5 units	7.5 units	-
Amendment of certified plan	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	9.5 units	9.5 units	-
Subdivision Engineering - costs based on the estimated cost of construction works						
Plan preparation	Statutory	Subd Value	F	3.50%	3.50%	-
Plan checking	Statutory	Subd Value	F	0.75%	0.75%	-
Supervision	Statutory	Subd Value	F	2.50%	2.50%	-
General Enquiry Fees						
Planning property enquiry	Full Cost	Each	T	58.25	59.15	1.55
Sale of Documents						
Initial search fee	Full Cost	Each	T	76.50	77.70	1.57
Subsequent permit retrieval	Full Cost	Each	T	21.80	22.15	1.61
Black and white photocopying A4 and A3 size	Full Cost	Each	T	0.25	0.30	20.00
Photocopying A2	Full Cost	Each	T	2.00	2.05	2.50
Other Fees						
Satisfaction matters	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	22 units	22 units	-
Secondary consent to plans	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	13.5 units	13.5 units	-
Extension of Time - 1st request	Statutory	Each	F	199.90	202.90	1.50
Extension of Time - 2nd request	Statutory	Each	F	399.80	405.85	1.51
Extension of Time - 3rd request	Statutory	Each	F	599.70	608.70	1.50
Amend or end a Section 173 Agreement	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	44.5 units	44.5 units	-
Certificate of Compliance	Statutory	Fee Unit	F	22 units	22 units	-
* Statutory Planning fees are set by the State Government and are subject to change after Budget Adoption.						
BENDIGO VENUES AND EVENTS						
Category 1 Local Community Hirers						
Venue Hire - Community Hirers						
Capital Theatre Performance Rental (max 5 hrs)	Accessible	Event	T	745.00	745.00	-
Capital Theatre additional Performance/s in same day	Accessible	Event	T	372.00	372.00	-
Conference venue hire in Capital Theatre	Accessible	Day	T	604.00	604.00	-
Capital Theatre Bump In/Out and Stage Rehearsals	Accessible	Hour	T	52.00	52.00	-
Capital Theatre Dark Day	Accessible	Event	T	635.00	635.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Concert Performance Rental (max 5 hrs)	Accessible	Event	T	197.00	197.00	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre Performance Additional Hours	Accessible	Hour	T	34.00	34.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre Non Performance Rental Hire - Day	Accessible	Day	T	250.00	250.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre Non Performance Rental Hire - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	125.00	125.00	-
Lanyon Room	Accessible	Day	T	153.00	153.00	-
Lanyon Room	Accessible	Half Day	T	92.00	92.00	-
Old Fire Station Upstairs - Ballet Studio - Day	Accessible	Day	T	125.00	125.00	-
Old Fire Station Upstairs - Ballet Studio - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	83.00	83.00	-
Old Fire Station Upstairs - Ballet Studio - Weekly	Accessible	Week	T	702.00	702.00	-
Old Fire Station - Downstairs - Auditorium - Day	Accessible	Day	T	125.00	125.00	-
Old Fire Station - Downstairs - Auditorium - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	83.00	83.00	-
Old Fire Station Downstairs - Auditorium - Weekly	Accessible	Week	T	702.00	702.00	-
Dudley House - Day	Accessible	Day	T	125.00	125.00	-
Dudley House - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	83.00	83.00	-
Dudley House (Exhibitions) - Weekly	Accessible	Week	T	702.00	702.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Fri - Sunday - Full Day	Accessible	Full Day	T	1,275.00	1,275.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Fri - Sunday - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	757.00	757.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Mon - Thursday - Full Day	Accessible	Full Day	T	971.00	971.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Mon - Thursday - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	605.00	605.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall set up/pack down rate	Accessible	Event	T	240.00	240.00	-
Town Hall Dark Day	Accessible	Event	T	1,410.00	1,410.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Performance Rental (max 5 hrs)	Accessible	Event	T	1,373.00	1,373.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre additional performance/s in same day	Accessible	Event	T	687.00	687.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Bump In/Out and Stage Rehearsals	Accessible	Hour	T	96.00	96.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Dark Day	Accessible	Event	T	680.00	680.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Conference hire rate	Accessible	Day	T	932.00	932.00	-
Hon Howard Nathan Foyer venue hire non-performance - Day	Accessible	Day	T	500.00	500.00	-
Hon Howard Nathan Foyer venue hire - non performance - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	250.00	250.00	-
Ulumbarra Balcony Foyer venue hire non-performance - Day	Accessible	Day	T	250.00	250.00	-
Ulumbarra Balcony Foyer venue hire non-performance - Half Day	Accessible	Half Day	T	125.00	125.00	-
Ulumbarra Stratagem, Dance, Drama Studio, MPR venue hire	Full cost	Day	T	COST charged by BSSC	COST charged by BSSC	Cost
Staffing (min 3 hour call) - Community Hirers						
Supervising Technician	Accessible	Hour	T	39.00	39.00	-
FoH Supervisor	Accessible	Hour	T	39.00	39.00	-
Box Office Staff/Merchandise Staff	Accessible	Hour	T	39.00	39.00	-
Technicians	Accessible	Hour	T	39.00	39.00	-
Equipment Hire, Service and Consumables - Community Hirers						
Steinway Grand Piano at Capital (without tuning)	Accessible	Day	T	97.00	97.00	-
Steinway Baby Grand at Capital (without tuning)	Accessible	Day	T	97.00	97.00	-
Kawai Baby Grand in BBT (without tuning)	Accessible	Day	T	97.00	97.00	-
Kawai Upright Piano in Capital or OFS (without tuning)	Accessible	Day	T	97.00	97.00	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Piano Hire with Tuning - recommended (excluding Steinway Grand at The Capital)	Accessible	Day	T	273.00	273.00	-
Steinway Grand Piano at Capital (including tuning)	Accessible	Day	T	-	364.00	NEW
Yamaha Grand Piano at Ulumbarra (without tuning)	Accessible	Day	T	97.00	97.00	-
Yamaha Grand Piano at Ulumbarra (hire & tune - recommended)	Accessible	Day	T	273.00	273.00	-
Setup and pack down of staging	Accessible	Event	T	306.00	306.00	-
Set Up and Down Dancefloor	Accessible	Event	T	306.00	306.00	-
Hire of Projector in the Capital Theatre auditorium	Accessible	Day	T	200.00	200.00	-
Hire of Projector in Ulumbarra Theatre auditorium	Accessible	Day	T	200.00	200.00	-
Follow spots (each unit)	Accessible	Day	T	23.00	23.00	-
Laptop hire	Accessible	Day	T	100.00	100.00	-
Ulumbarra - TV hire	Accessible	Day	T	100.00	100.00	-
2 x handheld wireless microphones	Accessible	Event	T	40.00	40.00	-
Small portable PA system suitable for small spaces background music and speeches	Accessible	Event	T	58.00	58.00	-
Additional AV/Audio/Lighting equipment	Full cost	Event	T	Cost	Cost	Cost
Portable Data Projector	Accessible	Day	T	100.00	100.00	-
Engine Room/BBT audio package: 2 foldback wedges, 4 x vocal mics, 4 x stands 2 x DI's, cable inc set up	Accessible	Event	T	270.00	270.00	-
Foyer Lighting package: 4 x trees, 2 x model 4 dimmer packs, 8 par can lights, cable inc set up	Accessible	Event	T	360.00	360.00	-
Touring PA: Mixer + 2 x speakers with stands + 2 subs and cabling - small band not theatre space	Accessible	Event	T	270.00	270.00	-
Conferencing PA: Mixer + speakers with stands and cabling - use in non theatre space	Accessible	Event	T	270.00	270.00	-
Conference Kit Ulumbarra foyer: 2 speakers, audio mixing console, 2 wireless handheld mics, lecturn with mic, 1.2x2.4 stage	Accessible	Event	T	300.00	300.00	-
Fast fold screen	Accessible	Event	T	360.00	360.00	-
2 x push up poles and black draping	Accessible	Event	T	180.00	180.00	-
Gaffer tape	Full cost	Per roll	T	26.50	26.50	-
Batteries	Full cost	Each	T	2.55	2.55	-
Electrical tape	Full Cost	Roll	T	2.00	2.00	-
Mark up tape	Full Cost	Roll	T	4.00	4.00	-
Missed Meal Break Allowance	Full cost	Each	T	23.00	23.00	-
Security on Sundays & after midnight	Full cost	Hour	T	Cost	Cost	Cost
Security - Monday to Saturday Prior to Midnight	Full cost	Hour	T	Cost	Cost	Cost
Standard use of NBN service where available	Full Cost	Day	T	58.00	58.00	-
Box Office Fees - Community Hirers						
Booking Fee Per Ticket Sold	Accessible	Ticket	T	2.00	2.00	-
Complimentary Tickets Per Ticket Issued	Accessible	Ticket	T	0.90	0.90	-
Free event online only registration	Full Cost	T	T	0.35	0.35	-
Postage Fee	Market	Transaction	T	3.00	3.00	-
Express Postage	Market	Transaction	T	9.00	9.00	-
Credit Card Charges	Full Cost	Value of Sales	T	0.02	0.02	-
Cleaning - Community Hirers						
Additional Cleaning	Full cost	Hour	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Mid Conference Clean	Full cost	Each	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-
Marketing Costs - Commercial Hirers						
OFS Billboard	Full Cost	Billboard	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-
Email Blast (dedicated)	Full Cost	Email	T	95.00	95.00	-
Social Media boost	Full Cost	Service	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-
Newspaper advertising	Full Cost	Unit	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-
Large Format Light Box Poster Print	Full Cost	Unit	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-
Promotion Package - fee for all inclusive service of listed items	Market	Service	T	370.00	370.00	-
Catering Costs (Various Menus for Different Functions)						
Catering Costs	Full cost	Person	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	-
Category 2 Commercial Hirers						
Venue Hire - Commercial Hirers						
Capital Theatre Performance Rental (max 5 hrs)	Market	Event	T	1,390.00	1,390.00	-
Capital Theatre additional Performance/s in same day	Market	Event	T	677.00	677.00	-
Conference venue hire in Capital Theatre	Market	Day	T	755.00	755.00	-
Capital Theatre Bump In/Out and Stage Rehearsals	Market	Hour	T	97.00	97.00	-
Capital Theatre Dark Day	Market	Event	T	792.00	792.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre Performance Rental	Market	Event	T	457.00	457.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre performance additional hrs	Market	Hour	T	52.00	52.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre Rental Only Non-Performance Hire - Day	Market	Day	T	480.00	480.00	-
Banquet Room/Bendigo Bank Theatre Rental Only Non-Performance Hire - Half Day	Market	Half Day	T	239.70	239.70	-
Lanyon Room - Day	Market	Day	T	238.00	238.00	-
Lanyon Room - Half day	Market	Half Day	T	140.00	140.00	-
Old Fire Station Upstairs - Ballet Studio - Day	Market	Day	T	238.00	238.00	-
Old Fire Station Upstairs - Ballet Studio - Half Day	Market	Half Day	T	141.00	141.00	-
Old Fire Station Upstairs Ballet Studio - Weekly Rental	Market	Week	T	1,313.00	1,313.00	-
Old Fire Station - Downstairs - Auditorium - Day	Market	Day	T	238.00	238.00	-
Old Fire Station - Downstairs - Auditorium - Half Day	Market	Half Day	T	141.00	141.00	-
Old Fire Station - Downstairs - Auditorium - Weekly Rental	Market	Week	T	1,313.00	1,313.00	-
Dudley House Daily Rental	Market	Day	T	238.00	238.00	-
Dudley House Half Day Rental	Market	Half Day	T	141.00	141.00	-
Dudley House Weekly Rental (Exhibitions)	Market	Week	T	1,313.00	1,313.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Fri - Sunday - Full Day	Market	Full Day	T	2,138.00	2,138.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Fri - Sunday - Half Day	Market	Half Day	T	1,222.00	1,222.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Mon - Thursday - Full Day	Market	Full Day	T	1,695.00	1,695.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall, Mon - Thursday - Half Day	Market	Half Day	T	990.00	990.00	-
Bendigo Town Hall set up/pack down rate	Market	Event	T	240.00	240.00	-
Town Hall Dark Day	Market	Event	T	1,760.00	1,760.00	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Ulumbarra Theatre Performance Rental (max 5 hrs)	Market	Event	T	2,079.00	2,079.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre additional performance/s in same day	Market	Event	T	1,039.00	1,039.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Bump In/Out and Stage Rehearsals	Market	Hour	T	145.00	145.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Dark Day	Market	Event	T	1,188.00	1,188.00	-
Ulumbarra Theatre Conference hire rate	Market	Day	T	1,165.00	1,165.00	-
Hon Howard Nathan Foyer venue hire non-performance - day	Market	Day	T	755.00	755.00	-
Hon Howard Nathan Foyer venue hire - non performance - half day	Market	Half Day	T	388.00	388.00	-
Ulumbarra Balcony Foyer venue hire non-performance - day	Market	Day	T	378.00	378.00	-
Ulumbarra Balcony Foyer venue hire non-performance - half day	Market	Half Day	T	198.00	198.00	-
Ulumbarra Stratagem, Dance, Drama Studio, MPR venue hire	Full cost	Day	T	COST charged by BSSC	COST charged by BSSC	Cost
Staffing (min 3 hour call) - Commercial Hirers						
Supervisor Technician	Market	Hour	T	51.00	51.00	-
FoH Supervisor	Market	Hour	T	51.00	51.00	-
Box Office/Merchandise Staff	Market	Hour	T	51.00	51.00	-
Technicians	Market	Hour	T	51.00	51.00	-
Equipment Hire, Service and Consumables - Commercial Hirers						
Steinway Grand Piano at Capital (hire & tuning)	Market	Day	T	380.00	380.00	-
Steinway Baby Grand at Capital (hire & tuning)	Market	Day	T	352.00	352.00	-
Kawai Baby Grand in BBT (hire & tuning)	Market	Day	T	352.00	352.00	-
Kawai Upright Piano in Capital or OFS (hire & tuning)	Market	Day	T	352.00	352.00	-
Yamaha Grand Piano at Ulumbarra (hire & tuning)	Market	Day	T	352.00	352.00	-
Additional piano tune on same day	Market	Day	T	200.00	200.00	-
Setup and pack down of staging	Market	Event	T	408.00	408.00	-
Set Up and Down Dancefloor	Market	Event	T	306.00	306.00	-
Hire of Projector in the Capital Theatre auditorium	Market	Day	T	200.00	200.00	-
Projector and screen hire in Ulumbarra auditorium	Market	Day	T	200.00	200.00	-
Follow spot hire (per unit)	Market	Event	T	63.00	63.00	-
Laptop hire	Market	Day	T	100.00	100.00	-
Ulumbarra - TV hire	Market	Each	T	100.00	100.00	-
2 x handheld wireless microphones	Market	Event	T	40.00	40.00	-
Small portable PA system suitable for small spaces background music and speeches	Market	Event	T	58.00	58.00	-
Conference Kit Ulumbarra foyer: 2 speakers, audio mixing console, 2 wireless handheld mics, lecturn with mic, 1.2x2.4 stage	Market	Event	T	357.00	357.00	-
Engine Room/BBT audio package: up to 2 foldback wedges, 4 x vocal mics, 4 x stands 2 x DI's, cable inc set up - no discounts for less items	Market	Event	T	315.00	315.00	-
Foyer Lighting package: up to 4 x trees, 2 x model 4 dimmer packs, 8 par can lights, cable inc set up	Market	Event	T	420.00	420.00	-
Touring PA: Up to Mixer + 2 x speakers with stands + 2 subs and cabling - small band not theatre space	Market	Event	T	315.00	315.00	-
Conferencing PA: Up to 1 x Mixer + speakers with stands and cabling - use in non theatre space	Market	Event	T	315.00	315.00	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Fast fold screen	Market	Event	T	420.00	420.00	-
2 x push up poles and black draping	Market	Event	T	210.00	210.00	-
Additional AV/Audio/Lighting equipment	Market	Event	T	Market rate	Market rate	Market
Portable Data Projector	Market	Day	T	100.00	100.00	-
Electrical tape	Full Cost	Roll	T	2.00	2.00	-
Mark up tape	Full Cost	Roll	T	4.00	4.00	-
Gaffer tape	Full cost	Per roll	T	26.50	26.50	-
Batteries	Full cost	Each	T	2.55	2.55	-
Missed Meal Break Allowance	Full cost	Each	T	23.00	23.00	-
Security on Sundays & after midnight	Market	Hour	T	Market rate	Market rate	Market
Security - Monday to Saturday Prior to Midnight	Market	Hour	T	Market rate	Market rate	Market
Standard use of NBN service where available	Market	Day	T	58.00	58.00	-
Box Office Fees - Commercial Hirers						
Booking Fee Per Ticket Sold	Market	Ticket	T	4.00	4.00	-
Complimentary Tickets Per Ticket Issued	Market	Ticket	T	2.00	2.00	-
Free event online only registration	Market	Ticket	T	0.35	0.35	-
Postage Fee	Market	Transaction	T	3.00	3.00	-
Express Postage	Market	Transaction	T	9.00	9.00	-
Credit Card Charges	Full Cost	Transaction	T	2.00%	2.00%	-
Cleaning - Commercial Hirers						
Additional Cleaning	Market	As Required	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Mid Conference Clean	Market	Each	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Marketing Costs - Commercial Hirers						
OFS Billboard	Market	Billboard	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Email Blast (dedicated)	Market	Email	T	95.00	95.00	-
Social Media boost	Market	Service	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Newspaper advertising	Market	Unit	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Large Format Light Box Poster Print	Market	Unit	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Promotion Package - fee for all inclusive service of listed items	Market	Service	T	370.00	370.00	-
Catering Costs (Various Menus for Different Functions)						
Catering Costs	Market	Person	T	By negotiation	By negotiation	Market
Wedding Events - Commercial Hirers						
The Capital BBT and Banquet Room - Wedding Reception Only	Market	Event	T	1,086.00	1,086.00	-
The Capital BBT and Banquet Room - Wedding Reception + Ceremony	Market	Event	T	1,698.00	1,698.00	-
The Capital BBT and Banquet Room - Wedding Ceremony Only	Market	Event	T	852.00	852.00	-
Ulumbarra Foyer - Wedding Reception	Market	Event	T	1,471.00	1,471.00	-
Ulumbarra Foyer - Wedding Ceremony and Reception	Market	Event	T	2,083.00	2,083.00	-
Ulumbarra Foyer - Wedding Ceremony Only	Market	Event	T	1,086.00	1,086.00	-
Town Hall - Wedding Reception	Market	Day	T	2,138.00	2,138.00	-

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Industry Service Fee - Commercial Hirers						
LPA Industry Service Fee (0 - 250 Seats)	Market	Event	T	-	37.00	NEW
LPA Industry Service Fee (251 - 500 Seats)	Market	Event	T	-	74.00	NEW
LPA Industry Service Fee (501 - 1000 Seats)	Market	Event	T	-	110.00	NEW
TOURISM SERVICES						
Shop Sales						
Shop Sales including goods on consignment	Market	Item	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Tours/Commission	Market	Booking	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Commissions						
Accommodation	Full Cost	Booking	T	10%	10%	-
Federation Room Conference Facility						
Hire - Corporate Rate - Half Day	Full Cost	9am-1pm or 1-5pm	T	138.00	140.10	1.52
Hire - Corporate Rate - Full Day	Full Cost	9am-1pm or 9am-5pm	T	233.00	236.50	1.50
Hire - Corporate Rate - After Hours	Full Cost	Hourly	T	63.65	64.65	1.57
Hire - Community and Industry Rate - Half Day	Full Cost	9am-1pm or 1-5pm	T	90.00	91.40	1.56
Hire - Community and Industry Rate - Full Day	Full Cost	9am-5pm	T	150.00	152.25	1.50
Hire - Community and Industry Rate - After Hours	Full Cost	Hourly	T	42.40	43.05	1.53
Tea and Coffee	Full Cost	Head	T	3.50	3.60	2.86
Security Open - After Hours	Full Cost	Each	T	41.85	42.50	1.55
Security Close - After Hours	Full Cost	Each	T	41.85	42.50	1.55
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Weeknights	Full Cost	Each	T	43.95	44.65	1.59
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Saturday	Full Cost	Each	T	47.05	47.80	1.59
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Sunday	Full Cost	Each	T	57.60	58.50	1.56
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Public Holiday	Full Cost	Each	T	62.80	63.80	1.59
Additional cleaning outside normal cleaning - cost per hour indicated	Full Cost	Each	T	60.00	60.95	1.58
Staff Call Out Fee for After Hours Functions - cost per call out indicated	Full Cost	Each	T	60.00	60.95	1.58
The Basement Conference Facility						
Hire - Corporate Rate - Half Day	Full Cost	9am-1pm or 1-5pm	T	-	140.10	NEW
Hire - Corporate Rate - Full Day	Full Cost	9am-1pm or 9am-5pm	T	-	236.50	NEW
Hire - Corporate Rate - After Hours	Full Cost	Hourly	T	-	64.65	NEW
Hire - Community and Industry Rate - Half Day	Full Cost	9am-1pm or 1-5pm	T	-	91.40	NEW
Hire - Community and Industry Rate - Full Day	Full Cost	9am-5pm	T	-	152.25	NEW
Hire - Community and Industry Rate - After Hours	Full Cost	Hourly	T	-	43.05	NEW
Tea and Coffee	Full Cost	Head	T	-	3.60	NEW
Security Open - After Hours	Full Cost	Each	T	-	42.50	NEW
Security Close - After Hours	Full Cost	Each	T	-	42.50	NEW

Strategy and Growth Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Weeknights	Full Cost	Each	T	-	44.65	NEW
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Saturday	Full Cost	Each	T	-	47.80	NEW
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Sunday	Full Cost	Each	T	-	58.50	NEW
Security After Hours for functions/events (4 hour minimum) cost per hour indicated - Public Holiday	Full Cost	Each	T	-	63.80	NEW
Additional cleaning outside normal cleaning - cost per hour indicated	Full Cost	Each	T	-	60.95	NEW
Staff Call Out Fee for After Hours Functions - cost per call out indicated	Full Cost	Each	T	-	60.95	NEW
Hire of Projector/whiteboard	Full Cost	Day	T	-	105.00	NEW
BENDIGO ART GALLERY						
Public Programs						
Numerous public programs and events	Accessible	Person	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Pleasant Afternoon - Seniors	Accessible	Person	T	3.00	3.00	-
Pleasant Afternoon - Non Seniors	Accessible	Person	T	4.00	4.00	-
Education						
School Holidays Program 8-14yo	Accessible	Person	T	11.50	10.00	-13.04
School Holidays Program 4-7 yo	Accessible	Person	T	8.00	8.00	-
Family Programs	Accessible	Family	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Professional Development for Teachers - incl. Lunch and Speaker	Accessible	Each	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Shop Sales						
Shop Sales including Goods on Consignment	Market	Item	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Commercial Hire Rates						
Sculpture Annexe - 2 Hour Minimum Hire - Commercial Hirers (G 15)	Market	Minimum	T	250.00	253.80	1.52
Sculpture Annexe - Commercial Hirers	Market	Subsequent Hour	T	115.00	116.75	1.52
Community Hire Rates						
Sculpture Annexe	Accessible	Flat Rate	T	250.00	250.00	-
Sculpture Annexe - Community Hirers	Accessible	Flat Rate	T	250.00	250.00	-
Staffing						
Gallery attendant	Full Cost	Hour	T	46.70	47.40	1.50
Reception	Full Cost	Hour	T	45.65	46.40	1.64
Security (Minimum 3 hour) - North State Security	Full Cost	Hour	T	53.05	53.85	1.51
Technicians	Full Cost	Hour	T	45.65	46.40	1.64
Operational Costs						
Operating costs	Full Cost	Hour	T	36.10	36.65	1.52
Cleaning						
Additional Cleaning	Full Cost	Hour	T	58.35	59.25	1.54
Curatorial						
Reproduction Requests	Full Cost	Each	T	148.55	150.80	1.51
Reproduction Requests - Commercial	Market	Each	T	Varies	Varies	Varies

HEALTH AND WELLBEING FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE 2021/2022

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
BUILDING SERVICES						
Building Fee						
Class 1 Dwellings (max 5 inspections) less than \$400,000	Full Cost	Application	T	3,290.00	3,343.00	1.61
Class 1 Dwellings (max 5 inspections), greater than \$400,000	Full Cost	Application	T	4,350.00	4,414.00	1.47
Class 1 Multi Unit Developments (first Unit)	Full Cost	Application	T	1,964.00	1,995.00	1.58
Class 1 Alterations and Additions less than \$100,000 (max 4 inspections)	Full Cost	Application	T	2,070.00	2,103.00	1.59
Class 1 Alterations and Additions greater than \$100,000 (max 4 inspections)	Full Cost	Application	T	2,705.00	2,745.00	1.48
Additional Inspections/Inspections for other Councils	Full Cost	Inspection	T	160.00	162.00	1.25
House Relocation/Restructure	Full Cost	Application	T	3,290.00	3,334.00	1.34
Class 10 Misc Structures Garages/Sheds(2 Insp) up to \$25,000	Full Cost	Application	T	928.00	941.00	1.40
Class 10 Misc Structures Garages/Sheds(2 Insp) up to \$50,000	Full Cost	Application	T	1,092.00	1,109.00	1.56
Class 10 Swimming Pools and fence	Full Cost	Application	T	1,200.00	1,220.00	1.67
Class 10 Small Spas and kids pools and fence	Full Cost	Application	T	450.00	455.00	1.11
Class 10 Pool/Spa fence only	Full Cost	Application	T	650.00	660.00	1.54
Restumping, recladding, verandas, decks, retaining walls up to \$12,000	Full Cost	Application	T	849.00	853.00	0.47
Others Classes - Price on Application	Full Cost	Application	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Change of Use Permit	Full Cost	Application	T	955.00	2,050.00	114.66
Commercial Airport Hangers (minimum fee)	Full Cost	Application	T	1,092.00	1,108.00	1.47
Commercial & Industrial up to \$5,000	Full Cost	Application	T	520.00	528.00	1.54
Commercial & Industrial \$5,001-\$15,000	Full Cost	Application	T	728.00	740.00	1.65
Commercial & Industrial \$15,001-\$30,000	Full Cost	Application	T	936.00	951.00	1.60
Commercial & Industrial \$30,001-\$100,000 value x 1.0% + \$1,000	Full Cost	Application	T	2,000.00	2,030.00	1.50
Commercial & Industrial \$100,001-\$500,000 value x 0.4% + \$2,200	Full Cost	Application	T	4,200.00	4,260.00	1.43
Commercial & Industrial \$500,001-\$2M value x 0.25% + \$3,000	Full Cost	Application	T	8,000.00	8,100.00	1.25
Commercial & Industrial over \$2M value/500 + \$2000) x 1.2	Full Cost	Application	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Extension of Building Permit Class 1 and 10	Full Cost	Application	T	276.00	280.00	1.45
Extension of Building Permit Class 2 to 9	Full Cost	Application	T	441.00	451.00	2.27
Lapsed Permit Approvals and Inspections less than 5 years	Full Cost	Application	T	318.00	324.00	1.89
Lapsed Permit Approvals and Inspections greater than 5 years	Full Cost	Application	T	451.00	458.00	1.55
Amendments/Variations to Approved Documents	Full Cost	Amendment	T	159.00	162.00	1.89
Lodgement Fee						
Permit From Private Building Surveyor - Reg 320, etc.	Statutory	Application	F	121.90	123.75	1.52
Information / Reports						
Building File Retrieval from Archives (Residential)	Full Cost	Lodgement	T	76.50	150.00	96.08
Building File Retrieval from Archives (Commercial)	Full Cost	Lodgement	T	-	250.00	NEW
Property Information Only - Regulation 326 (1) (2) (3)	Statutory	Application	F	47.00	47.75	1.60

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Legal Point of Discharge	Statutory	Application	F	144.00	146.20	1.53
Local Drainage Information	Statutory	Application	F	125.00	126.90	1.52
Dispensation Fee	Statutory	Application	F	289.00	293.35	1.51
Amendment to dispensation	Full Cost	Application	T	62.40	63.35	1.52
Demolitions						
Single Storey building more than 6m from street	Full Cost	Building	T	954.70	965.50	1.13
Form 29A Report & Consent	Statutory	Application	F	85.00	86.30	1.53
Asset Protection						
Asset Protection Permit	Full Cost	Permit	T	114.20	116.00	1.58
Miscellaneous Permits (Hoardings and Road Occupation)						
Short Term Occupation in Any Area (1 Day Maximum)	Full Cost	Application	T	212.00	214.00	0.94
Short Term Occupation - 2 Days	Full Cost	Application	T	254.00	258.00	1.57
Short Term Occupation - Week	Full Cost	Application	T	340.00	344.00	1.18
Short Term Occupation - 2 Weeks	Full Cost	Application	T	446.00	451.00	1.12
Long Term Occupation - per month	Full Cost	Application	T	562.00	569.00	1.25
Long Term Occupation - per month (OUTSIDE CBD) NEW FEE	Full Cost	Application	T	281.00	284.00	1.07
Standard Hourly Rates						
Municipal Building Surveyor	Full Cost	Hour	T	233.60	245.00	4.88
Building Inspector	Full Cost	Hour	T	164.20	166.00	1.10
Administration Staff	Full Cost	Hour	T	116.30	118.00	1.46
Certification of Private Projects by MBS (minimum)	Full Cost	Application	T	630.40	640.00	1.52
POPE's (Places of Public Entertainment)						
Places of Public Entertainment Occupancy Permits - Standard	Full Cost	Each	T	360.00	368.00	2.22
Places of Public Entertainment Occupancy Permits - Large Events	Full Cost	Each	T	530.00	540.00	1.89
Temporary Structures and Special Use Occupancy Permits - Small Events Stands <50 people / Tents <250m ² / Stages <250m ²	Full Cost	Each	T	165.00	167.00	1.21
All POPE Applications submitted within 4 days of event attract late fee	Full Cost	Each	T	265.00	268.00	1.13
Pool or Spa Barrier Register						
Pool or spa registration fee	Statutory	Application		Max 2.15FU	2.15FU	-
Information search fee	Statutory	Each		Max 3.19FU	3.19FU	-
Failure to register pool or spa barrier	Statutory	Each		10PU	10PU	-
Lodgement of certificate of compliance	Statutory	Each		Max 2.07FU	2.07FU	-
Lodgement of certificate of non-compliance	Statutory	Each		Max 2.6PU	2.3PU	-
Failure to lodge certificate of barrier compliance	Statutory	Each		2.3PU	2.3PU	-
Failure to lodge certificate of barrier non- compliance	Statutory	Each		2.3 PU	2.3PU	-
Failure to comply with a barrier improvement notice	Statutory	Each		2.3 PU	2.3PU	-
Illegal Building Works						
Pool Fence	Incentive	Application	T	460.00	469.00	1.96
Basic Pool and Pool Fence (Built after Jan 2018)	Incentive	Application	T	875.50	896.00	2.34
Basic Pool and Pool Fence (Built before Jan 2018)	Incentive	Application	T	1,400.00	1,420.00	1.43
Spa/Pool and Kids Pool Fence	Incentive	Application	T	450.00	455.00	1.11
Small Sheds (under 50 m ²)	Incentive	Application	T	994.00	1,000.00	0.60

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Sheds (51 to 500 m ²)	Incentive	Application	T	2,110.00	2,157.00	2.23
Sheds (greater than 500 m ²)	Incentive	Application	T	2,570.00	2,599.00	1.13
Verandas and Carports	Incentive	Application	T	1,455.00	1,490.00	2.41
Internal alterations and additions (under 20 m ²)	Incentive	Application	T	1,751.00	1,797.00	2.63
New Dwellings (including change of use)	Incentive	Application	T	4,640.00	4,684.00	0.95
Relocatable dwellings ancillary to existing dwelling	Incentive	Application	T	2,375.00	2,403.00	1.18
Additions, Extensions, Alterations to Dwellings	Incentive	Application	T	2,950.00	2,990.00	1.36
New Commercial Buildings (Including change of use) (\$3,640 min + \$2.2/sqm floor area)	Incentive	Application	T	3,500.00	3,640.00	4.00
Commercial Alterations/Additions under \$20,000 (\$2,250 plus \$2.50 per sqm)	Incentive	Application	T	2,175.50	2,250.00	3.42
Commercial & Industrial \$20,000 - \$50,000 (\$3,200 plus \$2.50 per sqm)	Incentive	Application	T	3,100.00	3,200.00	3.23
Commercial & Industrial \$50,001 - \$100,000 (3,700 plus \$2.50 per sqm)	Incentive	Application	T	3,600.00	3,700.00	2.78
Commercial & Industrial \$100,001-\$500,000 value x 0.4% + \$6,700 Maximum fee published	Incentive	Application	T	6,300.00	6,700.00	6.35
Commercial & Industrial \$500,001-\$2M value x 0.25% + \$12,500 Maximum fee published.	Incentive	Application	T	12,000.00	12,500.00	4.17
Commercial & Industrial over \$2M value/500 + \$3500) x 1.2. Maximum fee published.	Incentive	Application	T	Varies	Varies	Varies
Demolitions - Houses	Incentive	Application	T	1,540.00	1,569.00	1.88
Demolitions - Outbuildings	Incentive	Application	T	830.00	841.00	1.33
Demolitions - Commercial Buildings	Incentive	Application	T	1,540.00	1,564.00	1.56
Reblocking	Incentive	Application	T	930.00	946.00	1.72
Retaining Wall under 30m long	Incentive	Application	T	700.00	711.00	1.57
Retaining Wall over 30m long	Incentive	Application	T	1,750.00	1,775.00	1.43
ACTIVE COMMUNITIES						
Pool Entry Fees						
Adult Ticket	Accessible	Day	T	5.60	5.60	-
Child Ticket (Child under 2 years old free when accompanied by a paying adult)	Accessible	Day	T	4.50	4.50	-
Family Ticket (2 adults and dependent children under 16 years of age)	Accessible	Day	T	14.80	14.80	-
Concession Adult Ticket	Accessible	Day	T	4.50	4.50	-
Concession Family Ticket (2 adults and dependent children under 16 years of age)	Accessible	Day	T	11.20	11.20	-
Concession Student Ticket	Accessible	Day	T	4.50	4.50	-
School Group Student Entry	Accessible	Day	T	2.00	2.00	-
Adult Ticket	Accessible	Season	T	107.00	107.00	-
Child Ticket (Child under 2 years old free when accompanied by a paying adult)	Accessible	Season	T	79.00	79.00	-
Family Ticket (2 adults and dependent children under 16 years of age)	Accessible	Season	T	205.00	205.00	-
Adult Extended Season Ticket	Accessible	Season	T	164.00	164.00	-
Child Extended Season Ticket	Accessible	Season	T	128.00	128.00	-
Family Extended Season Ticket (2 adults and dependent children under 16 years of age)	Accessible	Season	T	270.00	270.00	-
Concession Adult Ticket	Accessible	Season	T	81.00	81.00	-
Concession Family Ticket (2 adults and dependent children under 16 years of age)	Accessible	Season	T	162.00	162.00	-

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Concession Adult Extended Season Ticket	Accessible	Season	T	130.00	130.00	-
Concession Family Extended Season Ticket	Accessible	Season	T	217.00	217.00	-
Rural Pool Pass - Adult	Accessible	Season	T	82.00	82.00	-
Rural Pool Pass - Child	Accessible	Season	T	55.00	55.00	-
Rural Pool Pass - Family	Accessible	Season	T	130.00	130.00	-
January 31 Season Ticket Price - Adult	Accessible	Season	T	51.00	51.00	-
January 31 Season Ticket Price - Child	Accessible	Season	T	39.00	39.00	-
January 31 Season Ticket Price - Family	Accessible	Season	T	98.00	98.00	-
Winter Seasonal Use - Adult	Accessible	Season	T	198.00	198.00	-
Winter Seasonal Use - Child	Accessible	Season	T	158.00	158.00	-
Winter Seasonal Use - Family	Accessible	Season	T	342.00	342.00	-
Intermediate Pool	Accessible	Hour	T	46.00	46.00	-
Dive Pool, 1m, 3m, 5m Boards	Accessible	Hour	T	46.00	46.00	-
Lane Hire	Accessible	Hour	T	24.00	24.00	-
Water Slide Hire	Accessible	Hour	T	73.00	73.00	-
Large Aquatic Facility Hire (additional charge where >400 people attend)	Accessible	Facility per hour	T	175.50	175.50	-
Small Aquatic Facility Hire (additional charge where >400 people attend)	Accessible	Facility per hour	T	120.00	120.00	-
Pool Marketing and promotional discounts	Incentive	Season	T	"Varies up to 20%"	"Varies up to 20%"	-
Indoor Aquatic & Wellbeing Centres						
Indoor Pool Adult Casual	Accessible	Casual	T	6.80	6.80	-
Indoor Pool Casual Child/Concession Casual	Accessible	Casual	T	5.00	4.70	-6.00
Indoor Pool Family (2 adults + dependant children)	Accessible	Casual	T	19.00	19.00	-
Indoor Pool Small Family (1 adult + dependant children)	Accessible	Casual	T	13.00	13.00	-
Indoor Pool Lane Hire	Accessible	Casual	T	12.50	12.50	-
Indoor Pool Group Entry (over 20 people)	Accessible	Casual	T	4.00	4.00	-
Indoor Pool School Child Entry	Accessible	Casual	T	3.50	3.50	-
Indoor Pool Schools 3/4 hour lesson (inc. entry)	Accessible	Session	T	8.20	8.20	-
Indoor Pool Aquatic Teacher/Instructor	Accessible	Hour	T	40.00	40.00	-
Indoor Pool Swim/Spa/Sauna	Accessible	Casual	T	10.20	10.20	-
Indoor Pool Swim/Spa/Sauna Concession	Accessible	Casual	T	8.80	8.80	-
Indoor Pool Adult Swim Pass 10 Visits	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	55.00	55.00	-
Indoor Pool Child/Concession Pass 10 Visits	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	38.00	38.00	-
Indoor Pool Family Pass 10 Visits	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	150.00	150.00	-
Indoor Pool Adult Swim Pass 20 Visits	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	110.00	110.00	-
Indoor Pool Child/Concession Pass 20 Visits	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	76.00	76.00	-
Indoor Pool Family Swim Pass 20 Visits	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	300.00	300.00	-
Aquatic Events Indoor 50m Peak Time	Accessible	Hour	T	680.00	680.00	-
Aquatic Events Indoor 50m Off Peak	Accessible	Hour	T	315.00	315.00	-
Aquatic Programs Child Learn to Swim Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	15.60	15.60	-

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Aquatic Programs Adult Learn to Swim Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	18.00	18.00	-
Aquatic Programs Squad Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	18.00	18.00	-
Aquatic Programs Aqua Aerobics Class	Accessible	Casual	T	12.50	12.50	-
Aquatic Programs Aqua Aerobics Class (Concession)	Accessible	Casual	T	9.50	9.50	-
Aquatic Programs Aqua Aerobics 20 Visit Pass	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	225.00	225.00	-
Aquatic Programs Aqua Aerobics 20 Visit Pass (Concession)	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	170.00	170.00	-
Aquatic Programs Aqua Play (Splash Splash - 2 to 6 months)	Accessible	Casual	T	6.80	6.80	-
Aquatic Programs Birthday Parties (per child + food)	Accessible	Session	T	21.00	21.00	-
Aquatic Membership Joining Fee	Accessible	Application	T	42.00	42.00	-
Aquatic Membership Adult - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	9.80	9.80	-
Aquatic Membership Student/Concession - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	7.70	7.70	-
6 Month Aquatic Membership Adult	Accessible	Term	T	292.00	292.00	-
6 Month Aquatic Membership Student/Concession	Accessible	Term	T	240.00	240.00	-
12 Month Aquatic Membership Adult	Accessible	Term	T	545.00	545.00	-
12 Month Aquatic Membership Student/Concession	Accessible	Term	T	445.00	445.00	-
Platinum & Gold Membership Joining Fee	Accessible	Application	T	40.00	40.00	-
Platinum Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	20.00	20.00	-
Platinum Membership Student/Concession - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	16.00	16.00	-
Gold/Partner Health Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	16.00	16.00	-
Gold/Partner Health Membership Student/Concession - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	12.80	12.80	-
Teen (13-15 years) Flexi Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	11.70	11.70	-
Coaching Zone Membership - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	50.00	50.00	-
2 Weeks Platinum Membership	Accessible	Term	T	62.00	62.00	-
2 Weeks Gold/Partner Health Membership	Accessible	Term	T	50.00	50.00	-
6 Month Platinum Membership	Accessible	Term	T	546.00	546.00	-
6 Month Gold/Partner Health Membership	Accessible	Term	T	455.00	455.00	-
6 Month Teen Platinum Membership	Accessible	Term	T	345.00	345.00	-
12 Month Platinum Membership	Accessible	Term	T	1,050.00	1,050.00	-
12 Month Gold/Partner Health Membership	Accessible	Term	T	870.00	870.00	-
12 Month Teen Platinum Membership	Accessible	Term	T	650.00	650.00	-
Platinum Membership - Pre Sale Stage 1 - Excl. Joining Fee - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	15.80	15.80	-
Platinum Membership - Pre Sale Stage 2 - Excl. Joining Fee - Direct Debit	Accessible	Weekly	T	17.50	17.50	-
Group Fitness Class Adult	Accessible	Casual	T	12.50	12.50	-
Group Fitness Class Concession/Student	Accessible	Casual	T	9.50	9.50	-
Casual Gym Adult	Accessible	Casual	T	16.50	16.50	-
Casual Gym Concession/Student	Accessible	Casual	T	13.40	13.40	-
Group Fitness Class 20 Visit Pass	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	242.00	242.00	-
Group Fitness class 20 Visit Pass Concession	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	200.00	160.00	-20.00

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Casual Gym 20 Visit Pass	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	307.00	307.00	-
Casual Gym Concession/Student 20 Pass Visit	Accessible	Multi Visit Pass	T	254.00	254.00	-
Personal Training - From	Accessible	Casual	T	46.00	46.00	-
School Fitness School Fitness Program Entry	Accessible	Casual	T	5.20	5.20	-
Room Hire - Multi Purpose Room	Accessible	Hour	T	30.00	30.00	-
Childcare 90 Minutes Member	Accessible	Casual	T	8.80	8.80	-
Childcare 90 Minutes Non-Member	Accessible	Casual	T	10.80	10.80	-
Occasional Care 90 Minutes Member	Accessible	Casual	T	16.00	16.00	-
Occasional Care 90 Minutes Non-Member	Accessible	Casual	T	19	19	-
Pool Marketing, sponsor and promotional discounts	Incentive	Application	T	Varies up to 20%	Varies up to 20%	-
Pool Marketing, sponsor and promotional discounts	Incentive	Term/Monthly	T	Varies up to 20%	Varies up to 20%	-
Pool Marketing, sponsor and promotional discounts	Incentive	Casual	T	Varies up to 20%	Varies up to 20%	-
Wellness Centre Services - From	Accessible	Session	T	65.00	65.00	-
Exercise physiology - From	Accessible	Session	T	60.00	60.00	-
Additional prices, programs and services can be added at the discretion of the CEO.						
Squash Court Hire 1 hour		Hour	T	15.00	15.00	-
Squash Court Hire 1/2 hour		1/2 hour	T	10.00	10.00	-
Stadium hire 1 hour		Hour	T	20.00	20.00	-
Stadium hire not for profit 1 hour		Hour	T	15.00	15.00	-
Multi purpose room room hire (not for profit)		hour	T	30.00	30.00	-
Reserves/Ovals - Season Hire						
Booking fee		Percentage	T	0.05	0.05	-
Graded A Reserve	Summer	Accessible	Season	3,936.00	3,936.00	-
Graded A Reserve	Winter	Accessible	Season	7,873.00	7,873.00	-
Graded A Reserve - Junior Use	Summer	Accessible	Season	1,968.00	1,968.00	-
Graded A Reserve - Junior Use	Winter	Accessible	Season	3,936.00	3,936.00	-
Graded B Reserve	Summer	Accessible	Season	1,968.00	1,968.00	-
Graded B Reserve	Winter	Accessible	Season	3,936.00	3,936.00	-
Graded B Reserve - Junior Use	Summer	Accessible	Season	984.00	984.00	-
Graded B Reserve - Junior Use	Winter	Accessible	Season	1,968.00	1,968.00	-
Graded C Reserve	Summer	Accessible	Season	984.00	984.00	-
Graded C Reserve	Winter	Accessible	Season	1,968.00	1,968.00	-
Graded C Reserve - Junior Use	Summer	Accessible	Season	490.00	490.00	-
Graded C Reserve - Junior Use	Winter	Accessible	Season	985.00	984.00	-0.10
Graded D Reserve	Summer	Accessible	Season	490.00	490.00	-
Graded D Reserve	Winter	Accessible	Season	984.00	984.00	-
Graded D Reserve - Junior Use	Summer	Accessible	Season	245.00	245.00	-
Graded D Reserve - Junior Use	Winter	Accessible	Season	490.00	490.00	-
Occasional Hire						
Graded A Reserve	Accessible	Day	T	268.00	268.00	-
Graded A Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Day	T	134.00	134.00	-
Graded B Reserve	Accessible	Day	T	200.00	200.00	-

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Graded B Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Day	T	100.00	100.00	-
Graded C Reserve	Accessible	Day	T	134.00	134.00	-
Graded C Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Day	T	67.00	67.00	-
Graded D Reserve	Accessible	Day	T	-	67.00	NEW
Graded D Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Day	T	-	33.50	NEW
Graded A Reserve	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	134.00	134.00	-
Graded A Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	67.00	67.00	-
Graded B Reserve	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	100.00	100.00	-
Graded B Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	50.00	50.00	-
Graded C Reserve	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	67.00	67.00	-
Graded C Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	33.50	33.50	-
Graded D Reserve	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	-	33.50	NEW
Graded D Reserve - Junior Use	Accessible	Up to 3 Hours	T	-	16.75	NEW
Graded A Reserve	Accessible	Up to 1 hour	T	-	45.00	NEW
Graded B Reserve	Accessible	Up to 1 hour	T	-	34.00	NEW
Graded C Reserve	Accessible	Up to 1 hour	T	-	23.00	NEW
Graded D Reserve	Accessible	Up to 1 hour	T	-	11.50	NEW
Lighting at Sports Centre Track or Oval Only	Accessible	Hour	T	37.00	37.00	-
Lighting at Epsom Huntly Recreation Reserve	Accessible	Hour	T	37.00	37.00	-
Epsom Huntly Regional Recreation Reserve Pavilions						
Change Room Casual Use	Accessible	Day	T	21.50	21.50	-
Meeting Room Casual Use up to 4 hours	Accessible	Hour	T	30.00	30.00	-
Function Room, Kitchen & Bar Community Use - Casual	Accessible	Per Use	T	107.00	107.00	-
Function Room, Kitchen & Bar Commercial/Private Use - Casual	Accessible	Per Use	T	350.00	350.00	-
Function Room Playgroup Use	Accessible	Per Use	T	12.00	12.00	-
Kitchen / Kiosk - Seasonal	Accessible	Per Use	T	37.00	37.00	-
Function Room, Kitchen & Bar Community Use - Seasonal	Accessible	Per Use	T	107.00	107.00	-
Function Room - Training Nights - Seasonal	Accessible	Per Use	T	22.50	22.50	-
Seasonal Cleaning Fee - From	Accessible	Weekly	T	22.00	22.00	-
Casual Use Cleaning Fee - From	Accessible	Per Use	T	125.00	125.00	-
Marist College Community Facility						
Indoor Stadium Hire	Accessible	Hourly	T	30.00	30.00	-
Function Room, Kiosk & Bar Community Use - Casual	Accessible	Per Use	T	105.00	105.00	-
Function Room, Kiosk & Bar Commercial/Private Use - Casual	Accessible	Per Use	T	344.00	344.00	-
Commercial Fitness Operators						
Commercial Fitness Operator Fee - Over 3 sessions per week (Annual Permit)	Accessible	Application	T	1,200.00	1,200.00	-
Commercial Fitness Operator Fee - Over 3 sessions per week (Summer Permit)	Accessible	Application	T	600.00	600.00	-

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Commercial Fitness Operator Fee - Under 3 sessions per week (Annual Permit)	Accessible	Application	T	600.00	600.00	-
Commercial Fitness Operator Fee - Under 3 sessions per week (Summer Permit)	Accessible	Application	T	300.00	300.00	-
Commercial Fitness Operator Fee - Casual Use	Accessible	Application	T	25.00	25.00	-
Commercial Fitness Operator Additional Trainers Fee (Applicable 3+ trainers)	Accessible	Application	T	120.00	120.00	-
COMMUNITY WELLBEING (Aged and Disability)						
General Home Care						
General Home Care - Low Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	9.20	9.20	-
Personal Care - Low Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	4.80	4.80	-
Respite Care - Low Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	3.65	3.65	-
Property Maintenance - Low Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	13.55	13.55	-
Social Support Individual	Accessible	Hour	F	4.80	4.80	-
MOW Main Meal Low Fee Range	Accessible	Each	F	9.80	9.80	-
General Home Care - Medium Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	22.95	22.95	-
Personal Care - Medium Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	12.00	12.00	-
Respite Care - Medium Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	6.75	6.75	-
Property Maintenance - Medium Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	20.60	20.60	-
MOW - Main Meal - Medium Fee Range	Accessible	Each	F	15.00	15.00	-
General Home Care - High Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	49.30	49.30	-
Personal Care - High Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	49.30	49.30	-
Respite Care - High Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	49.30	49.30	-
Property Maintenance - High Fee Range	Accessible	Hour	F	52.50	52.50	-
MOW - Main Meal - High Fee Range	Accessible	Each	F	26.00	26.00	-
Tip Fee	Accessible	Trip	F	12.35	12.35	-
COMMUNITY WELLBEING (Early Years)						
Child Care						
Weekly under 3 years of age	Accessible	Week	F	521.50	529.35	1.51
Weekly over 3 years of age	Accessible	Week	F	509.50	517.15	1.50
Full Day Care under 3 years of age	Accessible	Day	F	134.70	136.75	1.52
Full Day Care over 3 years of age	Accessible	Day	F	134.70	136.75	1.52
Occasional Care	Accessible	Hour	F	14.10	14.35	1.77
Late Collection of Children	Accessible	Minute	F	6.20	6.30	1.61
Non Cancellation of OCC bookings	Accessible	Flat Admin	F	12.10	12.30	1.65
Helen Jessen Child Care Centre						
Meeting Room Full	Accessible	1/2 day	T	78.50	79.70	1.53
Meeting Room Full	Accessible	1 day	T	144.60	146.80	1.52
Meeting Room Large Half	Accessible	1/2 day	T	66.40	67.40	1.51
Meeting Room Large Half	Accessible	1day	T	132.70	134.70	1.51
Meeting Room Small Half	Accessible	1/2 day	T	44.70	45.40	1.57
Meeting Room Small Half	Accessible	1day	T	89.30	90.65	1.51
PLANNED ACTIVITY GROUP (PAG) Community Services						
Planned Activity Group - Low Fee Range	Accessible	Session	F	\$19.80 (9.30 + 10.50 meal)	\$19.80 (9.30 + 10.50 meal)	-
Planned Activity Group - Medium Fee Range	Accessible	Session	F	\$35.10 (24.60 +10.50 meal)	\$35.10 (24.60 +10.50 meal)	-

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Planned Activity Group - High Fee Range	Accessible	Session	F	\$81.20 (70.70 +10.50 meal)	\$81.20 (70.70 +10.50 meal)	-
ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH						
Food Act						
Class 1A - Proprietary FSP and Scale**	Full Cost	Each	T	1,275.00	1,295.00	1.57
Class 1B - Proprietary FSP**	Full Cost	Each	T	816.00	829.00	1.59
Class 2A - Proprietary FSP or Independent & Scale**	Full Cost	Each	T	1,275.00	1,295.00	1.57
Class 2B - Standard or Independent**	Full Cost	Each	T	688.50	698.00	1.38
Class 2C - Standard FSP (Home based/farm gate/B&B)**	Full Cost	Each	T	357.00	363.00	1.68
Class 3A - Minimum Records**	Full Cost	Each	T	357.00	363.00	1.68
Class 3B (minimum records including community groups)**	Full Cost	Each	T	178.50	181.00	1.40
Follow Up of Non-Compliance Food Sampling	Full Cost	Each	F	169.60	172.00	1.42
One Off Event NEW	Full Cost	Each	T	102.00	103.00	0.98
Extracts						
Copy of Certificate of Analysis	Full Cost	Each	T	42.85	43.50	1.52
Public Health & Wellbeing Act 2008						
Prescribed Accommodation**	Full Cost	Each	F	357.00	363.00	1.68
Public Health and Wellbeing Premises (including pool registrations)**	Full Cost	Each	F	408.00	414.00	1.47
Caravan Parks						
Registration	Statutory	Site	F	As per schedule - varies	As per schedule - varies	As per schedule - varies
Transfer Fee	Full Cost	Each	F	As per Schedule (5 fee units)	As per Schedule (5 fee units)	As per Schedule (5 fee units)
Inspection and Report Fee	Full Cost	Each	T	357.00	362.40	1.51
All Registrations (except caravan parks)						
Transfer Fee	Statutory	Each	F	350.00	355.3	1.51
New Premise Fee**	Full Cost	Each	T	350.00	355.3	1.51
Pro-rata Registration of new premises 1 July - 30 September**	Full cost	Each	F	New Premise fee + Annual registration fee	New Premise fee + Annual registration fee	-
Pro-rata Registration of new premises 1 October - 31 December**	Full Cost	Each	F	New Premise fee + 75% of Annual registration fee	New Premise fee + 75% of Annual registration fee	-
Pro-rata Registration of new premises 1 January - 31 March**	Full Cost	Each	F	New Premise fee + 50% of Annual registration fee	New Premise fee + 50% of Annual registration fee	-
Pro-rata Registration of new premises 1 October - 31 December**	Full Cost	Each	F	New Premise fee + 25% of Annual registration fee	New Premise fee + 25% of Annual registration fee	-
Major Non-Compliant Premise Re-inspection Fee	Full Cost	Each	F	272.35	276.00	1.34

** Businesses experiencing financial hardship may be eligible for a fee reduction

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Environment Protection Act (septic tanks)						
Construct, install or alter OWMS	Statutory	Application	F	705.00	As schedule (minimum 48.88 fee units for assessments not exceeding 8.2 hours with an additional 6.12 fee units payable per hour of assessment exceeding 8.2 hours up to a maximum of 135.43 fee units)	NEW
Minor alteration to OWMS	Statutory	Application	F	357.00	As per schedule (37.25 fee units)	NEW
Transfer a permit	Statutory	Application	F		As per schedule (9.93 fee units)	NEW
Amend a permit	Statutory	Application	F		As per schedule (10.38 fee units)	NEW
Renew a permit	Statutory	Application	F		As per schedule (8.31 fee units)	NEW
Exemption	Statutory	Application	F		As per schedule (minimum 14.67 fee units for assessments not exceeding 2.6 hours with an additional 5.94 fee units payable per hour of assessment exceeding 2.6 hours up to a maximum of 61.41 fee units)	NEW
Additional Site Inspection charge	Full Cost	Each	T	222.00	225.00	1.35
Septic Plan/File Search Fee charge	Full Cost	Each	T	76.50	150.00	96.08
Housing Orders - Certificate of Title						
Report on orders affecting property	Market	Each	F	83.20	84.00	0.96
Removal of Director of Housing Declarations affecting title	Market	Each	F	166.30	168.50	1.32

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
LOCAL LAWS						
Local Laws						
A Frame - 1st Sign**	Full Cost	Each	F	66.30	67.50	1.81
A Frame - 2nd Sign**	Full Cost	Each	F	137.70	140.00	1.67
A Frame - 3rd Sign**	Full Cost	Each	F	300.90	306.00	1.69
Table and Chairs - in CBD**	Full Cost	Chair	F	63.25	64.00	1.19
Table and Chairs - outside CBD**	Full Cost	Chair	F	51.00	52.00	1.96
Local Law Permits (Processing Permit Applications/ Issuing Permits) - Commercial	Full Cost	Each	F	78.55	79.50	1.21
Sale of copy of all Councils Local Laws Charge	Full Cost	Each	F	38.75	39.00	0.65
Display of Goods for sale on Footpath - CBD**	Full Cost	Each	F	318.25	322.50	1.34
Display of Goods for sale on Footpath - non CBD**	Full Cost	Each	F	175.45	177.50	1.17
Display of Goods on Footpath - Decorative only - CBD**	Full Cost	Each	F	131.60	133.50	1.44
Display of Goods for sale on Footpath - Decorative only - non CBD**	Full Cost	Each	F	77.50	78.50	1.29
Late fee Administration for renewal of Outdoor Dining & Street Trading Permits	Full Cost	Each	T	180.55	183.50	1.63
Itinerant Trade Lake Trader	Full Cost	Monthly	F	698.70	709.50	1.55
Itinerant Trade CBD area	Full Cost	Monthly	F	517.15	525.00	1.52
Itinerant Trade Outer Area	Full Cost	Monthly	F	412.10	418.00	1.43
Itinerant Trade Rural Area	Full Cost	Monthly	F	295.80	299.50	1.25
Itinerant Trade Miscellaneous/one off permits	Full Cost	Each	F	78.55	79.50	1.21
Live on site Application Fee	Full Cost	Application	F	201.95	205.00	1.51
Live on site Renew Permit (each six months)	Full Cost	Application	F	201.95	205.00	1.51
Pro-rata permit fees 1 August - 31 October	Full Cost	Each	F	100% permit fee	100% permit fee	100% permit fee
Pro-rata permit fees 1 November - 31 January	Full Cost	Each	F	75% permit fee	75% permit fee	75% permit fee
Pro-rata permit fees 1 February - 30 April	Full Cost	Each	F	50% permit fee	50% permit fee	50% permit fee
Pro-rata permit fees 1 May - 31 July	Full Cost	Each	F	25% permit fee	25% permit fee	25% permit fee
Administrative Fee - Fire Prevention - Invoices	Full Cost	Each	T	208.10	211.00	1.39
Grass Slashing (Administrative Cost - Slashing Carried Out by Council's Contractors)	Full Cost	Time	T	100% Cost Recovery	100% Cost Recovery	-
** Due to the impact of COVID-19 these fees will be temporarily waived. Businesses are still required to renew their permits and provide all necessary documentation. New applications will still require the application fee (\$80) to be paid.						
PARKING AND ANIMAL CONTROL						
Animal Registrations - Non Concession Fees						
Dogs - Desexed	Market	Animal	F	45.90	46.50	1.31
Dogs - Over 10 Years	Market	Animal	F	45.90	46.50	1.31
Dogs - Domestic Animal Business conducted on Registered Premises	Market	Animal	F	45.90	46.50	1.31
Dogs registered with the Victorian Canine Association	Market	Animal	F	45.90	46.50	1.31
Dog undergone Obedience Training which complies with Regulations	Market	Animal	F	45.90	46.50	1.31
Dog kept for working stock - rural property	Market	Animal	F	45.90	46.50	1.31
Dogs - all other	Market	Animal	F	137.70	139.50	1.31
Cats - Desexed	Market	Animal	F	37.75	38.00	0.66

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	% Change
Cats - Over 10 Years	Market	Animal	F	37.75	38.00	0.66
Cat kept for breeding by the proprietor of a Domestic Animal Business conducted on registered premises	Market	Animal	F	37.75	38.00	0.66
Cat registered with the Feline Control Council.	Market	Animal	F	37.75	38.00	0.66
Cats - all other	Market	Animal	F	113.25	114.50	1.10
Animal Registrations Concession Fees						
Dogs - Desexed	Market	Animal	F	22.95	23.20	1.09
Dogs - Over 10 Years	Market	Animal	F	22.95	23.20	1.09
Dogs - Domestic Animal Business conducted on Registered Premises	Market	Animal	F	22.95	23.20	1.09
Dogs registered with the Victorian Canine Association	Market	Animal	F	22.95	23.20	1.09
Dog undergone Obedience Training which complies with Regulations	Market	Animal	F	22.95	23.20	1.09
Dog kept for working stock - rural property	Market	Animal	F	22.95	23.20	1.09
Dogs - all other	Market	Animal	F	68.50	69.70	1.75
Cats - Desexed	Market	Animal	F	18.85	19.00	0.80
Cats - Over 10 Years	Market	Animal	F	18.85	19.00	0.80
Cat kept for breeding by the proprietor of a Domestic Animal Business conducted on registered premises.	Market	Animal	F	18.85	19.00	0.80
Cat registered with the Feline Control Council.	Market	Animal	F	18.85	19.00	0.80
Cats - all other	Market	Animal	F	56.60	57.20	1.06
Administration						
Disabled Labels (additional)	Market	Label	F	5.70	5.90	3.51
Meter Hoods, etc						
Reserved parking fee paying bay (metered) - per bay	Market	Day	T	13.00	13.00	-
Reserved parking free (unmetered) time restricted bay - per bay	Market	Day	T	6.50	6.50	-
"No Standing" Tripod Stand, refundable bond	Market	per tripod	T	13.00	13.00	-
Multi Storey Carpark - Hargreaves St						
Bay Hire - level 7 (Mon-Fri)	Market	Monthly	T	129.00	129.00	-
Bay Hire - level 7 (24/7)	Market	Monthly	T	150.00	150.00	-
Bay Hire - roof top	Market	Monthly	T	93.00	93.00	-
Bay Hire - roof top (24/7)	Market	Monthly	T	107.00	107.00	-
Car Park Fees	Market	Hour/Day	T	1.80/8.00	1.80/8.00	-
Multi Storey Carpark - Edward St						
Bay Hire - Mon to Friday	Market	Monthly	T	141.00	141.00	-
Bay Hire - 24/7	Market	Monthly	T	167.00	167.00	-
Car Park Fees	Market	Hour/Day	T	First 90 min free then 1.90/8.50	First 90 min free then 1.90/8.50	-
Parking Fees						
Car Park Fees Zone 1	Market	Hour/Day	T	1.80/6.50	1.80/6.50	-
Car Park Fees Zone 2	Market	Hour/Day	T	1.10/3.70	1.10/3.70	-
Car Park Cnr Edwards & Hargreaves	Market	Hour/Day	T	1.90/8.50	1.90/8.50	-
Fines						
Parking Offence Road Rules	Market	Penalty Unit	F	0.5 PU	0.5 PU	-
Parking Offence Road Rules	Statutory	Penalty Unit	F	0.6 PU	0.6 PU	-
Parking Offence Road Rules	Statutory	Penalty Unit	F	1.0 PU	1.0 PU	-

Health and Wellbeing Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Abandoned vehicle release from pound	Market	Each	T	141.00	143.00	1.42
After hours release from Multi Storey Car Park	Market	Each	T	130.00	130.00	-
Stock release from pound 1 large animal or 5 small animals,sheep,etc	Market	Each	T	27.55	27.90	1.27
Stock impounding 1 large animal or 5 small animals,sheep,etc	Market	Each	T	38.75	39.20	1.16
Stock feeding per day, 1 large animal or 5 small animals,sheep,etc	Market	Each	T	10.40	10.60	1.92
Registration of Domestic Animal Business	Market	Each	T	169.30	172.10	1.65
BENDIGO ANIMAL RELIEF CENTRE						
Release Fee Dog - Day 1	Market	Animal	F	30.00	30.00	-
Release Fee Dog - Day 2-4	Market	Animal	F	100.00	100.00	-
Release Fee Dog - Day 5-8	Market	Animal	F	150.00	150.00	-
Release Fee Cat - Day 1	Market	Animal	F	20.00	20.00	-
Release Fee Cat - Day 2-4	Market	Animal	F	80.00	80.00	-
Release Fee Cat - Day 5-8	Market	Animal	F	120.00	120.00	-
Release Fee Small Domestic Animal - Day 1	Market	Animal	F	20.00	20.00	-
Release Fee Small Domestic Animal - Day 2-4	Market	Animal	F	80.00	80.00	-
Release Fee Small Domestic Animal - Day 5-8	Market	Animal	F	120.00	120.00	-
Daily keeping fee	Market	Animal	F	35.00	35.50	1.43
Microchipping Fee Impounded	Market	Animal	F	40.00	40.00	-
Microchipping fee - public	Market	Animal	F	40.00	40.00	-
Vaccination fee	Market	Animal	F	50.00	50.00	-
Surrender Fee - not COGB resident						
Dog	Market	Animal	F	70.00	70.00	-
Cat	Market	Animal	F	50.00	50.00	-
Adoption fees						
Puppy (up to 6 months)	Market	Animal	F	420.00	420.00	-
Dog (6 months to 7 years)	Market	Animal	F	380.00	380.00	-
Senior Dog (7 years+)	Market	Animal	F	100.00	100.00	-
Kittens (up to 6 months)	Market	Animal	F	170.00	170.00	-
Cats (6 months to 7 years)	Market	Animal	F	120.00	120.00	-
Senior Cats (7 years +)	Market	Animal	F	50.00	50.00	-
Small Domestic Animal (Rabbit, Guinea Pig, Rodent, Ferret)	Market	Animal	F	30.00	30.00	-
Micellaneous						
Registration of Foster Carer	Full Cost	Each	F	78.55	79.50	1.21
Animal Registration - Non Concession Fees						
Dog - Registered foster carer	Market	Animal	F	8.00	8.20	2.50
Cat - Registered foster carer	Market	Animal	F	8.00	8.20	2.50

PRESENTATION AND ASSETS FEES AND CHARGES SCHEDULE 2021/2022

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
ENGINEERING						
Consent for Works in Road Reserves (Municipal roads) - Works other than minor works or traffic impact works						
Conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Not conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is not more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Not conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is not more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Land Use Activity Agreement (LUAA) – Council administration fee for negotiable activity	Accessible	Each	T	1,040.00	1,040.00	-
Consent for Works in Road Reserves (Municipal Roads) - Minor Works						
Conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Not conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is not more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Not conducted on, or on any part of, the roadway, shoulder or pathway which the maximum speed limit is not more than 50km/hr	Statutory	Each	F	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	Fee is set by State Government based on fee unit	-
Full Colour - Posters etc.						
AO	Market	Each	T	36.40	36.95	1.51
A2	Market	Each	T	13.50	13.75	1.85
Black and White Print						
AO	Market	Each	T	9.90	10.05	1.50
A1	Market	Each	T	6.60	6.70	1.50
A2	Market	Each	T	4.40	4.47	1.50
Map Books	Market	Each	T	10.00	10.15	1.50

Presentation and Assets Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	% Change
PARKS AND OPEN SPACES						
All bookable Parks, Gardens and Passive Reserves						
Bonds for events are subject to the nature of the event						
Booking fee				5%	5%	-
Community/General Event/Gathering (0-30 People)	Accessible	No booking required	T	-	-	
Community/General Event/Gathering (30-50 People)	Accessible	Per bookable location	T	94.00	94.00	
Community/General Event/Gathering (Above 50 People)	Accessible	Per bookable location	T	99.00	99.00	-
Wedding / private event (birthday party / family reunion)	Accessible	Per bookable location	T	140.00	136.00	-2.86
Commercial Event	Accessible	Per bookable location	T	136.00	136.00	-
RESOURCE RECOVERY AND EDUCATION SERVICES						
Eaglehawk Landfill						
Domestic Garbage Bag	Accessible	Tonne	T	191.00	226.00	18.32
Separated Waste	Accessible	Tonne	T	141.00	167.00	18.44
Domestic Concrete	Accessible	Tonne	T	75.00	88.50	18.00
Domestic Asbestos	Accessible	Tonne	T	260.00	307.00	18.08
Domestic Green Waste	Accessible	Tonne	L	FREE	FREE	FREE
Green Commercial	Accessible	Tonne	T	79.00	93.00	17.72
Industrial, Commercial	Accessible	Tonne	T	204.00	241.00	18.14
Industrial, Commercial <100kg	Accessible	Each	T	20.00	24.00	20.00
Industrial, Commercial (Polystyrene, carpet, PET, HDPE, LDPE, foam mattresses, insulation etc)	Accessible	Tonne	T	392.00	463.00	18.11
Industrial, Commercial (Mixed loads of recycling and waste)	Accessible	Tonne	T	392.00	463.00	18.11
Building Rubble	Accessible	Tonne	T	204.00	241.00	18.14
Clean Concrete	Accessible	Tonne	T	75.00	89.00	18.67
Asbestos	Accessible	Tonne	T	260.00	307.00	18.08
LL Contaminated Soil	Accessible	Tonne	T	250.00	295.00	18.00
Car Tyres	Accessible	Each	T	7.00	8.00	14.29
Car Tyre (with Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	13.00	14.00	7.69
Motorcycle	Accessible	Each	T	7.00	8.00	14.29
Light Truck	Accessible	Each	T	11.00	12.00	9.09
Light Truck (with Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	13.00	14.00	7.69
Heavy Truck	Accessible	Each	T	13.00	14.00	7.69
Heavy Truck (with Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	23.00	24.00	4.35
Super Single (with or without Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	POA	POA	-
Bob Cat	Accessible	Each	T	12.00	13.00	8.33
Forklift (small)	Accessible	Each	T	13.00	14.00	7.69
Forklift (medium)	Accessible	Each	T	18.00	19.00	5.56
Forklift (large)	Accessible	Each	T	23.00	24.00	4.35
Forklift over 36"	Accessible	Each	T	POA	POA	-
Tractor (small)	Accessible	Each	T	69.00	70.00	1.45
Tractor (medium)	Accessible	Each	T	112.00	114.00	1.79
Tractor (large)	Accessible	Each	T	169.00	171.50	1.48
Mattresses	Accessible	Each	T	32.00	37.50	17.19

Presentation and Assets Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Fridges/Air conditioners/Freezers	Accessible	Each	T	18.00	21.00	16.67
Immediate Deep Burial of Prohibited or Dangerous Items	Accessible	Fee unit	T	110.00	130.00	18.18
Goornong/Strathfieldsaye Transfer Stations						
Domestic Garbage Bag	Accessible	Domestic Bag	T	4.00	4.50	12.50
Wheelie Bin	Accessible	Load	T	10.00	11.50	15.00
Car Boot	Accessible	Car Boot	T	15.50	18.00	16.13
Car Boot (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Car Boot	T	33.00	38.50	16.67
Trailer 6 x 4	Accessible	Trailer etc	T	33.00	38.50	16.67
Trailer 6 x 4 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Trailer etc	T	65.00	76.50	17.69
Trailer with cage 6 x 4	Accessible	Trailer etc	T	59.00	69.50	17.80
Trailer with cage 6 x 4 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Trailer etc	T	117.00	138.00	17.95
Tandem Trailer 8 x 5	Accessible	Load	T	68.50	80.50	17.52
Tandem Trailer 8 x 5 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	136.00	160.50	18.01
Tandem Trailer with cage 8 x 5	Accessible	Load	T	136.00	160.50	18.01
Tandem Trailer with cage 8 x 5 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	273.00	322.00	17.95
Fridges/Air conditioners/Freezers (Fridges & Large White Goods not accepted at Goornong)	Accessible	Each	T	FREE	FREE	-
Gas Bottles (<9kg)	Accessible	Each	T	10.50	12.00	14.29
Oil - Volumes <20L	Accessible	Each	L	3.50	4.00	14.29
Mattresses	Accessible	Each	T	32.00	37.50	17.19
Domestic green waste (Goornong only)	Accessible	Each	L	FREE	FREE	-
Computer monitors/televisions	Accessible	Each	T	FREE	FREE	-
Heathcote Transfer Station						
Garbage Bag - (< 70 Litres)	Accessible	Each	T	4.00	4.50	12.50
Wheelie Bin	Accessible	Each	T	10.00	11.50	15.00
Car Boot	Accessible	Load	T	15.50	18.00	16.13
Car Boot (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	33.00	38.50	16.67
Trailer/Ute 6 x 4	Accessible	Load	T	33.00	38.50	16.67
Trailer/Ute 6 x 4 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	65.00	76.50	17.69
Trailer with cage 6 x 4	Accessible	Load	T	59.00	69.50	17.80
Trailer with cage 6 x 4 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	117.00	138.00	17.95
Tandem Trailer 8 x 5	Accessible	Load	T	68.50	80.50	17.52
Tandem Trailer 8 x 5 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	136.00	160.50	18.01
Tandem Trailer with cage 8 x 5	Accessible	Load	T	136.00	160.50	18.01
Tandem Trailer with cage 8 x 5 (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Load	T	273.00	322.00	17.95
Domestic green waste	Accessible	Load	L	FREE	FREE	FREE
Green Commercial	Accessible	Cubic Metre	T	16.50	19.50	18.18
Industrial, Commercial (Including commercial cardboard)	Accessible	Cubic Metre	T	43.50	51.00	17.24
Industrial, Commercial (Unsorted Load)	Accessible	Cubic Metre	T	87.00	102.50	17.82
Car Tyres	Accessible	Each	T	7.00	8.00	14.29
Car Tyre (with Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	13.00	14.00	7.69
Motorcycle	Accessible	Each	T	7.00	8.00	14.29
Light Truck	Accessible	Each	T	11.00	12.00	9.09
Light Truck (with Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	12.50	14.00	12.00
Heavy Truck	Accessible	Each	T	13.00	14.00	7.69
Heavy Truck (with Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	22.50	24.00	6.67

Presentation and Assets Fees and Charges Schedule 2021/2022 continued.

Program/Service	Pricing Type*	Unit of Measure	GST Status (F) Free (T) Taxable	Unit Fee		% Change
				2020/2021 (inc. GST) \$	2021/2022 (inc. GST) \$	
Super Single (with or without Rim)	Accessible	Each	T	POA	POA	-
Bob Cat	Accessible	Each	T	11.50	13.00	13.04
Forklift (small)	Accessible	Each	T	12.50	14.00	12.00
Forklift (medium)	Accessible	Each	T	17.50	19.00	8.57
Forklift (large)	Accessible	Each	T	22.50	24.00	6.67
Forklift over 36"	Accessible	Each	T	POA	POA	-
Tractor (small)	Accessible	Each	T	67.50	70.00	3.70
Tractor (medium)	Accessible	Each	T	112.50	114.00	1.33
Tractor (large)	Accessible	Each	T	168.50	172.00	2.08
Fridges /Air conditioners/Freezers	Accessible	Each	T	FREE	FREE	-
Gas Bottles (<9kg)	Accessible	Each	T	10.50	12.00	14.29
Oil - Volumes <20L	Accessible	Each	L	3.50	4.00	14.29
Mattresses	Accessible	Each	T	32.00	37.50	17.19
Computer monitors/Televisions	Accessible	Each	T	FREE	FREE	-
Bin Hire						
Up to 5 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	104.00	122.50	17.79
6 to 10 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	137.35	162.00	17.95
11 to 15 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	160.75	189.00	17.57
15 to 20 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	246.60	290.50	17.80
21 to 25 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	280.40	331.00	18.05
26 to 30 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	307.40	362.50	17.92
31 to 35 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	393.25	463.50	17.86
36 to 40 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	430.75	508.00	17.93
41 to 45 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	578.45	682.50	17.99
46 to 50 240L Bins	Accessible	Fee Unit	T	604.35	712.50	17.90
*In line with the introduction of the new EPA levy these fees will increase from 1 July 2021.						
TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT						
Flagman - Normal Hours	Full Cost	Per person per hour	T	49.00	49.75	1.53
Flagman - Outside Normal Hours	Full Cost	Per person per hour	T	55.15	56.00	1.54
Saturday	Full Cost	Per person per hour	T	60.50	61.45	1.54
Sunday	Full Cost	Per person per hour	T	61.55	62.50	1.54
Public Holidays	Full Cost	Per person per hour	T	71.65	72.70	1.47
Arrow Boards	Full Cost	Per Day	T	105.05	106.65	1.52
VMS Boards	Full Cost	Per Day	T	233.50	237.05	1.52
Traffic Management Plans	Full Cost	Each	T	175.10	177.75	1.51
Corflute Sign Replacement	Full Cost	Each	T	29.20	29.65	1.54
Vehicle & required signs	Full Cost	Per Hour	T	18.95	19.25	1.58
Multi Message Frame Replacement	Full Cost	Each	T	37.30	37.90	1.61
1 Man crew & vehicle	Full Cost	Per Hour	T	67.30	68.35	1.56
2 Man crew & vehicle	Full Cost	Per Hour	T	115.55	117.30	1.51
PROPERTY SERVICES						
Conveyancing / Legal Services						
Services in connection with a Council land transaction	Full Cost	Varies	T	Varies	Varies	Varies

Appendix B

Budget process

This section gives an overview of the budget processes to be undertaken in order to adopt the Budget in accordance with the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) and Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 (the Regulations). Under the Act, the City is required to prepare and adopt an annual budget for each financial year. The Budget is required to include certain information about the rates and charges that the City intends to levy as well as a range of other information.

The 2021/2022 budget, which is included in this report, is for the year 1 July 2021 to 30 June 2022 and is prepared in accordance with the Act and Regulations. The budget includes financial statements being a Comprehensive Income Statement, Balance Sheet, Statement of Changes in Equity, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Capital Works. These statements have been prepared for the year ended 30 June 2022 in accordance with the Act and Regulations, and, although not externally audited, will generally be consistent with the annual financial statements which are prepared in accordance with Australian Accounting Standards. The budget also includes information about the rates and charges to be levied, the capital works program to be undertaken, the human resources required, and other financial information the City requires in order to make an informed decision about the adoption of the Budget.

In advance of preparing the budget, officers review and update the City's long-term financial projections. Financial projections for at least four years are ultimately included in the City's Budget, which is the key medium-term financial plan produced by Council on a rolling basis. The preparation of the budget, within this broader context, begins with officers preparing the operating and capital components of the annual budget during November and December. A draft consolidated budget is then prepared, and various iterations are considered by Council at informal briefings during February and March.

A budget is prepared in accordance with the Act and submitted to Council in April or May, for in principle approval. Council is then required to give public notice that it intends to formally adopt the Budget. It must give the community the opportunity to provide comments and submissions to the proposed budget in accordance with the City's Community Engagement Policy. A person has a right to make a submission on any proposal contained in the budget and any submission must be considered before adoption of the Budget by Council.

Council undertakes media briefings, promotion and displays copies of the budget on the City's website. Hard copies are also available at Council offices. The final step is for Council to adopt the budget after receiving and considering any submissions from interested parties. This year the budget will be adopted by 30 June 2021 and a copy submitted to the Minister within 28 days after adoption. The key dates for the budget process are summarised below:

Budget Process	Budget Timing
1 Officers update Council's long-term financial projections	Aug/Sept
2 Officers prepare operating and capital budgets	Oct/Nov
3 Councillors consider draft budgets at informal briefings	Feb/Mar
4 Proposed budget submitted to Council for approval	April
5 Public notice advising intention to advertise budget	April
6 Budget available for public inspection and comment	April/May
7 Public submission process undertaken	April/May
8 Submissions period closes (28 days)	May
9 Submissions considered by Council/Committee	May
10 Budget and submissions presented to Council for adoption	June
11 Copy of adopted budget submitted to the Minister	June
12 Revised budget where a material change has arisen	Dec/Jan

Appendix C

Budget context, budget principles and capital investment framework

Budget context

Snapshot of Greater Bendigo City Council

The City of Greater Bendigo is located in the centre of Victoria, covering almost 3,000 square kilometres. Greater Bendigo includes smaller towns and villages such as Heathcote, Axedale, Huntly, Marong, Elmore, Goornong, Neilborough, Sebastian, Woodvale, Raywood, Mia and Redesdale.

Population

As at June 30, 2019 Greater Bendigo had an estimated population of 118,093 people which is a growth of 1.77 per cent or 2,052 from June 30, 2018. It is estimated that 16,300 of the population live in the City's rural areas and 85 per cent live in Urban Bendigo.

Ageing population

The age structure of Greater Bendigo at the 2016 Census showed that 19.2 per cent of the population was aged less than 15 years and 23.9 per cent of residents were over the age of 60 years. In 2016, the dominant age structure for persons in the City was ages between 20 and 24 which accounts for 7.2 per cent of the population.

In between the period of the last two Censuses, the largest changes within the age groups were 5 to 11 (+1,134), 25 to 34 (+1,944), 60 to 69 (+2,427) and 70 to 84 (+1,503).

The age structure of Greater Bendigo shows different populations at their different life stages. Looking at age structure this way can better inform the level of demand on specific age-based services as well as specific housing needs. There has been growth of the young workforce and tertiary aged population between the last two Censuses, as well as the previously discussed growth of the older population.

Births

Birth rates in Greater Bendigo decreased slightly in 2018 from the previous census year with 1,413 babies born.

Cultural diversity

Of the total Greater Bendigo population in 2016, 8,819 of residents were born overseas. Of those residents born overseas, 4.6 per cent were born in non-English speaking countries. The main countries of birth of residents, apart from Australia, represent migrant groups from the United Kingdom, New Zealand and India.

Education and Occupation

In 2016, less than half (47.3 per cent) of the population hold no formal qualifications (Bachelor or higher degree, Advanced Diploma or Diploma, or Vocational qualifications) and 41.9 per cent had no qualifications, compared with 45 per cent and 42.8 per cent respectively for Regional Victoria.

When combined, three occupations (Professional, Technical and Trades Workers, and Clerical and Administrative Workers) accounted for 22,885 people in total or 47 per cent of the employed resident population.

Budget implications

As a result of the City's demographic profile there are a number of budget implications in the short and long term as follows:

- The large geographic area, which includes both urban and rural environments, means the City needs to be responsive to diverse community needs.
- The large rural area means transport costs for services are higher. This will impact on services such as garbage collection. There is also a requirement to invest in maintaining a vast rural roadnetwork.
- The growing urban area means that with new subdivisions, Council takes on responsibility for an increasing number of public assets when transferred by developers. This includes public parkland which in turn requires additional staff and equipment to maintain.

BUDGET PRINCIPLES

The Local Government Act has established Overarching Principles that must be given effect through the performance of a Council's role. The Financial management principles (s 101) require councils to:

- manage finances in accordance with financial policies and strategic plans
- monitor and manage financial risks prudently
- provide stability and predictability in the financial impact of decisions
- explain the financial operations and financial position by keeping appropriate records

Along with the overarching principles established in The Act the following Budget Principles have been drafted to support the development of the LTFP and the Budget:

Theme	Principle
Financial Sustainability	Council will effectively and efficiently use its resources to deliver the best outcomes for the community whilst ensuring ongoing future financial sustainability. Council will seek first to manage resources within prescribed rate caps.
Allocation of Financial Resources	Council will consider the financial resources required for the implementation of the endorsed Community Vision; Council Plan and other Integrated Plans of Council.
Renewal of Assets	Asset Renewal is fundamental to Council's services and financial sustainability. Asset renewal allocations are derived through formal assessments in line with Asset Management Plans; associated service levels; and condition audits.
Capital Works Prioritisation & Completion	a) Before approving the acquisition of new assets, Council will have regard to the financial and social impacts along with service needs of the community, including agreed criteria within the Capital Investment Framework. b) Budgets for capital works will incorporate an emphasis on completing existing projects and ensuring works are finalised on schedule within the portfolio.
Borrowings	Council will consider the use of borrowings to fund projects where there is a demonstrated benefit to future generations and council has the capacity to service the debt.
Service	a) Council will undertake periodic reviews of services provided to the community to ensure services are fit for purpose. b) Council will apply an equity lens to service delivery, ensuring they are accessible and good value. c) Service levels will be considered to ensure affordability and efficiency. d) Increased growth and compliance costs will initially be funded within existing budget settings.
Affordability for the Community	To achieve increased efficiency and affordability, the operations of the City will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. Council will only commit to new initiatives that deliver the essential outcomes for our community.
Fees & Charges	a) Fees and charges to be set with a view to minimising Council subsidy, but will seek a balance between service delivery and a cost recovery (especially with regard to equity and capacity to pay). b) Ensure that all charges have hardship arrangements to support those that need it most: some in the community are struggling more than others.

BUDGET PRINCIPLES DEVELOPED IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19

In addition to the above Budget Principles, the City recognises that the City continues to be impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic – and has also taken into account the following specific COVID-19 Recovery principles:

Theme	Principle
Hardship	Support those that need it most - some in the community are affected more than others.
Social and Economic Support	Address and advocate on key social and economic needs of our community focus on people, communities and business.
Long Term Community Sustainability	This is a short-term issue that requires a long-term response – our response will be across multiple budgets and will consider people, environment and finance.
Operational Efficiency	Our operations must be efficient - only commit to new initiatives that deliver the essential outcomes for our community.

Capital Investment Framework

Introduction

Available funds for capital and major works are driven by the long-term financial plan and guided by the budget principles reviewed annually by Council.

The total capital works Budget is split between three core components:

- New, upgrade or expansion:
 - These projects are first defined in the capital project pipeline, require a Project Proposal and are then prioritised using the Capital Investment Framework (CIF).
- Renewal of existing assets:
 - The amounts allocated for renewal are guided by relevant asset renewal modelling and asset management policy and planning.
- Major works:
 - Projects are considered major works when Council is investing in assets that the City does not own or that fall under the asset capitalisation threshold as specified in the Asset Capitalisation Policy. These types of works may fall within both renewal or new, upgrade or expansion budgets and are treated as an expense rather than a depreciable asset.

New/Upgrade/Expansion Capital Works

A Project Proposal is required for all New/Upgrade/Expansion Capital Works projects. The development of a 10-year capital project pipeline has commenced which will align endorsed strategies with the long-term financial plan.

The Capital Investment Framework (CIF) is the tool used to set priorities within the New/ Upgrade/ Expansion capital works program that addresses the strategic and service delivery needs of the City of Greater Bendigo and the community. To achieve this, the CIF includes the evaluation of projects against the following Capital Prioritisation Criteria as endorsed by EMT and Councillors:

Criteria	Description	Measure
Contribution to achieving Community Plan goals	The level of contribution a project has to the achievement of the Community Plan goals. <i>(Refer to the Community Plan goal assessment)</i>	An aggregated score for the project against the Community Plan goals
Risk	The risk to the organisation of delaying or not undertaking the project (rather than it being a risky project to undertake)	Organisational risk rating
Investing in our organisational strategy	Generating efficiencies in workplace practices to increase organisational productivity	A change in workplace efficiencies through Process/System/Tool/Technology improvement
Finishing what we start	A concerted effort will be made on ensuring that projects that are 'in-flight' and have had a previous Council approval have all approved scope completed. The focus is on scope that has not been delivered where there is an expectation set, or necessity, that it is completed.	A link to the current project phase (with preference towards projects that are 'shovel ready' / implementation phase)

New Capital Works projects are scored against each of these key criteria to provide a prioritised list of projects for Council to consider. Council can consider the use of the following rules to apply an exception to the prioritised list of projects:

Criteria	Description
Resource availability	The required human resources are not available to assign to this project for delivery at the required time. Therefore, the project needs to be re-programmed later in the pipeline
Funding availability	Funding is not available to assign to this project. Therefore, the project needs to be re-programmed later in the pipeline. OR External funding agreements have been entered into for this project and the project should proceed to meet those obligations
Statutory/Legislative obligation OR Government direction	There is a statutory or legislative obligation that mandates that this work must be undertaken. The Government has mandated that this work proceed as supported by notifications/policy.

Criteria	Description
Council direction	The Council has mandated that this work proceed as supported by Council resolution.

Each year there are significantly more bids for New/Upgrade/Expansion capital works projects than there are funds available in the annual Budget. To support decision making, officers highlight projects that are in progress, have an existing commitment (e.g. matching funding), or potential commitment.

Renewals

Given the significant value of Council's asset base, renewal investment forms a major component of the annual capital and major works budget. Appropriate renewal investment helps to ensure that Council's assets continue to deliver the service levels and standards expected by the community and work is continually undertaken by the organisation to check, assess and maintain the condition of these assets.

The renewal component of the annual budget is apportioned across the various asset classes, in accordance with renewal modelling, asset management plans and current asset conditions. Service and Asset managers prioritise individual renewal projects based on condition assessments, service levels and standards, and community feedback. Budgets have been allocated based on asset condition assessments and renewal modelling that identifies required investment to ensure that the useful lives of Council's assets are maximised.

Throughout this process, minor upgrades may be considered within the renewal budget where there is a need to increase the asset's level of service due to demand growth or strategic direction. Conversely, major upgrades of this nature would be excluded from the renewal program but would be considered and prioritised within the new/upgrade/expansion capital works.

The current renewal allocation of \$34.2M is offset by income from the Commonwealth Government Roads to Recovery Program (\$2.25M), plant and fleet trade-ins (\$980,000), and other contributions.

A detailed renewal capital works project list and associated costs are provided to Council to review as part of the budget approval process.

Appendix C1

List of capital works program

There are a number of projects within the following listing which are dependent on co-contribution by government, community groups or the private sector. In some cases, the progress and delivery of these projects are contingent on these funding agreements.

Local Roads

- Reseals and Asphalt Resurfacing Program
- Road Works Major Patching Program
- Minor Extensions Widening Renewals
- Bendigo Airport Entry Intersection Upgrade
- Midland Highway Parking Flank Renewal
- Road Reconstruction - Axedale Kimbolton Road
- Road Reconstruction - Strickland Road
- Road Reconstruction - Allies Road
- Brougham Street Median
- Road Safety Projects

Footpaths

- New Footpaths Program
- Footpath - Various Minor Extensions and Linkages
- Footpath - Wattle Street, Bendigo
- Footpath - Queen Street, Bendigo
- Footpath - Hargreaves Street, Bendigo
- Footpath - High Street, Eaglehawk
- Footpath - High Street, Heathcote

Bridges

- Bridges – Howard Street

Drainage

- Development Related Drainage
- Stormwater Quality Works
- Ritchies Dam
- Drainage - Aspinall Street
- Bendigo Creek (Nolan Street)
- Bendigo Creek (High St to Myrtle St)
- Drainage - Lowe Street / Yarunga Drive
- Bendigo Creek (Laurel to Booth, north)
- Drainage – Edwards Road

Public Furniture

- New Bus Shelters - Urban & Rural
- Renewal Parking Ticket Machines
- Street Furniture Program
- Street Lighting Renewal Works
- Acquisition of Mobile Bins
- Street Lighting Energy Efficiency Program
- Statue and Monument Renewal
- Refurbishment of Fountains and Water Features
- Decorative Streetlight Replacement
- Bus Shelter Renewal works
- Heritage Gardens Furniture replacement
- Natural Reserves Furniture Replacement
- Parks Signage replacement
- BBQ's Renewal Program
- Passive Reserve Fixture Replacement
- Playground renewal - general
- Rubber undersurface renewal
- Play space removal as per Public Space Plan
- Play space Design - Helen Jessen ELC North Side
- Play space - Maxwell Drive renewal
- Play space - Bren Street renewal
- Bendigo Skate Park Renewal at Ewing Park
- Park Furniture - Fixtures
- Sports Field Lighting Renewal
- Heathcote Barrack Reserve Sports Field Lighting
- Fitness Equipment – Lake Neangar
- Park Furniture – Long Gully Splash Park

Land Improvements

- Hargreaves Mall Greening and Public Realm Improvements
- Sports field Improvements
- Irrigation System Replacement Program
- Sporting Surface Upgrades - Soft Surfaces
- Sporting Surface Upgrades - Hard Surfaces
- Wolstencroft Landfill Rehabilitation
- Former Municipal Baths - Construction
- Eaglehawk Landfill Rehabilitation
- Lake Weeroona Irrigation
- Landscaping - Fencing
- Landscaping - Parks & Reserves
- Landscaping - Paved, Roundabouts, Medians
- Garden Drive Reserve Epsom Landscaping
- Bendigo Botanic Gardens Fence renewal, Scott St
- Janelle Drive Maiden Gully Park Landscaping
- Landscaping - Passive Reserves
- Maiden Gully Tennis Court & Lighting Renewal Design
- Golden Square Recreation Reserve Retaining Wall

- Heathcote Bowls Club Synthetic Turf Renewal
- Hard Courts and Lighting renewal

Plant & Equipment

- Plant and light fleet Replacement Program

Office Equipment

- Replacement Personal Computers
- Depot Generator Communications Card
- Town Hall UPS Uninterruptible Power Supply renewal
- IT Backup equipment renewal
- Ulumbarra firewall equipment
- Core Software enhancements
- ePathway Animal Registrations
- Project Program & Portfolio Management System

Buildings & Property

- Bendigo Heritage Attractions Asset Renewal
- Essential Safety Measures
- Kennington Recreation Reserve Pavilion
- Central Hub - Bendigo Botanic Gardens
- Capital Venues Renewal - Fire Station
- Golden Dragon Museum & Precinct
- Art Gallery - Building Renewal Works
- Strathfieldsaye Community Hub (Club Court)
- Catherine McAuley College - Joint Use Development
- Circular Greater Bendigo - Disposal Solutions Post Landfill
- Bendigo Stadium - Basketball Stadium internal painting
- Building Renewal Planning 21/22
- Eaglehawk Town Hall
- Renewal contingency - Building Projects
- Bendigo Croquet Club - Clubrooms painting, guttering
- Eaglehawk Preschool renewals
- Allingham St Hall - renewal
- Lake Weeroona - Toilet Block decommissioning
- Kennington Preschool - painting
- Havilah Road Preschool - painting, repairs
- Weeroona "RF Turner" Fire Brigade Track - Toilet Block Decommissioning
- Kangaroo Flat Kindergarten - painting
- Strathdale Park - Dick Conroy Pavilion painting
- Conservatory Gardens Structure - painting, repairs
- Visitor Information Centre (Old Post Office) fence, lighting
- Elmore Senior Citizens Clubrooms - design and investigation
- Golden Square Recreation Reserve - investigation and design
- Quarry Hill Reserve - Ken Wust - investigation and design
- Strathdale Park - Tennis Facility - investigation and design
- Truscott Reserve - investigation and design
- Childcare sites sustainability initiatives
- Security renewals

- Bendigo Livestock Exchange - office area renewal
- Bendigo Livestock Exchange – Saleyards roofing Design
- California Gully Recreation Reserve - Roof renewal
- Elmore Kindergarten renewal - water supply, internal works
- North Bendigo Preschool - storage shed renewal
- South Bendigo Kindergarten - path renewal
- Helen Jessen ELC - kitchen, auto door renewal
- Annie Galvin ELC - flooring
- Heathcote Bowls club - Kitchen renewal
- Gas works - boundary fence
- Strathfieldsaye Recreation Reserve (Warne Court) renewals
- Spring Gully Kindergarten - flooring planning area renewals
- Shelter Renewal - Kennington Reservoir
- Peter Krenz Leisure Centre - tilt door renewal
- Axedale tennis shelter renewal
- Hargreaves Street Carpark tilt door renewal
- Environmental Sustainability Initiatives - Buildings
- Adam Street Depot building renewal
- White Hills Recreation Reserve - Pavilion changeroom
- Brennan Park Pool changerooms and kiosk renewal
- Faith Leech Aquatic Centre - Changeroom, kiosk renewal
- Elmore Public Toilet - Railway place
- Structural Assessments - renewal
- Gurri Wanyarra Wellness Centre ESD Report Solutions
- Heathcote Dog Park Shelter
- Remote Lighting Control System

Land

- Industrial Land Development Strategy Implementation

Appendix D

REVENUE AND RATING PLAN 2021-2025

Table of Contents

1	Executive Summary	93
2	Purpose	93
3	Introduction	94
3.1	Revenue Sources (\$M)	95
3.2	Revenue Requirements	95
3.3	Revenue Balance.....	95
4	Community Engagement & Implementation	96
5	Legislative Framework	96
5.1	Local Government Act 2020	97
5.2	Local Government Act 1989	98
5.3	Quantum of Rates and Charges	98
5.4	Local Government Rating System Review.....	98
5.5	Taxation Principles.....	98
5.6	Rate Capping	99
6	Rates and Charges	99
6.1	Valuation Method.....	99
6.2	Rates and Charges.....	99
6.3	Differential Rates	100
6.4	Municipal Charge	100
6.5	Service Rates and Charges	101
6.6	Special Rates and Charges	101
6.7	Payment of Rates and Charges	102
6.8	Rebates and Concessions.....	102
6.9	Deferments and Waivers	103
7	Fees and Charges	103
7.1	Pricing Policy	103
7.2	Statutory Fees and Fines.....	104
7.3	User Charges, Fees and Fines	104
8	Other Revenue Sources.....	105
8.1	Government Grants	105
8.2	Contributions	106
8.3	Other Revenue	107

ATTACHMENT A: Impact of Proposed Changes to Rates and Charges 108

ATTACHMENT B: Differential Rate Definitions 111

ATTACHMENT C: Commercial and Industrial Land A Rate..... 119

ATTACHMENT D: Commercial and Industrial Land C Rate 120

ATTACHMENT E: Forest Edge Estate Maiden GullyForest Edge121

ATTACHMENT F: Organic Waste Collection Area 122

1 Executive Summary

The Revenue and Rating Plan outlines the City's decision-making process on how revenues are calculated and collected, and is a new requirement of the *Local Government Act 2020*. Council provides a number of services and facilities to its local community, and in doing so, must collect revenue to cover the cost of providing these services and facilities.

The following key changes were initially proposed to the structure of rates and charges for the 2021-22 year compared to the 2020-21 year:

- Increase the vacant land differential rate from 125% to 200% of the general rate.
- Decrease the farm land differential rate from 85% to 75% of the general rate.

The draft Revenue and Rating Plan was open for community consultation from 19 April to 18 May 2021. Submissions from the public were considered by Councillors and it was determined that for 2021-22:

- The farm land differential rate would decrease from 85% to 75% of the general rate.
- The vacant land differential rate would remain at 125% of the general rate (no change).

The following changes will be implemented for the structure and level of rates and charges for the 2022-23 year (i.e. the following year):

- Increase the vacant land differential rate from 125% to 200% of the general rate.
- Introduce a sustainable farm rate differential for farm properties that undertake sustainable farming practises.

It should be noted that changes in differential rates do not increase the total revenue which the City charges through rates. Rather they amend the relative distribution between differential rate types.

Over the life of this 4 year revenue and rating plan, further investigation and consultation will also be done on the feasibility of a higher vacant property differential for commercial properties where no reasonable attempt has been undertaken to seek a tenant. Refer section 4 for more details – this would be subject to a future year's budget consultation process.

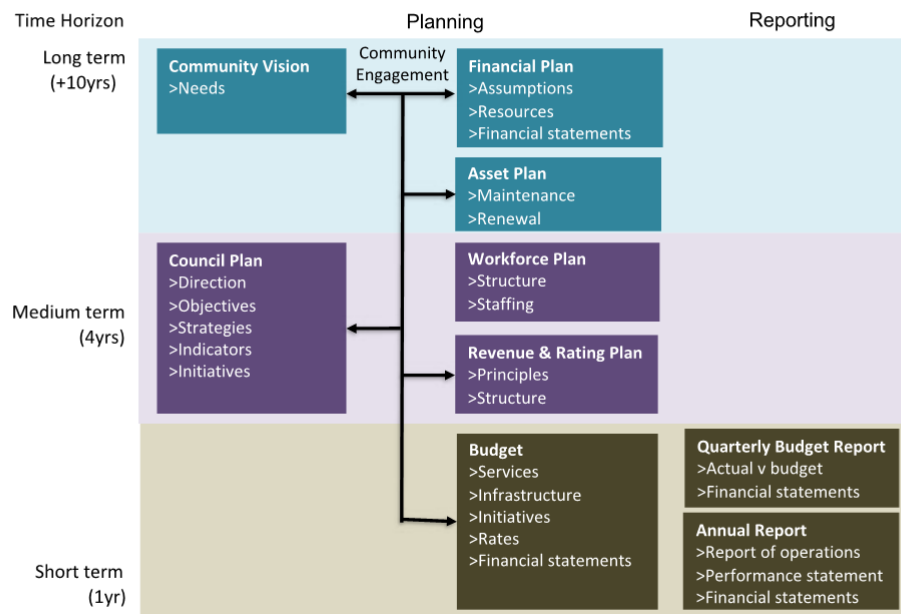
The draft Revenue and Rating Plan will be presented to the 21 June 2021 Council meeting for adoption.

2 Purpose

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires each council to prepare a Revenue and Rating Plan to cover a minimum period of four years following each Council election. The Revenue and Rating Plan establishes the revenue raising framework within which the Council proposes to work.

The purpose of the Revenue and Rating Plan is to determine the most appropriate and affordable revenue and rating approach for the City of Greater Bendigo (the City) which in conjunction with other income sources will adequately finance the objectives in the council plan.

The Revenue and Rating Plan is part of the City's Integrated Strategic Planning Framework as set out in the following diagram.



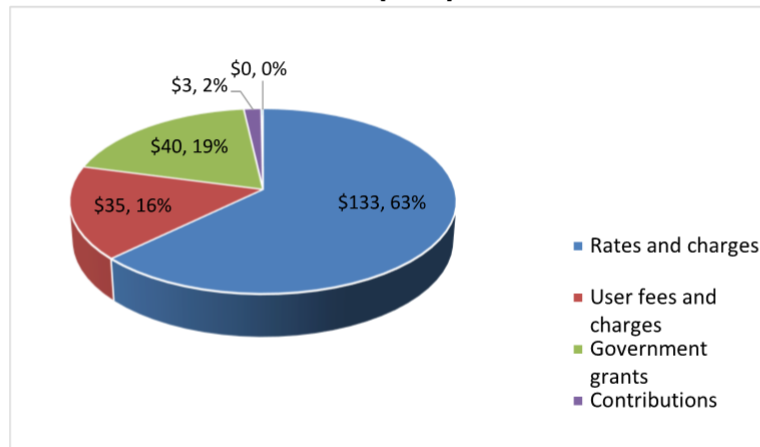
The strategies outlined in this plan align with the objectives contained in the Council Plan and feed into the City's Budget and Long Term Financial Plan, as well as other strategic planning documents.

This plan explains how Council calculates the revenue needed to fund its activities, and how the funding burden will be apportioned between ratepayers and other users of Council facilities and services. In particular, this plan sets out decisions that Council has made in relation to rating options available to it under the *Local Government Act 2020* to ensure the fair and equitable distribution of rates across property owners. It also sets out principles that are used in decision making for other revenue sources such as fees and charges. The plan does not set revenue targets.

3 Introduction

Council provides a number of services and facilities to its local community, and in doing so, must collect revenue to cover the cost of providing these services and facilities.

3.1 Revenue Sources (\$M)



Note: All \$numbers on the graph are shown in millions.

The above graph shows a breakup of the revenue the City uses to fund services and facilities for the City of Greater Bendigo community. The total revenue for the 2021-22 year is budgeted to be \$212 million with the major components being rates and charges (63%), user fees and charges (16%) and government grants (19%). Non-monetary contributions of \$15 million and loss on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment of \$4 million have been excluded for the purposes of the analysis.

3.2 Revenue Requirements

The Revenue and Rating Plan is a medium-term plan for how the City will generate income to deliver on the Council Plan, program and services and capital works commitments over the next four years. In determining its revenue requirements, the City has identified what each source of revenue is, how much will be raised in each class, and the policy rationale/assumptions for each. In doing this, the City has given consideration to:

- How revenue will be generated through rates on properties (including differential rates [if any] on different property classes)
- Fixed service charges that might be applied on services such as waste or recycling
- Fees and charges for services and programs including cost recovery policies, user charges and means testing
- Recurrent and non-recurrent operational and capital grants from other levels of government
- Developer contributions and other revenue
- Revenue generated from the use or allocation of Council assets (including the application of discounts and waivers)
- Entrepreneurial, business, or collaborative activities established to deliver programs or services and generate income or reduce costs.

3.3 Revenue Balance

The City provides public good and services, private goods and services and a mix of both to the community. In determining if services should be funded through rates and charges or other revenue sources such as user charges, the City considers whether services are either entirely or partially public goods. That is, where a service provides a broad benefit to the whole community then it will

be mostly funded from rates. Where individual or groups of ratepayers receive a particular benefit then the service will be mostly funded from user charges.

4 Community Engagement & Implementation

The Revenue and Rating Plan outlines the City's process on how revenues are calculated and collected. The following consultation process will be followed to ensure due consideration and feedback is received from relevant stakeholders.

Revenue and Rating Plan engagement process:

- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan prepared by officers and a number of briefings provided to Council
- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan placed on public exhibition at the 19 April 2021 Council meeting for a period of 28 days and calling for public submissions
- Community engagement through local news outlets and social media
- Hearing of public submissions in May 2021
- Draft Revenue and Rating Plan (with any revisions) to be presented to 21 June 2021 Council meeting for adoption.

The following changes were proposed to the structure and level of rates and charges for the 2021-22 year compared to the 2020-21 year:

- Increase the vacant land differential rate from 125% to 200% of the general rate
- Decrease the farm land differential rate from 85% to 75% of the general rate.

After community engagement it was determined:

- The vacant land differential rate would remain at 125% of the general rate.
- Decrease the farm land differential rate from 85% to 75% of the general rate.

The following changes are proposed to the structure and level of rates and charges for the 2022-23 year (i.e. the following year):

- Increase the vacant land differential rate from 125% to 200% of the general rate.
- Introduce a lower sustainable farm rate differential for farm properties that undertake sustainable farming practises.

Investigation and engagement will be undertaken into the introduction of a higher vacant property differential for commercial properties in the city centre which have been untenanted for greater than 12 months where no reasonable attempt has been undertaken to seek a tenant. This will not be implemented in the 2021-22 budget, as the City is conscious that COVID-19 recovery and other issues – including implementation challenges – are yet to be worked through. Any change will be subject to a future budget consultation with further details around the process.

No changes are proposed to any other revenue policies in this Revenue and Rating Plan.

5 Legislative Framework

The legislative framework as it applies to the raising of revenue including the levying of rates and charges by the City includes the *Local Government Act 2020* (including subordinate legislation, guidelines etc) and the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*. The rates and charges provisions are as per the previous *Local Government Act 1989* pending the outcome of the Local Government Rating System

Review. More detail on the broader State Government Rating Review, which sets the parameters for Local Government rating can be found at the Engage Victoria site: <https://engage.vic.gov.au/rating-review>.

5.1 Local Government Act 2020

Section 8 Role of a Council

The role of a Council is to provide good governance in its municipal district for the benefit and wellbeing of the municipal community.

Section 9 Overarching Governance Principles

A Council must in the performance of its role give effect to the overarching governance principles. Relevant overarching governance principles include:

- Priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations
- The economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district is to be promoted
- The municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making
- The ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured.

In giving effect to the overarching governance principles, a Council must take into account the financial management principles.

Section 101 Financial Management Principles

Relevant financial management principles include:

- Revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and financial transactions must be managed in accordance with a Council's financial policies and strategic plans
- Financial policies and strategic plans, including the Revenue and Rating Plan, must seek to provide stability and predictability in the financial impact on the municipal community.

Section 94 The Budget

Council must adopt a budget by 30 June each year (or at another time fixed by the Minister) to include:

- The total amount that the Council intends to raise by rates and charges
- A statement as to whether the rates will be raised by the application of a uniform rate or a differential rate
- A description of any fixed component of the rates, if applicable
- If the Council proposes to declare a uniform rate, the matters specified in section 160 of the *Local Government Act 1989*
- If the Council proposes to declare a differential rate for any land, the matters specified in section 161(2) of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

Council must ensure that, if applicable, the budget also contains a statement:

- That the Council intends to apply for a special order to increase the Council's average rate cap for the financial year or any other financial year; or
- That the Council has made an application to the ESC for a special order and is waiting for the outcome of the application; or
- That a special Order has been made in respect of the Council and specifying the average rate cap that applies for the financial year or any other financial year.

5.2 Local Government Act 1989

Section 155 Charges that Maybe Declared

A council may declare the following rates and charges on rateable land:

- General rates under
- Municipal charges
- Service rates and charges
- Special rates and charges.

Section 157 System of Valuing Land

A council may use the site value, net annual value or capital improved value system of valuation. For the purposes of calculating the site value, net annual value or capital improved value of rateable land, a council must use the current valuations made in respect of the land under the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*.

5.3 Quantum of Rates and Charges

This plan outlines the principles and strategic framework that Council will use in calculating and distributing the rating burden to property owners, however, the quantum of rate and charges revenue will be determined in the annual Budget.

5.4 Local Government Rating System Review

In 2019 the Victorian State Government conducted a Local Government Rating System Review. The Local Government Rating System Review Panel presented their final report and list of recommendations to the Victorian Government in March 2020. The Victorian Government subsequently published a response to the recommendations of the Panel's report. However, at the time of publication the recommended changes have not yet been implemented, and timelines to make these changes have not been announced.

5.5 Taxation Principles

The Victorian Government's *Local Government Better Practice Guide: Revenue and Rating Strategy 2014* states that when developing a rating strategy, in particular with reference to differential rates, the Council should give consideration to the following key good practice taxation principles:

- **Wealth Tax:** The "wealth tax" principle implies that the rates paid are dependent upon the value of a ratepayer's real property and have no correlation to the individual ratepayer's consumption of services or the perceived benefits derived by individual ratepayers from the expenditures funded from rates
- **Equity:** Horizontal equity – ratepayers in similar situations should pay similar amounts of rates (ensured mainly by accurate property valuations, undertaken in a consistent manner, their classification into homogenous property classes and the right of appeal against valuation). Vertical Equity – those who are better off should pay more rates than those worse off (the rationale applies for the use of progressive and proportional income taxation. It implies a "relativity" dimension to the fairness of the tax burden)
- **Efficiency:** Economic efficiency is measured by the extent to which production and consumption decisions by people are affected by rates
- **Simplicity:** How easily a rates system can be understood by ratepayers and the practicality and ease of administration
- **Benefit:** The extent to which there is a nexus between consumption/benefit and the rate burden

- Capacity to pay: The capacity of ratepayers or groups of ratepayers to pay rates
- Diversity: The capacity of ratepayers within a group to pay rates.

5.6 Rate Capping

The Fair Go Rates System (FGRS) sets out the maximum amount councils may increase rates in a year. For the 2020-21 year the FGRS cap was set at 2.00%. For the 2021-22 year it has been set at 1.50%. The cap applies to both general rates and municipal charges and is calculated on the basis of council's average rates and charges.

From the 2019 year, general revaluations of all properties have been undertaken on an annual basis. As a result, the actual rate increase for an individual rateable property may differ from the rate cap percentage due to changes in its valuation. Where the change in an individual property valuation is higher than the average for all rateable properties, the rate increase for that property may be greater than the cap. Where the change in the property valuation is lower than the average for all properties, the rate increase may be lower than the cap.

6 Rates and Charges

Rates and charges are property taxes that allow the City to raise revenue to fund essential public services to cater to their municipal population. Importantly, it is a taxation system that includes flexibility for councils to use different tools in its rating structure to accommodate issues of equity and to ensure fairness in rating for all ratepayers.

6.1 Valuation Method

Legislation

Under Section 157 of the *Local Government Act 1989* a council may use the site value, net annual value or capital improved value system of valuation. For the purposes of calculating the site value, net annual value or capital improved value of rateable land, a council must use the current valuations made in respect of the land under the *Valuation of Land Act 1960*.

Valuations occurring up to January 2018 were undertaken on a two-year basis, with supplementary valuations able to be done where there are sales in subdivisions and consolidations, as well as following the construction and demolition of buildings. Changes were made to the *Valuation of Land Act 1960* that from 2019 require property valuations to be undertaken by the Valuer General's Office on an annual basis.

Policy

The City uses the capital improved value system of valuation. This means the sum that the land, might be expected to realise at the time of valuation if offered for sale on any reasonable terms and conditions which a genuine seller might in ordinary circumstances be expected to require.

6.2 Rates and Charges

Legislation

Under Section 155 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a council may declare the following rates and charges on rateable land:

- General rates under
- Municipal charges
- Service rates and charges
- Special rates and charges.

Policy

The City's current policy for rates and charges are set out in the following sections.

6.3 Differential Rates

Legislation

Under Section 158 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a Council when declaring rates and charges must declare whether the general rates will be raised by the application of a uniform rate or differential rates.

Under Section 161 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, if a Council declares a differential rate for any land, the Council must:

- Specify the objectives of the differential rate including a definition of the types or classes of land which are subject to the rate and a statement of the reasons for the use and level of that rate
- Specify the characteristics of the land which are the criteria for declaring the differential rate.

A Council must have regard to any Ministerial guidelines before declaring a differential rate for any land. The Minister issued Guidelines in April 2013. These guidelines attempt to spell out clearly what types and classes of land may be considered for differentials and also those that are not appropriate for differentials or need to be "carefully considered".

The highest differential rate must be no more than four times the lowest differential rate.

Policy and Charges

Council has 11 differential rates. Details of the types/classes of land and the level of rate applicable to each differential is as follows:

- General: 100 percent
- General (Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully): 100 per cent of the general rate
- Commercial/Industrial A: 185 per cent of the general rate
- Commercial/Industrial B: 180 per cent of the general rate
- Commercial/Industrial C: 190 per cent of the general rate
- Commercial/Industrial (Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully): 185 per cent of the general rate
- Farm: 75 per cent of the general rate
- Vacant land: 125 per cent of the general rate
- Vacant Land (Forest Edge Estate Maiden Gully): 125 per cent of the general rate
- Other land: 185 per cent of the general rate
- Cultural and recreational: 0 per cent of the residential rate

The definition of each differential rate is set out in Appendices B and C.

6.4 Municipal Charge

Legislation

Under Section 158 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a council may declare a municipal charge to

cover some of the administrative costs of the council. A council's total revenue from a municipal charge in a financial year must not exceed 20 per cent of the sum total of the council's total revenue from a municipal charge and total revenue from general rates.

Policy and Charges

The City does not levy a municipal charge due to its regressive nature, in that it impacts lower value properties which have a lesser capacity to pay.

6.5 Service Rates and Charges

Legislation

Under Section 162 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a Council may declare a service rate or charge for any of the following services:

- Provision of a water supply
- Collection and disposal of refuse
- Provision of sewage services
- Any other prescribed service.

Policy and Charges

The City has the following service rates and charges:

- General waste and landfill charge
 - 120/140 litre bin - within collection area
 - 120/140 litre bin - outside collection area
 - 240 litre bin - within collection area
 - 240 litre bin - outside collection area
- General waste and landfill charge (Commercial/Industrial)
 - 120/140 litre bin
 - 240 litre bin
- General waste and landfill charge (specific Commercial)
 - 240 litre bin - 1 day per week
 - 240 litre bin - 2 day per week
 - 240 litre bin - 3 day per week
 - 240 litre bin - 5 day per week
 - 240 litre bin - 7 day per week
- Recyclable waste charge
- Recyclable waste charge (additional bin)
- Organic waste charge
- Organic waste charge (additional bin)

The City's policy in regard to setting waste management charges is full cost recovery.

6.6 Special Rates and Charges

Legislation

Under Section 163 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a Council council may declare a special rate or charge for the purposes of defraying any expenses or repaying (with interest) any advance made to or debt incurred or loan raised by the Council, in relation to the performance of a function or the

exercise of a power of the council, if it will be of special benefit to the persons required to pay the special rate or special charge.

Policy

The City does not have any current special rates and charges schemes in place. Any schemes raised in the future will be carried out in accordance with the requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

6.7 Payment of Rates and Charges

Legislation

Under Section 167 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a Council must allow rates and charges to be paid in four instalments. A Council may also allow rates and charges to be paid in a lump sum. Under Section 168 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a council may also provide incentives for prompt payment.

Policy

Rates are payable by quarterly instalments or in full in February. The City offers an early payment discount of 1.5% on rates, if the rates on a property are paid in full by September 30. Part payments can be made towards property rates at any time. Fortnightly, monthly and Direct Debit payments are also available.

6.8 Rebates and Concessions

Legislation

Under Section 169 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a Council may grant a rebate or concession in relation to any rate or charge to:

- Assist the proper development of the municipal district; or
- Preserve buildings or places in the municipal district which are of historical or environmental interest; or
- Restore or maintain buildings or places of historical, environmental, architectural or scientific importance in the municipal district; or
- Assist the proper development of part of the municipal district.

A Council resolution granting a rebate or concession must specify the benefit to the community as a whole resulting from the rebate or concession.

Policy

Ratepayers who hold eligible pensioner concession cards may be entitled to receive a State Government-funded concession on their rates and charges for their principal place of residence. The pensioner concession is set at half the rates and charges levied up to a maximum amount and is fully funded by the State Government. Eligible pensioners are also entitled to receive a concession on the Fire Services Property Levy.

The City grants a rebate to each owner (or, where applicable, occupier) of rateable land, upon successful application, that meets the criteria of the City of Greater Bendigo Bushcare Incentive (Rate Rebate) Program. The rebate is 100 per cent of the rates calculated on the site value of the protected land as declared in the required Trust for Nature conservation covenant. The desired

outcome is for the community to benefit from preserving privately owned natural bushland that contains remnant native vegetation.

The City grants a 50 per cent rate rebate to each occupier of rateable land upon which an aircraft hangar is erected at the Bendigo Airport that is used for recreational purposes.

6.9 Deferments and Waivers

Legislation

Under Section 170 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a council may defer in whole or in part any rate or charge if the payment would cause hardship to the person. Under Section 171 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, a council may waive the whole or part of any rate or charge or interest in relation to:

- An eligible recipient
- Any other class of persons determined by the Council for the purpose of waiving rates or charges on the grounds of financial hardship.

Policy

The City has a specific COVID-19 Financial Hardship Policy which addresses temporary financial hardship due to the impacts of COVID-19. This policy waives interest costs and provides for broad ranging deferrals for affected businesses and residential ratepayers through to 30 June 2021.

The City has a Financial Hardship Policy for the purposes of providing financial relief to ratepayers who are experiencing difficulty in meeting their financial obligations. The policy includes referral pathways to local Financial Counselling services, and generally seeks to enable longer term payment plans where appropriate. Deferring the payment of rates and charges is available if the City considers that the making of the payment would cause hardship. Outside of COVID-19, the property must be the ratepayer's principal place of residence and deferrals are subject to some conditions.

Waiving of rates or charges or interest is generally only made available on properties used exclusively for residential purposes and must be the ratepayer's principal place of residence. Any waiver of rates and charges must be approved by the Chief Executive Officer. Interest may be waived on administrative, compassionate or financial hardship grounds and the waiver is subject to a number of conditions.

7 Fees and Charges

Fees and charges consist of statutory fees and charges and user fees and charges. Statutory fees relate mainly to fees and fines levied in accordance with legislation and include animal registrations, Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 registrations and parking fines. User fees relate to the recovery of service delivery costs through the charging of fees to users of the City's services. These use of leisure, entertainment and other community facilities, and the provision of human services such as childcare and home and community care services.

7.1 Pricing Policy

The City's Pricing Policy 2018 provides guidance for the City's approach in setting appropriate levels of fees, fines and charges, taking into account community benefit, user groups and Community (Council) Plan objectives. This policy applies to all fees and charges that are listed in the Fees and Charges Schedule which is published in the Annual Budget.

This policy seeks to ensure that the following key objectives are met:

- Efficiency - the fees are simple to understand and administer
- Equity - the fees are fairly applied across a range of users and consider users' capability to pay
- Effectiveness - the fees provide appropriate signals to users, value for money and ensure that everyone contributes appropriately to the delivery of services
- Transparency - the method of determining pricing is consistent.

National Competition Policy (Federal Government) and Competitive Neutrality Policy (State Government) also provide requirements regarding pricing. The City is required to price services that compete in the open market on a 'level playing field' basis and to be transparent in regard to any decision to depart from a commercial basis for pricing. Competitive neutrality requires that government business activities should not enjoy net competitive advantages over their private sector competitors simply by virtue of public sector ownership. Where there are significant competitors in the marketplace, the City must consider and justify any subsidy in the case of significant services which compete with the private sector.

7.2 Statutory Fees and Fines

Policy

For statutory fees and fines the City's role is to administer services and apply fees set or controlled under statute or funding agreement. These fees may only provide a partial recovery of the cost of providing the service. Examples include Environmental Health and Statutory Planning fees.

In addition, there are a range of conditions Council must consider when setting fees for certain purposes, for example under Funding and Service Agreements or grant agreements. In these cases, Council must comply with the relevant terms of the agreement, for example there may be an upper limit on the fee Council may charge. Examples include Home and Community Care service charges.

Fees and Fines

A summary of statutory fees and fines by major service area is as follows:

- Building and planning
- Parking
- Regulatory
- Fines
- Other.

7.3 User Charges, Fees and Fines

Policy

For user charges, fees and fines not regulated by statute, the City considers the following factors in selecting the most appropriate pricing method to meet the objectives for each service:

- Balancing individual and community benefit
- Users' ability to pay
- Market pricing (the pricing of comparable services offered by other providers)
- Competitive neutrality (where relevant)
- Budget implications.

The reason for the subsidy or return provides guidance in determining the method of pricing to

select.

The four types of non-statutory pricing are as follows:

- Full cost pricing: Priced to cover direct and overhead costs (e.g. livestock exchange)
- Accessible pricing: Price set between full subsidy (no charge) and full cost recovery based on the level of community benefit and accessibility of the service (e.g. recreation facilities)
- Incentive pricing: Price set above full cost recovery to encourage certain behaviours (e.g. additional cost for late health premises registration)
- Market pricing: Price set above full cost recovery and in line with benchmarked market prices where the service is considered discretionary and without strong community benefit (e.g. Visitor Information Centre).

The schedule of Fees and Charges in the Budget includes around 900 individual fees and charges which are reviewed annually against the City's Pricing Policy as part of the Budget process.

Charges, Fees and fines

A summary of charges, fees and fines by major service area is as follows:

- Aged and health
- Recreation
- Children
- Parking
- Saleyards
- Regulatory
- Ticket
- Sales
- Waste management
- Other.

8 Other Revenue Sources

Other revenue sources that Council uses to fund services and facilities include government grants, contributions and other revenue.

8.1 Government Grants

Policy

Grants (operating and capital) represent significant opportunities to the City in supporting the delivery of services to the community and funding capital works projects. Many of the City's services have long standing co-funded programs with the State and Federal Governments. The City has a Grants Policy which supports the effective and sustainable application for grants and subsequent management.

The policy applies to all grant funding applications:

- Where the City is the sole applicant in an external funding application
- Where the City is one of any number of partners in an external funding application
- Where an application is being made for renewal of a currently held grant
- Where a funding provider approves a grant application with variations to the original proposal.

The policy seeks to ensure that the following key objectives are met:

- Efficiency: through efficient administration, financial management and operation of grant programs
- Accountability, sustainability and transparency: through appropriate internal controls and authorisation mechanisms.

The City actively seeks grants for purposes consistent with its corporate objectives, thereby increasing its ability to service community needs by augmenting revenue. The City prepares grant applications and assesses grant offerings in accordance with the policy. Attention is also given to the requirements from the City, including any funding matching requirements or administrative overheads. Grant funding is used for the specific purpose it was applied and approved for and managed in accordance with the requirements of the related grant funding agreement.

Government Grants

A summary of government grants by type is as follows.

Operating

- Victorian grants commission
- Aged care
- Immunisation
- Youth
- School crossings
- Tourism/events
- Maternal and child health
- Family and children
- Arts and culture
- Emergency management
- Environment.

Capital

- Roads to recovery
- Buildings
- Land improvements
- Pathways.

8.2 Contributions

Policy

Development contributions received as a result of Council adopted Development Contributions Plans (DCPs), are planning tools used to ensure that the City's new communities have appropriate access to essential infrastructure required to ensure the safety and liveability of its suburbs. All developers are required to fund and construct local infrastructure to service new developments and housing estates. The role of development contributions is to ensure major infrastructure items such as traffic signals, sports grounds and community centres are funded equitably between multiple developers and/or landowners. Development contributions also avoid the potential of the City being required to fully fund these larger infrastructure items, when there is a clear nexus between the development and the need for the infrastructure item(s).

The City's policy for the development contributions system is to ensure:

- Delivery of liveable communities that contain infrastructure that meets their growing needs
- Orderly delivery of new development and essential infrastructure

- The equitable distribution of major Infrastructure costs across all developers / landowners, and where appropriate Council.

The City also collects contributions from developers for open space which is used for future recreation facility additions and improvements. The policy framework for open space contributions is set out in the Subdivision Act 1988 which enshrines a nominal contribution of up to 5 per cent of the site area or equivalent land value.

Contributions

A summary of contributions by type is as follows.

- Development contribution plan
- Open space.

8.3 Other Revenue

Policy

The City earns other sources of revenue from interest on investments and interest on rate arrears. The amount of revenue earned from these sources fluctuates from year to year depending on the level of cash and investments and outstanding rates and charges balances.

Other Revenue

A summary of other revenue by type is as follows:

- Interest on investments
- Interest on rate arrears.

ATTACHMENT A: Impact of Proposed Changes to Rates and Charges

The following changes are proposed to the level of rates and charges for the 2021-22 year compared to the 2020-21 year:

- Decrease the farm land differential rate from 85% to 75% of the general rate.

The following tables show the change in the 2021-22 average rate for each category and/or type of land between the level of differential rates levied in the 2020-21 year "Current" and those proposed to be levied in the 2021-22 year "Modelled". The valuation bands are based on the level of valuation as at 1 January 2021. The first table below is the "general" rate, which is applicable to the majority of properties:

	#Assess	2021-22 Current	2021-22 Modelled	Change \$	Change %
Up to \$99,999	265	\$283.40	\$284.44	+\$1.04	+0.4%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	2,380	\$591.51	\$593.68	+\$2.17	+0.4%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	11,349	\$968.05	\$971.61	+\$3.55	+0.4%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	15,915	\$1,301.52	\$1,306.29	+\$4.78	+0.4%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	10,204	\$1,664.69	\$1,670.80	+\$6.11	+0.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	5,270	\$2,036.16	\$2,043.63	+\$7.47	+0.4%
\$600,000 to \$699,999	2,761	\$2,406.59	\$2,415.42	+\$8.83	+0.4%
\$700,000 to \$799,999	1,393	\$2,780.39	\$2,790.60	+\$10.20	+0.4%
\$800,000 to \$899,999	693	\$3,156.14	\$3,167.72	+\$11.58	+0.4%
\$900,000 to \$999,999	320	\$3,544.13	\$3,557.13	+\$13.00	+0.4%
\$1,000,000 and over	569	\$5,012.21	\$5,030.60	+\$18.39	+0.4%
Total/Mean	51,119	\$1,517.85	\$1,523.42	+\$5.57	+0.4%

	#Assess	2021-22 Current	2021-22 Modelled	Change \$	Change %
Up to \$99,999	172	\$294.53	\$295.61	+\$1.08	+0.4%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	279	\$1,072.85	\$1,076.78	+\$3.94	+0.4%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	407	\$1,730.12	\$1,736.47	+\$6.35	+0.4%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	372	\$2,428.60	\$2,437.51	+\$8.91	+0.4%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	260	\$3,130.61	\$3,142.10	+\$11.48	+0.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	199	\$3,779.86	\$3,793.73	+\$13.86	+0.4%
\$600,000 to \$699,999	149	\$4,454.28	\$4,470.61	+\$16.34	+0.4%
\$700,000 to \$799,999	114	\$5,163.35	\$5,182.28	+\$18.94	+0.4%
\$800,000 to \$899,999	78	\$5,863.59	\$5,885.10	+\$21.51	+0.4%
\$900,000 to \$999,999	64	\$6,524.98	\$6,548.91	+\$23.93	+0.4%
\$1,000,000 and over	444	\$19,120.74	\$19,190.87	+\$70.13	+0.4%
Total/Mean	2,538	\$5,571.56	\$5,591.99	+\$20.44	+0.4%

Commercial/Industrial B					
	#Assess	2021-22 Current	2021-22 Modelled	Change \$	Change %
Up to \$99,999	38	\$315.76	\$316.92	+\$1.16	+0.4%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	67	\$1,004.76	\$1,008.45	+\$3.69	+0.4%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	40	\$1,689.58	\$1,695.78	+\$6.20	+0.4%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	37	\$2,257.81	\$2,266.09	+\$8.28	+0.4%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	25	\$3,017.70	\$3,028.77	+\$11.07	+0.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	12	\$3,715.10	\$3,728.73	+\$13.63	+0.4%
\$600,000 to \$699,999	11	\$4,317.68	\$4,333.52	+\$15.84	+0.4%
\$700,000 to \$799,999	8	\$4,979.81	\$4,998.08	+\$18.27	+0.4%
\$800,000 to \$899,999	3	\$5,668.63	\$5,689.43	+\$20.80	+0.4%
\$900,000 to \$999,999	5	\$6,409.39	\$6,432.90	+\$23.51	+0.4%
\$1,000,000 and over	25	\$24,228.29	\$24,317.19	+\$88.90	+0.4%
Total/Mean	271	\$4,031.57	\$4,046.37	+\$14.79	+0.4%

Commercial/Industrial C					
	#Assess	2021-22 Current	2021-22 Modelled	Change \$	Change %
Up to \$99,999	29	\$477.19	\$478.94	+\$1.75	+0.4%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	56	\$1,112.85	\$1,116.93	+\$4.08	+0.4%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	137	\$1,790.00	\$1,796.57	+\$6.57	+0.4%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	149	\$2,481.96	\$2,491.07	+\$9.11	+0.4%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	150	\$3,188.69	\$3,200.39	+\$11.70	+0.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	127	\$3,895.68	\$3,909.98	+\$14.29	+0.4%
\$600,000 to \$699,999	89	\$4,629.29	\$4,646.28	+\$16.98	+0.4%
\$700,000 to \$799,999	58	\$5,319.36	\$5,338.87	+\$19.52	+0.4%
\$800,000 to \$899,999	44	\$6,007.39	\$6,029.44	+\$22.04	+0.4%
\$900,000 to \$999,999	32	\$6,735.97	\$6,760.69	+\$24.72	+0.4%
\$1,000,000 and over	250	\$19,228.95	\$19,299.51	+\$70.55	+0.4%
Total/Mean	1,121	\$6,843.80	\$6,868.91	+\$25.11	+0.4%

Farm Rate					
	#Assess	2021-22 Current	2021-22 Modelled	Change \$	Change %
Up to \$99,999	5	\$286.67	\$253.87	-\$32.80	-11.4%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	51	\$491.14	\$434.95	-\$56.19	-11.4%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	101	\$821.30	\$727.34	-\$93.97	-11.4%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	146	\$1,124.62	\$995.95	-\$128.67	-11.4%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	149	\$1,424.28	\$1,261.33	-\$162.95	-11.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	154	\$1,729.46	\$1,531.59	-\$197.87	-11.4%
\$600,000 to \$699,999	100	\$2,058.83	\$1,823.28	-\$235.55	-11.4%
\$700,000 to \$799,999	92	\$2,362.36	\$2,092.08	-\$270.28	-11.4%
\$800,000 to \$899,999	52	\$2,694.60	\$2,386.31	-\$308.29	-11.4%
\$900,000 to \$999,999	52	\$3,011.77	\$2,667.19	-\$344.58	-11.4%
\$1,000,000 and over	260	\$5,841.36	\$5,173.04	-\$668.32	-11.4%
Total/Mean	1,162	\$2,573.91	\$2,279.43	-\$294.48	-11.4%

	#Assess	2021-22 Current	Vacant Land 2021-22 Modelled	Change \$	Change %
Up to \$99,999	340	\$308.83	\$309.96	+\$1.13	+0.4%
\$100,000 to \$199,999	1,913	\$738.21	\$740.92	+\$2.71	+0.4%
\$200,000 to \$299,999	1,193	\$1,132.22	\$1,136.37	+\$4.15	+0.4%
\$300,000 to \$399,999	440	\$1,592.71	\$1,598.55	+\$5.84	+0.4%
\$400,000 to \$499,999	155	\$2,061.41	\$2,068.98	+\$7.56	+0.4%
\$500,000 to \$599,999	63	\$2,533.25	\$2,542.55	+\$9.29	+0.4%
\$600,000 to \$699,999	28	\$2,959.97	\$2,970.83	+\$10.86	+0.4%
\$700,000 to \$799,999	26	\$3,532.40	\$3,545.36	+\$12.96	+0.4%
\$800,000 to \$899,999	19	\$3,991.85	\$4,006.50	+\$14.65	+0.4%
\$900,000 to \$999,999	10	\$4,509.78	\$4,526.33	+\$16.54	+0.4%
\$1,000,000 and over	54	\$8,708.68	\$8,740.63	+\$31.95	+0.4%
Total/Mean	4,241	\$1,135.06	\$1,139.22	+\$4.16	+0.4%

ATTACHMENT B: Differential Rate Definitions

General Rate (Residential Land)

Definition	The General Rate applies to any land, which is not: Commercial/Industrial Land A; Commercial/Industrial Land B; Commercial/Industrial Land C; Farm Land; Vacant Land or Other Land and which is used primarily for residential purposes
Objectives	<p>The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 2) Development and provision of health and community services. 3) Provision of general support services
Characteristics	<p>The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land.</p> <p>The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.</p> <p>The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning</p>
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	<p>The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council.</p> <p>The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land</p>
Level of rate	100 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2020/21 year

Commercial/Industrial Land A

Definition	Commercial/Industrial Land A is any land, which is not Residential; Commercial/Industrial Land B; Commercial/Industrial Land C; Farm Land; Vacant Land or Other Land and which is primarily for: 4) Sale of goods or services 5) Other commercial purposes 6) Industrial purposes 7) Vacant unoccupied land zoned or intended to be used for commercial or industrial purposes and located in the area depicted in Appendix C Annexure E-1 (excluding the Bendigo CBD as depicted in Appendix E-2).
Objectives	The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the: 8) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 9) Development and provision of health and community services. 10) Provision of general support services
Characteristics	The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land
Level of rate	185 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021/22 year

Commercial/Industrial Land B

Definition	Commercial/Industrial Land B is any land, which is not Residential; Commercial/Industrial Land A; Commercial/Industrial Land C; Farm Land; Vacant Land; or Other Land and which is primarily for: 11) Sale of goods or services 12) Other commercial purposes 13) Industrial purposes 14) Vacant unoccupied land zoned or intended to be used for commercial or industrial purposes and not located in the area depicted in Appendix C Annexure E-1 and Appendix E-2
Objectives	The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the: 15) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 16) Development and provision of health and community services. 17) Provision of general support services
Characteristics	The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land
Level of rate	180 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021/22 year

Commercial/Industrial Land C

Definition	<p>Commercial/Industrial Land C is any land, which is not Residential; Commercial/Industrial Land A; Commercial/Industrial Land B; Farm Land; Vacant Land; or Other Land and which is primarily for:</p> <p>18) Sale of goods or services 19) Other commercial purposes 20) Industrial purposes 21) Vacant unoccupied land zoned or intended to be used for commercial or industrial purposes and located in the area depicted in Appendix C Annexure E-2</p>
Objectives	<p>The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the:</p> <p>22) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 23) Development and provision of health and community services. 24) Provision of general support services</p>
Characteristics	<p>The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land.</p> <p>The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.</p> <p>The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning</p>
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	<p>The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council.</p> <p>The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land</p>
Level of rate	190 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021/22 year

Farm Land

Definition	Farm Land is any land, which is not Residential; Commercial/Industrial Land A; Commercial/Industrial Land B; Commercial/Industrial Land C; Vacant Land; or Other Land and which is 'farm land' within the meaning of the Section 2(1) of the <i>Valuation of Land Act 1960</i> .
Objectives	The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the: 25) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 26) Development and provision of health and community services. 27) Provision of general support services
Characteristics	The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land
Level of rate	75 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021/22 year

Vacant Land

Definition	Vacant Land is any land, which is not Residential; Commercial/Industrial Land A; Commercial/Industrial Land B; Commercial/Industrial Land C; Farm Land; or Other Land and on which no dwelling has been erected
Objectives	The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the: 28) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 29) Development and provision of health and community services. 30) Provision of general support services
Characteristics	The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land
Level of rate	125 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	Not applicable

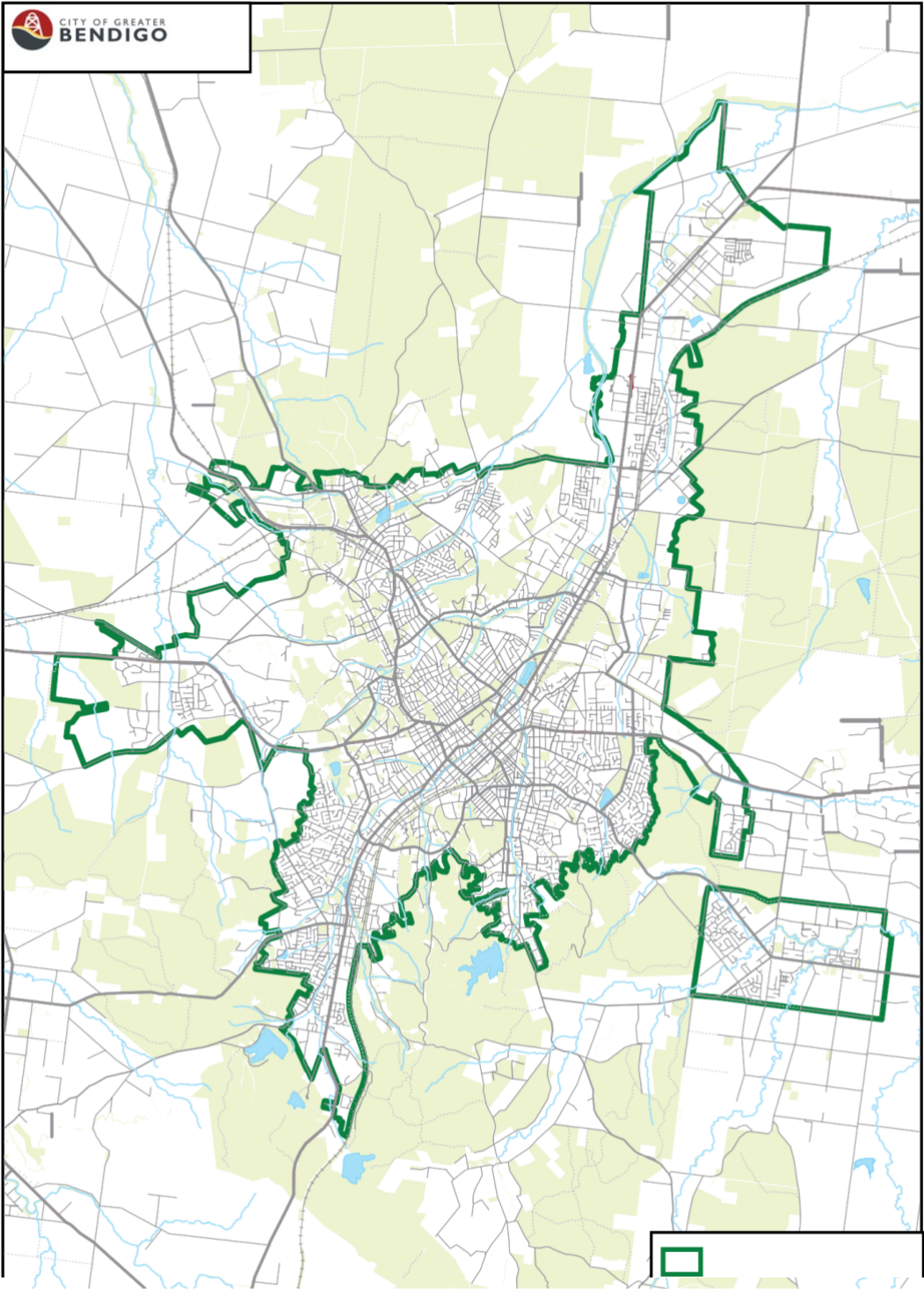
Other Land

Definition	Other Land is any land, which is not Residential; Commercial/Industrial Land A; Commercial/Industrial Land B; Commercial/Industrial Land C; Farm Land; or Vacant Land.
Objectives	The objective of this differential rate is to ensure that all rateable land makes an equitable financial contribution to the cost of carrying out the functions of City of Greater Bendigo, including (but not limited to) the: 31) Construction and maintenance of infrastructure assets. 32) Development and provision of health and community services. 33) Provision of general support services
Characteristics	The characteristics of planning scheme zoning are applicable to the determination of vacant land which will be subject to the rate applicable to residential land. The vacant land affected by this rate is that which is zoned residential under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme. The classification of land which is improved will be determined by the occupation of that land and have reference to the planning scheme zoning
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land
Level of rate	185 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021/22 year

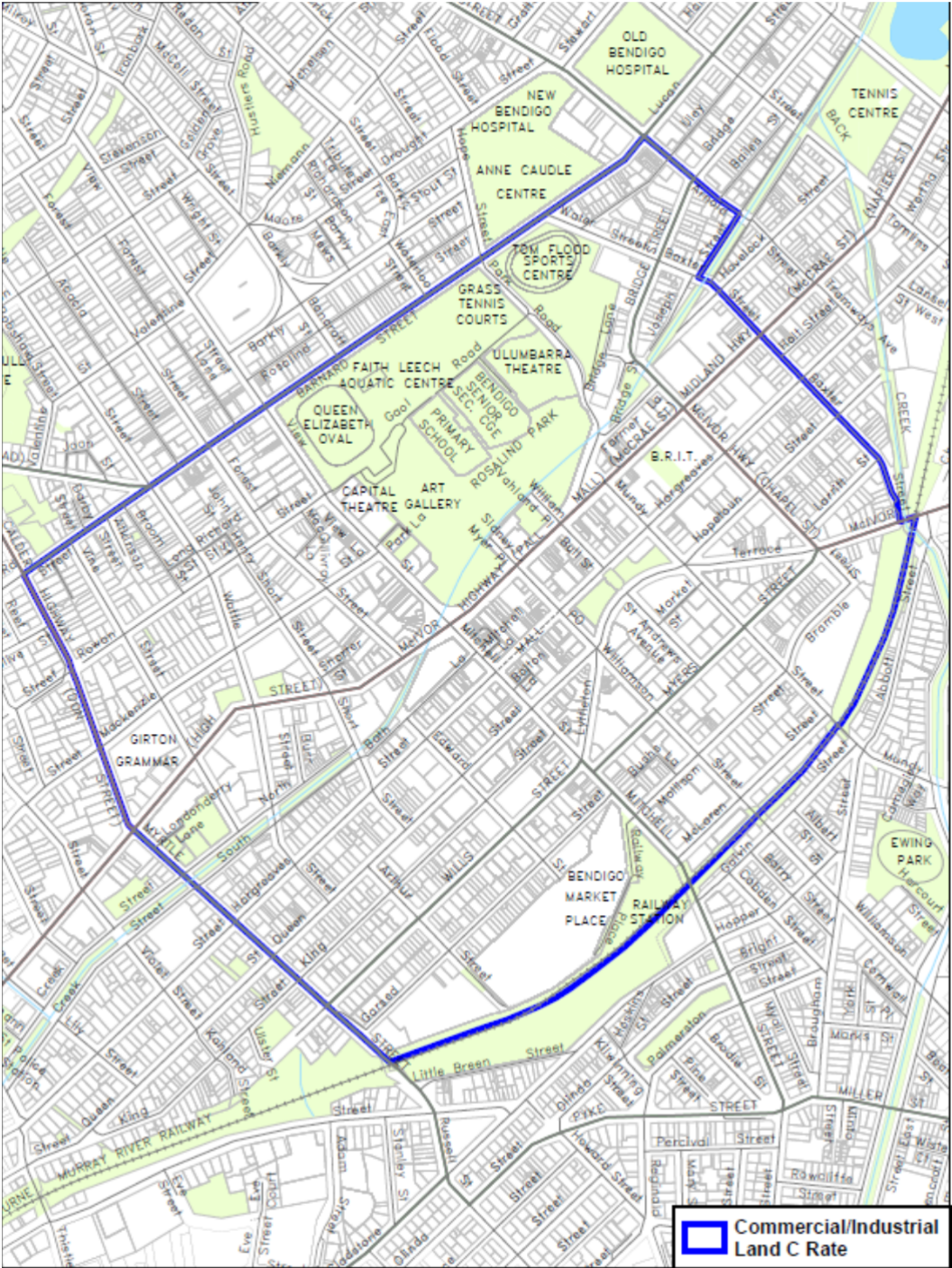
Cultural and Recreational Land

Definition	Cultural and Recreational Land is land as defined under the <i>Cultural and Recreational Lands Act 1963</i>
Objectives	The objective of the rate is to recognise the large contribution that these community organisations and the volunteers make to the Municipality in the provision of sporting, cultural and recreational activities
Characteristics	Is cultural and recreational land that is less than 1500m ² and: 34) Occupied by a body which exists for cultural or recreational purposes and applies its profits in promoting the furthering of this purpose 35) Owned by the body, by the Crown or by Council 36) Not agricultural showgrounds
Types and classes	The types and classes of rateable land within this rate are those having the relevant characteristics described above
Use of rate	The money raised by this rate will be applied to the items of expenditure described in the Budget by Council. The level of the rate for land in this category is considered to provide for an appropriate contribution to Council's budgeted expenditure, having regard to the characteristics of the land
Level of rate	0 per cent of the general rate
Use of land	Is any use permitted under the City of Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
Geographic location	This rate is applicable to land within the municipal district
Planning scheme zoning	The zoning applicable to each rateable land within this category, as determined by consulting maps referred to in the relevant Planning Scheme
Types of buildings	The types of buildings on the land within this rate are all buildings already constructed on the land or which will be constructed prior to the expiry of the 2021/22 year

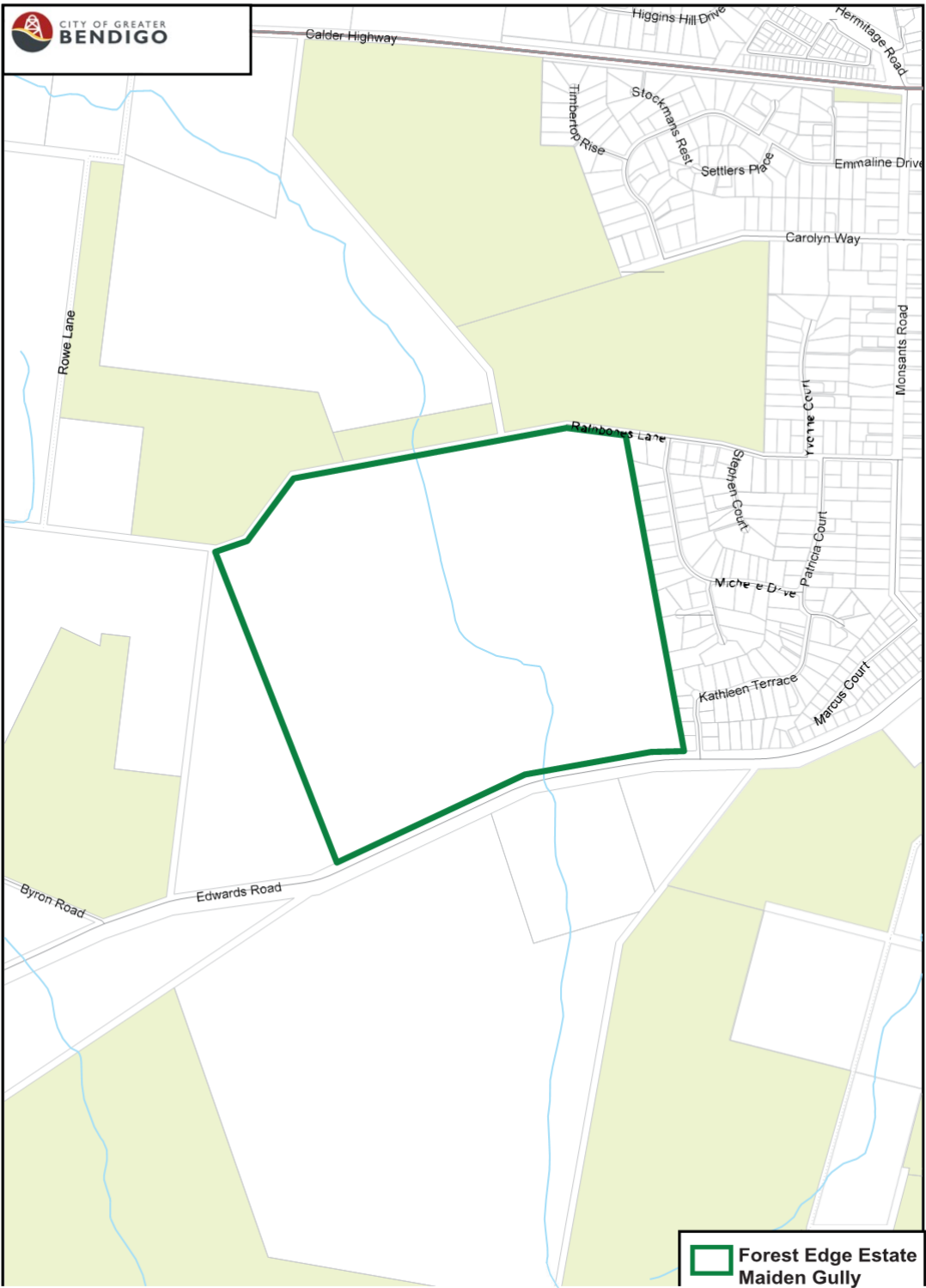
ATTACHMENT C: Commercial and Industrial Land A Rate



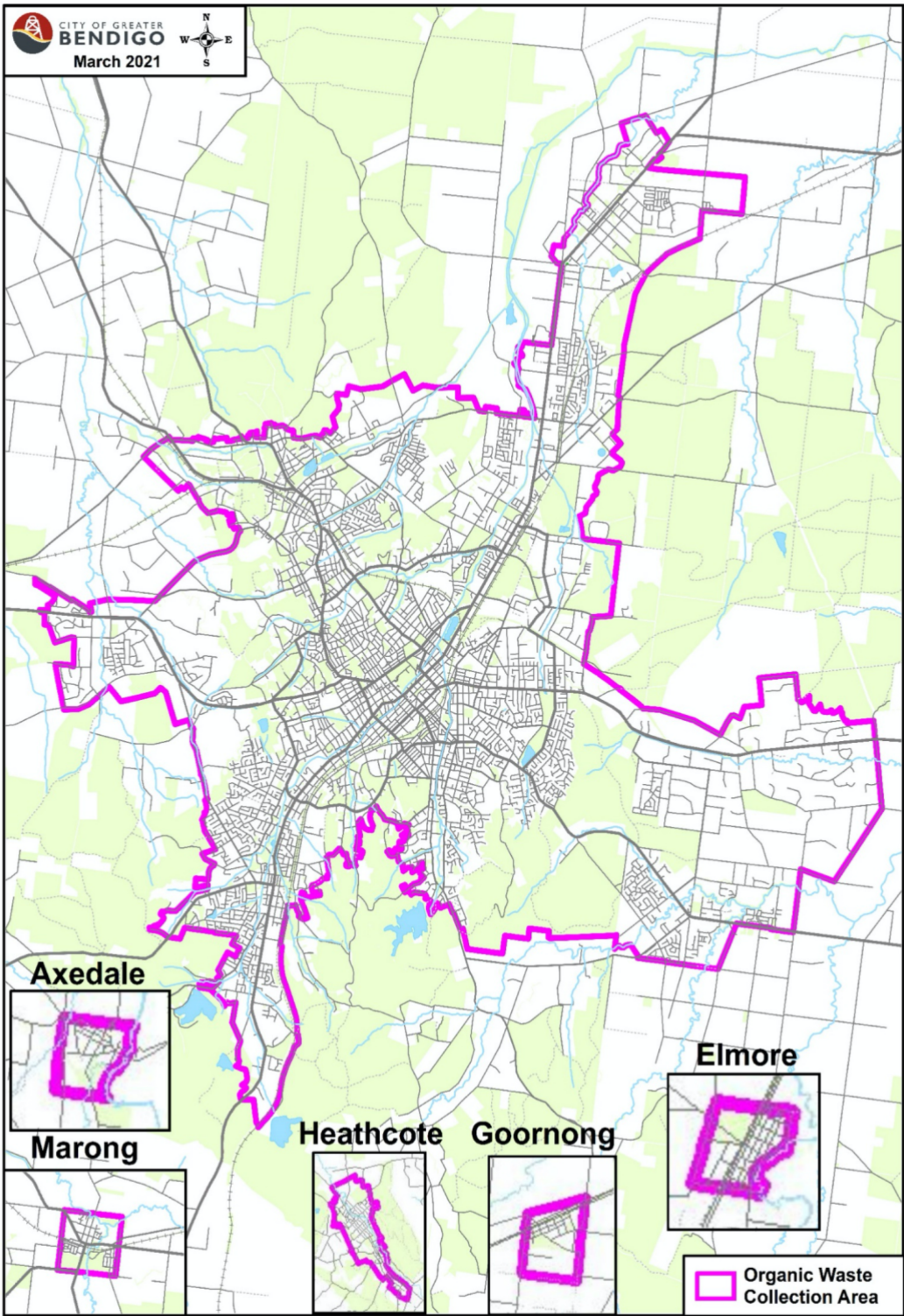
ATTACHMENT D: Commercial and Industrial Land C Rate



ATTACHMENT E: Forest Edge Estate Maiden GullyForest Edge



ATTACHMENT F: Organic Waste Collection Area



Appendix E

Long Term Financial Planning – Key Assumptions

Consumer Price Index (CPI) – underlying costs - CPI has been estimated at 1.5 per cent year one, 1.5 per cent year two and 2 per cent from year three onwards. Pre-COVID economic forecasts included inflation of 2.0 per cent, however a more conservative approach has been included in the City's assumptions for the next two years.

Rating and service charge assumptions - Rates and charges are a significant source of revenue for the City and planning for future rates revenue is an important component of the long term financial plan (LTFP). The State Government established the Fair Go Rates System in 2016/2017, which caps the percentage by which rates may increase in a year. The City has a rating structure comprised of ten differential rates based on the purpose for which the property is used. These differentials can be found in the City's Annual Budget.

The City levies a general waste and landfill charge, a recyclable waste charge and an organic waste charge on each residential occupancy. Non-residential properties will also be levied the charges if they use the City's collection service. The charges reflect the cost of providing the service.

Rate and charges income - The City's overall rate income for 2021/2022 is capped to increase by maximum 1.5 per cent and has been modelled at 1.5 per cent for the next two years. Supplementary rates are expected to remain steady at \$1.6M annually.

Grants – operational - 95 per cent of the operational grants for 2020/2021 were recurrent. This is made up of 66 per cent or \$17M of funding from the Victoria Grants Commission for the annual Financial Assistance Grant. Other significant recurrent grants are 20 per cent or \$5M for Aged care funding and 7 per cent or \$2M for Maternal and Childcare services.

For future years the LTFP Model assumes that the Financial Assistance Grant and Maternal and childcare services will remain constant with the CPI of by 1.5 per cent for first two years, then return to 2 per cent in line with CPI estimates.

The Aged care sector is expected to go through significant changes to the market in 2022/2023. However, due to it being unclear of the changes, this model has assumed that service levels will remain constant.

Contributions – monetary - For 2020/2021, 40 per cent of contribution are levies that the City collects from Developers, 8 per cent of reimbursements and 21 per cent of donations to support the operational services. The City also collects approximately 27 per cent of donations to support the capital and major works program. Contributions are estimated to grow by CPI with growth of 0.5 per cent a total annual increase of 2 per cent for the first two year.

Contributions have not been prepared to accommodate the three Developer Contribution Programs at Huntly, Marong and Maiden Gully due to agreements being in draft at the time this LTFP model was prepared.

Contributions – non monetary - The LTFP model assumes that \$13M of gifted or found assets will be recognised annually.

User fees and Charges - User Fees make up approximately 16 per cent of income the City receives. The LTFP model assumes that services levels will be maintained, with no significant change to User fees and Charges. The LTFP model assumes a 1.5 per cent increase for the first two years, and that fees after a lower year in 2021/2022 move back to 2020/2021 levels.

Employee Costs - Employee costs are governed by the City's Enterprise Agreement (EA). The EA states, annual salary will increase by 75 per cent of annual rate capping increase. The LTFP builds in annual salaries having increase by 1.7 per cent for the first two years. From 2023/2024 employee costs are assumed to be 2.2 per cent which is made up of 2 per cent of annual increase and 0.2 per cent of banding increments.

New Operational Business Cases – growth and special operational projects - The LTFP factors in that the City will continue to invest \$500,000 annually for new service initiatives above the base services budget to deliver Community Plan objectives.

Materials and services - Operational services in the model have been forecast to continue at the same level of service with annual increase of 1.5 per cent for the first two years then return to 2 per cent in line CPI.

The LTFP assumes that utility costs will increase annually by 3 per cent. This is based on previous trends where utilities have increased by more than CPI annually. Landfill remediation works will add \$7M over the next 10 years

Net gain/(loss) on disposal of property, infrastructure, plant and equipment -The loss on sale of an asset is determined when control of the asset has passed to the buyer. Write offs also occur on an annual basis. It is predicted that average annual losses on sale and write off are \$5M.

Share in Associates - The Share in Associates is the City's portion of the income (approximately 60 per cent based on Bendigo's population) of the Goldfields Library operating result.

Asset Revaluation - The valuation process for sealed roads, unsealed roads, pathways, bridges and drainage is performed annually whilst public furniture and fittings and land improvements are completed on a three-year cycle. Buildings are revalued every two years.

Contingent liability risks

- The City has guaranteed an \$11.2M loan for the Bendigo Stadium.
- The City has obligations under the defined benefits superannuation scheme that may result in the need to make additional contributions to the scheme.
- Currently the City does not have any outstanding or forecasts any legal proceedings that will significantly impact operations.

Future initiatives - The City will progress initiatives to implement efficiencies in operations including selected service reviews and four-year service planning - in line with the changes in the Act.

Renewal Program - Future renewal demand is above the modelled amounts in the LTFP Model and will require continued monitoring. The model has currently 2 per cent as a proxy for this growth – which is based on past years growth in renewal requirements. This is in line with Council's principles of continuing to maintain infrastructure.

Appendix F

Glossary of Terms

Accounting Standards - Accounting standards are issued from time to time by the professional accounting bodies and are applicable to the preparation of general purpose financial reports.

Annual Budget - Plan under section 130 of the Local Government 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.

Budgeted comprehensive income statement - The budgeted comprehensive income statement shows the expected operating result in the forthcoming year compared to the budget in the current year. The budgeted income statement should be prepared in accordance with the requirements of AASB101 Presentation of Financial Statements and the Local Government Model Financial Report.

Annual report - The annual report prepared by Council under sections 131, 132 and 133 of the Local Government Act. The annual report to the community contains a report of operations and audited financial and performance statements.

Annual reporting requirements - Annual reporting requirements include the financial reporting requirements of the Local Government Act, Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements.

Asset renewal - Expenditure on an existing asset, which returns the service potential or the life of the asset, up to, that which it had originally. It is periodically required expenditure, relatively large (material) in value compared with the value of the components of the asset being renewed. As it reinstates existing service potential, it has no impact on revenue, but may reduce future operating and maintenance expenditure if completed at the optimum time.

Asset upgrade - Expenditure which enhances an existing asset to provide a higher level of service or expenditure that will increase the life of the asset beyond that which it had originally. Upgrade expenditure is discretionary and often does not result in additional revenue unless direct user charges apply. It will increase operating and maintenance expenditure in the future because of the increase in the asset base.

Asset expansion - Expenditure which extends an existing asset, at the same standard as is currently enjoyed by residents, to a new group of users. Expansion expenditure is discretionary which increases future operating and maintenance costs because it increases Council's asset base but may be associated with additional revenue from the new user group.

Borrowing strategy - A borrowing strategy is the process by which the Council's current external funding requirements can be identified, existing funding arrangements managed, and future requirements monitored.

Budgeted balance sheet - The budgeted balance sheet shows the expected net current asset, net non-current asset and net asset positions in the forthcoming year compared to the forecast actual in the current year. The budgeted balance sheet should be prepared in accordance with the requirements of AASB 101 - Presentation of Financial Statements and the Local Government Model Financial Report.

Budgeted statement of cash flow - The budgeted statement of cash flows shows the expected net cash inflows and outflows in the forthcoming year in the form of reconciliation between opening and closing balances of total cash and investments for the year. Comparison is made to the current year's expected inflows and outflows. The budgeted statement of cash flows statement should be prepared in accordance with the requirements of AASB 107 Statement of Cash Flows and the Local Government Model Financial Report.

Capital works program - Capital works projects that will be undertaken during a period of time.

Carried forward capital works - Carried forward capital works are those that are incomplete in the current budget year due to unavoidable delays and will be completed in the following budget year.

City - City of Greater Bendigo.

Community Plan - Means a Council Plan prepared by the Council under Section 125 of the Local Government Act 1989. This document sets out the strategic objectives of the Council and strategies for achieving the objectives as part of the overall strategic planning framework required by the Local Government Act. Known as the Community Plan at the City.

Financial sustainability - A key outcome of the strategic resource plan. Longer term planning is essential in ensuring that a Council remains financially sustainable in the long term.

Financing activities - Financing activities mean those activities which relate to changing the size and composition of the financial structure of the entity, including equity, and borrowings not falling within the definition of cash.

Infrastructure - Physical assets of the entity or of another entity that contribute to meeting the public's need for access to major economic and social facilities and services.

Internal funding sources (analysis of capital budget) - Internal sources relate to cash and investments held in reserves or which are uncommitted and cash that will be generated from the operations of Council during the budget year. The latter should equate to the cash inflows from operating activities less capital revenue.

Internal influences in the preparation of a budget - Matters arising from Council actions over which there is some element of control (e.g. approval of unbudgeted capital expenditure).

Investing activities - Investing activities means those activities which relate to acquisition and disposal of non-current assets, including property, plant and equipment and other productive assets, and investments not falling within the definition of cash.

Key assumptions - When preparing a budgeted balance sheet of financial position, key assumptions upon which the statement has been based should be disclosed in the budget to assist the reader when comparing movements in assets, liabilities and equity between budget years.

Land - In Section 7 and in Appendix D, Land means the land together with any improvements made to that land.

Legislative framework - The Local Government Act, Regulations and other laws and statutes which set a Council's governance and reporting requirements.

Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014 - The objective of these Regulations, made under section 243 of the Local Government Act 1989, is to prescribe:

- a. The content and preparation of the financial statements of a Council
- b. The performance indicators and measures to be included in a budget, revised budget and annual report of a Council
- c. The information to be included in a Council Plan, Strategic Resource Plan, budget, revised budget and annual report
- d. Other matters required to be prescribed under Parts 6 and 7 of the Local Government Act.

Major Initiatives - The budget must also include major initiatives, being initiatives identified by the Council as priorities to be undertaken during the financial year. The services delivered by Council are those undertaken to meet the needs of the community as reflected in the Community Plan. They tend to be ongoing in nature and have internal and external customers. Initiatives are tasks or actions that are once-off in nature and lead to improvements in service performance or service levels. Major initiatives are those initiatives that the Council has identified as priorities.

New assets - New assets do not have any element of expansion or upgrade of existing assets. New capital expenditure may or may not result in additional revenue for Council and will result in an additional burden for future operation, maintenance and capital renewal.

Non-financial resources - Resources of a non-financial nature (such as human resources, information systems and processes, asset management systems) which are consumed by a Council in the achievement of its strategic resource plan goals.

Operating activities - Operating activities means those activities that relate to the provision of goods and services.

Operating expenditure - Operating expenditure is defined as consumptions or losses of future economic benefits, in the form of reductions in assets or increases in liabilities; and that result in a decrease in equity during the reporting period.

Operating performance (Impact of current year on 2020/2021 budget) - This statement shows the expected operating result as compared to the budget result in the current year separating operating and capital components of revenue and expenditure.

Operating revenue - Operating revenue is defined as inflows or other enhancements or savings in outflows of future economic benefits in the form of increases in assets or reductions in liabilities and that result in an increase in equity during the reporting period.

Rate structure (Rating strategy) - Site value (SV), capital improved value (CIV) or net annual value (NAV) are the main bases upon which rates will be levied. These should be detailed in the budget statement.

Rating strategy - A rating strategy is the process by which the Council's rate structure is established and how the total income generated through rates and charges is allocated across properties in the municipality. Decisions regarding the quantum of rate levels and increases from year to year are made as part of Council's long term financial planning processes and with consideration of Council's other sources of income and the planned expenditure on services and works to be undertaken for its community.

Regulations - Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2014.

Revised budget - The revised budget prepared by a Council under section 128 of the Local Government Act. Section 128 of the Local Government Act permits a Council to prepare a revised budget if circumstances arise which cause a material change in the budget and which affects the financial operations and position of the Council.

Road Management Act - The purpose of this Act which operates from 1 July 2004 is to reform the law relating to road management in Victoria and to make relating amendments to certain Acts, including the Local Government Act 1989.

Services and Initiatives - Section 127 of the Local Government Act requires a budget to contain a description of the services and initiatives to be funded by the budget, along with a statement as to how they will contribute to the achievement of the Council's strategic objectives as specified in the Community Plan.

Strategic Resource Plan (SRP) - Section 125(2) (d) of the Local Government Act requires that a Council must prepare and approve a Council Plan that must include a strategic resource plan containing the matters specified in Section 126.

Section 126 of the Local Government Act states that:

- The strategic resource plan is a plan of the resources required to achieve the council plan strategic objectives
- The strategic resource plan must include the financial statements describing the financial resources in respect of at least the next four financial years
- The strategic resource plan must include statements describing the non-financial resources including human resources in respect of at least the next four financial years
- The City strategic resource plan must take into account services and initiatives contained in any plan adopted by council and if the council proposes to adopt a plan to provide services or take initiatives, the resources required must be consistent with the strategic resource plan
- The City must review their strategic resource plan during the preparation of the council plan
- The City must adopt the strategic resource plan not later than 30 June each year and a copy must be available for public inspection at the council office and internet website.
- In preparing the strategic resource plan, councils should comply with the principles of sound financial management as prescribed in the Local Government Act being to:
 - Prudently manage financial risks relating to debt, assets and liabilities
 - provide reasonable stability in the level of rate burden
 - Consider the financial effects of council decisions on future generations.
 - Provide full, accurate and timely disclosure of financial information.

In addition to section 126 of the Local Government Act, parts 2 and 3 of the regulations also prescribe further details in relation to the preparation of a strategic resource plan.

Strategic planning framework - A "community owned" document or process which identifies the long term needs and aspirations of the Council, and the medium and short term goals and objectives which are framed within the long term plan.

The Act - Local Government Act 1989.

Unrestricted cash and investments - Unrestricted cash and investments represents funds that are free of all specific Council commitments and are available to meet daily cash flow requirements and unexpected short term needs.

Valuation of Land Act 1960 - The Valuation of Land Act 1960 requires the Valuer-General to cause a general valuation of rateable land to be made as at 1 January in each calendar year.

Address:
15 Hopetoun Street, Bendigo

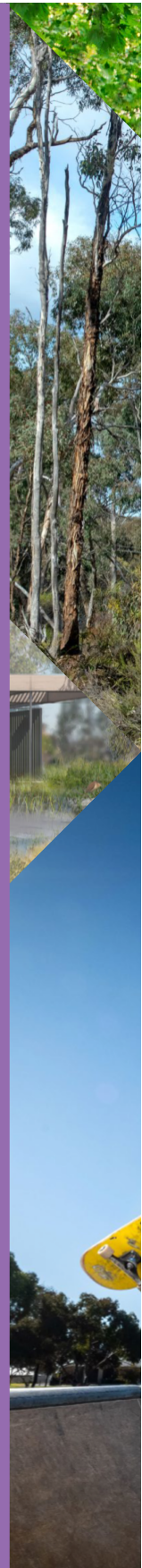
Postal Address:
PO Box 733 Bendigo VIC 3552

T: (03) 5434 6000
National Relay Service: 133 677
then quote 03 5434 6000

F: (03) 5434 6200

E: requests@bendigo.vic.gov.au

W: www.bendigo.vic.gov.au



14. PETITIONS AND JOINT LETTERS

14.1. Petition: Request for Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Service at Marong

[Petitions and joint letters with ten (10) or more signatures are included in the agenda or tabled at the meeting, unless there is a separate legal process for considering the petition or joint letter, as there is for planning submissions or submissions following public notices (Section 223 LGA). Further motion adopted at the Council Meeting (17 April 2019): That in order to support the public disclosure of petitions as part of the democratic process Council requires that all future officers reports to Council Ordinary Meetings in response to public petitions include a copy of the petition and the names of all signatories].

The following petition has been received from residents and ratepayers in the Marong district as outlined below:

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services at Marong".

RECOMMENDATION

That the petition be received and a response be prepared within two (2) meetings.

Attachments

1. Petition

Attachment 1 - Petition Marong MCH_Redacted**Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services**

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Alisha Pickering	12 Cathcart Street, Marong	
2	Sarah Turnbull	15 Parnell Street Marong	
3	Teagan Bicherdihe	460 Myer Flat road, Myer Flat	
4	Tracey O'Donnell	Pemberton Way Marong	
5	Brittany Heras	118 Wilsons Hill Rd Marong	
6	Nicole Grant	15 Merrion St Marong	
7	Kate Healey	6 Treemont Way, Maiden Hall	
8	Georgie Stephens	1222 Calder Hwy, Marong	
9	Emma Gretgrix	15 Dorset Drive Marong	
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	ERIN QUILL	42 ORMOND DRV MARONG	
2	JESSE QUILL	42 ORMOND DRV MARONG	
3	ALICE BROOK	6135 STERNBERG ST KENNEDY	
4	Ely Stasiak	11 Fossickers place, White Hills	
5	TAKE AMOS	22 HILLS RD. MARONG	
6	Carol Towne	14 Springvale Rd Locksley	
7	Ange Thiele	6 Dorset Drive Marong	
8	Cam Winter	6 Pemberton Way	
9	Matthew Loos	2 Demise St, Salisbury	
10	Craig Warner	11 Waima Cres Tarnet	
11	Todd Austin	84 SERPENTINE RD MARONG	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Carl Oliver	87 Lucky Lane	
2	Peter Williams	7 Adie Court Strathfield	
3	Danny Tyler	26 Cathcart St	
4	Simon Roberts	34 Milton Ave Springcreek	
5	Andrew Wells	95 Evergreen Blvd	
6	Garon Freeman	44 Cathcart St	
7	Wes BIRD	29 PRADY ST	
8	Blake Arnell	31 Manna Gum dr	
9	JORDAN GRIFF	4 PARNELL ST MARONG	
10	Kelly Stevens	Eaglehawk	
11	MARITA CONSTANTINOU	21 Ormond drive Marong	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

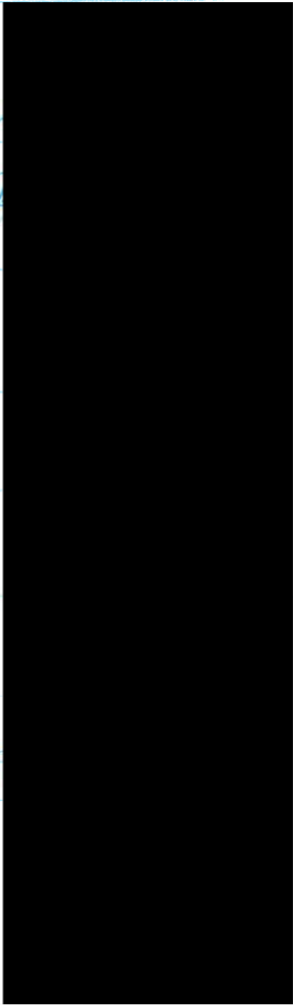
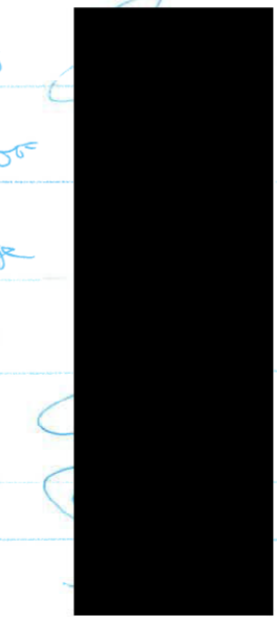

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Stephen Dimmenant	201 Forest Dr. Myers Flat	
2	Sarah Vernon	81 Hobson Rd Vinifera	
3	JUSTIN SYMON	46 ALEXANDER RD	
4	Greg Emery	20 Smiths Es Marongilly	
5	KELVIN BAKER	27 MARONG PARK RD.	
6	LEWIS GAZDA	11 WILLOW RD	
7	LUKE BURNE	38 HILLS RD MARONG	
8	Lane Fitzgerald	4/62 draught street	
9	Loren Fitzgerald	4/62 draught street	
10	Tom Fitzgerald	4/62	
11	JASON OLSON	7 Carlin Way Marong	

	NAME	ADDRESS	SIGN
1.	STAFFORD Kelly	154 Mulberry Lane Lockwood South	
2	DANIEL HARROWER	12 ALARA CRT MARONG	
3	Kristy Ellis	172 Boyles Lane Lockwood	
4	Sharon Macher	19 High St Marong	
5	Adam Skinner	211 Serpentine Rd Marong	
6	Angela Gray	myers flat rd Leichardt	
7	Michael Rice	19 Parnell St Marong	
8	Courtney Turtur	52 Cathcart St Marong	
9	BEN MARCHE	214 COMBES RD LEICHARDT	
10	Simon Reid	50 Scott St White Hills	
11	Adam Latta	16 Mount WICKERMAN	
12	P Monrow	WINTERA Hwy Neebidge	
13	H Delbow	44 Armond Dr Marong	
14	HAYLEY MUIR	1 ERNEST ST. WEST BENDIGO	
15	PETER BOWE	CATHERINE MARONG	
16	Flavia Barnes		

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Brodie Ansett	Fifth ave	
2	Ro Bailey	Fletcher's Creek Rd Marong	
3	Carly Noble	Arnold	
4	Alex Malone	139 Wilsons Hill Rd	
5	STUART STOSI	22 LESUE ST.	
6	Matt Gearing	75 HIGH ST	
7	Maree Chidell	75 HIGH ST	
8	Michael Tins	4 Dorset Drive	
9	Paul Kelly	71 Willies Rd	
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Phil Norrie	10 Meekins St Marong	
2	Twisith McCarty	51 Hells Rd Marong	
3	Simone Tully	550 McEwen Rd Marong	
4	Sharlene Collins	15 Manacoot Marong	
5	Heidi Hine	23 Moss Lane Marong	
6	J. STEELE	73 BOYDS RD	
7	Wayne		
8	Lou		
9			
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Michelle Forbes	87 Powers Rd	
2	Ash Howard	11 Kulin court	
3	Karen Pitt	59 Ogle Street Verdun	
4	Heather	1314 Shelbourne Rd. Shelbourne	
5	Julie Ford	49 Gap Rd Lockwood	
6	Jennifer O'Neill	84 Moore Road Shelburne	
7	Jennie Buckle	1052 Ego-M/Corony Rd Lockwood	
8	Peter Hull	34 ORMOND AVE MARONG	
9	Joy Gretgrix	43 Evermore DVE MARONG	
10	M. Hamblin	159 MA'S LANE MARONG	
11	JOHN CAMPBELL	LOCKWOOD 3351 49 ALEXANDER AVE AD	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Nolan B. J.	10 Holy St	
2	J. B. Bury	82 Goldie St Marong	
3	I. B. Bury	6 Alana St Marong	
4	Cherokee Anderson	70 McKimmie Rd	
5	Luke Tempest	Napier St	
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Matthew Riordan		
2	Jake Saddler	2 Leslie street. Marong.	
3	Bridget Gallagher	2 Leslie St Marong	
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Dianne Stephens	5 Fenton St, Sailors Gully	
2	Stephanie Delamar	40 Spring Gully rd, Spring Gully	
3	Kanessa Tenan	49 Evermore Dr, Marong	
4	VALERIE ANDERSON	b. Gummind CRT	
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Melanie Mitchell	4 Meadows Way Gully	
2	Leah Carter	24 Leslie St Marong	
3	Brooke Binks	89 Landry Lane Marong	
4	Dore Burnett	830 Marong Bypass Road	
5	VICKI CUTTING	78 Goldie St Marong	
6	Sandra Francis	101 High St Wedderburn	
7	Bianca Donaldson	49 Yorkshire Rd	
8	Jessica Ritchie	19 Alana Court	
9	Danielle Shay	20 Lyndam Avenue	
10	Siahna Lingard	16 Truscott Ave	
11	Melissa Mackay	82 Marong Rd, Bendigo	

Heather

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

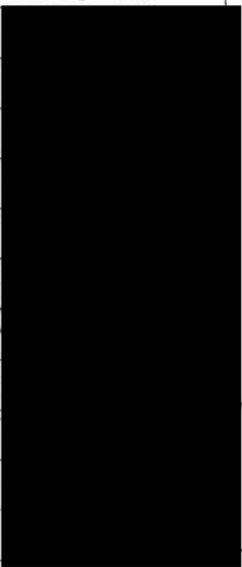
*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Rob Binks	89 LAUDRY LANE, MARONG	
2	MONIQUE BOWEN	15 CAHILL ST, WHITE HILLS	
3	TONY HUNT	23 BROCKE ST INGLEWOOD	
4	Bree Bentley	Marong	
5	DAVE LOWE	WILSON PLANT.	
6	Nicole Houghton	4 Kulwin Ct Marong	
7	Murray Hall	102 Model Farm Rd, DUNDY	
8	Bryce J Rawlings	5 Fraser Ct K/FLAT	
9	Cheverlee Anderson	7 McKimmie Rd	
10	Gwen Attwood	12 Railway Drive Inglewood	
11	Alenda Ralston	4 Bedarra Ct. MG.	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Shane Dole	67 Marong ^{Goatlinks Rd} Maiden Gully	
2	Lochie McKinney	Blunder - Seaburne hars.	
3	MARION ARNOT	MILLS CME Newby	
4	Tim Mansfield	22 Alana Court	
5	L. Crozier	10 Spencer St W/Bur	
6	L Ladson	73 Landy Lane, Marong	
7	A Wannenmacher	225 Vorti Rd Woodvale	
8	Joel King	16 Orange St ^{Orange St} Marong	
9	Janice Eury	82 Goldie St Marong	
10	K L Martin	25 Goldie St Marong	
11	Sylvia Jan	10 Webster St Eaglehawk	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


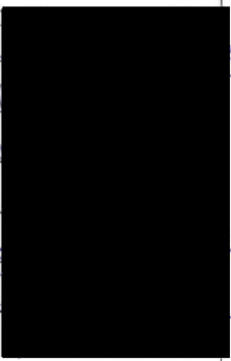
* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Michele Chudek	10 Evermore drive	
2	Diane Ganci	9 Erindale Way	
3	Danielle Tay	6 Oatland Place	
4	Josie Brooks	1113 Benago Marong	
5	Jo Brady	Nandely	
6	VEN CRANE	To Box 749 MARONG 3515	
7	M. Harris		
8	NAMK	204 FOREST ST 050	
9	Ben Hartland	90 Goldie Street Marong	
10	John Waller	18 Fifth Avenue	
11	Ken ROSSER	729 Edwards Rd	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Julie Rankin	1341 Calder Alternate	
2	Jay Jones	Hwy Lockwood	
3	at Marong	265 New Rd	
4	Nal Suleman	44 Watson St	
5		Charlton	
6	BARB TAYLOR	25 TORRENS ST MARONG	
7	RN Baker	Wattle Rd Woodside SA	
8	Jaki Downey	3 Lorne Terrace Flathill	
9	Sammy Stoy	4 Konilla Ave, Sunbury	
10	ROS HOWARD	100 Briarwater/Dunrobin Co Dunrobin	
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Sue LaSby	470 Calder St Hwy Lockwood	[Redacted]
2	Paul Trumble	23 Moss Lane Marong	[Redacted]
3	Kathryn Toomey	60 Old Bridgewater Rd	[Redacted]
4	Rhys Leader	1449 Calder Hwy Marong	[Redacted]
5	J. McCLURE	12 THOMAS DE MARONG	[Redacted]
6	Paul Trumble	23 MOSS Lane Marong	[Redacted]
7	PAULINE CARTER	104 CARTERS LANE Wilsons Hill	[Redacted]
8	Ian Silvester	312 Mearns Rd Melbourne	[Redacted]
9	Joy Gretgrix	43 Evermore Dr. Marong	[Redacted]
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Danielle Coultel	Byron Rd Marong	
2	Jenny Farrell	113 SPALWING RD MARONG	
3	TANIA FOSTER	CALDER HWY MARONG	
4	Renee Pollard	Myas Flat rd	
5	Larissa Yeoman Buhell	8 Thomas Drive Marong	
6	ANDREW WHATEY	54 TORRENT ST. MARONG	
7	Judith Robertson	3MC Kimmie Rd Marong	
8	Phil & IRON NORRI	10 MERRION ST MARONG	
9	ZOE BORD	466 MCKENZIE RD	
10	Cass James	225 Edwards Rd.	
11	Sharon Saunders	39 Frankels Lane Marong	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.


* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Michael Tine	4 Dorset Drive, Marong	
2	ERN CAMPBELL	4 DORSET DRIVE MARONG	
3	Pawena Shaw	145 Yorkshire Rd Marong	
4	Kylie Rowe	3 Gummin Crt Marong	
5	Janine Cornish	Calder Hwy Marong	
6	Vicki Goren	18 Fletcher Creek Rd Marong	
7	Kath Martin	Marong	
8	Sue Lagaby	470 Calder At Highway	
9	Nerissa Moro	47 Evermore Dr	
10	Lee Freely	7 Dorset Dr	
11	Michelle Church	10 Evermore Dr	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

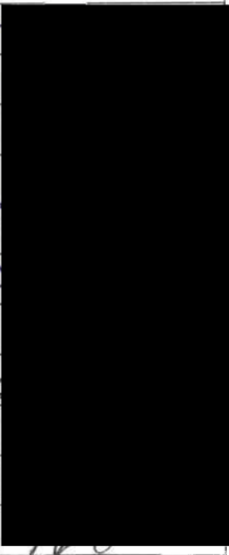
* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Tia Bennett	53 Iester Street	
2	Dyniella Hockey	High St Marong	
3	John Gault	670 Calder Hwy M/G	
4	Nadine Speirs	17 Dorset Dr Marong	
5	David Hockey	11 Ivan Street, Marong	
6	CHRIS GARLICK	MGYCW PAES	
7	KERRIE WOODALL	25 Goldie St Marong	
8	JOHN GIMLEY	NEWBEIRD RD SHELBORNE	
9	JOHN GIESKIE	AVONDEL CARAVAN PARK	
10	Philip Loones	75 Landing Lane	
11	Pauline Brown	Maiden Gully	

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

* Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

* Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

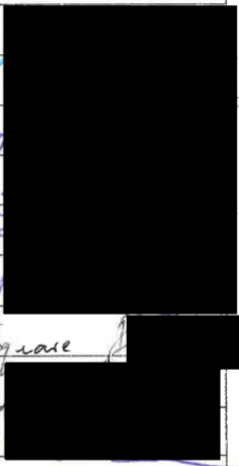
* Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

* The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

* Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Rosemary Stewart	664 Allies Rd, Marong	
2	Russell Jeffery	12 SHERTONS RD. + FLAT	
3	Corbin Stacey	4 Oscar Drive Marong	
4	Bridget Gallagher	9 Hyatt Rd, Huntly	
5	Alice Thorn	63 Lougoun Dr, Myers Flat	
6	Moyra O'Donoghue	2 Arblaster St, Cal Gully	
7	David Johnstone	6 Illingworth St, Golden Square	
8	Chelsie Nickson	43 Short Street Kangaroo Flat	
9	Loretta Williams	42 Hillcrest Rd Maiden Gully	
10			
11			

Reinstatement of Maternal and Child Health Services

"We, the undersigned residents and ratepayers of Marong and Districts formally request Council to reinstate the Maternal and Child Health Services in Marong."

We believe that this service is essential to Marong because of the following reasons:

Community Health

* Marong is a community of young families. 2016 Census data records 57.5% of the Marong population being aged 34 or younger. This trend has continued to grow in the following years.

*Being a new parent can be an anxious and isolating experience, being able to develop relationships with a local Maternal and Child Health Services nurse is particularly important to the health of both the parent and child.

*Maternal and Child Health Services play integral roles in immunisation and baby/toddler development assessments.

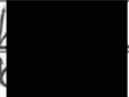
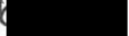
*Maternal and Child Health Services were provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their health checks with the Maternal and Child Health Service.

Community Connectedness and Wellbeing

* Maternal and Child Health Services are provided within the Marong Kindergarten facilities. The Kindergarten Educators believe this was an ideal situation in allowing young children to develop familiarity and therefore facilitate a smooth transition into Kindergarten through their visits to the Maternal and Child Health Service.

*The Maternal and Child Health Services of Marong were within walking distance for parents. Removing this service impacts on community wellbeing. There's no-one stopping and saying 'hello'. Lockdowns and Covid restrictions during 2020 have shown us the importance of incidental social connectedness in communities.

*Marong has **NO** public transport which can limit the capacity and ease with which some parents can access Maternal and Child Health Services.

	Name	Address	Signature
1	Kathina Morzane	3 Rebecca Court, Maiden Gully	
2	Kristie Beckett	7 Dorset Drive Marong	
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			

Signatures for petition REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG | iPetitions

21/5/21, 9:30 am



▼ Heather Wearne

REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG

[View Petition](#)[Manage Petition](#)[Download Signatures](#)[More ▼](#)[Share for Success!](#)

Select Petition: REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND



REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG

Signatures: 18 (goal: 1000)

Signatures in last 24 hours: 0

[Export signatures as a CSV file](#)[Export for print \(PDF\)](#)

#	Name	Comment	Created On	Actions
8	Kristen Patching	-	April 22, 2021, 1:49 AM	
7	Terrie McKenzie	-	April 22, 2021, 1:22 AM	
6	Dean Carter	-	April 22, 2021, 1:14 AM	
5	Kate Macdonald	-	April 22, 2021, 1:04 AM	
4	Lisa Mansfield	-	April 22, 2021, 1:02 AM	
3	Nicole Grant	-	April 22, 2021, 1:01 AM	
2	Kathryn Thomas	-	April 22, 2021, 12:51 AM	
1	Heather Wearne	-	April 21, 2021, 12:51 AM	

[← prev](#)

1

2

Signature History

<https://www.ipetitions.com/managePetition/signatures/id/1280141/page/2>

Page 1 of 2

Signatures for petition REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG | iPetitions

21/5/21, 9:27 am

[Back to Dashboard](#)

▼ Heather Wearne

REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG

[View Petition](#)[Manage Petition](#)[Download Signatures](#)[More ▼](#)[Share for Success!](#)

Select Petition: REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL & CH



REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG

Signatures: 13 (goal: 500)

Signatures in last 24 hours: 0

[Export signatures as a CSV file](#)[Signatures in last 24 hours](#)

We're preparing your file and it will be sent as a link to marongcag@gmail.com

#	Name	Comment	Created On	Actions
13	Philip Norris	-	April 23, 2021, 9:42 AM	
12	belinda young	Loved it out in marong where I could WALK to my appts, and also be ok in for drop off/pick up school/kinder times and already be there! Such a shame it was moved!	April 20, 2021, 4:34 AM	
11	Kristen Patching	-	April 19, 2021, 10:48 PM	
10	Erin Campbell	-	April 19, 2021, 9:41 PM	
9	Maria Patching	In a growing community it seems ludicrous to be taking services away	April 19, 2021, 9:33 PM	
8	Jessica Whatley	-	April 19, 2021, 8:43 PM	
7	Elizabeth aisbett	-	April 19, 2021, 5:05 PM	

<https://www.ipetitions.com/my/petitions/1279889/signatures>

Page 1 of 3

Signatures for petition REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG | iPetitions

21/5/21, 9:31 am



▼ Heather Wearne

REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG

[View Petition](#)
[Manage Petition](#)
[Download Signatures](#)
[More ▼](#)
[Share for Success!](#)

Select Petition: REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND



REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG

Signatures: 18 (goal: 1000)

Signatures in last 24 hours: 0

[Export signatures as a CSV file](#)
[Export for print \(PDF\)](#)










#	Name	Comment	Created On	Actions
18	Belinda Burns	-	April 26, 2021, 11:13 PM	
17	Bethany Jones	As someone who is expecting a child having maternal child health services close to me would of great convenience	April 23, 2021, 3:41 AM	
16	Darren Turnbull	-	April 22, 2021, 10:27 AM	
15	Jan Boynton	-	April 22, 2021, 10:27 AM	
14	Heidi Turnbull	-	April 22, 2021, 10:25 AM	
13	Hannah	-	April 22, 2021, 8:55 AM	
12	Rosemary Bailey	-	April 22, 2021, 8:20 AM	
			April 22,	

<https://www.ipetitions.com/managePetition/signatures/id/1280141>

Page 1 of 2






Signatures for petition REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG | iPetitions

21/5/21, 9:31 am

11	 Steve Baulch	-	2021, 7:55 AM	 
10	 Jess	-	April 22, 2021, 9:28 AM	 
9	 Cara Stone	-	April 22, 2021, 1:56 AM	 

1
2
next →

Signature History










 _____
 _____
 _____
 _____
 _____

Copyright © 2021 iPetitions, all rights reserved

[FAQ](#) [About](#) [Contact Us](#) [Privacy](#) [Terms of Use](#)

Signatures for petition REINSTATEMENT OF MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH SERVICES TO MARONG | IPetitions

21/5/21, 9:27 am

6	 Kelly White	The maternal health nurse was the first local contact I met when I moved to Marong, the service was conveniently located and didn't require me to travel far. We became familiar with the kinder before my son started there the following year and we were already comfortable in the environment. I had all my maternal health visits there for my youngest daughter and developed a good and comfortable relationship with the nurse. I am a busy mum of 4 busy children, two of my children have special needs and I know from experience I need extra support and community connection when I've had a baby. Living this far from Bendigo is isolating and inconvenient enough without me needing to travel further for services that were already here when I moved. If I were to have another child at this time I would not be taking the time out of my days to travel that far to use maternal health services unless it was absolutely necessary. It seems as though the lack of community support for new parents will contribute to poor mental health outcomes and potentially a lack of education from the information sharing that usually happens during regular maternal health visits. Marong is an area of high population growth, full of young families that need to be able to fully utilise the services of child and maternal health. This is an important, valuable service being removed from an area that has the potential to grow even bigger provided it keeps the infrastructure it already has and then continues to grow, this decision feels like a backwards step in the progress of Marong and its surrounding areas.	April 19, 2021, 2:42 PM	 
5	 Anne Coghill	-	April 19, 2021, 1:05 PM	 
4	 Laura Wheadon	-	April 19, 2021, 12:33 PM	 

1 2 next —

Signature History

0.0

0.5

1.0

-0.5

-1.0

14.2. Outdoor Dining - Response to Petition from View Street Traders

Author	Bridget Maplestone, Coordinator Growth and Liveability
Responsible Director	Andrew Cooney, A/Director Strategy and Growth

Purpose

Petitions and joint letters with ten (10) or more signatures are included in the agenda or tabled at the meeting, unless there is a separate legal process for considering the petition or joint letter, as there is for planning submissions or submissions following public notices (Section 223 LGA), further motion adopted at the Council Meeting (17 April 2019): That in order to support the public disclosure of petitions as part of the democratic process Council requires that all future officer reports to Council Ordinary Meetings in response to public petitions include a copy of the petition and the names of all signatories. The purpose of this report is to respond to the petition from 14 View Street traders in relation to the extension of the outdoor dining trial.

Summary

The following petition has been received from 14 View Street traders in relation to the extension of the outdoor dining trial.

"We the undersigned View Street business owners and rate payers of Greater Bendigo City Council request Council to remove the 'on-street' Outdoor Dining from View Street as from 1/7/2021.

The parking situation in View Street is chronic and to allocate 5 car parks exclusively to two businesses at the expense of every other business in View Street for 'yet another 10 months' is completely unjustifiable in our view."

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Note the petition that has been received.
2. Note that at the Council meeting on 17 May 2021, Council resolved to extend the outdoor dining trial until 30 April 2022.
3. Request the CEO to establish an internal team with representatives from the City's Local Laws and Economic Development Units to assess outdoor dining permit applications in View Street.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference

Goal 3 – Strengthening the economy

3.1 – Support our local businesses and industry to be strong, vibrant and to grow and develop

Background Information

Hospitality businesses over the past year have been impacted heavily in response to COVID density requirements particularly indoors. As part of a state-wide initiative introduced in September 2020 in response to COVID, expanded outdoor dining was encouraged as a way to enable businesses to continue to trade and activate public spaces.

At the Council meeting on 17 May 2021, Council endorsed the extension of the expanded outdoor dining until 30 April 2022. The existing trial was due to end on 30 June 2021.

On 27 May 2021 a petition was received from 14 View Street traders indicating that the expanded outdoor dining trial on View Street, Bendigo has added to an existing parking problem in the street and negatively impacted on the post lockdown recovery of a number of businesses in the street.

There are currently two hospitality businesses who have expanded into carparks along View Street. This has resulted in the loss of five car parking spaces within the street.

With existing local laws permits due to expire on 30 June 2021, existing businesses with expanded outdoor dining, as well as any business wishing to take up expanded outdoor dining will require a valid local laws permit. Through this application process, surrounding traders and residents will have the opportunity to provide a submission or objection, which will be taken into consideration when determining whether a local laws permit is issued or refused.

Over the past eight months of expanded outdoor dining, the Parking team has received a number of customer requests asking for alterations to time restrictions due to parking availability being impacted by on street dining. As a result of these requests, the Parking team has conducted consultation and facilitated negotiation with all affected businesses regarding parking restrictions on a number of occasions. This has resulted in several parking restriction alterations, intended to better support existing business needs. This has been coupled with continued enforcement patrols designed to reduce staff monopolising the available parking. The Parking team's work is ongoing, however due to the previous work identifying alternate options, scope for restriction changes to further assist is limited. Despite this, the Parking team will continue to assess parking in the area and any future alterations will be made as a result of full consultation, facilitated negotiation between businesses and in line with the Bendigo City Centre Parking Futures Action Plan.

Report

During the roll out of the expanded outdoor dining trial over 80 hospitality businesses were visited by City officers and 51 took up the trial. Many of these hospitality businesses were in the City Centre including two in the View Street precinct.

To make an informed decision about the extension of the trial to 30 April 2022, the City undertook a variety of engagement activities and spoke with both hospitality and non-hospitality businesses.

It was noted within this report the importance of consideration of the impact of expanded outdoor dining on surrounding residents and traders. The report also indicated that improvements will need to be made to the aesthetics of some of these spaces to encourage outdoor dining, particularly as restrictions ease, and this work is currently underway.

Hospitality businesses with expanded outdoor dining will require a new local laws permit to continue to trade until 30 April 2022, as they are currently as the current local laws permit expires on 30 June 2021. All hospitality businesses have been contacted via email about this. If these businesses apply for a new local laws permit then surrounding traders and residents will be contacted and will be able to provide a submission through this process.

A further report will be put to Council in late 2021 to discuss any longer-term arrangements around expanded outdoor dining, including costs and further evaluation.

Consultation/Communication

External Consultation:

As previously outlined, more than 80 businesses approached the City around expanded outdoor dining. Officers met directly with each of these businesses.

There will be further consultation with hospitality, non-hospitality businesses and residents through the extension of this trial.

Internal Consultation:

A Project Working Group (PWG) was established for the duration of this trial and met fortnightly. The PWG included representatives from Engineering, Statutory Planning, Safe and Healthy Environments, Parks and Open Space, Regional Sustainable Development, Communications and Governance.

Resource Implications

There will be resource implications in undertaking parking assessments, assessing options and assessing any permit applications.

Attachments

1. Petition from View Street traders

Attachment 1 -

attention : COGB customer service centre

PETITION / OBJECTION

25 May 2021

We the undersigned View Street business owners and rate payers of
Greater Bendigo City Council request Council to remove the 'on-street'
Outdoor Dining from View Street as from 1/7/2021.

The parking situation in View Street is chronic and to allocate 5 car parks exclusively to
two businesses at the expense of every other business in View Street for 'yet another 10
months' is completely unjustifiable in our view.

	Name	Business Address	Signature	Contact Tel
1*	P. SKINNON	99-103 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
2	E. ETCHES	107 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
3	S. DART	81-83 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
4	M. BARRI	79 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
5	J. GARLAND	127 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
6	J. WILKSHIRE	93 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
7	R. MANN	73 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
8	G. TAYLOR	89-91 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
9	P. NICK	16-22 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
10	D. MCCOLL	33 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]
11	M. BUSSE	47-55 VIEW ST	[REDACTED]	[REDACTED]

* initiated by Paul Skinnon mob (0417) 213-164 E. astantiques@hotmail.com

attention : COGB customer service centre

PETITION / OBJECTION

25 May 2021

We the undersigned View Street business owners and rate payers of
Greater Bendigo City Council request Council to remove the 'on-street'
Outdoor Dining from View Street as from 1/7/2021.

The parking situation in View Street is chronic and to allocate 5 car parks exclusively to
two businesses at the expense of every other business in View Street for 'yet another 10
months' is completely unjustifiable in our view.

	Name	Business Address	Signature	Contact Tel
12	L. Scholtz	137 Viewstreet		
13	L. Russo	85 view st		
14	K. Barri	85-77 view st		

* initiated by Paul Skinnon mob (0417) 213-164 E. austantiques@hotmail.com

PETITION

Lodged with COGB Customer Service Centre 27/5/21

The business owners of View Street are opposed to continuation of the 'on street' outdoor Dining in View Street which was planned to be ended on 30 June.

This program while it may be workable in some areas has added to an already critical parking problem in View Street and impacted negatively on the post lock-down recovery of many businesses in the street.

We were required to get 10 businesses to support our petition but have gone over this number.

The over-whelming majority of businesses in View Street want to see the bollards removed and the 5 car parks reinstated at the end of June.

Businesses listed on this petition are listed below...

The Rifle Brigade Hotel	Garland Hairdressers
Heatherbelle	Timeless Decor
Expect the Unexpected	Juno
Gathered	The Meadow
Librus Bookbinders	Peachys
Blumetown	Living Gifts
Harvest FoodDeli....Cellar	North Run
Bat City Music	Valentines Antiques

14.3. Response to Quarry Hill Skate Park Petition

Author	Jackson Holland, Healthy Lifestyles Officer - Club Liaison Lincoln Fitzgerald, Manager Active & Healthy Lifestyles
Responsible Director	Vicky Mason, Director Health & Wellbeing

Purpose

This report provides a response to a petition received by Council at the April 19, 2021 Ordinary Council meeting requesting that Council consider a Skate Park within the Quarry Hill Reserve.

Summary

A petition has been received noting "It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve". The petition was instigated by a Quarry Hill resident and signed by 149 people in total comprising of:

- Signatures - 80
- E-petition - 69

The City is delivering upon the 2006 City of Greater Bendigo Skate Park Strategy which proposes to develop skate facilities in larger rural townships, growth areas and provide facilities within the existing urban areas. To achieve this, skate facilities have been constructed at Heathcote, Axedale Elmore, Bendigo, Eaglehawk and most recently Epsom. Facilities are also proposed for Kangaroo Flat and central Bendigo (Ewing Park) to replace the McIvor Road facility. The central Bendigo (Ewing Park) facility has been designed to be of a larger scale to accommodate a larger catchment area. This catchment area includes the adjacent suburb of Quarry Hill. The City has sought a grant from the State Government to support development of the 'district scale' facility at Ewing Park and funding for this project has been successful, and this project will commence during the 2021/22 financial year.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Support the continued development of skate parks at Ewing Park and Kangaroo Flat;
2. Does not support development of a skate park at Quarry Hill;
3. Advise the lead petitioner of the outcome of this report.

Policy Context

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 1:	Lead and govern for all
Objective 1.1	Engage with all communities
Objective 1.2	Explain the reason for its decision
Objective 1.3	Be innovative and financially responsible
Objective 1.4	Be accountable and efficient in its use of the community's money
Goal 2:	Wellbeing and fairness
Objective 2.1	Create a much healthier Greater Bendigo
Objective 2.2	Promote positive wellbeing across the Greater Bendigo community

City of Greater Bendigo Skate Park Strategy.

This development is consistent with the City of Greater Bendigo Skate Park Strategy adopted 17 May 2006 which outlines a distribution and catchment analysis for facilities to service the Greater Bendigo population.

Background Information

A petition was formally received by the City of Greater Bendigo on March 29, 2021, seeking the construction of a Skate Park at Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve. The petition stated:

"It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve".

Signatures - 80

E-petition - 69

Total 149

Prior to the submission of the petition, a letter was submitted on February 21 by a Quarry Hill resident, addressed to the City of Greater Bendigo (attachment A). Staff contacted the resident and provided conceptual designs of the proposed Ewing Park Skate Park to be located nearby. It was also communicated to the resident, extensive community consultation for the Ewing Park Skate Park and Master Plan, commenced in March 2018 and concluded formally on August 31, 2018. Reference was made to the City of Greater Bendigo's Skate Strategy (2006) and information provided to explain Ewing Park and the Kangaroo Flat locations have been identified as areas to best service the skate community within the respective geographical catchments.

Report

In May 2006 the City of Greater Bendigo (City) adopted the City of Greater Bendigo Skate Strategy which aims to plan, support and manage skate facilities around the municipality. The strategy considers how far user groups are likely to travel to access facilities, the size of the area, the range of different users that it can cater for (such as beginner, intermediate, and experienced) and the extent of supporting amenities which should be provided for the site.

It is acknowledged that the 2006 Skate Strategy is now some years old, however, the principles for design remain relevant and align with facility requirements and current data. The 2019 Active Living Census indicated that 11.3% of all residents reported using Skate Parks/ BMX Facilities. It also noted that 14.5% of respondents agreed that improvements to Skate Parks/ BMX facilities would encourage more regular use of public facilities and Open Spaces & rate of use (ranked #2). Of all children surveyed, aged from 3-11 years, there was a 33.3% use rate of Skate Parks/ BMX facilities. 16.4% of the adult population within Spring Gully, Quarry Hill, Golden Gully and Flora Hill townships said they visited Skate Parks/ BMX Facilities.

The Skate Strategy (2006) identifies Quarry Hill / Kennington to be one of the areas where there is a high supply and demand for Skate Parks, given the density of young people projected to live in these areas (2000+ by 2011). Since 2006, the City has progressed significantly in delivering Skate Park projects, successfully delivering Skate Parks in Eaglehawk, Epsom, Axedale, Elmore and Heathcote, during this period.

The City have recently completed the design of a Skate Park to be constructed at the Ewing Park Precinct, Bendigo, and will receive state government funding. This project is within the catchment for areas including Bendigo, Quarry Hill, Flora Hill, Kennington, Strathdale and Spring Gully. To add to this, and in line with the City's programmed Capital Works plan, the City are awaiting budget confirmation in the draft 2021/22 Council budget to proceed with designing a Skate Park in Kangaroo Flat, to which there is an identified location, proposed by Council.

Given the catchment of the Ewing Park facility will cater for Quarry Hill and the strategic need for a skate facility in the Kangaroo Flat area, it is recommended that Council does not duplicate this service by investing in an additional skate facility at Quarry Hill, but rather that Council continues to progress the Ewing Park and Kangaroo Flat skate parks.

The location of current and future Skate Park facilities within the City of Greater Bendigo Municipality is shown in ATTACHMENT B.

Priority/Importance:

The City has completed community consultation and design for a Skate Park to be delivered at the Ewing Park Precinct. This facility will service Quarry Hill residents. Future priorities for skate facilities will be in established suburbs where no facilities are available within the catchment area followed by growth suburbs which have emerging service needs. Given Ewing Park will service the Quarry Hill catchment area development of a skate park is not considered to be a priority.

Options/Alternatives:

1. Update the CoGB Skate Strategy to prioritise future community requests. This option is not currently planned and would not be able to be delivered in the 2021/22 year.
2. Fund, design and construct a Skate Park in Quarry Hill based on this petition. If this option was selected there is a possibility this decision may invite other petitions to be submitted by the public, which may result in non-strategic investments and duplication of services. If an additional site was to be considered, there will also need to be investment made towards ongoing operating maintenance and resourcing which is not currently planned.

Timelines:

Design or construction of a skate facility at Quarry Hill is not currently resourced and would be subject to a Council budget allocation either as part of the draft 2021/22 budget or future budgets. There is not current staff allocation to support delivery of this additional project.

A skate facility has been designed and funding sought for a 'district scale' facility at Ewing Park. As the City has been successful in gaining state government funding, this skate facility will commence late in the 2021/22 financial year.

Progress:

No site analysis, design or consultation has been undertaken relating to the development of a skate facility at Quarry Hill.

Risk Analysis:

The Skate Strategy (2006) document that guides decisions relating to service provision and future needs for the Greater Bendigo community. If there was to be a decision to proceed with a Skate Park in Quarry Hill, it is possible that other currently prioritised and progressed skate park projects may be delayed or not delivered, as planned.

Consultation/CommunicationInternal Consultation:

Active & Healthy Lifestyles Unit were engaged in response to the resident's initial letter, to provide direct information relating to the Skate Strategy and plans relating to future Skate Park projects, notably, Ewing Park.

External Consultation:

Email and phone communication were provided to the Quarry Hill resident's parent, in response to the letter addressed to the Active and Healthy Lifestyles Unit.

Extensive external consultation was also conducted as part of the Ewing Park redevelopment project (attachment C).

Resource Implications

There is no current budget or staff resources allocated to develop a skate facility at Quarry Hill. If Council was of a mind to progress design of a facility, a budget allocation would be required and staff project management resources would be required. Local skate facilities developed across the State in recent years have had development costs of between \$500,000 to \$750,000 in addition to design and project management costs.

Skate parks also require regular maintenance throughout their asset lifecycle. This includes cleaning, graffiti and landscape maintenance to ensure that the facilities remain safe, accessible and attractive to families utilising them.

Attachments

ATTACHMENT A: Petition

ATTACHEMNT B: Municipal Skate Park Map (locations)

ATTACHMENT C: Ewing Park Wheeled Sports Hub Project – Community Consultation Report

Attachment 1 - 20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Salvador McIntosh
30 Harkness St
Quarry Hill, VIC, 3550.

21/2/2021

Community Recreation Department.

City Of Greater Bendigo
15 Hopetoun St
PO Box 733, Bendigo, VIC, 3552

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.

I am a Quarry Hill primary school student in year 5 who loves skateboarding. I live with my mum and dad and two sisters.

We love the Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve. I take my dog on walks there most days and my footy club trains at the Ken Wust Oval. The Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve has a playground, tennis courts, seats, grass, and the recent mural is great as well. A skatepark though, would make the space AMAZING!

Our house block is too small for skating on and while I skate on the footpaths, I would love another place to challenge myself and others. If there was a skate park in the Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve, there would be clearer sidewalks for pedestrians

I love going to the Eaglehawk SkatePark with friends and family but it's hard to get there and you have to pay for fuel and it means more global warming. Some things we love about the Eaglehawk Skatepark are the equipment. It has great slopes, quarter pipes etc. But another important benefit of the skate park are the people that go there. We have met some lovely skaters that have given me and my friends tips and complements. Our community would love to have that positive attitude in Quarry Hill and I would love to help build that positive skater community.

Since I have started skating, I have found that I have become more resilient and confident. With a skatepark here in Quarry Hill, we will hopefully also see that in other kids and adults.

I am looking forward to hearing back from you.

Yours sincerely,

Salvador McIntosh

Lachlan Villiers

Salvador McIntosh

0411 703 184

~~0411 703 184~~

(Heidi McIntosh, Salvador's Mum)

salvamacintosh@gmail.com

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve












20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve













The Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve is good, but there is so much space and it would be great to have a skatepark there. Even a small space for people to enjoy skating and scooting would be awesome!




Everyone who has signed this petition and who lives in Bendigo agrees and asks the City of Greater Bendigo Council to make it happen.

#	Name	Comment	Created On
69	 Carly Robinson	-	March 27, 2021, 11:08 AM
68	 Narelle Rigopoulos	It would be so beneficial to include a skate park - it would be e t rembly utilised in our community	March 27, 2021, 8:23 AM
67	 Kylie Kent	Let the kids skate! Build it and they will come. Awesome idea S alva, love your work!	March 27, 2021, 3:34 AM
66	 Harrison Godfrey	-	March 27, 2021, 2:50 AM
65	 Tim j	-	March 27, 2021, 1:51 AM
64	 Shonia Cunningham	-	March 26, 2021, 10:08 PM
63	 Gemma French	-	March 26, 2021, 7:41 PM
62	 Kasslea Shaw	-	March 26, 2021, 7:35 PM
61	 Rachele Bertuch	Salva well done!! Fingers Crossed this comes to fruition.	March 26, 2021, 1:35 PM
60	 Trina White	Fantastic idea Salva, a great initiative for the youth of the city.	March 26, 2021, 1:24 PM











20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

59	 Alicia Villiers	What a great initiative. A wonderful way for the youth in the community to connect, while learning that persistence pays off.	March 26, 2021, 11:58 AM
58	 Abi Trewartha	-	March 26, 2021, 10:53 AM
57	 Ren Doyle	Skateparks help keep youth active and creative.	March 26, 2021, 10:44 AM
56	 Amberlie Read	My boys would love this also	March 26, 2021, 10:02 AM
55	 Abb	"I don't skate but I will" (I probably wont)	March 5, 2021, 6:49 AM
54	 Jenna Smith	You're welcome Salva	March 5, 2021, 6:45 AM
53	 Therese Worme	This is close to where we are in Kennington/FloraHill & my children will be so excited to see this move forward.	March 4, 2021, 9:54 PM
52	 Lauren King	-	March 4, 2021, 8:51 AM
51	 Shaun White	Eaglehawk skate park is too far to drive the kids, there's nothing this side of town	March 4, 2021, 7:37 AM
50	 Sienna White	I'd like a skatepark too!	March 4, 2021, 7:36 AM











20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

49	 Danielle White	Great idea Salva!	March 4, 2021, 7:35 AM
48	 Barb Twigg	Excellent concept for energetic young people .	March 2, 2021, 10:35 PM
47	 Sharon	-	March 2, 2021, 8:14 AM
46	 Marshall Vincent	-	March 2, 2021, 6:52 AM
45	 Shaugh McIntosh	-	March 2, 2021, 5:35 AM
44	 Jordan Wanefalea	Would be an awesome opportunity!	March 2, 2021, 4:59 AM
43	 Justin	-	March 2, 2021, 12:08 AM
42	 Joshua Parris	-	March 1, 2021, 10:04 PM
41	 Robyn Bruno Spandone	-	March 1, 2021, 9:59 PM
40	 Kate McInnes	I don't live in the area but my kids attend classes near by and would love a skate park here	March 1, 2021, 9:07 PM











20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

39	 Michelle Pollard	Good luck! I hope you get the skate park built.	March 1, 2021, 9:02 PM
38	 Johan rivas	Great initiative and good project for all our young pepople in our community.	March 1, 2021, 9:00 PM
37	 Dominika Balwin	Let's make sure we have a great space for activities like skating!	March 1, 2021, 8:59 PM
36	 Nicole	Please give this area a skate park, so many people would enjoy it :)	March 1, 2021, 8:58 PM
35	 Tania	-	March 1, 2021, 9:28 AM
34	 Ewan Johnston	it would be awesome to have a skate park	March 1, 2021, 5:40 AM
33	 Aleida McIntosh	Great initiative Salva!	March 1, 2021, 5:23 AM
32	 Dylan John Cahill	-	March 1, 2021, 2:37 AM
31	 Shane Robinson	-	March 1, 2021, 1:35 AM
30	 Rachel Bramley	It's a win win for all...	March 1, 2021, 12:41 AM



20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

29	 Nicole Day	More needs to be spent on kids and young people in the community. A skate park is a great idea.	February 28, 2021, 11:55 PM
28	 Chloe	-	February 28, 2021, 11:53 PM
27	 Amanda Wigmore	-	February 28, 2021, 11:43 PM
26	 William	-	February 28, 2021, 11:23 PM
25	 Kade	-	February 28, 2021, 11:22 PM
24	 Marsha	Way to go Salva! This is fantastic	February 28, 2021, 11:21 PM
23	 Alex Sellings	-	February 28, 2021, 11:17 PM
22	 Lorraine Morton	-	February 28, 2021, 11:11 PM
21	 Hilary M	-	February 28, 2021, 11:08 PM
20	 Owen Morton	-	February 28, 2021, 11:08 PM

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

19	 Colin Walls	-	February 28, 2021, 10:07 PM
18	 Cameron Knott	Nice one Salva! I agree that the local QH kids (and adults) would benefit from a friendly, local and accessible skate park.	February 28, 2021, 7:42 PM
17	 Bryony Nally-Dean	What a great idea! We need more outdoor activities for our young ones and this would be perfect!	February 28, 2021, 2:50 PM
16	 Amy Bell	Def needed, great work on getting the petitions going. Happy to help progress this	February 28, 2021, 11:46 AM
15	 Jen	Great to have something on this side of town for kids to use. Long overdue.	February 28, 2021, 10:44 AM
14	 Andy Vincent	That would be a great addition to the quarry Hill neighbourhood. The old church on the hill community would gladly support this venture.	February 28, 2021, 9:31 AM
13	 Matilda Wridgway	-	February 28, 2021, 9:14 AM
12	 Daniel Wridgway	-	February 28, 2021, 9:13 AM
11	 Chris brown	-	February 28, 2021, 9:05 AM
10	 James R Logan	-	February 28, 2021, 8:49 AM

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

9	 Ian Logan	DEFENATELY	February 28, 2021, 8:49 AM
8	 Jackson Logan	Give the kids somewhere to have fun and progress their skills in an appropriate facility.	February 28, 2021, 8:41 AM
7	 Teigs Perry	-	February 28, 2021, 8:18 AM
6	 Sophie Fisher	-	February 28, 2021, 8:17 AM
5	 Enya OCallaghan	-	February 28, 2021, 8:15 AM
4	 Adam Cornell	-	February 28, 2021, 8:12 AM
3	 Jeremy	-	February 28, 2021, 8:03 AM
2	 Miciah Frost	-	February 28, 2021, 6:11 AM
1	 Salva McIntosh	-	February 28, 2021, 4:15 AM

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Petition For Skatepark In Quarry Hill

It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.

All the people who have signed below agree.

Name	Age	Postcode
Levi	8	3550
Harry J	10	3550
Hudson	8	3550
Emmet	10	3550
Rowan	10	3550
Shabi	11	3550
Laidie	8	3550
Giana	8	3550
Kobir	10	3550
Francesco	10	3550
Charlie L	10	3550
Fletcher W	10	3550
Brae	10	3555
Ross J	33	3555
CLARA	8	3550
M. TZAROS	ADULT	3550
SCARLETT OS	8	3550

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Petition For Skatepark In Quarry Hill

It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.

All the people who have signed below agree.

Name	Age	Postcode
Oliver	11	3550
Vinnie	6	3550
Lincoln	8	3550
Finn	11	3550
Abi	12	3550
Billy	12	3550
Ollie O	11	3550
Tyle C	11	3550
Oliver	11	3550
Abby S	10	3550
Ella G	10	3550
Dylan L	10	3550
Harry	10	3550
William J	10	3550
Summer H	10	3550
Iris M	11	3550
Marsha Twigg	28	3550

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Petition For Skatepark In Quarry Hill

It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.

All the people who have signed below agree.

Name	Age	Postcode
Ewan J	13	3550
Toby J	7	3550
Olivia Johnston	9	3550
Elvira McIntosh	74	3550
Ed	10	3550
Ted	11	3550
Ryan	11	3550
George	10	3550
Jordan	11	3550
Callum	10	3551
Lachlan V	11	3550
Ellie R	10	3550
Donty V	9	35 3550
Cadman	10	3550
Watt G	11	3550
Angus O	10	3550
Jack MG	10	3550

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Petition For Skatepark In Quarry Hill

It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.

All the people who have signed below agree.

Name	Age	Postcode
Logan R	10	3550
Jonny McD	9	3550
Tim Murphy	45	3550
Jalid H.B	10	3506
Lucy	39	3550
Riley	11	3550
Jarvor	11	3550
Aiden	10	3550
Logan C	10	3550
Jack W	10	3550
Kade S	10	3550
Blair V	11	3550
Annie	10	3550
Jacob	9	3551
Lula	10	3550
Mollie	9	3550
Fred	8	3550

20210328 Petition received from Salvador McIntosh re Skatepark for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Petition For Skatepark In Quarry Hill

It would be great to have a skatepark in Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.

All the people who have signed below agree.

Name	Age	Postcode
Brooke Wilson	Adult	3550
Rachele Bertuch	Adult	3555
Jediah Shue	Adult	3551
Isaiah Vincent	Adult	3550
Lilja Stevenson	Adult	3550
Jamir Dearr.cott	Kid	3550
Jessebrook	13	3661
Sue Brown	70+	3555
JANET FILBEY	80	3550
NOMA WRIGHT	Adult	3550
Spannerich	Adult	3551
Mick Kennedy	Adult	3550
Tania Rusbridge	Adult	3550.

Attachment 2 - Attachment A (part 2) Response to Letter Skate park for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Attachment A (part 2) Response to Letter Skate park for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.msg

From: "Heidi McIntosh" <heidsmc@gmail.com>
Sent: Tue, 9 Mar 2021 13:41:25 +1000
To: "Jacksone Holland" <j.holland@Bendigo.vic.gov.au>
Subject: Re: Response to Letter: Skate park for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve

Dear Jacksone,

Many thanks for your phone call and subsequent email last week responding to Salvador's letter and skate park idea for Quarry Hill.

We're grateful to see the plans for Ewing Park and we'll be watching that space with interest. We'll be discussing Salvador's ideas with Mayor Cr Jen Alden as our local Lockwood Ward councillor tomorrow afternoon and are most grateful to her for her time in giving Salvador an audience.

Many thanks again for your own time in communicating the council's current skate plan to us.

Kind regards,

Heidi McIntosh.

On Tue, 2 Mar 2021, 5:39 pm Jacksone Holland, <j.holland@bendigo.vic.gov.au> wrote:

Good afternoon Heidi,

Thank you for your time this afternoon, and thank you to Salvador for the time and effort he put into writing his letter.

As we recapped, both you and your son, Salvador, spoke with Brendan Aikman from the City of Greater Bendigo last Friday, at an Imagine Greater Bendigo listening post, held in Quarry Hill.

If I am not mistaken, the means for this discussion and the follow up letter addressed to the City, was centred around Salvador's wish (shared by other residents) to see a skate park be constructed at the Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve, which is a much more convenient option in terms of location, for Salvador and the skating community within the Quarry Hill area.

Attachment A (part 2) Response to Letter Skate park for Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve.msg

Unfortunately, I don't have information relating to any pre-existing plans to develop a skate park at the Quarry Hill Recreation Reserve in the short term future, however, I do believe Brendan briefly touched on the City's plan to develop a skate park at the nearby Ewing Park precinct, which may be of interest to Salvador.

To give you some further information, the City is in the process of seeking funding, which if successful, will hope to see a skate park be constructed at Ewing Park as early as June 2022. Community consultation for the Ewing Park project was completed from March 2018 to June 2019. I have attached the proposed design for your reference. If you would like any further information in relation to this project, please let me know via email.

You may be pleased to know, the distance from your residence in Quarry Hill to the Ewing Park precinct is approximately a 7 minute bike ride via the Back Creek Trail, which will hope to address and reduce the travel time.

On another note and as mentioned over the phone, Kangaroo Flat is the next identified skate park to be developed in accordance with the City's skate strategy. The City's Community Projects team will begin community consultation over the coming months to gather ideas to help form concepts for the Kangaroo Flat site.

If there is interest in this process, I can add you to our mailing list to ensure you are aware of the consultation opportunities upcoming. The opportunities to be involved will also be advertised on social and traditional media and the community engagement platform.

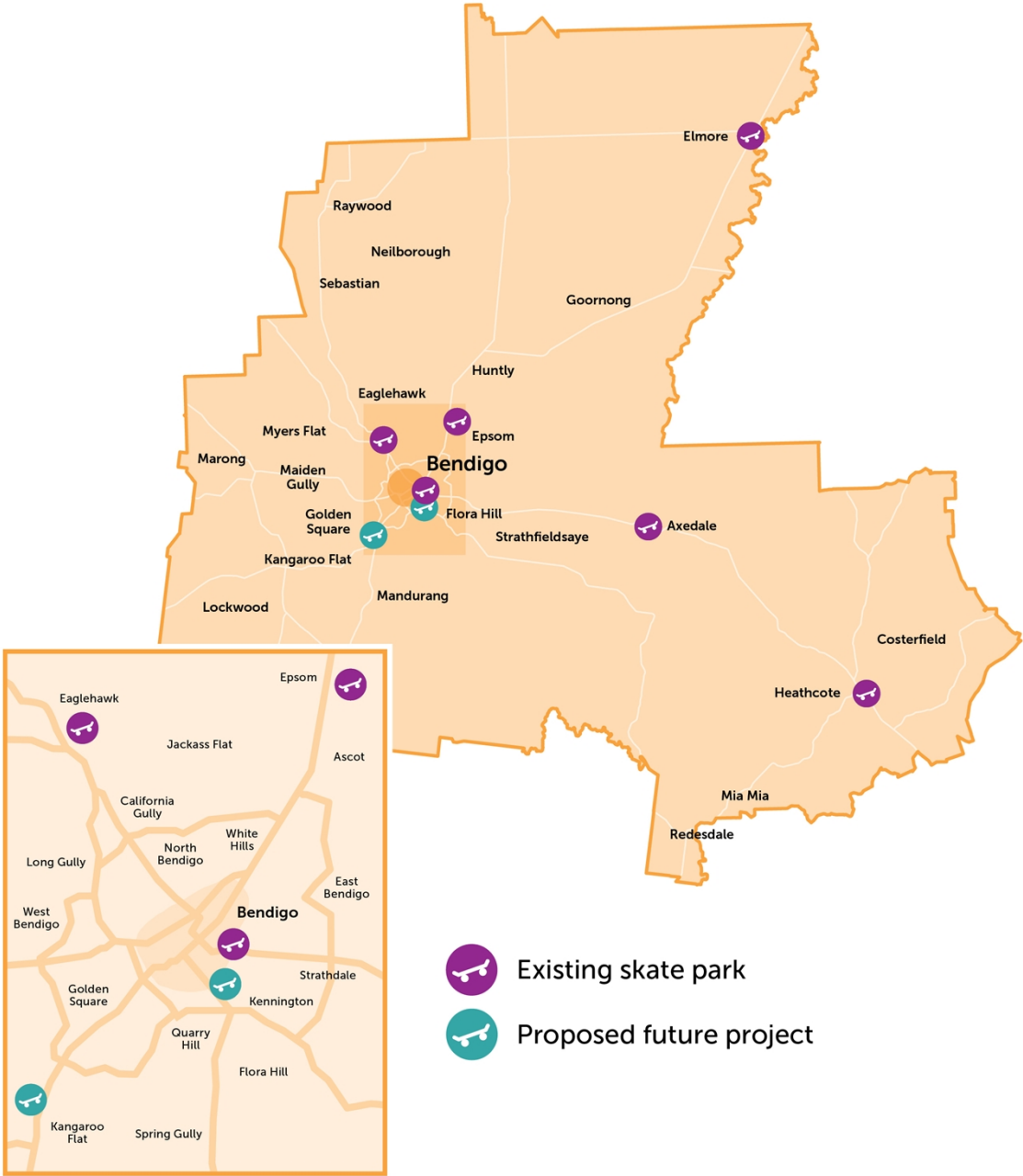
If there is any further information you would like to know based on the initial discussion today, please do not hesitate to respond via this email.

Kind regards,

Jackson Holland

Healthy Lifestyles Officer - Club Liaison

Attachment 3 - Attachment B Skate Park map



Attachment 4 - Attachment C- Ewing Park Community Consultation Report



Ewing Park Wheeled Sports Hub Project Community Consultation Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS:

INTRODUCTION:

PURPOSE

SITE ANALYSIS

PHASE 1: BENDIGO SKATEPARK

PHASE 2: EWING PARK MINI-MASTER PLAN

EPSOM SKATEPARK ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES:

ALL AGES – ALL ABILITIES

ATTACHMENT A: BENDIGO SKATEPARK ENGAGEMENT RECORD

ATTACHMENT B: EWING PARK MASTER PLAN CONSULTATION

ATTACHMENT C: EPSOM DESIGN SURVEY SUMMARY

ATTACHMENT D: EPSOM CONSULTATION PANEL SUMMARY

INTRODUCTION

In March 2019, Convic were engaged to deliver a detailed design for a new district level Bendigo Skatepark, and have developed a consultation process to guide the development of the design.

Prior to Convic's involvement in the project, the City of Greater Bendigo (the City) conducted extensive engagement relating to location, design elements and active recreation infrastructure. A similar engagement process for the Epsom and Kangaroo Flat skateparks occurred at the same time. Demographic data and feedback that is relevant to the Ewing Park project is presented in this report.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to summarise the previous engagement process for the Bendigo Skatepark and Ewing Park Mini-Master Plan, and present an analysis of the outcomes. The findings from this report will inform the development of the Bendigo skatepark design and complement Convic's future engagement activities.

SITE ANALYSIS

In early 2018, the City undertook a detailed site analysis, comparing the existing site at Mclvor Road with several alternatives within a 2km radius. Ewing Park was identified as the most suitable. In April 2018, Council agreed to proceed with a community engagement process to determine the preferred location for the Bendigo Skatepark.

PHASE 1: BENDIGO SKATEPARK

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

A consultation period ran from 26 March to 20 April seeking feedback on whether Council should redevelop the existing skate park at Mclvor Road, or locate a new skate park within Ewing Park. The demographic of respondents was also diverse, with strong engagement from local residents, parents, adult skaters and young people. The engagement process involved:

- 138 letters to residents in close proximity to Ewing Park
- Online and hardcopy feedback form
- Project detail on the City's website
- Social Media posts
- Media release
- Posters located in high traffic areas during school holidays
- Engagement with local community stakeholders
- School newsletters
- Listening Post at Ewing Park Pavilion on 16 April;
- 4 visits to Mclvor Road and Eaglehawk skate parks during school holidays; and
- 3 supplementary meetings with residents seeking additional information

External Engagement:

- Bendigo Old School Skaters
- Local residents
- BeConnected
- Haven Home Safe
- Bendigo Police
- Weeroona College

- Ewing Park tenant clubs/user groups
- St Therese's and Kennington Primary Schools

Internal Engagement:

- Community Partnerships Unit
- Parks and Open Space Unit
- Engineering Unit
- Safe and Healthy Environments Unit

WHAT WAS ASKED?

The on-line and hard copy engagement materials focused on three key questions:

- 1) What do you like most about either of the two proposed locations (McIvor Road & Ewing Park)
- 2) Do you have any concerns?
- 3) What would you like us to consider as part of the skatepark design?

OUTCOMES

81 submissions were received. 79 supported the provision of new skate park facilities in Bendigo. Responses were received from:

- 26 Residents
- 4 Parents
- 9 Youth
- 28 Adult Skaters
- 2 Older Persons

21 responses related to skatepark design including 4 Youth, 13 Adult Skaters and 4 Parents. There was strong support for a street section, a bowl, ledges and a good flow.

	Participant	Quarter Pipe	Ledges	Halfpipes	Rails	Banks	Street Section	Bowl	Mini-Ramp	Hips	Good Flow	Mixed Terrains	Plaza	Manual Pads	Volcano
1	Adult Skater	X	X	X	X	X									
2	Adult Skater			X											
3	Adult Skater						X	X	X						
4	Adult Skater								X	X					
5	Adult Skater										X	X			
6	Parent						X	X			X				
7	Parent														
8	Adult Skater		X	X				X				X	X		
9	Adult Skater		X				X						X		
10	Adult Skater				X									X	
11	Youth		X												
12	Adult Skater	X				X		X							
13	Adult Skater		X			X	X			X					
14	Adult Skater							X							
15	Adult Skater						X				X				
16	Youth			X				X			X				
17	Adult Skater									X					X
18	Parent						X								
19	Parent				X									X	
20	Youth		X												
21	Youth		X		X				X		X			X	
	TOTAL	2	7	4	4	3	6	6	3	3	5	2	2	3	1

Security Issues

There was overwhelming support for the Ewing Park location from parents/carers, young people and adult skaters.

19 of the 31 submissions supporting the McIvor Road location were from residents living in close proximity to Ewing Park. Their preference was influenced by concern that a skate park would exacerbate existing security issues at the park, where 54 incidents have been reported to Bendigo Police in the last twelve months, typically relating to anti-social behaviour around the reserve boundary or buildings which are currently vacant.

By comparison; Police have received no reported incidents at either the McIvor Road or Eaglehawk Skate Parks during the same period. Based on these Police incident reports, there is no evidence to suggest that the introduction of a skate park will increase existing negative activity at Ewing Park.

Bendigo Police conducted a safety audit in Ewing Park in May 2018. Recommendations include improving surveillance and securing vacant buildings, developing a park activation program and improving lighting around the pavilion building. Bendigo Police have expressed confidence that these actions will remove the incentive for inappropriate use of the park, and will significantly decrease the number of incidents.

Security issues at Ewing Park negatively influenced the engagement process. In consultation with Bendigo Police, Council staff developed an action plan for Ewing Park in an effort to reduce these incidents. The action plan, particularly the canopy lifting of vegetation, displaced activity from the park towards the vacant buildings. Bendigo Police support the approach to increase the diversity and number of users of the park, which acts as a deterrent for negative behaviours.

BENDIGO SKATEPARK
COMMUNITY FEEDBACK FORM

Resident Name (optional):

Contact Number / Email (optional):

Do you identify as:

☐ Youth ☐ Parent ☐ Adult Skater ☐ Older Person ☐ Local business ☐ Resident

What do you like most about either of the two proposed locations (McIvor Road & Ewing Park)?

Do you have any concerns?

What would you like us to consider as part of the skatepark design?

Do you want to be involved in the design workshops? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Submissions must be received by 5pm April 20, 2018.

Please return this form to:
Bendigo Skatepark, City of Greater Bendigo, PO Box 733, Bendigo, VIC, 3552

For more information please contact:
Jo Mason, Healthy Lifestyles Officer on (03) 4408 6551

Please note, once a designer is appointed, workshops will be held for community members to participate in the design process. Complete the contact details above to stay informed.



PHASE 2: EWING PARK MINI-MASTER PLAN

This project involves engaging with internal COGB units, tenant sporting clubs, local residents, recreation and community advocacy groups, fitness operators and the wider community to gather input into the design, implementation and evaluation of the Ewing Park Redevelopment Project and the Ewing Park Master Plan.

The objectives of this community engagement:

- Gather information from the community to inform the location, design and construction of infrastructure in Ewing Park
- Increase participation and improve accessibility to Ewing Park
- Communicate and consult with users of Ewing Park and the community surrounding the Park
- Inform participants on the elements, processes and benefits of place making and activation
- To build good working relationships with all stakeholders
- To ensure the outcomes of the engagement process are seen to inform good decision-making and lead to real action
- To ensure information on the process is easy to find and easy to understand
- Improve the perceived and actual safety and security of users of Ewing Park.

ENGAGEMENT PROCESS:

The community consultation process involved:

- 138 letters to residents in close proximity to Ewing Park
- Online and hardcopy feedback form
- Project detail on the City's website
- Social Media posts
- Media release
- Posters located in high traffic areas during school holidays
- Engagement with local community stakeholders
- School newsletters
- Listening Post at Ewing Park Pavilion
- Corflute signage at local skateparks
- 8 supplementary meetings with residents and advocacy groups

External Engagement:

- Local residents living in close proximity to the park
- Parents / Carers
- Commercial building operators / owners in close proximity to the park
- Bendigo United Cricket Club
- Sandhurst Junior Football Club
- St Therese's Junior Football Club
- Bendigo Police
- BeConnected Community Services Inc
- Bendigo South East College
- Bendigo Old School Skaters
- Bendigo Sustainability Group
- Commercial fitness operators
- Bike Bendigo
- Learn to Ride (Bike Ed) organisations

Internal Stakeholders:

- Active and Healthy Lifestyle Unit
- Parks and Open Space Department
- Inclusive Communities Unit
- Engineering
- Project Management Office
- Safe and Healthy Environments
- Property Services

OUTCOMES

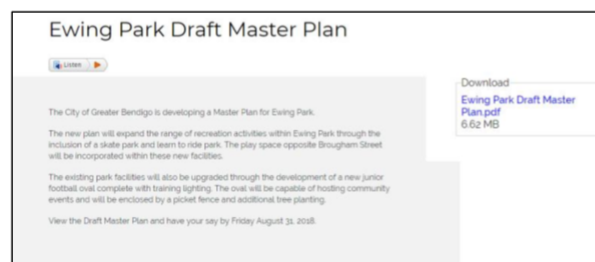
General comments were sought on elements such as athletics running track, bike hub, outdoor fitness, learn to ride and road closure.

105 formal submissions were received. 103 of these were supportive of the overall plan, including significant support for:

- Oval redevelopment, including lighting, picket fencing and athletics track
- Wheeled sports area including learn to ride, skate park and cycling hub
- Outdoor gym equipment
- Public toilet open during daylight hours and peak usage periods
- Parking along Havlin Street East
- Spectator shelters around the oval
- Linking Ewing Park to the shared path network
- Closure of Havlin Street West

Submissions also included the following suggestions:

- Lack of parking options facing the oval
- Consideration of alternative surfaces for additional parking such as permeable grass pavers
- Creation of shared pedestrian area with line markings or hoops for play
- Additional spectator shelters requested near the pavilion
- Locate the cycling hub adjacent to the shared path
- Way finding for cyclists from Williamson Street to cycling hub
- Flat recreation surface with hoop for ball sports, skate clinics or pop up sports
- Provision for inclusive activities such as street snooker, petanque
- Sensory garden
- Left turn only at Havlin Street West and Williamson Street intersection
- No parking signs to be installed along corner of Havlin Street West and Williamson Street
- Improve signage for car parking at Havlin Street East
- Install "No through road" signs at Havlin Street West and Carnegie Way
- Install bollards at grass reserve on corner of White Street and Havlin Street East to prevent overflow parking on tree roots
- Traffic calming measures required along Havlin Street West entrances and along Havlin Street East
- Wayfinding signage for pedestrians directing them to and through the park
- LED lights needed along path between oval and wheeled sports area to improve passive surveillance.



EPSOM SKATEPARK ENGAGEMENT OUTCOMES:

The City has recently completed a detailed design for a local level skatepark at Epsom Village Green. Consultation for this park focused on three key stakeholders, primary school students, secondary school students and adult skaters. Key findings from this consultation are relevant to the Bendigo skatepark project.

79 individual responses were recorded including 62 primary school students, 6 Secondary School students and 11 Adult Skaters. Analysis of data indicates that scooters and BMX are the predominant user groups and that over 50% of respondents identify as a beginner.

Further consultation was undertaken with these stakeholders to determine preferred type of facility and element. There was overwhelming support for a combination facility, with 59 responses, and strong support for option 5 and elements including mini-ramps, hipped banks and moguls.

New skate park and play space for Epsom

Have your say

If you would like to be kept informed please complete the details below:

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 Contact Number: _____
 Email: _____

What do you think of the proposed location?

Do you have any concerns about the proposed location?

If developed at this site, what would you like us to consider as part of the skatepark design?

Please note, once a designer is appointed, workshops will be held for community members to participate in the design process. Complete the contact details above to stay informed.



CITY OF GREATER BENDIGO

Report to: Council
 Date: 2 February 2019
 From: Mayor, Councillors and City Manager

February 2 2019

Dear Residents

Invitation to have your say on a new skatepark and play space for Epsom

I am writing to let you know that the City of Greater Bendigo has provided funding in its 2017/18 budget for the design of new skatepark and play space in Epsom.

The City has measured a number of possible sites in Epsom for the new skatepark and has identified the **Epsom Village Green** on Kila Street as the preferred location.

This site has been identified because it is in a highly visible area that provides good passive surveillance, is close to main roads and public transport and other amenities including walking and cycling paths, shops, car parking and recreation spaces.

As a local resident, your feedback about the Epsom Village Green location is important and the City would like to invite you to submit any comments you may have:

- By attending a listening point at 5:00pm on Thursday February 15, 2019 at Epsom Village Shopping Centre
- By phoning the City of Greater Bendigo on (051) 8454 4000
- By email to: activeandhealth@bendigo.vic.gov.au
- Or by writing to Active and Health Services, City of Greater Bendigo, PO Box 733, Bendigo 3550

Submissions must be received by the City by 5pm February 16, 2019.

Information on the skatepark and play space location will also be distributed through local schools and businesses. Once all feedback has been received and considered, the location will be finalised and a specialist skatepark designer will be appointed. The design process will consider the community feedback and incorporate it into the design where possible.

If you have any further enquiries or concerns please contact an Active and Health Services Officer on (051) 8454 4001 or email activeandhealth@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Yours sincerely

Lincoln Fitzgerald
 Manager, Active and Health Services

Greater Bendigo City Council
 Address: 190-220 Colson Terrace, Bendigo
 Postal Address: PO Box 733, Bendigo, VIC 3550
 T: (051) 8454 4000
 F: (051) 8454 4001
 M: 0438 330 000
 W: www.bendigo.vic.gov.au
 E: info@bendigo.vic.gov.au
 ABN: 16 629 629 629

ALL AGES – ALL ABILITIES

Information relevant to the project was collected as part of the All Ages All Abilities Consultation Process.

This included 2400 individual consultations with a diverse groups including the positive ageing committee, youth council, health advocacy groups, disability advocacy groups, six primary schools, early learning centre, businesses and regional not for profit groups, as well as 482 completed surveys from local residents.

Key findings from this consultation are relevant to the Bendigo skatepark project and include:

- Community, Events, Parks, Sports grounds were important to young people
- Skateparks and bike paths were identified as a priority to improve the health and wellbeing of young people (12-24)
- Need for active recreation infrastructure such as outdoor fitness for those that do not participate in traditional sports
- Link with mental health and outdoor, safe environments to socialise

15. PRESENTATION AND MANAGING GROWTH

15.1. 153 McNiffs Road, Redesdale 3444 - Use and Development of Land for a Dwelling, Outbuilding (shed) and Ancillary Buildings and Works

Author	Rhiannon Biezen, Statutory Planner
Responsible Director	Andrew Cooney, Acting Director Strategy and Growth

Summary/Purpose

Application details:	Use and development of land for a dwelling, outbuilding (shed) and ancillary buildings and works
Application No:	DR/920/2020
Application Documents:	Application documents
Applicant:	Shane Muir Consulting Engineers Pty Ltd
Land:	153 McNiffs Road, REDESDALE 3444
Zoning:	Rural Conservation Zone
Overlays:	Environmental Significance Overlay 1 Environmental Significance Overlay 3
No. of objections:	Nil
Consultation meeting:	Not applicable
Key considerations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whether the proposal would result in an acceptable planning outcome having regard to the purposes of the Rural Conservation Zone and the relevant planning policy that deals with rural dwellings and the protection of agricultural land. Whether the proposal is acceptable with regard to Crown Allotments and their intent when created. Whether appropriate justification has been provided in support of the proposal.
Conclusion:	<p>The application is not in accordance with the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.</p> <p>It is recommended that Council refuse to grant a permit as the proposal does not present an acceptable planning outcome with regards to the purposes of the Rural Conservation Zone and the relevant planning policy that deals with rural dwellings, the protection of agricultural land and treatment of historic allotments.</p>

RECOMMENDATION

Pursuant to section 61 of the Planning and Environment Act (1987), Council issue a Notice of Decision to Refuse to Grant a Permit for Use and development of land for a dwelling, outbuilding (shed) and ancillary buildings and works at 153 McNiffs Road, REDESDALE 3444 on the following grounds:

1. The proposal is inconsistent with the purpose and decision guidelines of the Rural Conservation Zone:
 - a. To provide for agricultural use consistent with the conservation of environmental and landscape values of the area.
 - b. To conserve and enhance the cultural significance and character of open rural and scenic non-urban landscapes.
2. The proposal is inconsistent with local planning policy (Clause 22.02) by:
 - a. Making use of historic unplanned lots for rural residential purposes.
 - b. Leading to fragmentation of agricultural land through removal of 8ha of land from active production.
 - c. Encouraging the proliferation of dwellings in the rural landscape and intensifying the potential for conflict between incompatible land uses.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

- Goal 4 Presentation and managing growth
- Goal 6 Embracing our culture and heritage

Attachments

1. Planning Assessment Report

Attachment 1 - McNiffs Road Planning Assessment Report**PLANNING ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Background

The subject site is one lot of a larger tenement of land comprising around 15 individual lots that are used for agricultural purposes (grazing). The majority of the surrounding area is also used for agricultural production.

The applicant for the dwelling is not the present owner. The applicant is seeking to acquire the land, subject to planning approval.

Concerns were raised with the applicant as to why a dwelling was required on site, to support either an agricultural or environmental outcome on the land. The applicant responded that a dwelling was required for the revegetation and management of the site as per the submitted Environmental Management Plan.

The Environmental Management Plan (EMP) is found lacking, being of a general nature to any parcel of land (ie. it was not tailored to the specifics of the site.) It does not include the assessment and location of areas within the site that have significant flora and fauna or areas with high environmental or biodiversity values. The plan does not detail a comprehensive land management strategy. Instead, the plan offers general examples of how the land *could* be managed and regenerated. Whilst the applicant queried whether it would be worthwhile enhancing the EMP, it is not considered that this would significantly alter the assessment. Even if a suitable conservation plan was developed for the site, the Scheme does not specifically call for the conservation of agricultural land to non-productive uses.

The parcel forms part of a broader, working agricultural holding. The Rural Conservation Zone continues to support and encourage agriculture. The Scheme does not seek to 'trade' the restoration of agricultural land in return for a dwelling in this area.

Further, the lot is an old Crown Allotment, pre-dating modern planning instruments, and the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme discourages their use for de-facto rural living purposes.

The lack of any stated 'use' for the land or the need for a dwelling to support a use has raised serious concerns that the proposal is intended to be used for rural lifestyle purposes. The justifications provided are considered to be insufficient to substantiate the need for a dwelling on the site, as will be discussed further within the report.

The City of Greater Bendigo contains extensive planned areas for rural residential development in the form of Rural Living Zones. Planning policy seeks to direct development to such areas.

Report

Subject Site and Surrounds

The site is legally described as Crown Allotment 83B, Parish of Redesdale, and is part of an overall larger agricultural property consisting of approximately 15 separate land parcels, all of which are old Crown Allotments. The total area of the broader tenement is approximately 236ha. The tenement contains a dwelling at the northern end adjoining McNiffs Road.

The subject site is located on the corner of Campbells Road and Tooks Road (unmade road), is rectangular in shape and has a total area of 8.38 hectares. The site has a southern boundary of 208.61 metres and an eastern boundary of 401.13 metres in length. The site contains an existing drainage line that traverses the site from north to east to around the middle of the site.

The site has historically been used for agricultural practices (grazing) in conjunction with the adjoining lots. The site is currently devoid of any structures and vegetation although one (1) tree is located within the middle of the parcel. Informal access is afforded to the subject site via Campbell's Road.

The site is located within the Rural Conservation Zone and is affected by the Environmental Significance Overlay Schedules 1 and 3. Surrounding land to the north, east and south are located within the Rural Conservation Zone with land to the west located within the Public Park and Recreation Zone (PPRZ) and is the location of the Mount Lofty Bushland Reserve, and land located to the south-west of the site is located within the Farming Zone. Most surrounding lots are used for agricultural purposes (primarily grazing). Lots directly to the east tend to be smaller individual holdings, with some dwellings and larger patches of vegetation.

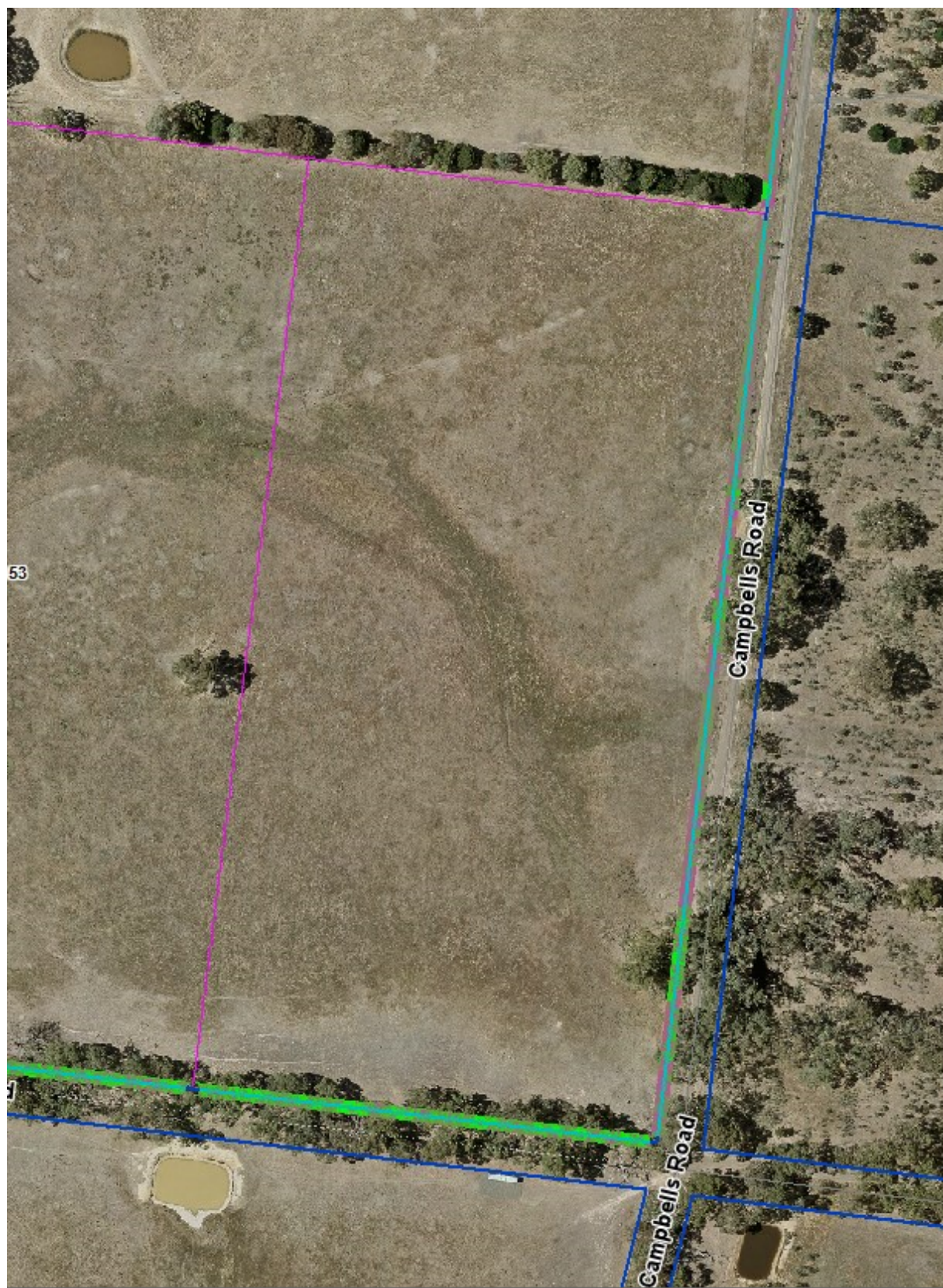


Figure 1: Location map showing subject site.



Figure 2 – Broader tenement

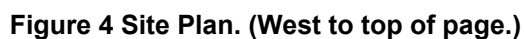


Figure 3 – Tenement showing title composition. Subject parcel shown.

Proposal

The application proposes the use and development of land for a dwelling, outbuilding (shed) and construction of a 100,000 litre water tank.

The dwelling is proposed to be located a minimum of 20 metres from the southern boundary (Tooks Road), 31 metres from the western (side) boundary and 12.9 metres from the proposed outbuilding (shed). Access would be derived from Campbells Road.



The dwelling is proposed to consist of 4 bedrooms – master with WIR and ensuite, bathroom, toilet, laundry with WIL, an open plan kitchen, living and dining area – kitchen with walk in pantry, verandah, pergola and an attached double carport.



The proposed dwelling would have a total floor area of 276.46 sqm including verandah, carport and pergola. The proposed dwelling would have a floor to ceiling height of 2.7 metres and an overall height of 6.15 metres.

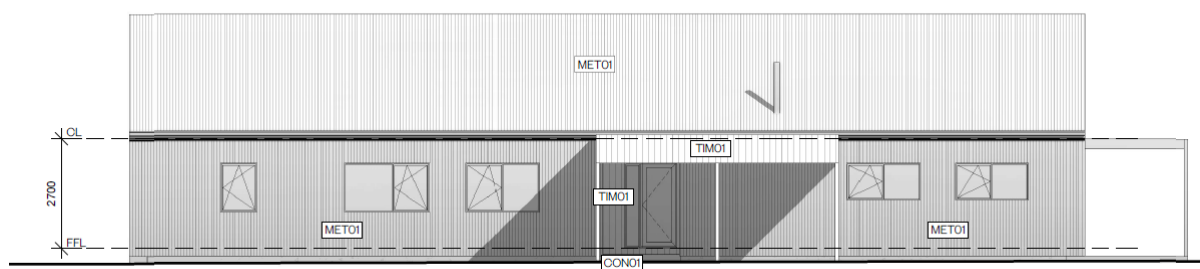


Figure 6 Southern elevation

The dwelling is proposed to be constructed of a mix of metal and timber cladding for the external walls and Colorbond cladding for the roof.



Figure 7 Colour and materials schedule

The outbuilding would be located a minimum of 20 metres from the southern boundary (Tooks Road) and 35 metres from the western (side) boundary. The outbuilding would be setback a minimum of 12.9 metres to the west of the proposed dwelling.

The outbuilding (shed) would have a total floor area of 288 sqm (24 m x 12m), an overall height of 5.035 metres and be constructed of Colorbond in 'monument' (black).

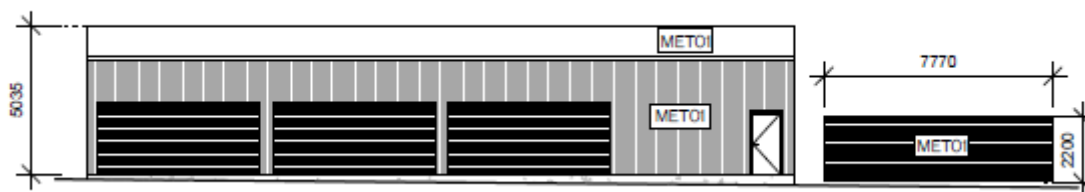


Figure 8 Southern elevation of outbuilding (shed)

A 100,000 litre water tank would be located on the northern elevation of the outbuilding (shed) and to the west of the dwelling.

The application documentation states that the dwelling is proposed in order to support the revegetation and land management of the subject site

An Environmental Management Plan was also provided, however is considered general in nature and does not set out specific long term actions for the land. As will be discussed, the Scheme does not necessarily call for this outcome where agricultural land would be converted to non-productive uses.

Planning Controls - Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme

The following clauses are relevant in the consideration of this proposal:

State Planning Policy Framework

- Clause 11 Settlement
- Clause 11.01-1R Settlement – Loddon Mallee South
- Clause 13.07-1S Land use compatibility
- Clause 14.01-1S Protection of agricultural land
- Clause 14.02-1S Catchment planning and management
- Clause 14.02-2S Water quality
- Clause 15.01-6S Design for rural areas
- Clause 16.01-5S Rural residential development

Municipal Strategic Statement

- Clause 21.02 Key Issues and Influences
- Clause 21.07 Economic Development

Local Planning Policies

- Clause 22.02 Rural dwellings policy

Other Provisions

- Clause 35.06 Rural Conservation Zone
- Clause 42.01 Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedule 1 and 3

Consultation/Communication

Referrals

The following authorities and internal departments have been consulted on the proposal:

Referral	Comment
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	No objection subject to five (5) conditions.

Referral	Comment
North Centre Catchment Management Authority	No objection subject to one (1) condition.
Goulburn-Murray Water	No objection subject to seven (7) conditions.
Coliban Water	No objection subject to four (4) conditions. Coliban advised that an amended EMP be submitted to include the identification of environmental areas, increased focus on the drainage line and revegetation and for these works to be included within the 10 year Management Plan. An amended plan was submitted and re-referred to Coliban Water who consented to the application.
Traffic & Design	No objection subject to two (2) conditions.
Drainage	No objection and no conditions.

Public Notification

The application was advertised by way of notice on the site and letters to adjoining and nearby owners and occupiers.

As a result of advertising, no objections were received.

Planning Assessment

Background to issue – remnant lots in rural areas

The original Crown Allotment subdivisions were undertaken at a time before mechanized farming techniques, where closer-settlement strategies were encouraged by the governments of the day. Many of these lots were never developed. Over time, through market forces and the introduction of mechanical farming implements, such lots became aggregated into larger holdings.

In the second half of the twentieth century, further subdivisions were often permitted by small local councils to encourage small-scale farming opportunities or for rural lifestyle pursuits. These lots also sit within the rural landscape, with some lots developed and others remaining vacant.

Most farms today now consist of multiple lots and can only be effectively managed and made financially sustainable if they are used in aggregate rather than individually. Once the land is fragmented the productive capacity of the land is diminished significantly, unless intensively used. Once individually developed with dwellings, lots are unlikely to ever be re-aggregated due to the increased costs involved.

Today, market forces apply pressure to use remaining lots for other purposes, including rural-residential ('lifestyle') purposes through the construction of dwellings. This has impacts on the availability of land for genuine farming enterprises. Further to this is the visual outcome within the rural landscape arising from the development of the dwellings. In aggregate, this can impact on the amenity and character of the surrounding area.

This is a challenge faced by many rural and regional municipalities, which they seek to address by directing such developments to lots zoned for rural lifestyle pursuits (Rural Living Zone) along with the implementation of local planning policies.

The Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme approach

Clause 22.02 Rural Dwellings Policy of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme has been developed and implemented for the purpose of protecting and effectively managing the large number of vacant rural lots that exist within the municipality. This Policy will be further discussed in the sections below, alongside the Statewide Rural Conservation Zone provisions.

Clause 22.02 Rural Dwellings Policy highlights the themes discussed above to ensure a consistent approach for considering the use of rural land for dwellings, and has the following relevant objectives:

- *To discourage the fragmentation of rural land, or land with significant environmental values.*
- *To limit the subdivision, use or development of land to that which is compatible with the utilisation of the land as a sustainable agricultural resource.*

Clause 22.02 has the following relevant policy on rural dwellings:

- *Discourage dwellings on existing small lots (lots smaller than the schedule minimum) in all rural areas except if:*
 - *Subdivisions have been created since the introduction of planning controls,*
 - *Substantial infrastructure works have been completed; or*
 - *The land has no agricultural potential and native vegetation will be retained and managed.*

The policy basis as outlined above seeks to ensure that the agricultural productivity of the land is carefully maintained to prevent adverse impacts on the land, including a decrease in agricultural productivity, to prevent the fragmentation of rural lots, and to ensure residential development is orderly so as to not negatively impact upon the agricultural productivity of significant agricultural land.

The *Rural Areas Strategy, September 2009*, asserts that when assessing the protection of agricultural land, consideration must be given to the oversupply of rural residential land which currently exists within the municipality. The strategy asserts that there is approximately 80 years supply of land currently zoned for rural-residential purposes within the Rural Living Zone and as such rural lifestyle development should be directed toward these areas.

Clause 22.02 also has the following relevant policy on new dwellings:

- *Ensure an application for a new dwelling is accompanied by an environmental management plan that addresses and details the following requirements, where relevant:*
 - *Building envelopes and lot boundaries.*
 - *Land forming, drainage and dams.*
 - *Extent of native vegetation and any native revegetation. Services and infrastructure including the location and design of roads and wastewater disposal.*
 - *Adjoining land uses including other dwellings.*
 - *Wildfire hazard.*
 - *Environmental features including degraded land, saline discharge, recharge areas, potential inundation and flooding.*
 - *Cultural, historic and conservation values including significant flora and fauna.*
 - *Use of adjoining public land.*
 - *Boundaries of any relevant declared water supply catchments.*

The response of the subject planning application

The applicant submitted an Environmental Management Plan which mainly focused on how the proposed dwelling would impact on the site in its current form, during the development stage, fencing and revegetation of the drainage line located within the site. The plan is quite generalized in nature. The plan does not identify areas of significant flora and fauna or areas that contain significant environmental and biodiversity values. As the site has been used for decades for agricultural activities (grazing) it can be presumed that the site does not currently contain any areas of significant flora, fauna, environmental and biodiversity values that require particular management on a day-to-day basis.

While the applicant queried the option of providing a further Environmental Management Plan, it is unlikely that this would 'tip' the application towards approval. The Scheme does not identify that dwellings should be supported in this area 'in exchange' for good land management or environmental outcomes. Given the context of the land as agricultural, the applicant could potentially have proposed a more intensive agricultural enterprise necessitating the support of a residence, however this is not understood to be the intention.

Approving a dwelling on the site would be contrary to the City's rural dwellings policy at Clause 22.02 which states that it is policy to discourage dwellings on existing small Crown allotments in all rural areas created before planning controls. As outlined earlier in this report, the site is part of an overall larger agricultural property in common ownership, consisting of around 15 separate land parcels, all of which are old Crown allotments. If approved, the proposal would essentially break up a larger land tenement, which already contains a dwelling, resulting in the fragmentation of rural land. Further, it would invite the fragmentation of the remaining lots within the common ownership in the same manner.

The municipality contains many thousands of vacant historic lots that each form part of a broader holding. Individual development of each of these, parcel by parcel, would have significant economic, environmental and landscape issues for the municipality.

Based on the assessment, it is concluded that the proposal would not be acceptable when considered against these matters.

Environmental Significance Overlay

The site is also affected by the Environmental Significance Overlay – Schedules 1 and 3. Schedule 1 relates to the protection of watercourses and associated ground water quality, which supplies the Greater Bendigo region for the provision of potable water and agricultural activities. Schedule 3 aims to ensure the protection and maintenance of water quality and water yield within the Eppalock Water Supply Catchment Area. The development would likely cause a negative detrimental impact on these significant watercourses and catchment areas if the land is not managed correctly. Although the applicant submitted a 10-year land management plan, the plan is not detailed enough to ascertain whether the proposal would improve the quality of watercourses within the subject site. Whilst the referral authorities did not object to the proposal, their assessment was isolated to specific fields and not the comprehensive assessment against the Planning Scheme as required by the City.

Whilst the applicant has provided some supporting documentation for the land management of the site, the fundamental issue is that they have failed to demonstrate why a dwelling would be required on-site. Such works can be undertaken without the need for a dwelling on the site. Indeed, these works could occur at any time. The Scheme does not seek to 'exchange' good land management in return for a dwelling.

Furthermore, the refusal of the application for the use and development of the land for a dwelling and outbuilding would not hinder the ability for the land to continue to be used for agriculture in accordance with the purposes of the zone or conservation and land management practices.

Conclusion

The application proposes the use and development of the land for a dwelling which runs contrary to planning policies relating to rural dwellings and the Rural Conservation Zone. The proposal has failed to demonstrate a genuine need for a dwelling on the site in order to undertake the proposed revegetation and land management activities. Neither is an agricultural activity proposed that would necessitate a dwelling on the site.

If approved, the proposal would likely result in the loss of agricultural land and contribute to the incremental shift towards rural living. Such rural living opportunities could result in a net loss to agriculture due to permanent land use changes. It would also undermine planning policy that seeks to direct such activities to strategically defined areas in the form of Rural Living Zones. The City has around 80 years land supply within these areas.

It is recommended that a Notice of Decision to Refuse to Grant a Permit be issued.

Options

Council, acting as the responsible authority for administering the Planning Scheme, may resolve to refuse to grant a permit; grant a permit; or grant a permit with conditions.

15.2. 2 Club Court, Strathfieldsaye - Works to Construct a Mixed-Use Development and Medical Centre, the Use of an Enterprise Park and Service Station, Display Advertising Signage, Remove Native Vegetation & Alterations of Access to a Road Zone 1

Author	Kahlia Reid, Senior Planner
Responsible Director	Andrew Cooney, Acting Director Strategy and Growth

Summary/Purpose

Application details:	Building and works to construct a mixed-use development and medical centre, the use of an enterprise park and service station, display of advertising signage, removal of native vegetation and alterations of access to a road zone category 1 Application details
Application No:	DC/651/2020
Application Documents:	Application documents
Applicant:	Strath Central Pty Ltd
Land:	2 Club Court, STRATHFIELD SAYE 3551
Zoning:	Mixed Use Zone – Schedule 2
Overlays:	Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 28
No. of objections:	24
Consultation meeting:	A formal consultation meeting was not undertaken. The applicant produced a written response and an Environmental Assessment Report which was circulated to objectors via email. No objections were withdrawn.
Key considerations:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the proposal appropriately address the Strathfieldsaye Township Plan 2009 (revised March 2012) and Strathfieldsaye Urban Design Framework, February 2017? Is the proposed use and development an acceptable outcome under the Zone and Overlay controls applying to the site? Is the extent of vegetation removal acceptable? Is the signage an acceptable outcome under the relevant provisions of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme? Has appropriate consideration been given to site access?

Conclusion:	Having assessed the proposal against the relevant provisions of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme it has been determined that the proposal represents an unacceptable outcome and is not supported.
-------------	---

RECOMMENDATION

That Council notify the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) that it does not support the grant of a permit for building and works to construct a mixed-use development and medical centre, the use of an enterprise park and service station, display of advertising signage, removal of native vegetation and alterations of access to a road zone category 1 at 2 Club Court, Strathfieldsaye 3551 on the following grounds:

1. The proposal does not satisfactorily support the mix of uses sought to be achieved by the relevant objective of Schedule 2 to the Mixed Use Zone.
2. The proposal does not satisfactorily deliver a mix of uses compatible with adjoining land uses in the neighbouring precincts as sought to be achieved by the relevant objective of Schedule 2 to the Mixed Use Zone.
3. The proposal does not satisfactorily respond to the physical landscape features and context and fails to adequately support retention of the native vegetation character sought to be achieved by the objective of Schedule 2 to the Mixed Use Zone and the design objectives of Schedule 28 to the Design and Development Overlay.
4. The proposal does not support the strategic vision for Strathfieldsaye as set out in the Strathfieldsaye Township Plan 2009 (revised March 2012) and Strathfieldsaye Urban Design Framework, February 2017.
5. The proposal does not appropriately address the design objectives and decision guidelines of Schedule 28 to Clause 43.02 Design and Development Overlay.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

- Goal 4 Presentation and managing growth
- Goal 6 Embracing our culture and heritage

Attachments

1. Planning Assessment Report

Attachment 1 - Club Court Planning Assessment Report**PLANNING ASSESSMENT REPORT**

Background InformationAppeal Status

The applicant has appealed to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) against the City's failure to determine the application within the statutory timeframe (under s.82 of the Planning and Environment Act). This report recommends that Council establish the position of not supporting the proposal at the VCAT Compulsory Conference on 6 July 2021 and the hearing scheduled for 13-15 September 2021.

Council is required to notify the Tribunal of its views (whether or not it supports the application) in advance of the hearing.

Had the application not been appealed and Council were to make a determination on it, the officer recommendation would have been to refuse the application on the basis that it represents an unacceptable planning outcome.

Application Background

Prior to the lodgement of this application formal pre-application discussions were undertaken with City of Greater Bendigo officers, including through the Major Projects Panel which occurred on 22 June 2020. Written advice was provided to the applicant following these discussions. The advice concluded:

"In summary, the City offers qualified support for the proposition, however it is the service station and shop/commercial tenancies (and the cascading effect of the built form resulting from this use) are not supported at this time."

The current planning application was received at the City of Greater Bendigo on 14 September 2020, at which time the site was identified as being within the Commercial 1 Zone and affected by the Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 26. The proposal was essentially the same as the concept plans provided for pre-application discussion purposes.

On 23 December 2020 Amendment C232 was gazetted which implemented the Strathfieldsaye Urban Design Framework 2017 and Strathfieldsaye Township Plan 2009 (revised 2012). As a result of this amendment, the planning controls for the application site changed. The applicant was aware that the new controls were impending.

The site is now identified as being within the Mixed Use Zone -Schedule 2 and is affected by the Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 28 (Strathfieldsaye Transitional Town Centre).

The Strathfieldsaye Urban Design Framework and Strathfieldsaye Township Plan are both adopted background documents and are included in Clause 72.08 of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.

Previous Permit History

Planning Application DC/634/2012 was submitted in August 2012 and sought the approval of a Development Plan for a new shopping centre, comprising a supermarket, retail units, other non-specified uses, carparking and landscaping.

There were 122 submissions and 3 petitions opposing the development. The Council refused the grant of a development plan for the site on the basis the *“proposed development would result in a poor urban design response to the site which does not comply with Clauses 11.01-2 Activity Centre Planning, 15.01-1 Urban Design and 43.04 Development Plan Overlay – Schedule 26.”*

The matter was referred to the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (reference P594/2013) where the decision of the responsible authority was affirmed and the proposed Development Plan was not approved.

In summary the member stated:

“I acknowledge that the proposed development plan attempts to address the Tribunal’s criticism in Burns Bridge by including more landscaping than normal in such design solutions. However, the amount of landscaping fails to disguise the fact that this remains a proposal for a standalone shopping centre set well back from, and isolated from, the surrounding streets by a sea of car parking. It is exactly the sort of poor design solution that was criticised in Burns Bridge and that the Activity Centre Design Guidelines and the Strathfieldsaye Township Plan 2009 seek to avoid.

It does not break the mould or seek to positively embody the design philosophy for activity centres found within the Activity Centre Design Guidelines, DPO26 or the Strathfieldsaye Township Plan 2009.”

Land use Characterisation

The definition ‘Enterprise Park’ is preferred by the permit applicant, however, this term is not recognised by the Victoria Planning Provisions. Whilst an ‘innominate use’ is possible, it is questioned whether the application needs to include such permission, given that the proposed mix of uses would be either Section 1 (as of right) or Section 2 (permit required) uses. It gives rise to questions of how to properly define the scope of such a characterisation (i.e. does it ‘override’ the table of uses within the zone, and if so, which components) and what kind of conditions should apply given the future mix of uses remains unknown.

This matter is one that would likely be explored through the Tribunal proceedings.

Report

Subject Site and Surrounds

The site is an irregular shaped allotment located on the northern side of Wellington Street. Its east boundary is denoted by Uxbridge Street and its western boundary is denoted by Club Court.

In total the site has an area of approximately 2 hectares with a fall of approximately 7 metres from south to north.

This planning application only relates to the western portion of the site, with this area currently being occupied by a dwelling and associated outbuildings. Scattered native vegetation is also evident, with mature eucalyptus trees chiefly occupying the centre and east of the site.



Figure 1: Location map showing subject site. Objectors' properties marked with a star (*please note this map does not show all the objector locations*).

The site forms an integral part of the entrance to the Strathfieldsaye Town Centre and is located on the recently formalised intersection of Strathfieldsaye Road, Wellington Street, Club Court and Tannery Lane.

The Wellington Street public realm (in front of the application site) is denoted by a concrete retaining wall, raised footpath and transparent style fencing.

Land immediately to the north of the site forms part of Strathfieldsaye Primary School with the Strathfieldsaye Recreation Reserve located beyond this property.

Properties to the east, west and south are generally developed with single, detached dwellings. While land to the west is within the General Residential Zone, land to the east is zoned Commercial 1 and land to the south is zoned Mixed Use – Schedule 2.

Wellington Street is a Category 1 Road managed by the Department of Transport while Club Court and Uxbridge Street are local roads managed by the City of Greater Bendigo.

Proposal

The application seeks planning approval for building and works to construct a mixed-use development and medical centre, the use of an enterprise park and service station, display of advertising signage, removal of native vegetation and alterations of access to a road zone category 1. The individual components are further discussed below.

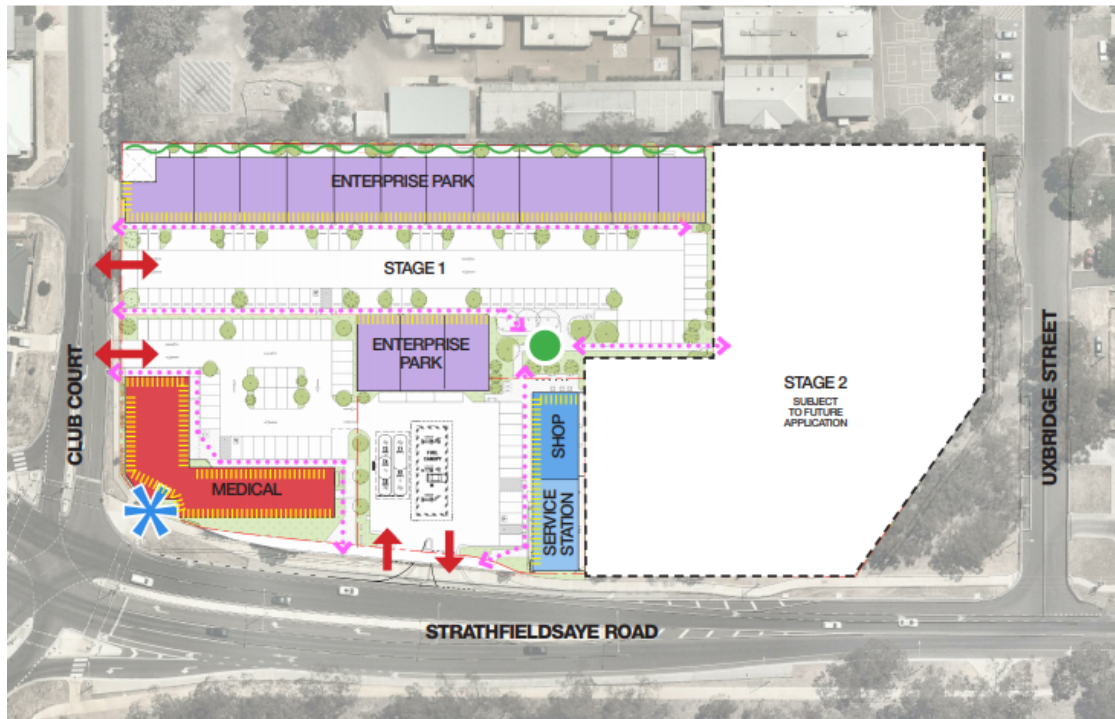


Figure 2: Site plan showing area which forms part of this application.

Medical Centre

The medical centre would be located in the south western corner of the site with an interface to Club Court and Wellington Street and would have a floor area of 680 square metres and include:

- 10 consulting rooms
- 2 pathology rooms
- A treatment room
- Staff rooms and offices
- Waiting room and amenities
- Pharmacy with a floor area of 120 square metres

An access for the medical centre is proposed to be established from Club Court. A total of 44 car parking spaces and 4 bicycle spaces would be provided for the proposed use. A designated ambulance bay would also be provided.

A total of six, internally illuminated business identification signs are proposed to be displayed on the building.



Figure 3: Medical Centre floor plan



Figure 4: Medical Centre south elevation

Enterprise Park

This component would be located along the northern boundary of the site and consist of 15 attached buildings varying in size from 154 square metres to 189 square metres.

The building would have a maximum height of 8.7 metres and a length of 138 metres along the northern boundary.

The uses proposed to be undertaken in the enterprise park are not confirmed as a result of this application, however may include:

- Offices
- Light industrial and warehouses
- Indoor recreation

Access to this area would be provided via Club Court with a total of 63 car parking spaces provided for the proposed use.

Three signs are proposed to the front of each building and an additional two signs fronting Club Court.



Figure 5: North, south and west elevation of Enterprise Park

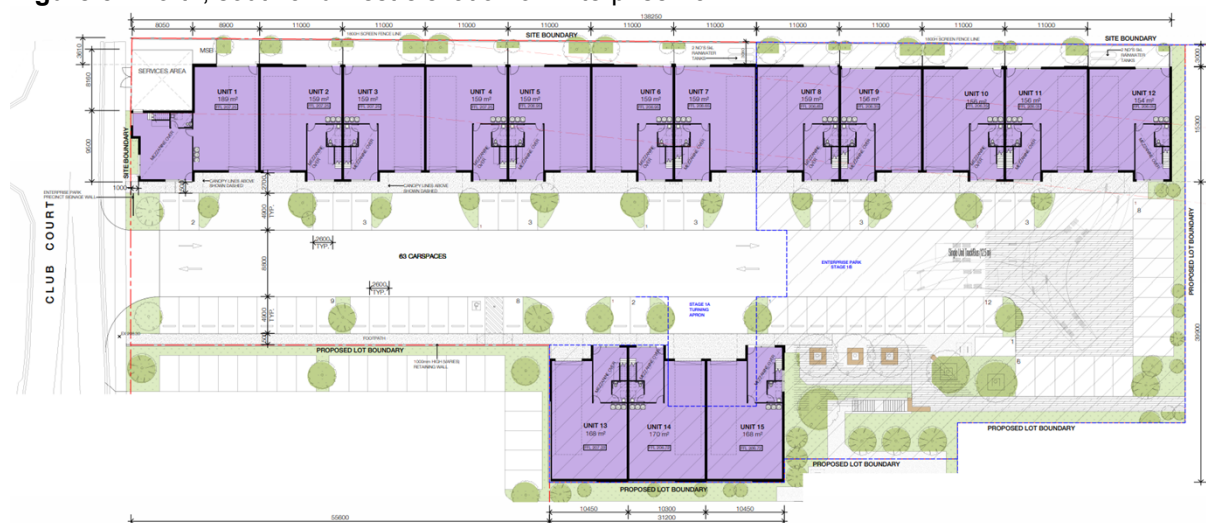


Figure 6: Layout of Enterprise Park

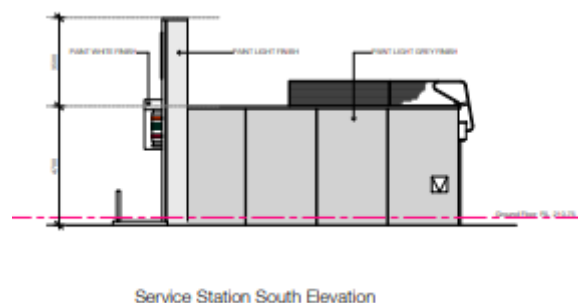
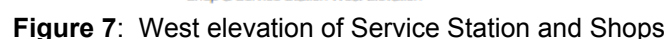
A service station and two shops are proposed along the Wellington Street frontage of the site.

The presentation of the building to Wellington Street / Strathfieldsaye Road is a solid wall.

The fuel canopy and tanks would be situated between the main service station building and the medical centre.

Access would be provided via Wellington Street with 14 car parking spaces provided for the uses.

Extensive signage is proposed for the service station (nine in total) including a 10 metre high electronic pylon sign. A further seven signs are proposed for the two shops.



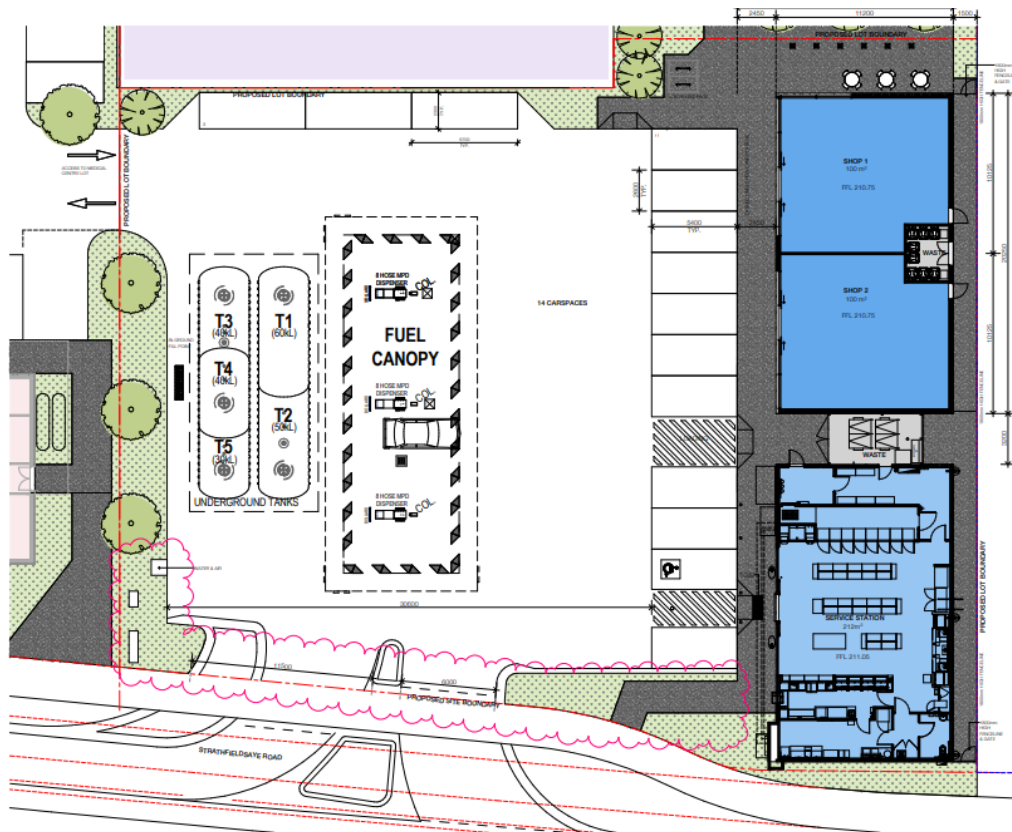


Figure 8: Layout of Service Station and Shops

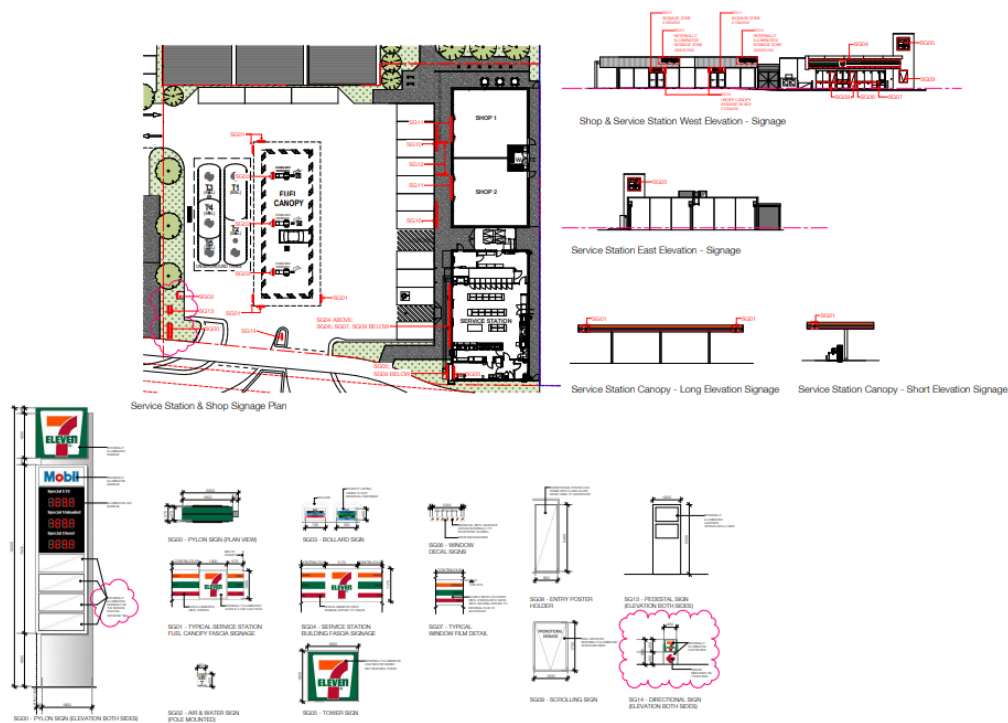


Figure 9: Signage proposal for Service Station and Shops.

Planning Controls - Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme

The following clauses are relevant in the consideration of this proposal:

State Planning Policy Framework

- 11.01-1S Settlement
- 11.01-1R Settlement – Loddon Mallee South
- 12.01-1S Protection of Biodiversity
- 12.01-2S Native Vegetation Management
- 13.07-1S Land Use Compatibility
- 15.01-1S Urban Design
- 15.01-2S Building Design
- 15.02-1S Energy and Resource Efficiency
- 17.01-1R Diversified Economy – Loddon Mallee South
- 17.02-1S Business
- 18.01-1S Land Use and Transport Planning
- 18.02-3S Road Systems
- 18.02-4S Car Parking

Municipal Strategic Statement

- 21.05 Compact Greater Bendigo
- 21.07 Economic Development
- 21.08 Environment
- 21.09 Integrated Transport and Infrastructure
- 21.10 Local Area

Local Planning Policies

- 22.10 Environmentally Sustainable Development

Other Provisions

- 32.04 Mixed Use Zone – Schedule 2
- 43.02 Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 28
- 52.05 Signs
- 52.06 Car Parking
- 52.17 Native Vegetation
- 52.34 Bicycle Facilities
- 53.18 Stormwater Management in Urban Development
- 72.08 Background Documents

Consultation/CommunicationReferrals

The following authorities and internal departments have been consulted on the proposal:

Referral	Comment
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning	No objection subject to conditions

Referral	Comment
Department of Transport	No objection subject to conditions
Environment Protection Authority	No objection subject to conditions
Traffic & Design	No objection subject to conditions
Drainage	No objection subject to conditions
Environmental Health	No objection subject to conditions and notes
Environmental Sustainable Design	No objection subject to conditions
Resource and Recovery	No objection

Public Notification

The application was advertised by way of notice on the site and letters to adjoining and nearby owners and occupiers.

As a result of advertising, 24 objections were received, with the grounds of objection summarised as follows:

- Proposed uses (mainly service station) incompatible with existing land use and development;
- Safety issues from increased traffic movements and volume;
- Car parking;
- Safety of children;
- Additional service station and medical centre not required;
- Amenity issues;
- Loss of village atmosphere and semi-rural feel;
- Incompatible with Council's Strategic Plans.

The objections are discussed through the planning assessment.

Planning Assessment

The planning assessment requires consideration of a broad range of matters. To guide that discussion, the assessment will focus on the following areas in turn:

- Council's strategic framework for the precinct;
- Specific Zone and Overlay controls applying to the site;
- Impact on vegetation;
- Signage;
- Site access arrangements.

For clarity, car parking may be an additional area of issue, however has not been discussed at length in this report, with priority being given to the above areas of non-conformance with the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.

Does the proposal appropriately address the Strathfieldsaye Township Plan 2009 (revised March 2012) and Strathfieldsaye Urban Design Framework, February 2017?

The Strathfieldsaye Township Plan (the Plan) provides a high level planning vision for how Strathfieldsaye should develop over the next 20 years. The site was identified as being within the existing urban area of the Plan. Within the Plan the site is identified as to be retained within the Business 1 Zone and to encourage commercial, residential, community or education uses. For background, the Business 1 Zone was part of a former suite of commercial zones and no longer exists in the Victoria Planning Provisions.

A key strategy of the Plan was to prepare an Urban Design Framework (UDF) to increase the density of buildings within the Core Area of Strathfieldsaye. The UDF was completed in 2017 and relevant changes to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme were gazetted in December 2020.

The UDF provided a more detailed vision and development direction for land within the Strathfieldsaye Town Centre and included the application site. The UDF identified that the site should be developed for *residential medium density development with mixed use or compatible light commercial*.

The site is also located within Precinct 2 'Transition Town Centre'. The transition area from the town centre includes all land around that is immediately surrounding the commercial core, and the properties along Wellington Street/Strathfieldsaye Road between the creeks.

The desired character of the Precinct is *a transition area between the high activity area of Precinct 1 and the residential area of Precinct 3, that is framed by large native trees and native vegetation*.

Design Guidelines were established for each Precinct. In relation to land use, the Guidelines for Precinct 2 state:

- In areas closer to Precinct 3 support land uses that are compatible to sensitive land uses (e.g. residential).
- In areas closer to Precinct 1 support land uses that are compatible to Precinct 1 and contribute to its liveliness (e.g. medium density residential or offices).

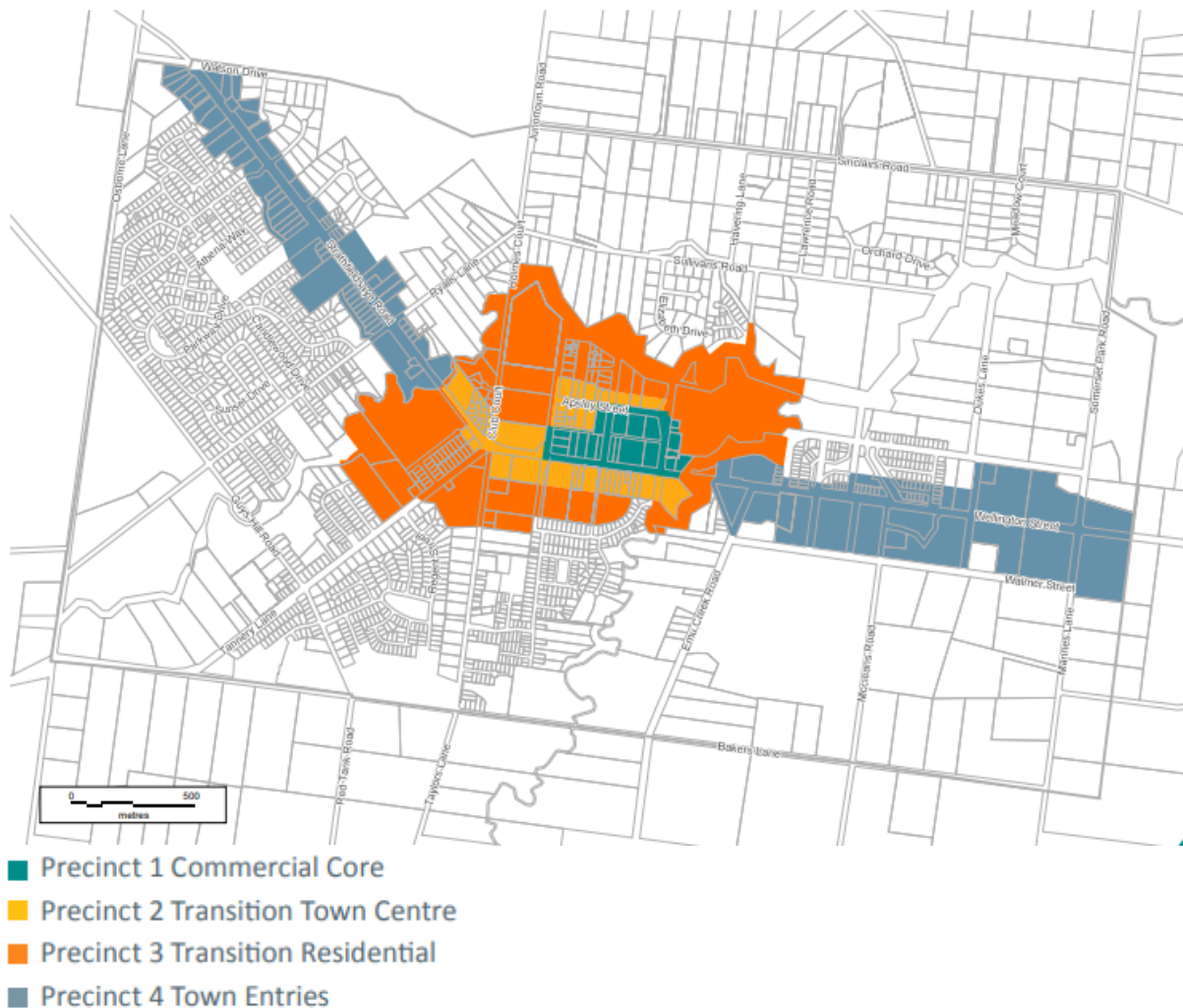


Figure 10: UDF Precincts

The site is located on the border of both Precinct 1 and Precinct 3 and therefore the main land use focus should be residential, with the incorporation of offices or compatible light commercial (where appropriate).

The current proposal seeks the use and development of a medical centre, enterprise park, shops and service station and does not include any residential component, which is the main focus of both the Plan and UDF for this site.

Although the applicant has indicated that the proposal does not preclude a residential component being included on the balance of the site at a later stage (eastern section), this position is not accepted. There is nothing in place to compel this to occur. An Economic Assessment submitted by the applicant suggests there is no intention to accommodate residential development on this site, with expanded commercial activities being considered more viable for the future stage.

Even so, such a proposition could be seen as reversing the intention of the UDF, which seeks to progressively transition land use intensities away from the commercial core. That outcome would see a residential component sitting between the higher-intensity activities of the core and the commercial activities of this current proposal.

The Economic Assessment provided by the applicant suggests there is limited demand for medium density housing in a location like Strathfieldsaye and would not respond to the current market demand. However, the intention of the Plan and UDF is to create a future vision for the growth of Strathfieldsaye, offering wider housing choices within proximity to the commercial core. While this vision may not be seen by the developer to be economically viable *at present*, this is not a planning consideration and the strategic plans need to be implemented as they were intended. Markets can rapidly change and as the commercial core of Strathfieldsaye develops and intensifies the demand for different forms of housing will change.

In terms of impacts, the commercial uses proposed have been sited close to existing residential development and a primary school, both of which are considered sensitive land uses. The proposed land uses are considered to be incompatible with the adjoining land uses and surrounding context.

It is unlikely that future residential development would be supported being sited directly adjoining a service station (if this present application was approved). There is therefore a demonstrable risk that the direction / vision set out by Council's adopted strategic plans would be entirely lost along the Strathfieldsaye corridor.

In summary, the proposal does not appropriately consider the Plan and UDF and is not strategically supported.

Is the proposed use and development an acceptable outcome under the Zone and Overlay applying to the site?

The site is identified as being within the Mixed Use Zone – Schedule 2 and is also impacted by the Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 28.

The objectives of Schedule 2 to Clause 32.04 Mixed Use Zone is:

- To support mixed developments of offices with shop top housing, or medium density housing.
- To avoid heavy industrial and retail uses.
- To ensure proposed land uses are compatible with adjoining uses in neighbouring precincts.
- To support retention of native vegetation character.
- To support active building frontages and passive surveillance design.

The application seeks planning approval for building and works to construct a mixed-use development and medical centre, the use of an enterprise park and service station. A service station is defined use under the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, while there is no specific definition for an enterprise park with the applicant describing it as an *innominate use*.

It is noted that at the time of lodgement the use of land for a medical centre did not require planning approval, however, since the Zoning of the land changed a use trigger is now applicable. As the application has already been appealed at VCAT the application cannot

be amended to include this trigger and will be discussed at the Compulsory Conference scheduled for 6 July 2021.

The medical centre would be located in the south western corner of the site with interfaces to Club Court and Wellington Street / Strathfieldsaye Road. The service station and shops would be located on the Wellington Street frontage, while the enterprise component would be located to the rear (primarily along the northern boundary).

In regard to the objectives of the Zone, it is considered the proposal does not represent an acceptable outcome as:

- The proposal does not support any form of housing or the appropriate mix of land uses.
- The proposal includes retail uses that are sought to be avoided in this area. The additional retail uses that could occur on the site within the enterprise park are substantially unknown as they have not been defined by this application.
- The proposed land uses have not taken into account the land use context of the site and will likely result in incompatible uses, especially in regards to the residential and primary school interface.
- No native vegetation is proposed to be retained as part of this proposal and no attempt has been made to integrate the proposal within the established vegetation to maintain character.
- The proposed buildings have had limited consideration in the inclusion of active frontages or passive surveillance design. The service station has a solid wall presentation to Wellington Street and the medical centre would lead to limited activation due to the nature of the use and internal access arrangements.

The design objectives of Schedule 28 to the Design and Development Overlay are:

- To support development that creates a transition area between the high activity Town Centre Precinct and the General Residential Precinct, characterised by medium density residential and mixed use office/residential development framed by native vegetation.
- To support development with active frontages that contribute to the amenity, public safety and pedestrian use of adjoining public space.
- To create car parking facilities that are safe, convenient and well designed and support efficient utilisation of infrastructure and sustainable transport options.
- To provide protection from bushfire by requiring adequate defendable space.

The decision guidelines of the Schedule that are required to be considered are:

- Whether the proposal achieves excellence in architecture and urban design.
- Whether the proposal protects the development potential of nearby sites.
- Whether the proposal provides adequate weather protection and active frontage.
- Whether the development provides medium density residential or office/residential development.
- Whether car parking has been well designed.

- Whether sufficient defensible space can be provided to protect development against bushfire risk.

The provision also sets out design principles to consider when assessing an application, including aspects such as general design, building setbacks, building height, active frontage and weather protection and parking / access.

The proposal has been assessed against all the relevant aspects of the provision and it is concluded that the proposal does not represent an acceptable outcome in relation to the Overlay and Schedule. The reasons for this conclusion are set out as follows:

- The proposal has made no attempt to integrate medium density residential development, which is a key objective to create a transition between the high activity of the Town Centre and the General Residential precinct.
- The proposed built form has not created a development that is characterised and framed by native vegetation.
- Little attempt has been made to create an active frontage / presentation to the public realm that enhances the amenity and provides appropriate integration for pedestrians.
- There has been little regard to how the proposal appropriately minimises amenity impacts on residential uses, especially in regard to the service station that is proposed to operate 24 hours a day 7 days a week.
- The site layout has made no attempt to protect mature trees or integrate established vegetation into the development.
- Multiple access points from Club Court and Wellington Street have been provided to service the development. The provision identifies that multiple vehicle points along streets should be avoided to minimise conflict with pedestrians and where possible provided via side streets, rear lanes and shared accessways. It is not considered reasonable that each component of the development has an individual access.

It is concluded that the proposal does not satisfactorily address the provisions of the Mixed Use Zone and Design and Development Overlay – Schedule 28 and therefore should not be supported.

Is the extent of vegetation removal acceptable?

The application seeks the removal of 0.553 hectares of vegetation, including three large trees and will essentially result in the clearance of all vegetation from two thirds of the overall site.

The application was referred to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) who have not objected to the removal of vegetation subject to conditions. However, it is important to note that DELWP's assessment of vegetation removal is limited to the management of native vegetation and biodiversity value. Their assessment does not consider amenity and character values.

An objective of Schedule 2 to Clause 32.04 Mixed Use Zone is *to support the retention of native vegetation character*. The application has failed to address this objective as native vegetation on the site has not been integrated into the proposed site layout and instead would be removed.

The extent of proposed vegetation removal will have an adverse impact on the amenity and character of the area and proposed landscaping is not sufficient to cater for the impacts of the loss.

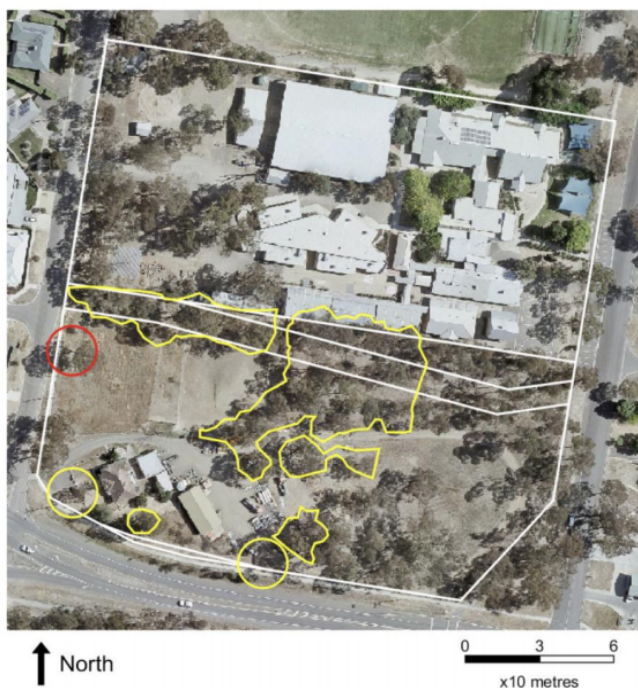
On June 2020 the Council adopted Greening Greater Bendigo 2020-2070. The vision of the Strategy is “*Greater Bendigo: where the community values mindful development that enhances and conserves our environment, provides well-designed green spaces that promote community wellbeing and is conscious of our future climate.*”

The retention of established vegetation is important so as to minimise impacts on the community such as the phenomenon called the Urban Heat Island (UHI). The UHI can intensify extreme heat events and in turn, can have deleterious effects on human health.

Creating a development that seeks to incorporate established native vegetation would not only protect the character of Strathfieldsaye but maintain the amenity that is valued by the community.

Given that the development has made no attempt to integrate established, mature native vegetation into the proposal, the vegetation removal is not considered appropriate and is inconsistent with the Zone and Overlay provisions applying to the site.

It should be noted that while vegetation in the eastern portion of the site is being retained at this stage, this part of the site does not form part of the development area and would also likely be lost as part of any future application.



Yellow boundaries denote areas of proposed native vegetation removal.
Red boundaries denote areas of past removal.

Figure 11: Extent of vegetation removal

Is the signage an acceptable outcome under the relevant provisions of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme?

Extensive signage is proposed on the site to cater for the identification of businesses. The proposed signage is summarised in the below table:

Blue – Medical Centre

Yellow – Enterprise Park

Green – Service Station and Shops

Sign Number	Type	Illumination	Area	Location
SG20 x4	Business identification wall sign	Internally illuminated	3.25 sqm each (13sqm total)	2 signs will front Wellington Street 1 sign will front the corner of Club Court and Wellington Street 1 sign will front Club Court to the north of the frontage
SG21 x2	Business identification wall sign	Internally illuminated	1.56 sqm each (3.12 sqm total)	1 sign is located above the entry to the Pharmacy 1 sign is located above the entry to the Medical Centre
SG01	Business identification wall sign		4.9sqm each (73.5 sqm total)	Located above the roller door to each unit
SG02	Wall sign to display unit number		0.9sqm each (13.5 sqm total)	Located adjacent to the entry for each unit
SG03	Business identification wall sign	Internally illuminated	2.8 sqm each (42 sqm total)	Located above the entry to each unit
SG04	Business identification wall sign		2.8 sqm	Located on the building wall fronting Club Court
SG05	Blade sign to identify the enterprise park	Internally illuminated	3 sqm	Located to the north of the vehicular entry on the ground
SG00	Electronic pylon sign	Internally illuminated	18 sqm	South-west of the Service Station precinct
SG01 x5	Logo box	Internally illuminated	1 sqm each (5 sqm total)	Fuel canopy fascia
SG02	Pole mounted sign		0.13 sqm	West of the service station building adjacent to the air and water car park
SG03 x4	Bollard signs to display fuel listings	Internally illuminated	0.28 sqm each (1.12 sqm total)	At the entry to the Service Station and at each fuel dispenser
SG04	Building fascia logo sign	Internally illuminated	1.37 sqm	Service Station building fascia

SG05 x2	Wall logo sign	Internally illuminated	3.64 sqm each (7.28 sqm total)	Signage feature above the Service Station building
SG06	Window decal sign		1 metre in length	Shop windows
SG07	Window decal sign		Continuous 7/11 stripes	Shop windows
SG08	Wall sign entry poster holder		1.92 sqm	Service Station building
SG09	Wall mounted scrolling promotional sign	Internally illuminated	1.92 sqm	Service Station wall
Total			Approx 190 sqm	

Figure 12: Signage summary

In total there would be approximately 190 square metres of signage on the site including 23 signs that would be internally illuminated.

The City of Greater Bendigo has an Advertising and Signage Policy at Clause 22.29 within its Planning Scheme. The objectives of the Policy are:

- To provide for the needs of business to advertise.
- To encourage the placement, style and scale of advertising that complements the character, area and individual place.
- To encourage the rationalisation of advertising to reduce the cumulative amenity impacts in the public realm.
- To encourage active street frontages and visual links to businesses and shop fronts to maintain pedestrian activity and passive surveillance.
- To maintain and enhance the appearance of streetscapes and heritage areas by encouraging well designed and located signage and advertising.

While it is reasonable to conclude that signage should be provided for identification purposes, the extent of signage proposed as a result of this application is excessive given the uses proposed and the context of the site within a residential interface.

Each building within the enterprise park is proposed to have a minimum of three signs with an area of approximately 8.6 square metres (including one internally illuminated sign). While the tenancies should be identifiable, it would appear the extent of signage for each building could be rationalised, especially given the lack of integration these buildings have with the public realm.

Likewise, for the service station and shops which would be accessed from Wellington Street, extensive signage and branding is proposed. The site is not within the core commercial area of Strathfieldsaye and therefore the extent and type of signage should be respectful to the existing and intended character of the area. In particular, illuminated signage is discouraged near residential areas and this part of the proposal would include fourteen illuminated signs.

While the City accepts that a level of signage is required for a proposal of this nature, the extent, type and siting of signage is not considered appropriate when taking into account the Advertising and Signage Policy and the specific context of the site.

Has appropriate consideration around access occurred?

The medical centre and enterprise park are proposed to be accessed via separate crossovers from Club Court while the service station and shops would be accessed via Wellington Street. Club Court is a local road managed by the City of Greater Bendigo, while Wellington Street is a Category 1 Road managed by Department of Transport.

The City of Greater Bendigo's Engineering Unit assessed the application in relation to access from Club Court and the internal car parking arrangements (regarding their functionality). No objections were raised in relation to the proposed access and car parking arrangements from an engineering perspective, however there is concern that the layout has not appropriately considered the requirements set out by Schedule 28 to the Design and Development Overlay.

As previously identified, the Schedule seeks to avoid multiple access points. In this instance two double width access points are proposed from Club Court to provide separate access to the medical centre and enterprise park. While this may still meet access standards it would appear a more integrated approach around access from Club Court could have been considered to reduce access to one crossover.

In addition, a third access point is proposed to the site from Wellington Street to service the service station and shops. This access was assessed by the Department of Transport who did not object to the arrangement subject to conditions. While Planning officers at the City of Greater Bendigo have concern about this arrangement given the proximity to a signalised intersection and the topography of the land, given that the City of Greater Bendigo is not the responsible authority for this road guidance must be taken from the Department of Transport.

It is to be noted that the Department of Transport is primarily assessing the safety and functioning of the road network. The concerns raised by planners relate to the poor amenity outcomes for the precinct, having regard to the planning controls in play, including that the outcome could discourage use of the pedestrian connections to the commercial centre.

Conclusion

Having assessed the proposal against the relevant provisions of the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme, especially the strategic plans prepared for the area and Zone and Overlay provisions applying to the land, the proposal represents an unacceptable outcome and is not supported. The key reasons for this are summarised as:

- The planning controls on the site have recently been updated and are specific to the site. The controls seek to achieve the vision and aspirations of the Strathfieldsaye Township Plan and Urban Design Framework.
- The land is now zoned Mixed Use Zone, which is classified as a 'residential' zone in the Planning Scheme.

- The planning controls affecting the site call for a range of residential and commercial uses that complement the mixed use function of the locality. No residential use is proposed in this application as sought by the planning controls.
- The application's introduction of strongly commercial-focused land uses are at odds with the specific planning controls developed for the site. In particular, a service station is contrary the Scheme's intention given the intensity and amenity impacts of the use on surrounding uses, which include a primary school. The zone schedule objectives state that heavy industry and retail uses should be avoided.
- Development should respond to the existing and preferred character and part of the existing character is the remaining native vegetation. This fact is specifically mentioned in the planning controls for the site. The application proposes to remove all vegetation within the development area.
- The Planning Scheme supports active frontages. The proposal fails to achieve this outcome through construction of multiple access points, promotion of vehicular activity and lack of integration with the street.

Approval of the proposal would likely undermine the vision for Strathfieldsaye. Further intensive proposals of this kind within the identified transition areas would be difficult to refuse in future if this application was supported.

Options

Council, acting as the responsible authority for administering the Planning Scheme, may resolve to advise VCAT and the permit applicant that, had it been making the decision on the application, that it would have: granted a permit, granted a permit with conditions, or refused to grant a permit.

15.3. Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study - Adoption of Amendment C235gben

Author	Philip DeAraugo, Senior Strategic Planner
Responsible Director	Andrew Cooney, Acting Director Strategy and Growth

Purpose

To adopt the updated version of the Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1, and adopt Amendment C235 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme and submit it to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Summary

Amendment C235 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme has been prepared to implement the recommendations of the Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1 2020.

The amendment seeks to include 18 properties in the Heritage Overlay, to remove one property from the Neighbourhood Character Overlay, include the 18 Statements of Significance as Incorporated documents (at Clause 72.04) and include Volume 2 of the Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study as a Background report (at Clause 72.08). The amendment has progressed through the Authorisation, Exhibition and Panel stages. It is now at the Adoption stage.

The amendment has been modified slightly in response to several submissions, Panel recommendations and a City officer recommendation. The minor changes recommended to be made to the exhibited version of the amendment are:

1. For the former Bendigo Timber Company building (currently Forty Winks) at 106 Williamson Street, Bendigo (HO931)
 - a. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Panel preferred version and update the citation
 - b. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint only (to exclude the verandahs)
2. For the former Butts Hotel at 114 Williamson Street, Bendigo (HO932)
 - a. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Panel preferred version and update the citation
 - b. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint only (to exclude the curtilage to the northwest).
3. For the stables at the rear of the St Andrews Church at 96 Mollison Street, Bendigo (HO926)
 - a. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint plus a five metre curtilage (previously the entire property parcel was included)
 - b. Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to allow prohibited uses
4. For the former Doherty's garage at 7-9 St Andrews Avenue, Bendigo (HO929)
 - a. Replace the Statement of Significance with the officer preferred version and update the citation (to exclude references to the brick cottage)

- b. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the Doherty's garage property parcel only (to exclude the parcel with the brick cottage)

The first three changes have been recommended by the Panel, while the fourth has been made by City officers. The fourth change is recommended following further investigations that have clearly demonstrated that the cottage is not an original workers cottage, or remodelled workers cottage, but was built around the same time as the Doherty's garage in a style that replicated earlier workers cottages. It is believed that the building was used as a residence until the 1970s, when it was further modified (windows bricked in) to enable it to be used for secure storage.

The Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1 has also been amended slightly to reflect the changes listed above. The changes are limited to three of the 18 citations. The St Andrew's Church stables is a mapping change only.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council resolve to:

1. Adopt Amendment C235 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme with the following changes:
 - a. For the former Bendigo Timber Company building (currently Forty Winks) at 106 Williamson Street, Bendigo (HO931)
 - i. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Panel preferred version and update the citation
 - ii. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint only (to exclude the verandahs)
 - b. For the former Butts Hotel at 114 Williamson Street, Bendigo (HO932)
 - i. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Panel preferred version and update the citation
 - ii. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint only (to exclude the curtilage to the northwest)
 - c. For the stables at the rear of the St Andrews Church at 96 Mollison Street, Bendigo (HO926)
 - i. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint plus a five metre curtilage (previously the entire property parcel was included)
 - ii. Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to allow prohibited uses
 - d. For the former Doherty's garage at 7-9 St Andrews Avenue, Bendigo (HO929)
 - i. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Officer preferred version and update the citation (to exclude references to the brick cottage)
 - ii. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the Doherty's garage property parcel only (to exclude the parcel with the brick cottage).

2. Adopt the updated Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study (incorporating the revised citations listed above).
3. Submit the adopted Amendment to the Minister for Planning for approval.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

- Goal 4 Presentation and managing growth

Strategy Reference (include weblink as applicable):

- Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1 2020

Background Information

The Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1 was adopted by Council on 6 May 2020. Following adoption, Amendment C235 was prepared and authorised. The amendment was then exhibited in accordance with the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. In addition to the standard notification requirements, relevant information was sent directly to all affected landowners. As a result of the exhibition, nine submissions were received. Four submitters requested changes or objected to the amendment. When Council considered the submissions it was agreed to request the Minister for Planning appoint an independent Panel to consider all submissions. A one person Panel was subsequently appointed and a Panel Hearing was held on 15 March 2021. All submitters had the opportunity to appear at the hearing, with one (representing two places in Williamson Street) requesting to be heard. The Panel Hearing resulted in general agreement being reached on most matters discussed. The Panel Report was submitted to the City on 27 April 2021. Planning Panels Victoria made the Panel Report publicly available on 11 May 2021. Discussing the changes to the amendment is the primary purpose of this report.

Previous Council Decision Dates:

6 May 2020 - Council adopts the Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study and requests the Minister for Planning authorise the preparation of a planning scheme amendment.

21 October 2020 - Council considers the submissions received to the Amendment C235 and requests the Minister for Planning appoint an independent Panel to consider submissions.

Report

Bendigo City Centre's built form heritage is both distinctive and recognisable. While much of the City Centre is covered by heritage overlays, both as individually significant places and as precincts, there are parts of the City Centre that have not been investigated for around 30 years. In 2015 it was decided to correct this and to undertake a heritage study for these parts of the City Centre. The study area is generally to the south of Lyttleton Terrace, the upper parts of Mitchell Street and around Edward Street.

An early draft version of the Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study was completed in 2017, however not long after it was delivered the State Government updated the Practice Notes and requirements for adding new places to the Heritage Overlay. This meant that the Study would need to be revised to meet the new, higher thresholds required to include additional places in the Heritage Overlay. At this time it was also identified that existing heritage precincts could not be easily modified (without undertaking a comprehensive review of the full precinct). As a result, it was decided to split the Heritage Study into two stages, with Stage 1 focusing on individually significant places and a future Stage 2 to focus on reviewing precincts. The revised Stage 1 was completed in 2020 and it recommended an additional 18 individual places be included in the Heritage Overlay. Amendment C235 to the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme has been prepared to implement these recommendations. Stage 2 of the Heritage Study is currently underway and is investigating changes to heritage precincts. A separate amendment will be progressed once that work is adopted by Council.

As reported previously, following the exhibition of Amendment C235, nine submissions were received and considered by Council. Ultimately the submissions were referred to an independent Planning Panel for further consideration. The Panel Hearing took place on 15 March 2021 and provided submitters with an opportunity to present directly to the Panel. One submitter, representing two Williamson Street properties, took up this opportunity. It should be noted that all written submissions are considered, regardless of whether or not submitters request to be heard in person.

The Panel Hearing resulted in general agreement being reached on most matters, including that the former Bendigo Timber company building does meet two of the seven criteria required to justify heritage protection (Criterion D - representativeness, and Criterion E - aesthetic significance). It should be noted that the exhibited amendment indicated that the place also met Criterion A - historical significance, however the Panel disagreed. Overall, there was no dispute at the Panel Hearing that the place met the criteria for inclusion in the Heritage Overlay, however there was disagreement as to the quality and execution of the design and construction of the building.

While subject to a separate planning process, it is noted that the Council issued a Notice of Decision for a hotel development at its meeting on 17 May 2021. Assuming a Planning Permit is ultimately issued and acted upon, it would result in the demolition of the former Bendigo Timber Company building at 106 Williamson Street, Bendigo. There is the chance that this would result in a Heritage Overlay being applied to a place that no longer exists. At this stage it is recommended that the City proceed with the application of the Heritage Overlay as proposed, as there is no guarantee that the development will proceed. If it does proceed before this amendment is finalised, it is expected that the site would be removed from the amendment by the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. It should also be noted that the application of the Heritage Overlay does not preclude a planning permit from being issued in the future that allows the demolition of the building (as envisaged in the approval of 17 May 2021). However, it would result in a more detailed examination of the heritage significance of the place and be balanced against the other benefits of the proposal. It would provide an opportunity for a relevant condition to be placed on the permit, such as requiring the photographic recording of the place prior to demolition (for example).

The Panel delivered its report on 27 April 2021 and made the following three recommendations:

1. For the former Bendigo Timber Company building at 106 Williamson Street, Bendigo (HO931)
 - a. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Panel preferred version and update the citation
 - b. Amend the citation to remove the reference to Criterion A
 - c. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint only
2. For the former Butts Hotel at 114 Williamson Street, Bendigo (HO932)
 - a. Replace the Statement of Significance with the Panel preferred version and update the citation
 - b. Amend Map 19HO so that the Heritage Overlay covers the building footprint only
3. For the stables at the rear of the St Andrews Church at 96 Mollison Street, Bendigo (HO926)
 - a. Amend Map 19HO to reduce the curtilage of the Heritage Overlay to five metres around the building
 - b. Amend the Schedule to Clause 43.01 to allow prohibited uses.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Panel's recommendations in full. Further detail on the Panel's deliberations can be found in the attached Panel Report.

While not included in the Panel's recommendations, on pages 29 to 32 there is discussion on the City's submission to the Panel relating to the deletion of the workers cottage behind the former Doherty's garage from the proposed Heritage Overlay (HO929). This brick building has been the subject of some conjecture throughout the Study due to its slightly unusual proportions and construction details (for a workers' cottage). In summary, the cottage is slightly oversized with taller than usual ceiling heights and has double brick walls and concrete lintels, the latter being a construction detail that was not used until the 20th century. The exterior of the building was further modified around the 1970s when the windows were bricked in. The condition of the building is poor and it sits isolated surrounded by car parking.

Unfortunately, it was only after the time that the study was completed that further evidence was found that highlighted that the building had been built during the mid 20th century in the form of earlier buildings that were on or near the site. Before this, some had assumed that it was a remodel of the original hawkers cottage that was built in Little Bull Street (now Market Street) at some time from the 1870s. Photographic evidence indicates that this building dates from some time after the 1930s, with earlier buildings being positioned differently on the site and having different rooflines.

The City's Heritage Assets Architect has confirmed that the citation offers no evidence that the cottage was built in the 1870s and that there are no visual elements from that period. It is also stated that it would be difficult for a single generic building to demonstrate a pattern of development when the street has become a carpark access rather than a recognisable public street, and that without other points of reference the building is unable to evoke the multi-cultural neighbourhood of workers' cottages described in the citation. This is in contrast to the garage building, which is one of several red brick industrial or commercial buildings in the immediate area. As a result, the City's Heritage Assets Architect does not support applying the Heritage Overlay to the cottage.

Budget constraints meant that the heritage consultants were not re-engaged to investigate this further information or review the citation as it was believed that it would be acceptable to raise this at the Panel Hearing. Unfortunately, the Panel commented that it would have been preferable to have a formal Council resolution on the cottage's deletion or inclusion, rather than to rely on an officer recommendation at the hearing, even though the officer in question is qualified to give such advice. The Panel commented that in the absence of such a resolution, and with a Heritage Study with the cottage included, it is of the view that it should remain included in the proposed Heritage Overlay. This is not to say that the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning cannot consider this change prior to forwarding the amendment to the Minister for Planning for final approval. City officers will need to clearly justify why this final change should be made when they submit the amendment for approval. It is also worth noting that the heritage consultants who authored the heritage study have agreed to make the change to the citation to remove the brick cottage.

Priority/Importance:

The Council must make a decision on the amendment within 40 business days of receiving the Panel Report (by 21 June 2021). As this meeting is the first available for Council to consider the matter, it is assumed that not meeting this timeframe will be acceptable to the Department.

Options/Alternatives:

The Council has the option of adopting the amendment, abandoning the amendment or adopting the amendment with changes.

In this instance it is recommended that Council adopt the amendment with changes, as outlined above, and submit the updated amendment to the Department for processing.

Timelines:

The adopted amendment will be submitted as soon as practicable. Its approval is subject to Department consideration of the changes, particularly the City officer recommended change (they rarely question Panel recommendations, so it can be assumed that those changes will be accepted). The Department will then make a recommendation to the Minister for Planning relating to final approval.

Risk Analysis:

The primary risk with this project relates to the potential for an identified heritage place to be demolished prior to the amendment being approved by the Minister for Planning. The risk of this happening is low as a building permit is required for demolition, and any applications are referred to the Statutory Planning Unit for comment. It would be unlikely that a demolition permit would be issued for a site that when it has been identified in a heritage study. Permits are rarely granted for demolition only, and where the demolition of an existing building is proposed, it is generally linked to a satisfactory redevelopment of the site.

Consultation/Communication

Internal Consultation:

As two places (the Vahland Drinking Fountain and Doherty's garage) are owned by the City, internal consultation was held with the Parks and Open Space Unit and the Property Services Unit. The Property Services Unit provided the updated research and advice on the cottage behind Doherty's garage in St Andrews Avenue.

External Consultation:

All affected property owners were consulted in advance of the amendment being prepared, and again as part of the amendment and Panel process.

Resource Implications

The amendment costs are covered by the Regional Sustainable Development Unit operating budget. The total external cost of the amendment is estimated to be around \$18,000, noting this does not include the costs associated with the development of the actual study or staff time.

Attachments

1. Panel Report Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme Amendment C235gben
2. Greater Bendigo C235gben Explanatory Report Adoption
3. Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1 Vol 1 Amended Jun21
4. Bendigo City Centre Heritage Study Stage 1 Vol 2 Amended Jun21

16. WELLBEING AND FAIRNESS

16.1. Heathcote Civic Precinct (Community Hub) Project

Author	Deb Simpson, Coordinator Strong Communities
Responsible Director	Vicky Mason, Director Health and Wellbeing

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to present the outcomes of the community consultation process relating to Mclvor Cottage Industries Co-operative's 2019 petition.

Summary

The Heathcote Civic Precinct (Precinct) has both High Street (Mclvor Hwy) and Camp Street Heathcote frontages. It incorporates four adjacent and historically significant buildings - the Municipal Office, Former Court House, Hall and Former Mechanics Institute - and two high profile public spaces.

The project seeks to utilise the Precinct's buildings and public open spaces to create a vibrant community hub through:

- An expanded and more integrated, contemporary library service;
- Spaces that can support diverse outreach service delivery;
- Co-working spaces for local small businesses and community groups;
- More accessible, multi-purpose community activity spaces that can support diverse community needs and interests;
- A mix of spaces and uses across the Precinct that do not duplicate those at Barrack Reserve;
- Spaces and services that will be more financially sustainable; and
- Environmentally sustainable design.

The project is a high priority within the Heathcote Community Plan 2017 - 2021. This priority status builds on the outcomes of a community needs analysis completed by independent consultants in 2016 - 17 which identified that such a community hub could improve community wellbeing, social and economic participation outcomes.

The most recent round of community consultation - undertaken during November and December 2020 - was prompted by a petition received from the Mclvor Cottage Industries Co-operative (Cooperative) in 2019 in response to the 2019 concept plan. It proposed that:

- The Co-operative be relocated from the Former Court House into the Former Mechanics Institute;
- The Former Court House be transitioned into government agency service space; and

- The Municipal Office be predominantly transitioned into library service space.

The community consultation process was focused on predominant building user groups, the Heathcote Lions Club (as the Committee of Management for the Hall and Former Mechanics Institute), and other key community advocacy bodies e.g. Advance Heathcote and Heathcote Township Committee.

The community consultation identified that the Co-operative had changed its perspective since lodging the petition. The group is now open to moving to an alternative location within the Precinct. The group now considers such a move could have many benefits, including having access to running water, toilets, heating and cooling. The group's only concerns are needing assistance to relocate stock, ensuring stock can be secured and having EFTPOS services available. All of these considerations can be addressed with careful project planning and delivery.

Officers consider the feedback received through the community consultation to generally be very thoughtful and constructive and will result in more efficient and flexible spaces as well as better functional relationships between spaces. The feedback can be broadly characterised as:

- Infrastructure and broader urban design focused e.g. universal design; heritage sensitive design; pedestrian safety;
- Staff and community wellbeing focused e.g. the working relationships between City and Goldfields Library Corporation (GLC) staff; natural surveillance and other Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) principles;
- Equity of access focused e.g. governance and management structures; fees and charges; booking procedures and systems; and
- Project planning and delivery focused e.g. project affordability and staging; continuity of service provision during infrastructure works.

A number of groups such as the Heathcote Brownies / Girl Guides, Lions and Senior Citizens Clubs indicated they still had concerns about the project. The only project elements these groups were supportive of were comparatively minor improvements to the entry, storage and toilet areas in the Hall and Former Mechanics Institute - being the buildings for which the Heathcote Lions Club is the Committee of Management for, and the buildings these groups predominantly use. Officers have formed the view their concerns are largely premised on fear of losing the ability to continue to use these buildings however it is not the project's intent to displace any current user groups from the Precinct.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

1. Thank Mclvor Cottage Industries Co-operative and all other groups for their participation in and contributions to the most recent round of community consultation.
2. Endorse staff undertaking further consultation as the basis for the next stage of project design development
3. Receive a further report on project progress in early 2022.

Policy Context

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017 - 2021

- Goal # 1 Lead and govern for all
- Goal # 2 Wellbeing and fairness
- Goal # 4 Presentation and managing growth
- Goal # 5 Environmental sustainability
- Goal # 6 Embracing our culture and heritage

Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 - 2021

- Goal # 3 Able to participate
- Goal # 4 Connected to culture and community
- Goal # 5 Liveable Greater Bendigo Municipal Strategic Statement 21.09-7
- Provide adequate community buildings within existing and new neighbourhoods
Asset Management Plan: Part F - Buildings and structures
- Improvement action 14 Service plans to be developed for buildings and structures with documented 'target' levels of service

Greater Bendigo Environment Strategy 2016 - 2021

- Zero carbon - Making buildings energy efficient and delivering all energy with renewable technologies
- Sustainable buildings and materials - Adopt and implement contemporary environmentally sustainable design policy standards and practices into City service delivery
- Culture and community - Respecting and reviving local identity, wisdom and culture; encouraging the involvement of people in shaping their community and creating a new culture of sustainability
- Health and happiness - Encouraging active, sociable meaningful lives to promote good health and wellbeing

Background Information

The buildings and public open spaces that are within scope for infrastructure works are:

- Municipal Office – 125 High Street, Heathcote
- Former Court House – 123 High Street, Heathcote
- Hall – 1/121 High Street, Heathcote
- Former Mechanic's Institute – 2/121 High Street, Heathcote
- High Street forecourt – the public open space in front of the buildings
- Camp Street public open space – the public open space behind the buildings

The Co-operative is currently the sole occupant of the Former Court House. In 2019 Council received a petition from the Co-operative seeking that it not be required to relocate from the Former Court House as part of any Precinct redevelopment.

Council's resolutions in response to the petition included:

1. Thank the Co-operative for its petition.
2. Endorse staff undertaking further consultation with the Heathcote community - including with the Co-operative - to develop a recommended Precinct concept plan.
3. Receive a further report from staff about how the needs of existing user groups plus the needs of the broader Heathcote community would be responded to through any recommended Precinct concept plan.

Pandemic considerations delayed commencement of the community consultation process until November 2020. A suggestion to use online platforms to progress the consultation prior to this time was generally not well received within the community.

Report

It is now proposed to adopt a staged approach to Precinct development, with works to the Municipal Office and Former Court House to form project Stage One and works to the Hall and Former Mechanics Institute to form a later project Stage Two. This proposed approach seeks to strike a balance between:

- Responding to growing community demand for library service improvements, spaces that can support diverse outreach service delivery and spaces that can support local small business / community organisation co-working;
- Enabling further consultation to occur in relation to design and usage considerations for the Hall and Mechanics Institute buildings; and
- Project affordability, with adaptive re-use of as much of the existing infrastructure as possible, staging the infrastructure works over multiple financial years and leveraging external funding sources all as strategies intended to assist with this.

Consultation/Communication

The community consultation process was designed to respond to Council resolutions 2 and 3 above and involved the following groups being invited to participate in 'one to one' conversations with staff about the 2019 concept plan. These groups were nominated due to being current managers and / or predominant users of the buildings that are within the project's scope:

- City of Greater Bendigo Business Transformation Unit (Customer Support team);
- Co-operative;
- GLC;
- Goldfields Wesleyan Methodist Church;
- Heathcote Brownies / Girl Guides Club;
- Heathcote Lions Club;
- Heathcote Senior Citizens Club; and

- Heathcote U3A.

The following broader community groups were also invited to participate in 'one to one' conversations with staff about the 2019 concept plan:

- Advance Heathcote
- Barrack Reserve Committee of Management
- Heathcote Township Committee (which includes Heathcote Community House and Heathcote Health representatives)

Each group accepted the invitation and was forwarded the following questions in advance:

- What are your group's needs?
- What does your group see as the positives of the concept plan / project?
- How would your group's needs be supported by the concept plan / project?
- How would broader community needs be supported by the concept plan / project?
- Does your group have any suggestions for improving the concept plan? If so, what are the suggestions and what benefits could they deliver?
- What apprehensions - if any - does your group have about the concept plan / project? How could those apprehensions be resolved?

The conversations took place during November and December 2020. At the conclusion of the conversations, each group was provided with a copy of the conversation notes and requested to confirm that the notes were an accurate record or to advise of any required amendments.

Resource Implications

Adaptive re-use of as much of the existing infrastructure as possible, staging the infrastructure works over multiple financial years and leveraging external funding sources are all proposed strategies intended to assist with project affordability.

The draft 2021/22 budget includes a capital renewal / upgrade allocation of \$100,000. This will support further project design development.

Once project design development is finalised it is proposed to seek a grant to support project delivery via the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions' Living Libraries Infrastructure Program.

Attachments

Attachment 1: Concept overall site plan 2019

Attachment 2: Concept floor plan 2019

Attachment 1 - ATTACHMENT: Heathcote Civic Precinct DRAFT overall site plan 2019



Attachment 2 - ATTACHMENT: Heathcote Civic Precinct DRAFT concept floor plan 2019



16.2. Huntly Camping Ground

Author/Responsible Director	Vicky Mason, Director Health and Wellbeing
-----------------------------	--

Purpose

To seek Council direction with regard to the future purpose of the Huntly Camping Ground.

Summary

The Huntly Lions Park has provided an informal short-term camping ground for travellers passing through the region for many years. Over the last year there have been a number of complaints received by Councillors about the behaviour of some campers and the fact that they are residing in the park for longer periods of time.

Council staff have been visiting the site regularly making sure that facilities are clean and tidy and monitoring camper behaviour. Staff have also sought support from Haven Home Safe to assist campers in finding alternate housing.

Housing stress is a significant issue for the Greater Bendigo community with demand for social housing increasing across the region. Some of the campers currently using the Huntly Lions Park do not currently have permanent housing so are living in the park.

The park is crown land zoned for recreation however has a current reservation purpose of camping and water supply. As a result, the Community Local Law cannot be used to move campers on. Advice from the local office of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) indicates that Council can apply in writing to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and the Governor in Council to change this purpose to Public Recreation or Public Purposes. This is likely to take at least 4 months.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council work with Haven Home Safe to relocate the current campers, continue to ensure the park is well maintained then review the status of the park in early 2022.

Policy Context

2017 – 2021 Greater Bendigo Community Plan

Goal: Wellbeing and fairness

Objective 2.2: Promote positive wellbeing across the Greater Bendigo community

Objective 2.5: Create safe and resilient communities

Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021

Objective: Safe and secure

Priority: Reduce socio-economic disadvantage by increase access to affordable diverse housing.

City of Greater Bendigo Affordable Housing Action Plan

Background Information

The Huntly Lions Park at 565 Midland Highway, Huntly, has provided an informal short-term camping ground for travellers passing through the region for many years. Over the last year there have been a number of complaints received by Councillors about the behaviour of some campers, the cleanliness of the park and the fact that they are residing in the park for longer periods of time.

Council staff have been visiting the site regularly making sure that facilities are clean and tidy and monitoring camper behaviour. Staff have also sought support from Haven Home Safe to assist campers in finding alternate housing. They are currently visiting the site every second day to provide support, food and bedding and have been able to move one of the individuals who was causing a few issues at the site to more suitable housing last week.

Report

As outlined in the City of Greater Bendigo Affordable Housing Action Plan, households across the City are experiencing high proportions of housing stress. This has only increased as a result of the demographic changes occurring as a result of the Covid19 pandemic. The Loddon social housing waiting list data for March 2021 quarter indicates that numbers are increasing as outlined below.

		Social housing waiting list - Loddon
<i>Year</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Change</i>
2018 Dec	1,760	6
2019 Mar	1,901	141
2019 Jun	2,042	141
2019 Dec	2,183	141
2020 Jun	2,373	190
2020 Sep	2,533	160
2020 Dec	2,632	99
2021 Mar	2,729	97

Council staff have been working with Homes Victoria to support local housing agencies to ensure all opportunities under the State Government Big Housing Build. This funding stream currently allocates a minimum of \$85M to be spent on new public housing for the City however this will take some years to come to fruition. In the meantime, anecdotal evidence from Council staff indicates the numbers of people sleeping rough is increasing.

The Huntly Lions Park is crown land zoned for recreation however has a current reservation purpose of camping and water supply. As a result, the Community Local Law cannot be used to move campers on. Advice from the local office of the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP) indicates that Council can apply in writing to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Change and the Governor in Council to change this purpose to Public Recreation or Public Purposes. This is likely to take at least 4 months.

If the purpose of the park is changed the current Community Local Law requirements will then apply.

The relevant sections state:

4.6 Camping and caravans

- A person shall not without a permit occupy a tent, caravan or other temporary or make-shift structure in any public place.

(d) In determining whether to grant a permit pursuant to this Clause the Chief Executive Officer or his or her delegate shall have regard to:

- whether the amenity of the area will be detrimentally affected,
- whether adequate facilities will be available to occupants; and
- any other matter considered relevant by the Chief Executive Officer or his/her delegate

Given the concerns raised by some members of the Huntly community, it is unlikely that a permit would be issued.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

A number of options are available for Council consideration. These include:

1. Do nothing whilst continuing to ensure the park remains well maintained.
2. Work with Haven Home Safe to relocate the current campers then review the situation in early 2022.
3. Work with the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning to request the Minister Energy, Environment and Climate Change and the Governor in Council remove the purpose for the reserve as a camping ground and:

Communicate with the campers, Haven Home Safe and the local community to inform them of Councils decision; and

Once approved, seek to remove the Huntly Lions Park as a free camping ground from relevant national websites.

Consultation/Communication

If Council chooses Option 3, to limit the reputation risk of having to evict current campers, it is proposed that a comprehensive communications strategy be put in place to ensure all stakeholders have enough prior warning of proposed changes.

The park is also currently listed on a range of free camping websites. Council staff would seek to have these listings removed once approval is provided from the Minister.

Internal Communication

Monitoring of the park has been undertaken the Local Laws and Parks and Open Space teams.

Resource Implications

Nil

Attachments

Nil

16.3. Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy

Author/Responsible Director	Vicky Mason, Director Health and Wellbeing
-----------------------------	--

Purpose

This report outlines the process and findings that have informed the development of the Draft Reducing harm from gambling policy and seeks Council's input and support to proceed to community engagement.

Summary

In December 2017 Council endorsed a project brief for the updating of its current City of Greater Bendigo Gaming Policy Framework *Accessible but not Convenient*. The work was in response to the prioritisation of *reducing harm from gambling* in the Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021 endorsed by Council in October 2017.

The aim of the new policy has been to take a public health approach with the aim of minimising harm through:

- Supply reduction
- Demand reduction
- Harm reduction

Research for the policy included:

- A review of the current policy
- An economic impact assessment
- A social impact assessment
- Identification of current best practice
- Benchmarking with other Victorian local governments

An early draft was presented to a Councillor briefing in early 2019. Following further input from the Project Working Group an updated draft policy has been prepared (Attachment 1).

This draft is now ready for consultation with Council and the community. A draft Community Engagement Plan is attached for consideration (Attachment 2).

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support the release of the Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy for community consultation as per the prepared Community Engagement Plan.

Policy Context

Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017 – 2021

Goal 2: Wellbeing and Fairness

Inclusive policies, partnerships and projects that increase access, improve health and learning opportunities, by building better connections and quality of life for all.

2.1.2: Contribute to healthy policy development – Update Council's Gaming Policy

Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021

Objective: Healthy and Well

Priority: Reduce harm from gambling

Background Information

The 2019 Active Living Census asked respondents how often, if at all, they had gambled in the last 12 months. 34.9% reported they had gambled in the last twelve months. 5.5% indicated they gambled every week.

Harm from gambling impacts on only on the individual, but also affects family members, friends, local businesses and communities. A report released in 2016 by the Victorian Responsible Gambling Foundation shows that gambling presents a significant burden to the wellbeing of the Victorian community. Comparisons to other conditions confirm that gambling has an impact in the same class as depression and excessive alcohol consumption.

In 2018 – 2019 the Greater Bendigo net expenditure on EGMs was \$50,671,968. The table below indicates where this expenditure occurred, and the level of revenue achieved per machine.

		\$M		\$ Loss / EGM
BENDIGO DISTRICT RSL CLUB	Club	8.16	93	87,742
BENDIGO STADIUM	Club	6.37	105	60,667
KANGAROO FLAT SPORTS CLUB	Club	2.10	60	35,000
THE BENDIGO CLUB	Club	2.67	60	44,500
THE BOROUGH CLUB	Club	3.06	40	76,500
ALL SEASONS INTERNATIONAL HOTEL BENDIGO	Hotel	11.40	100	114,000
CITY FAMILY HOTEL	Hotel	1.20	39	30,769
RISING SUN HOTEL	Hotel	3.50	35	100,000

		\$M		\$ Loss / EGM
SHAMROCK HOTEL	Hotel	3.85	58	66,379
THE FOUNDRY HOTEL COMPLEX	Hotel	1.90	25	76,000
WINDERMERE HOTEL	Hotel	6.40	40	160,000

Report

Local government has legislative requirements to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of the community. In December 2017 Council endorsed a project brief for the updating of its current City of Greater Bendigo Gaming Policy Framework *Accessible but not Convenient*. The work was in response to the prioritisation of *reducing harm from gambling* in the Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021 endorsed in October 2017.

Whilst the new policy aims to address the impacts of gambling in all forms, there is a focus on Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs) as they are still the most dominant source of financial loss and harm in Australia and their use can be influenced by local governments.

The aim of the new policy has been to take a public health approach with the aim of minimising harm through:

- Supply reduction
- Demand reduction
- Harm reduction

Research for the policy included:

- A review of the current policy
- An economic impact assessment
- A social impact assessment
- Identification of current best practice
- Benchmarking with other Victorian local governments

The review of the current policy was undertaken by K2 Planning Pty Ltd and the 10 Consulting Group. The objectives of the review included:

1. Advise Council on Best Practice Local Planning Policy approaches that limit the harm from electronic gaming machines (EGMs) on the community
2. Support the CoGB development of a new Gambling Policy which takes a Public Health approach to reduce harm from gambling

The review included:

1. A review of the current CoGB local planning policy 'Accessible but not Convenient'

2. An overview of a harm minimisation approach to policy
3. A review of relevant Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) and Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) decisions
4. Identification of challenges facing the implementation of the current CoGB Policy
5. Identification of opportunities to strengthen the local policy
6. Recommendations to modify the current City of Greater Bendigo Policy

The report recommended that Council:

1. Review the locational principles currently guiding the Policy
2. Develop a clear Council position related to gambling
3. Inform Council's position in relation to gambling through appropriately conducted community engagement
4. Expand the data base required in a social and economic impact assessment report (SEIA) to include factors such as: family violence, relationship breakdown, financial abuse, and other data available through Council's Health and Wellbeing Plan
5. Document the economic impacts of gambling including: redistribution of spending from other businesses, reduced productivity and performance at work, absenteeism, job loss, fraud, accumulation of debt, mortgage defaults etc...

The economic impact assessment undertaken by SGS Economics & Planning focused on the prospect of new EGM applications being submitted for Greater Bendigo given there is currently a gap between EGMs approved (657) and the new municipal cap (870). It found that new EGMs in the City of Greater Bendigo are likely to have an overall negative impact on the community. It suggests that if the increased cap is fully realised and EGM expenditure is redirected away from spending on food and beverage services (hospitality) and retail, the impact is a loss of \$3.2 million of economic value-add per annum and 39.7 jobs.

The social impact assessment and identification of best practice approaches was completed internally. Similarly, to the above reports, Officers reviewed the current research on the positive and negative impacts of gambling on the community with a focus on health and wellbeing outcomes and how they might play out in Greater Bendigo. It reviewed the current context for gambling in Greater Bendigo with a focus on EGMs.

This report suggests that Council can act in several ways to minimise harm from gambling across the community. These include:

- Leadership and collaboration – Council and City staff can lead by example. They can work with gambling networks, other levels of government, the health sector and local organisations or groups
- Advocacy – Council can be advocates and support the advocacy efforts of others to mitigate the negative impacts of gambling
- Regulation – Council can take a clear stance in EGM applications and the regulation of existing EGMs
- Informed – Council can continue to keep abreast of information and communication regarding the gambling sector. Council can also inform the

Greater Bendigo community of any news or decisions regarding EGMs within the municipality

Other sources of information included work from the Victorian Local Governance Association including their publication “The role of local government policy”.

A final step was to undertake benchmarking with other Victorian local governments to identify the range of policy approaches being undertaken in this area.

A key learning since the previous policy has been that harm from gambling occurs across a continuum from no harm to very severe levels of harm rather than just to those who are classified as “problem gamblers”. This means that the focus of harm reduction activities and policy focus needs to be broadened.

The literature on gambling reinforces the importance of language. Previous work focused on ‘gaming’ however this has the potential to downplay the harm so the language has changed to ‘gambling’.

Utilising the above research Officers developed an early draft policy for consultation with Council in January 2019. Feedback indicated the need for further work on understanding community impacts. The updated draft recognises the following:

- The need to work with organisations, clubs and community groups to minimise their financial dependence on the proceeds of gambling
- The need to make changes over the life of the policy to decrease financial and other support for organisations, clubs and community groups who promote or accept the proceeds of gambling to zero
- That applications for additional EGMs and the transfer of EGMs will be assessed individually and opposed if there is good evidence that the application will have negative social and economic impacts and minimal community benefit.

This updated draft policy is now ready for consultation with Council and the community.

Following finalisation of the policy, several other tasks will need to be completed in response to the recommendations above. These include:

- Updating of the Health and Wellbeing Data Profile
- Development of an Economic Impact Profile
- Incorporation of the findings and policy position into the Municipal Strategic Statement

A challenging issue when considering Council’s future policy direction is the presence of EGMs at the Bendigo Stadium and the Kangaroo Flat Sports Club. The draft policy seeks to recognise this situation but learn from emerging research. This is reflected in the commitment to work with community groups and organisations to end financial dependence on gambling revenue, something the City is already trying to do, and minimise community subsidies for organisations on Council owned or managed land who generate revenue from EGMs.

Consultation/Communication

This work has been led by the Director Health and Wellbeing with assistance from a number of Social Planners in consultation with a Project Steering Group. After the Councillor briefing in January 2019 this group was expanded to include:

- Crs Metcalf & Alden
- Statutory Planning
- Regional Sustainable Development
- Safe & Healthy
- Community Partnerships
- Active & Healthy
- Tourism and major events
- Community wellbeing

A draft Community Engagement Plan has been developed for Council input. Once consultation has been completed, a report will come back to Council along with recommendations for policy modifications. The final policy will then be presented to Council for endorsement.

Resource Implications

A budget of \$50,000 was allocated for this work in the 2017 – 2018 financial year.

Attachments

1. Draft Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy
2. Draft Community Engagement Plan

**Attachment 1 - Reducing Harm from Gambling Attachment 2 - Draft Engagement Plan -
Reducing harm from gambling policy**



Community Engagement Plan

Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy

June 2019

Project Manager: Vicky Mason, Director Health and Wellbeing

Project description

The City of Greater Bendigo (the City) is strongly committed to engaging with communities and relevant stakeholders on decisions which will potentially affect or interest them.

In December 2017 Council endorsed a project brief for the updating of its current City of Greater Bendigo Gaming Policy Framework *Accessible but not Convenient*. This work was in response to prioritising the reduction of harm from gambling in the Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021.

To date research has included a review of the current policy, an economic and social impact analysis and the drafting of a new *Reducing harm from gambling policy* (Policy). This Policy has taken a public health approach with the aim of minimising harm by:

- Supply reduction
- Demand reduction
- Harm reduction

It is now timely to test the Draft Policy through a community engagement process. The findings of this process will help strengthen the Draft Policy prior to final endorsement by Council and highlight Council's commitment to improving health and wellbeing and economic development across the City.

Purpose of Plan

The purpose of this plan is to outline the objectives, stakeholders and process for engagement to inform the finalisation of the Reducing harm from gambling policy. The outcome of this work will be a Community Engagement Report.

Associated documents

The key associated documents for this engagement plan are:

- Draft Reducing harm from gambling Policy – July 2019
- Review of Social Impact of Gambling Report - City of Greater Bendigo, November 2018
- City of Greater Bendigo – Gaming Policy Review – K2 Planning P/L and 10 Consulting Group, November 2018
- Review of the Economic Impacts of Gambling. SGS Economics & Planning, September 2018
- Council policies that take a harm prevention / public health approach
- Reducing harm from gambling. The role of local government policy. VLGA.
- City of Greater Bendigo Engagement Guidelines

Engagement objectives

Engaging the community in the finalisation of the Draft Policy provides the opportunity to:

- Highlight the levels of gambling related harm on the Greater Bendigo community with a particular focus on Electronic Gambling Machines (EGMs)
- Disseminate key learnings from research about the potential economic and social impacts of gambling on the wider community
- Educate the community about the current role of local government in the regulation and supply of EGMs
- Test a number of policy initiatives designed to reduce the supply, demand and harm from gambling with a particular focus on EGMs
- Identify key barriers and enablers to policy implementation
- Identify community strengths, assets and opportunities for reducing the harm from gambling across the Greater Bendigo community
- Document the feedback from key stakeholders that captures the interests, needs, awareness, barriers, attitudes and motivations for supporting the new policy
- Clarify the Council's role in promoting and facilitating health and wellbeing.

Negotiables & Non-negotiables

Negotiables	Non-negotiables
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Types of engagement, locations and timing How community will be informed/ receive feedback Policy initiatives Final presentation/format of the policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative requirements Geographical boundaries of municipality Participants will be informed of outcomes of community engagement process.

Stakeholder Analysis**Study area**

The study area for the project is the whole municipality, including small towns and rural communities.

Stakeholder group	Interest	Level of interest / impact	Level of influence	Suggested level of engagement	Method of engagement
Councillors	Endorsed priority in the Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021 Provide financial and governance support to the Bendigo Stadium – a current EGM provider	High	High	Involve	Briefing workshop
Existing EGM operators	Current revenue generation from EGMs. Clubs provide community contributions. Some may be looking to change their EGM operations.	High	Low	Consult	Letter seeking submission
Sporting Groups	Some currently receiving financial support from EGM operators	High	Medium	Consult	Letter seeking submission
General community	Some use EGMs for recreation, some may have relationships with people who are experiencing harm from gambling	Medium	Medium	Inform	Media releases Draft Policy and engagement questions on City website.
VLGA	Currently advocating for gambling reform	Medium	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting

Stakeholder group	Interest	Level of interest / impact	Level of influence	Suggested level of engagement	Method of engagement
					review of draft policy
MAV	Currently advocating for gambling reform	Medium	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Alliance for Gambling Reform	Currently advocating for gambling reform,	Medium	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Gamblers Help – Anglicare Victoria Bendigo	Currently supporting people experiencing harm from gambling	High	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Gamblers Anonymous/other lived experience group	<p>Have a Bendigo group and may be able to provide a lived experience perspective</p> <p>The Alliance also have a The Champions for Change program for people with lived experience of the impact of gambling and there may be Champions in the COGB LGA they could identify for targeted consultation.</p>	High	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
BDAC	Run a free financial counselling service for people experiencing financial difficulties, including Gambling problems	High	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Bendigo Family and Financial Services Inc	In 2018 received funding “to conduct a pilot education program in the Bendigo region for	High	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy

Stakeholder group	Interest	Level of interest / impact	Level of influence	Suggested level of engagement	Method of engagement
	people under 25 years who receive Centrelink Newstart or Youth Allowance to learn about risks of gaming...				
BCHS	Are a member of the Alliance for Gambling Reform “we will continue to work with those in our community who are affected by gambling through the services we have that can support them.”	High	Medium	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Youth Support Advocacy Service	Made a submission to the VGLR about the Wellington (only org to do so)	High	Low	Consult	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Bendigo Loddon PCP	Previous IHP plan focussed on “problem gambling (2012-13), not in 2013-17 plan	Medium	Medium		Letter requesting review of draft policy
Community Clubs Victoria	Industry association representing Victorian community clubs and offering a range of services including advice regarding responsible gambling compliance.	Medium	Low	Inform	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Australian Hotels Association	Industry body representing members from hotels.	Medium	Low	Inform	Letter requesting review of draft policy
Local Media	Reporting the project	Low	low-medium	Inform	Media Release

Risks

There are numerous risks involved with the community engagement process for this project, the key risks are:

1. Risk that Council may appear conflicted due to support for the Bendigo Stadium
2. Reputational risk due to poor engagement or lack of engagement because of the engagement timeframes.
3. Risk of poor feedback due to poor response from the community or not connecting with main/ relevant cohorts.

The likelihood of each risk occurring is low to medium; and the likely impact of each risk is also low to medium.

These risks can be mitigated by following clear processes and ensuring a thorough planning and engagement process that includes clear communication that manages public expectations, adequate monitoring of implementation, and oversight by the Project Manager and Internal Project Steering Group.

Engagement Plan

This engagement plan has been developed using the following principles:

- Community Engagement will leverage existing City relationships
- Engagement activities will target and capture as broad an audience as possible, via interaction through their channels of choice.
- Engagement activities will be tailored and targeted to the audience:
- Pre-engagement activities with Internal Project Steering Group will provide opportunity to test engagement methods.
- Current EGM operators sporting groups receiving financial support from EGM operators will be engaged separately via face-to-face forums.
- Continuous evaluation will be undertaken throughout the project, to ensure the engagement has achieved the desired level of awareness and understanding.

Methods for engagement will include:

- Media updates that will highlight:
 - The social and economic impacts of gambling across the Greater Bendigo community
 - The availability of the Draft Policy for consultation
- The Draft Policy will be placed on the Council website for a four week period with an accompanying narrative that will ask the community to explore:
 - What can be done to minimise the harms to the community created by gambling?
 - What gets in the way?
- Running concurrently will be a number of forums, one for current EGM operators and one for current sporting groups. The forums will explore the draft policy initiatives, barriers and enablers to implementation and other ideas for consideration.
- A number of key stakeholders will be formally written to seeking feedback on the Draft Policy.

Evaluation

Following the engagement process and finalization of the Policy City employees will engage in an evaluation process. This process will be based on three key questions:

- Did the engagement achieve its objectives?

- Did we enable and achieve diverse stakeholder input through our engagement process?
- What did we learn?
- Did it make any difference to the final outcome?

Attachment 2 - ATTACHMENT 1: Reducing Harm From Gambling Policy**Greater Bendigo Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy**

Approval Level:	Council
Policy Type:	Council
Approval Date:	Click here to enter a date. (If the policy is to become effective at a future date, both the approval date and commencement date should be shown. ie <i>15 March 2016 (Effective from 1 July 2016)</i>)
Review cycle:	3 years
Review Date:	2023
Responsible Officer:	Vicky Mason
Owner:	Active and Healthy Lifestyles
Responsible Director:	Health and Wellbeing
Relevant Legislation/Authority:	<i>Planning and Environment Act 1987, Interactive Gambling Act 2001, Gambling Regulation Act 2003, Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008</i>
DOCSETID:	4363859

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Greater Bendigo Reducing Harm from Gambling Policy (the Policy) is to outline Council's future approach to reducing harm from gambling across the Greater Bendigo community.

High rates of harm from gambling were identified in the planning for the City of Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021. Whilst the overall amounts spent on gambling across the City are not available, the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation (VCGLR) reported that in 2018-19 the Greater Bendigo net expenditure on Electronic Gaming Machines was \$50,671,968.

This policy replaces the previous City of Greater Bendigo (City) Gaming Policy "Accessible but not Convenient" which was developed in 2007. It recognises the statutory and regulatory changes that have occurred since that time and the increased knowledge and understanding of the social and economic impacts of gambling on the community.

2. BACKGROUND

Local government has legislative requirements to protect and promote the health and wellbeing of the community. In 2017 Council endorsed the Greater Bendigo Health and

Wellbeing Plan 2017 – 2021. One of the priorities identified in the plan is the reduction of harm from gambling.

Whilst there are many different forms of gambling, the most predominant source of financial loss and harm in Australia comes from Electronic Gaming Machines (EGMs). Whilst the Victorian State Government is responsible for the regulation of EGMs, the requirements of the Planning and Environment Act 1987 and the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme mean that the EGM planning and approvals process lies within Council's jurisdiction. This means that Council can directly influence the quantity, location, and social and economic impacts of EGMs within Greater Bendigo. It can also ensure active participation by the community in these decisions.

The Gambling Regulation Act 2003 enables local government to make submissions to the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor (VCGLR) in the form of a social and economic impact assessment for potential new applications for EGMs within its municipality or a neighbouring municipality.

3. SCOPE

The Policy outlines Council's position on gambling and will be applied to all matters relating to gambling within Greater Bendigo. This includes planning, decision-making, projects and programs. The Policy will be also be applied to all applications submitted or referred to Council for EGMs in new venues, as well as applications for additional EGMs by existing EGM operators.

The Policy takes a public health approach recognising that the level of harm created by gambling ranges from no harm through to very severe levels of harm, and that the harm may be experienced not just by the gambler but also by their family, friends and the wider community.

4. DEFINITIONS

In this policy:

City means the City of Greater Bendigo and includes the Chief Executive Officer employed by the Council and all other staff employed by the Chief Executive Officer.

Council means the Greater Bendigo City Council and includes the nine Councillors.

Electronic Gaming Machine (EGM) means a computerised gambling device that has a video screen displaying symbols on simulated reels. Cash is inserted into the machine and buttons are used to place bet

Gambling means activities where a prize of money or something else of value is offered or can be won. A person pays or stakes money or other valuable to participate and the outcome involves, or is presented as involving, an element of chance

Greater Bendigo means the municipal area governed by the Greater Bendigo City Council.

5. PRINCIPLES

The Policy's objectives are to minimise the negative social and economic impacts of gambling on the Greater Bendigo community by:

- Discouraging the availability of opportunities to gamble, particularly in socio-economically disadvantaged communities
- Advocating to other levels of government to reduce exposure and opportunity to gamble
- Working with organisations, clubs or community groups to minimise their financial dependence on the proceeds of gambling
- Over the life of this policy decreasing financial and other support for organisations, clubs and community groups who promote or accept the proceeds of gambling
- Supporting organisations that provide services to members of the community who experience harm from gambling
- Providing community education about the harms related to gambling.

1. POLICY

Over the next four years Council will:

1. Lead

- 1.1. Continue to acknowledge gambling as a public health issue and, where appropriate, integrate harm prevention and reduction into future planning and programming. This includes, but is not limited to, the Council and Health and Wellbeing Plans, Municipal Strategic Statement and the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.
- 1.2. Continue to promote a variety of non-gambling events, activities and programs that encourage residents to lead active and healthy lives.
- 1.3. Take a public health approach in all gambling-related communication. Ongoing Council communication will utilise terms such as 'gambling', 'people harmed by gambling', 'gambling losses' and 'EGM/Poker machine operators' and 'gambling industry' as opposed to 'gaming', gaming expenditure 'problem gamblers' and 'pokie venues'.
- 1.4. Actively promote the conduct of City activities, social outings, meetings or municipal events at venues that don't promote any form of gambling or operate EGMs.
- 1.5. Not permit advertising and/or the promotion of gambling of any form at Council owned or managed facilities.
- 1.6. Minimise financial support, sponsorships or provision of grants to community groups or organisations that are sponsored by gambling agencies, venues that operate EGMs, or for activities that take place in gambling venues.
- 1.7. Work with community groups and organisations to end financial dependence on gambling sponsorships and revenue.

- 1.8. Respond to and support gambling-related research, data collection or government enquiries.
- 1.9. Not accept any new financial or in-kind contributions from commercial gambling or EGM operators.
- 1.10. Remove all community subsidies from facility leases on Council owned or managed land where the tenant operates EGMs.

2. Advocate

- 2.1. Support advocacy work targeted towards preventing and minimising gambling harm and collaborate with, and contribute to, other local government organisations, local government peak bodies and gambling networks to advocate for reform and develop state-wide advocacy strategies.
- 2.2. Advocate for gambling regulatory reforms aimed at reducing harm from gambling, including, but not limited to:
 - Introducing \$1 maximum bet limits
 - Mandatory pre-commitment measures
 - The removal of Automated Teller Machines (ATMs) from EGM venues
 - A decrease in EGM limits within the city and neighbouring municipalities
 - Reduced operating hours for EGM operators
 - Changes to the rules governing community contributions
 - The removal of machine features which are misleading and addictive.
- 2.3. Advocate to State and Commonwealth Government to not conduct activities involving community members or local government employees at venues operating EGMs when alternative venues are available.
- 2.4. Work with and support relevant organisations, providers, agencies and initiatives to educate the Greater Bendigo community on the overall negative impact of gambling and the risks involved with EGMs.
- 2.5. Encourage all gambling venues to provide as responsible a gambling environment as possible, and to offer non-gambling entertainment options.
- 2.6. Oppose any future plans for a casino in the City.

3. Regulate

- 3.1. Oppose any planning and licensing application for additional EGMs and the transfer of EGMs within Greater Bendigo where there is good evidence that the application will have negative social and economic impacts and minimal community benefit.
- 3.2. Not permit new or additional EGMs on Council owned or managed land.

- 3.3. Discourage new or additional EGMs in disadvantaged areas or in small communities and settlements where there are minimal or no alternative attractions.
- 3.4. Seek to limit possible EGM operating locations in low socio-economic areas or locations in which children are commonly present, by updating prohibited and discouraged gaming areas spatially represented in Clause 52.28, 22.28 and the Discouraged Gaming Areas incorporated document in the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme to account for recent development, updated SEIFA data, and changes to land zoning.
- 3.5. Seek to limit operating hours of EGM venues through permit conditions in the Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme.
- 3.6. Support the allocation or reallocation of community contributions related to gambling to gambler's help or relevant services aimed at reducing harm associated with gambling.
- 3.7. Support surrounding municipalities' submissions to VCGLR where there is good evidence that the application will have negative social and economic impacts and minimal community benefit.

4. Inform

- 4.1. Continue to monitor gambling-related research, evidence, data, legislative or policy changes, and gambling trends, including harm prevention and minimisation.
- 4.2. Work with the Greater Bendigo community to raise awareness on gambling harm and the negative impacts of gambling and will encourage participation in non-gambling related activities.
- 4.3. Inform the community of Council's role and actions to address or minimise gambling-related harm.
- 4.4. Provide updated gambling data on the Council's website and will make statistical data and information available in alternative formats upon request.
- 4.5. Ensure that the community is informed of planning applications for EGMs submitted to Council.
- 4.6. Involve and encourage community members, organisations and other relevant stakeholders to provide input into decision-making processes and Policy and program development.
- 4.7. Seek external funding opportunities that will contribute towards harm prevention or minimisation programs within Greater Bendigo.

- 4.8. Create opportunities to incorporate gambling questions on existing surveys and during community consultation in order to further understand gambling harm within Greater Bendigo.

2. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

7.1 Council

It is the role of Council to adopt the Policy

7.2 City of Greater Bendigo employees

The Active and Healthy Lifestyles Unit is responsible for:

- Administrative review of this policy and all associated reporting to Council
- Ensuring all Council staff are aware of the Policy and its application
- Application of relevant components of the Policy
- Reviewing the Policy as required

The Statutory Planning Unit is responsible for:

- Application of relevant components of the Policy

6. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Readers are encouraged to access relevant documents and/or resources which are available as per the below.

These include:

- Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017 - 2021
- Greater Bendigo Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017 - 2021
- Greater Bendigo Planning Scheme
- City of Greater Bendigo – Gaming Policy Review. Final Report. Prepared by K2 Planning Pty Ltd and 10 Consulting Group. November 2018
- Review of the Economic Impacts of Gambling. SGS Economics & Planning. September 2018
- Review of the Social Impacts of Gambling. City of Greater Bendigo. November 2018
- Gambling Regulation Act 2003
- Gambling Regulation (Pre-commitment and Loyalty Scheme) Regulations 2014
- Gambling Regulations 2015
- Gambling Regulation Amendment (Gaming Machine Arrangements) Act 2017
- Gambling Legislation Amendment Act 2018
- Planning and Environment Act 1987

Further information or advice on this policy should be directed to Active and Healthy Lifestyles.

3. HUMAN RIGHTS COMPATIBILITY

The implications of this policy have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

It is recognised that, from time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a City unit, a change to the name of a Federal or State Government department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be made through consultation with the staff Consultative Committee and with the approval of EMT or where required, resolution of Council.

4. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date Approved	Responsible Officer	Unit	Change Type	Version	Next Review Date
<i>Month, year</i>	<i>Insert initials</i>	<i>Business Unit</i>	<i>Eg. Develop, Review (significant) Review (administrative), Update</i>	<i>Increase version number each time document is updated/changed</i>	<i>Month, year</i>

16.4. International Relations Policy 2021

Author	Leon Moulden, Acting Coordinator Strong Communities
Responsible Director	Vicky Mason, Director Health and Wellbeing

Purpose

To present the reviewed Draft International Relations Policy 2021 and seek Council endorsement.

Summary

The City of Greater Bendigo (City) is currently engaging in a diverse range of international activities such as the UNESCO creative cities network (Creative City of Gastronomy) and Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee. Whilst much of this work is guided by the implementation of the Community Plan and with strong support of Council, there is currently no contemporary policy to guide our international efforts, as the current International Relations Policy was approved in December 2014.

The reviewed Draft International Relations Policy 2021 seeks to provide greater clarity to guide the City's overall approach, improve targeting of prospective international relations to ensure clear benefits and value for money, and provide greater consistency through the adoption of a set of principles.

The reviewed draft policy is underpinned by significant background research and mapping of international relationships and by community engagement and public feedback. The reviewed draft policy is underpinned by principles identified by the research, community engagement process and the public feedback process. These principles are: mutual benefit and reciprocity, alignment and relevance, leverage, promotion, sustainability, accountability and transparency, community participation, human rights, respect for cultural differences, capacity building, evidence-based, and evaluation and review.

Following the adoption of the reviewed International Relations Policy an International Relations Strategy will be developed.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council adopt the reviewed International Relations Policy 2021.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 2 Wellbeing and fairness

2.3: Promote community connection

2019-2020 Annual Action Plan Initiative: *Review the Greater Bendigo International Relations Policy.*

It also aligns to:

Goal 3: Strengthening the economy

3.1: Support our local businesses and industry to be strong, vibrant and to grow and develop.

- 3.1.4: Work closely with all sectors, including manufacturing, tourism, retail, education, health, creative industries and agriculture to enhance their success.

3.3: Ensure Greater Bendigo is a welcoming place for new businesses and industries and supports creativity and innovation and visitor attraction.

- 3.3.2: Support collaborative partnerships for tourism growth.

Goal 6: Embracing our culture and heritage

6.1: Celebrate our unique heritage.

- 6.1.4: Recognise and celebrate our significant national and international heritage.

6.3: Offer and support a diverse range of events that attract and connect people.

- 6.3.2: Build on the success of attractions and profile of the Bendigo Art Gallery.

6.3.4: Attract state, national and internationally recognised arts and cultural experiences in public spaces and buildings.

Background Information

The City's current International Relations Policy was adopted by Council in 2014. Significant changes have occurred since the current policy was adopted. International relationships throughout Greater Bendigo are now being established and managed by a diverse range of stakeholders including: community groups, education providers, sporting clubs, manufacturing industries and other businesses and cultural groups. These groups and businesses have highlighted the growing internationalisation of the City, the diversity of international relationships, and the mutual benefits between international parties.

Some of the City's international relationships that currently exist or have occurred in recent years include:

- Indonesian Government – The City hosted a visit and municipality tour by Indonesian Ministry of Villages in early 2018.
- The City supported the Australian Indonesia Youth Exchange Program in November 2018.
- Smart Cities – A City staff member participated in the AusTrade delegation to the world Smart Cities Conference in Barcelona in 2017 and the follow up visits to the UK.
- UNESCO – On October 31, 2019 the City was admitted to the Creative Cities Network. Bendigo has been designated as a Creative City of Gastronomy – recognising Greater Bendigo and region in food and beverages, culture and sustainability.
- The Art Gallery – Over the last decade the City through the Art Gallery has held a series of highly successful exhibitions in collaboration with major international galleries in the UK and the US.

- The Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee - which was established in 2006 to support local residents and organisations to develop relationships with the sub-district of Maubisse in Timor Leste. The Committee's work in Maubisse contributes to improved living standards, access to basic services, training, capacity building and social programs. In response to changes in Local Government Act 2020, the BMFC is transitioning its model of governance to an incorporated association.

There are also many examples of international activity occurring within the municipality, independent of the City. These are across business (e.g. Bendigo Manufacturers and Bendigo and Adelaide Bank), education (La Trobe University), health (e.g. Bendigo Health and St John of God) and community groups (e.g. Bendigo Filipino Foundation).

Previous Council Decision(s) Date(s):

At the Ordinary Council Meeting on 17 December 2014 Council approved the current International Relations Policy.

Report

Why review the International Relations Policy

Significant changes have occurred since the current International Relations Policy was adopted in 2014. Increasing connections, demands and opportunities in relation to a globalising world mean the City needs to be more strategic in what relationships it supports, promotes and responds to. Therefore, the reviewed International Relations Policy seeks to:

- provide greater clarity to guide the City's overall approach;
- improve targeting of prospective international relations to ensure that the City receives clear benefits and value for money; and
- provide greater consistency in the approach to future decision-making primarily through the adoption of a set of principles.

International Relations Policy Review Process

The background research for this project commenced in June 2019, this included the mapping of international relationships within Greater Bendigo. In early 2020 a Policy Review Proposal was developed in accordance with the City's policy development framework. A community engagement plan and communications plan were also developed to guide the community engagement and feedback processes. The project formally commenced when a Project Control Group (PCG) was established in March 2020 with membership from the Governance, Regional Sustainable Development and Community Partnerships.

To inform the review of this policy several other international relations policies from several regional Victorian Local Governments have been used as benchmarks. This included the Greater Shepparton City Council International Engagement Policy, Mildura Rural City Council International Relations Policy, Campaspe Shire Council International Engagement Policy, and City of Wodonga International Relations Policy.

This research was accompanied by community engagement with interested internal and external stakeholder groups between 11 June and 14 August 2020 via a survey and E-Focus Groups. Participants included Councillors, Youth Councillors, City managers and staff; and key external organisations and representative bodies with strategic interests in international relations such as: La Trobe University, Bendigo Manufacturing Group,

Bendigo Tourism, Bendigo Health, Be Bendigo and other members of the Economic Development Strategy Steering Committee. Members of the City's Business Newsletter Network, members of the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee, and members of the City's Intercultural Ambassadors also contributed to this engagement process.

The key themes to emerge from the community engagement were:

1. The International Relations Policy should include principles relating to the concepts of mutual benefit, social equality and fairness, cultural exchange, economic development, mutual understanding, collaboration, inclusion, friendship, building capacity, and sustainability; and
2. The policy should prioritise international relationships that provide opportunities for education about cultures and cultural connections; humanitarian and community support; economic development and tourism; staff exchanges and job swaps and; environment, sustainability, innovation, access to overseas markets and technology exchange.

This feedback along with the background research guided the development of a draft International Relations Policy. The draft policy was placed on public exhibition between 30 October and 18 December 2020 inviting feedback from internal and external stakeholders and the general public. Responses to the draft policy were received via a feedback survey, written submissions, an E-Focus Group, an information session, and from a Youth Council presentation. The feedback was supportive of the draft policy especially for its references to human rights, mutual benefit, migration, employment, and cultural exchange and diversity. No major amendments to the draft policy were requested by the public feedback. As a result, only minor amendments were made to the draft policy; such as the inclusion of a reference to Greater Bendigo being a "Welcoming City"; the inclusion of a reference to the UN Declaration of Human Rights; improvements to the section on Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee; and some general improvements of wording. Reference to the Commonwealth Government's new *Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020* has also been included.

Draft International Relations Policy 2021

The reviewed Draft International Relations Policy 2021 is structured in accordance with the City's current policy framework. The draft policy provides a clear outline of what is in and out of scope, and whom it applies to including Councillors, staff, volunteers and contractors. The reviewed draft policy also provides clear policies rules for new formal international relationships, existing international relationships, and the discontinuation of international relationships.

The reviewed Draft International Relations Policy 2021 is underpinned by a set of principles. These principles are: mutual benefit and reciprocity, alignment and relevance, leverage, promotion, sustainability, accountability and transparency, community participation, human rights, respect for cultural differences, capacity building, evidence-based, and evaluation and review.

Priority/Importance:

This policy review is a 2019-2020 action in the Community Plan 2017-2021.

Options/Alternatives:

That Council adopt the reviewed International Relations Policy 2021.

Timelines:

This policy review formally commenced in March 2020. Following adoption of this policy the development of an International Relations Strategy will commence.

Risk Analysis:

With regards to international relations the most likely risk to the City is reputational risk. This is likely to occur if the City is unclear about why it undertakes any of its international relations. This reviewed International Relations Policy will mitigate this risk by providing a transparent framework for decision-making regarding international relationships, and thus provide the community with the rationale for every international relationship the City enters in to.

The risk to the City of not updating this policy is that it will likely leave the organisation in an unclear position with regards to any future international relationships. This could have both financial and reputational impacts.

Consultation/Communication

A community engagement plan and communications plan guided all community engagement and communications with both internal and external stakeholders for the review of this policy.

Internal Consultation:

Key City staff directly consulted about the review of the International Relations Policy were: Members of EMT, Director Health and Wellbeing, Manager Community Partnerships, Coordinator Strong Communities, Community Partnerships Project Officer, Manager Governance, Legal and Policy Advisor, Manager Regional Sustainable Development, Manager Tourism and Major events, Director Bendigo Art Gallery, Manager Business Services, Manager Financial Strategy, and Coordinator Innovation and Transformation.

External Consultation:

Initial community engagement activities were undertaken between 11 June and 14 August 2020. These community engagement activities were undertaken online due to COVID-19 and included an internal survey to Councillors, Youth Councillors and City managers and staff. There were 52 responses to this survey. A second survey was sent to targeted external stakeholders which included external organisations and representative bodies with strategic interests in international relations including La Trobe University, Bendigo Manufacturing Group, Bendigo Tourism, Bendigo Health, Be Bendigo, and more than 6,000 members of the City's Business Newsletter Network, as well as members of Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee and the City's Intercultural Ambassadors. There were 25 responses to this survey.

The surveys were then followed with two E-focus groups for both interested internal and external stakeholders. The internal E-focus group had eight participants (including one Councillor and one Youth Councillor) and the external E-focus group had five participants.

The feedback from this engagement process and the background research provided the basis for a draft policy. The draft policy was then placed on public exhibition between 30 October and 18 December 2020 inviting feedback from internal and external stakeholders and the general public. A low number of responses were received with four via a feedback survey, two written submissions, four from an E-Focus Group and two from an information session, as well as a presentation to the Youth Council where eight Youth Councillors discussed the draft policy. The feedback received during the public exhibition (while limited in quantity) was constructive and overwhelmingly supportive of the draft policy and resulted in only minor amendments to the draft policy.

Resource Implications

This policy review was undertaken within existing Community Partnerships resourcing. It is intended that any future resourcing of international relations activities will be undertaken by the relevant business units within existing resources. Any proposed international relations activities that require further resources will be subject to the usual budget processes.

Attachments

1. Draft International Relations Policy 2021
2. Draft International Relations Policy Public Exhibition Feedback Report

Attachment 1 - Draft International Relations Policy 2021**INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS POLICY**

Approval Level:	Council
Policy Type:	Council
Approval Date:	21/06/2021
Review cycle:	Every four years
Review Date:	23/06/2025
Responsible Officer:	TBC
Owner:	Choose an item.
Responsible Director:	Choose an item.
Relevant Legislation/Authority:	<i>Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)</i> <i>Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)</i> <i>Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020</i>
DOCSETID:	3151145

1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to:

- 1.1. provide greater clarity to guide the City's overall approach to formal International Relationships;
- 1.2. improve targeting of formal International Relationships to ensure that the City receives clear benefits and value for money, and;
- 1.3. provide greater consistency in approach to future decision making on formal International Relationships primarily through a set of core principles.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. International Relationships, connections and partnerships are now part of the everyday business of most communities whether at governmental, organisational, business, community or personal level, and Greater Bendigo is no exception. Since the previous International Relations Policy was approved in December 2014, significant changes have occurred in Greater Bendigo. Increased connections, demands and opportunities in relation to a globalising world mean the City of Greater Bendigo needs to be strategic in what it supports, promotes and responds to.

- 2.2. Many of Greater Bendigo businesses seek out international markets: Greater Bendigo's tourism profile is increasingly looking to international visitors; institutions like the Bendigo Art Gallery have formed strong international partnerships; our advanced manufacturers export to over 50 countries; and every year more than 500 persons from overseas migrate to Greater Bendigo. Overseas organisations including local governments seek out contacts with the City of Greater Bendigo; and technology links people, businesses and communities around the globe. These trends and forces are increasing in their impact and reach. Whereas once approaches were formal and highly structured, increasingly approaches and contacts are almost random, they are now dynamic, and approaches are made, and responses sought often with little notice or information.
- 2.3. The City is currently involved in a diverse range of international activities including Art Gallery collaborations, the UNESCO City of Gastronomy and the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee. In 2017, the City became the first city in Australia to be recognised as a Child Friendly City by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and in 2020 became the first local government in Australia to be accredited as a Welcoming City by the Welcoming Cities Network. Previously, the City was involved in Sister City relationships with Los Altos, California (USA), Penzance/St Just (United Kingdom), and Haimen, Jiangsu Province (China). The City does not have any current active Sister City relationships.
- 2.4. The Victorian State Government has driven the development of formalised municipal partnerships between local governments in Victoria and in Timor-Leste, with the aim of supporting decentralisation of government services in Timor-Leste and strengthening public sector skills. The Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee (BMFC) was formed in late 2006 to assist in the implementation of this partnership and in 2016 the City formalised its relationship with Timor-Leste through the signing of a Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the District of Ainaro, of which Maubisse is a subdistrict. Both the municipal partnership and the friendship relationship contribute to improved living standards, access to basic services, training, capacity building and social programs in Timor-Leste, and engage both the Maubisse and Greater Bendigo communities in its programs. The BMFC supports and helps maintain the friendship relationship between Greater Bendigo and Maubisse, providing the foundation for the municipal partnership. In response to changes in Local Government Act 2020, the BMFC is transitioning its model of governance to an incorporated association.
- 2.5. In this globalised changing context, the City is not able to respond to all opportunities that are presented because of the resource demands of doing so. The City has to vet all approaches to ascertain whether or not it is a priority or opportunity worth responding to. Yet in an increasingly globalised world the City cannot afford to stand by and ignore the range of potential opportunities that are presented. Increasingly we can observe other similar Cities that have forged strong International Relationships and have reaped important benefits. Indeed, the City has already done this – some by conscious effort and some by circumstance. The Bendigo Art Gallery is a stand out example, but so too are the Chinese Golden Dragon Museum, the Great Stupa, the designation of Bendigo as a UNESCO Creative City in Gastronomy and the export efforts of several advanced manufacturers are also examples.
- 2.6. In response to this changing context this policy provides a framework and set of principles to guide the City's involvement in formal International Relationships for the next four years.

3. SCOPE

In-scope

This policy applies to:

- 3.1. All Councillors, employees, volunteers and contractors engaged by the City who are involved in International Relationships on behalf of the City;
- 3.2. All International Relationships between the City and other overseas cities, organisations and countries;
- 3.3. All communication, strategy development, marketing, community engagement or consultation activities that are relevant to International Relationships;
- 3.4. The City's engagements with any external party that is a partner with the City in an International Relationship;
- 3.5. Any group or organisation that is funded by the City for an International Relationship; or
- 3.6. International Relationships to which the City is a partner and/or a participant under Commonwealth Government or Victorian Government arrangements.

Out of scope

This policy does not apply to:

- 3.7. International Relationships that private organisations undertake on their own as part of their normal business; and
- 3.8. International Relationships that are part of business as usual for the Commonwealth Government or Victorian Government and are beyond the scope of Local Government jurisdiction.

4. DEFINITIONS

In this policy:

Act means *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic);

City means the Greater Bendigo City Council, being a body corporate constituted as a municipal Council under the *Local Government Act 2020* (Vic);

Council means all of the Councillors collectively;

Councillor means a person who holds the office of member of the Greater Bendigo City Council;

Council Plan means City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan (2017-2021) and subsequent Council Plans;

Enter into International Relationships means establishing a formal agreement to start or engage in International Relationships;

Foreign Country means any country that is outside Australia and the external Territories, whether or not it is an independent sovereign state.

International Relationships means formal political, economic, environmental, social and cultural relationships that exist between the City of Greater Bendigo and cities or organisations of a foreign country.

5. PRINCIPLES

This policy is underpinned by the following principles:

- 5.1. **Mutual benefit and reciprocity** - The City's International Relationships must be able to adequately demonstrate a mutual benefit for all parties concerned. The City's International Relationships will be based on improving cooperation, and mutual understanding and that social, cultural, economic, and environmental benefits offered by one party where appropriate will be returned in kind by all parties in the International Relationship.
- 5.2. **Alignment and relevance** – Only International Relationships that align with the Council Plan, policies and values, and which are in accordance with State and Commonwealth legislative requirements will be established. Only International Relationships that reflect the interests of the City and that are responsive to the economic, social, cultural and environmental needs and aspirations of primary stakeholders will be established.
- 5.3. **Leverage** – The City will, where relevant, utilise existing relationships to strengthen existing partnerships and build new partnerships to promote the City's social, cultural, environmental and economic development objectives. Innovative ways of increasing the City's international recognition will be adopted and best practice innovations shared among stakeholders to maximise opportunities available to the City's residents and businesses.
- 5.4. **Promotion** – The City will, where appropriate, promote investment opportunities for Greater Bendigo's businesses, manufacturers, education institutions and tourism industry with overseas cities and organisations.
- 5.5. **Sustainability** – The City's capacity to resource International Relationships and the likelihood for long-term success will need to be demonstrated with an implementation and funding plan. A sunset clause or exit strategy will be developed for each International Relationship where collaboration or partners' involvement is no longer feasible or is time limited.
- 5.6. **Accountability and transparency** - The City will adhere to value for money principles within existing resources and ensure accountability and transparency in use of public resources for International Relationships. The City will ensure regular information sharing and feedback to the community for continuous improvement and honest dialogue about International Relationships.
- 5.7. **Community participation** - The City's International Relationships must maximise community participation, support for humanitarianism and be supported by appropriate community engagement. Partnerships with local and international stakeholders will be

undertaken to facilitate community connectivity based on mutual benefit and cultural diplomacy.

- 5.8. **Human Rights** - The City's International Relationships must reflect the City's commitment to human rights and be in accordance with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic), the City of Greater Bendigo Human Rights Charter 2014, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The City will engage in International Relationships which are in accordance with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure dignity, peace and prosperity for people and the planet, and ensure proactive community development.
- 5.9. **Respect for cultural diversity** - The City's International Relationships must reflect the City's commitment to cultural diversity and demonstrate respect for cultural differences. The City will engage in International Relationships that ethically recognise, respect, promote and celebrate cultural differences.
- 5.10. **Capacity building** - The City's International Relationships must reflect the City's commitment to building and retaining skills and sharing knowledge and learning within International Relationships.
- 5.11. **Evidence-based** – The City's International Relationships must be evidence-based to demonstrate the community need. Decisions on which International Relationships to pursue will be based on the best available evidence.
- 5.12. **Evaluation and review** - The City will ensure systematic evaluation of effectiveness of the policy and International Relationships to assess whether the policy purpose has been achieved and whether the City's formal International Relationships are in accordance with the Council Plan. Regular review of the policy will be undertaken every four years or following the introduction of a new or revised Council Plan.

6. POLICY

The following will be considered by Council when determining which International Relationship arrangement or activity to undertake:

New International Relationships

- 6.1. The City will only enter into formal International Relationships that align with the intent of the Council Plan.
- 6.2. The City will only enter into International Relationships that demonstrate adherence to all principles in this policy and create mutual benefit for the Greater Bendigo local community in at least one of the following categories:
 - a) Economic - includes tourism, trade (import and export), aviation, investment, and attracting skilled migrants.
 - b) Social and cultural - includes cultural exchange, sports and recreation, arts and creative industries, and festivals.
 - c) Environmental – includes climate change action, biodiversity, habitats and ecosystems.

- d) Educational and other professional services - includes student exchange, student placements, study tours, educational and industrial conferences, training, and professional services communities of practice.
- e) Technical and scientific - includes research and innovation collaboration, environmental, technological, and fact-finding-tours.
- f) Humanitarian - includes aid, volunteering, and community development.

- 6.3. Any new International Relationships must build on the existing strengths that lie within the Greater Bendigo local community.
- 6.4. Any International Relationships activity must result in positive promotion and strengthening of the reputation of the City and Greater Bendigo community and businesses.
- 6.5. Any new formal International Relationships must be approved by Council.
- 6.6. Any new proposal for International Relationships must demonstrate due consideration to human rights in accordance with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic), the City of Greater Bendigo Human Rights Charter 2014, and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- 6.7. Any International Relationships will only be undertaken after careful consideration of the City's resource constraints and resource implications in the short- and long-term.

Existing International Relationships

- 6.8. The City will review all International Relationships biennially to ensure the relationships are continuing to align with the Council Plan.
- 6.9. The outcomes from any International Relationships must be periodically presented to Council and made publicly available.
- 6.10. The City will consider other partnerships, capabilities and capacity to sustain International Relationships.

Withdrawal from International Relationships

- 6.11. The City will consider concluding any International Relationships that are considered no longer relevant or that no longer align with the Council Plan.
- 6.12. Any International Relationships that contravene State or Commonwealth law, the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic) and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be concluded.
- 6.13. The City will evaluate all International Relationships whose tenure comes to an end to determine if they can be renewed or concluded in accordance with this policy.
- 6.14. Any International Relationship that no longer satisfies the requirements of this policy may be concluded by Council.

7. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

It is the responsibility of Council to consider and approve formal International Relationships. It is the responsibility of all City employees, volunteers and contractors engaged by the City who are involved in International Relationships on behalf of the City as outlined in section 3 of this policy, to plan and deliver formal International Relationships consistent with the policy.

8. RELATED DOCUMENTS

Readers are encouraged to access relevant documents and/or resources which are available as per the below.

These include:

- *Australia's Foreign Relations (State and Territory Arrangements) Act 2020*
- *Local Government Act 2020 (Vic)*
- *Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)*
- *City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan*
- *City of Greater Bendigo Human Rights Charter 2014*
- *Charter of the United Nations*
- *United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights*

Further information or advice on this policy should be directed to Choose an item.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS COMPATIBILITY

The implications of this policy have been assessed in accordance with the requirements of the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES

It is recognised that, from time to time, circumstances may change leading to the need for minor administrative changes to this document. Where an update does not materially alter this, such a change may be made administratively. Examples include a change to the name of a City unit, a change to the name of a Federal or State Government department, and a minor update to legislation which does not have a material impact. However, any change or update which materially alters this document must be made through consultation with the staff Consultative Committee and with the approval of EMT or where required, resolution of Council.

11. DOCUMENT HISTORY

Date Approved	Responsible Officer	Unit	Change Type	Version	Next Review Date
December 2014	PG	Community Wellbeing	Development of International Relations Policy	1	December 2016
May 2021	AW	Community Partnerships	Review	2	May 2025

Attachment 2 - Draft International Relations Policy Public Exhibition Feedback Report**City of Greater Bendigo International Relations Policy Public Exhibition Feedback Report (30 October - 18 December 2020)**

The feedback received from participants in the community and stakeholder engagement process during the public exhibition period for the Draft Greater Bendigo International Relations Policy (draft policy) between 30 October 2020 and 18 December 2020 is presented in the tables below.

The information presented in the tables includes all feedback from: one online feedback survey (four respondents); two email submissions (two respondents); one online information session (two participants); one online focus group discussion (four participants); and one Youth Council meeting attended by eight Youth Councillors. Each table includes the feedback provided by participants, comments and analysis of the feedback, and recommendations to amend or not to amend the draft policy.

In total, the feedback process produced 20 responses from community members and key stakeholders representing eight organisations and associations which included the City of Greater Bendigo (Staff, Youth Councillors and Intercultural Ambassadors), Bendigo Community Health Services; La Trobe University; Victoria State Emergency Service; Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee; Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services; Bendigo Chinese Association; and Victorian State Department of Transport.

The overall feedback from the public exhibition process of the draft policy was positive and supportive and this generated the following key themes:

a) Relevant to policy;

- i) Human rights principles and policy rules need to be adhered to for all international relationships to reaffirm the City's commitment to social justice, human decency and equity.
- ii) Attracting and retaining skilled migrants to the City of Greater Bendigo especially in health and education sectors and this aligns with Section 6.2 of the policy.
- iii) The International Relations Policy could bring fiscal and employment opportunities to the region and ensure mutual benefit for the Greater Bendigo community which aligns with sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 6.2 of the policy.
- iv) The International Relations Policy provides a framework and principles for considering and assessing priority international relations projects under sections 5.11 and 6.8 of the policy.
- v) Links with multicultural communities should be strengthened to attract, develop and retain young health professionals and sports talent from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and promote international relationships in the Greater Bendigo region. This aligns with sections 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, and 6.2 of the policy.

b) Relevant to strategy;

- i) Educational linkages and connections should be promoted through university international relations, student exchange programs and international collaboration on education projects.
- ii) A discussion on the importance of Sister City relationships and Council's role should be held. Reference groups, schools, universities and other stakeholders within the City's network.
- iii) Benchmark examples with other similar policies and illustrations, figures, key references, charts and pictorial work done in the international relations space should be included in the policy to enhance readability for the document.

1 Feedback from the Youth Council Briefing (10 November 2020)

Youth Councillors who attended the meeting included: Ryan Peterson; Billie Taylor; Jemille McKenzie; Grace McIntosh; Jack Smith; Victoria Tangey; and Xavier Rodgers.

Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
The Youth Councillors applauded the policy principles and rules on human rights and on humanitarian support.	Positive feedback.	No change to the policy.
The Youth Councillors called for aligning opportunities from international relationships to the interests and welfare of young people.	This is a good point and is acknowledged. Specific strategies for young people will be developed and included in the International Relations Strategy after the policy is approved and adopted by Council.	No change to the policy

2 Online Information Session (16 November 2020).

- Jennifer Lay (Loddon Campaspe Multicultural Services)
- TAN See Tuang (Bendigo Chinese Association/City of Greater Bendigo Intercultural Ambassador)

Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
1. The City needs to have consultation with the community on the sister city relationships and explore their importance to the residents and organisations in the City of Greater Bendigo especially regarding educational, social, cultural, technological and economic benefits.	These are good comments, but consultations with the community on Sister City relationships would be more relevant for developing the International Relations Strategy and not the policy.	No change to the policy.
2. The City should formally communicate to all members of the dissolved Bendigo Sister Cities Committee regarding the reasons the committee was dissolved and the way forward regarding these sister city relationships.	Bendigo Sister Cities Committee, which is an independent body, and not the City made the decision to dissolve the sister city relationships.	No change to the policy.
3. The City should identify and establish arrangements to attract and retain skilled migrants to the City of Greater Bendigo especially in health and education sectors.	This is already included in the policy. Section 6.2 of the draft policy provides policy rules regarding attracting skilled migrants, and educational and other professional services.	No change to the policy
4. The City should work with Bendigo Health to attract and retain young health professionals from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and strengthen international relationships in the health sector.	This is a good point and could form part of the discussion during the drafting of the International Relations Strategy.	No change to the policy
5. The City should identify and establish arrangements to attract and develop sports talent especially from culturally and linguistically diverse communities and promote international relationships.	This is already included in policy under Section 6.2 of the draft policy provides policy rules regarding social and cultural aspects.	No change to the policy

3 Online Focus Group Discussion (27 November 2020).

The purpose of this online focus group discussion was to collect views and opinions of City of Greater Bendigo residents on the Draft Greater Bendigo International Relations Policy. The following participants took part in the online focus group discussion:

1. TAN See Tuang (Bendigo Chinese Association / City of Greater Bendigo Intercultural Ambassador)
2. Badraa Al-Darkazly (La Trobe University)
3. Bruno Spandonide (Victoria Department of Transport / City of Greater Bendigo Intercultural Ambassador)
4. Martine Street (Bendigo Community Health Services)

Question	Feedback/Response	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
Question 1: How does this Draft International Relations Policy meet community social, economic, cultural, or environmental needs and aspirations?	It is a very good draft policy looking at our international relationships and widening our educational links internationally and how this can impact our social, economic and cultural, and environmental needs. My background is in education and we are interested in having international students connected to the community to provide social and economic benefits.	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy.
	It is vital to have the City interconnected internationally and show commitment to international relations.	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy.
	The policy itself is fine because it ticks all the boxes. My interest is in implementing the policy. My role was to connect the City of Greater Bendigo with the City of Hiamen in a Sister City relationship, but this no longer exists. My interest is in cultural aspects and	This is positive feedback and supportive of the policy. Section 6.2 of the provides policy rules to create mutual benefit for the Greater	No change to the policy.

	how Sister City relationships can be implemented.	Bendigo local community social, cultural and educational aspects and this provides a good framework for Sister City relationships. The International Relations Strategy will provide actions for implementation of the policy.	
	I think from a strategic point of view, linking the policy with the United Nations sustainable development goals document would be good because it offers a wide range of strategic directions that correspond very well with the other strategic documents of the City of Greater Bendigo and it also well aligned with other cities' and countries' frameworks.	This is included under the principle on Human Rights in Section 5.8 which states, in part that "The City will engage in International Relationships which are in accordance with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure dignity, peace and prosperity for people and the planet, and ensure proactive community development."	No change to the policy.
	Having a specific mention of some of the bigger multicultural communities that are developing in Greater Bendigo and how those communities could have a consideration in the document and in the international relations policies that the City would like to explore and investigate that could also be a good idea.	The Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee has been mentioned in the draft, but a discussion with and on multicultural communities can be undertaken during the drafting of the International Relations Strategy.	No change to the policy
Question 2: How adequate is the scope of this Draft International Relations Policy?	I think the scope has covered all aspects of the organisation and people who need to be involved. It is a good point to there that the City has be involved and always aware of	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy.

	what kind of agreements have been made. And sometimes it is not a direct arrangement, for example with universities that have entered into international agreements would need the City's backing and support. The scope looks great.		
	I have just read through the Greater Bendigo International Relations Issues and Opportunities Research Paper that was sent out with the draft policy and there was a list of different organisations that had some sort of international relationship. We have had a Sister school relationship with the Hiamen since 2017 and visitors at the Golden Dragon Museum from Hong Kong, perhaps Council may not be aware of things like that, but they do happen whether reported or not and there is need to find ways how Council can support them not necessarily with funding but in spirit and through consular services. How can we have all these and such efforts in Council's sight for support?	This feedback does not suggest any amendments to the policy scope. The feedback raises a valid question on how the City can take stock of all international relationships in Greater Bendigo for Council support.	No change to the policy.
	Reference groups, schools, universities and other stakeholders within the City's network can be formed to have more discussion.	These groups are included in the policy scope under Sections 3.4, 3.5, and 3.6 any external party that is a partner with the City in an International Relationship; any group or organisation that is funded by the City for an International Relationship; or where the City is a partner and/or a participant under	No change to the policy.

		Commonwealth Government or Victorian Government arrangements.	
	Database of interested parties like schools, universities and other organisations and exchange programs and international collaborations/student connections can be included.	This feedback is noted. The discussion on databases for international relations group can be referred to discussions during the drafting of the International Relations Strategy.	No change to the policy.
	Include information on the City's collaboration on projects.	This is good feedback. A detailed description of the City's collaboration on projects is provided in the Greater Bendigo International Relations Issues and Opportunities Research Paper.	No change to the policy.
	Include the City's status as a Welcoming city.	Positive comment. Mention of the City as a Welcoming City can be included in the background of the policy.	Amend 2.3 to include "Welcoming City" by including the following sentence: "In 2017, the City became the first city in Australia to be recognised as a Child Friendly City by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund and in 2020 became the first local government in Australia to be accredited as a Welcoming City by the Welcoming Cities Network."
	It outlines how Council intends to support ongoing International Relationships within the City.	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy.

Question 3: How adequate are the principles of this Draft International Relations Policy?	<p>The principles were very methodical and thorough.</p> <p>The principles perfectly covered everything required for the document at all aspects.</p> <p>Section 5.8 on human rights can be expanded to include proactive community development or international community development.</p>	<p>This is a good point and the Human Rights principle under section 5.8 can be improved by adding the words “proactive community development.”</p>	<p>Amend section 5.8 to include the words “proactive community development” to read as follows:</p> <p><i>5.8. Human Rights - The City's International Relationships must reflect the City's commitment to human rights and be in accordance with the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities 2006. The City will engage in International Relationships which are in accordance with the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to ensure dignity, peace and prosperity for people and the planet and ensure proactive community development.</i></p>
Question 4: How adequate are the policies included within this Draft International Relations Policy? What other policies should be considered in this Draft International Relations Policy?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adequate. 	<p>This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.</p>	<p>No change to the policy.</p>
Question 5: What would you change in this Draft	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make the Council more proactive. 	<p>This is already included under Section 7 of the policy.</p>	<p>No change to the policy.</p>

International Relations Policy? (What would you add, remove or amend?)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve visibility of Rotarians' work and personal visits overseas. 	The work by Rotarians is recognised as a good example of involvement in international relationships by the Greater Bendigo community, but this is not relevant for this policy. This could form part of the discussion during the drafting of the International Relations Strategy.	No change to the policy.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include illustrations, figures, key references, pictures, charts to enhance readability for the document. 	Key references are provided under Section 8 of the policy. It is not necessary to add illustrations, figures, pictures or charts in this policy. This is appropriate for the International Relations Strategy.	No change to the policy.
Question 6: Do you have any further feedback you wish to provide with regard to the Draft International Relations Policy?	Add pictorial aspects, especially of pictorial work done in the IR space.	Adding pictorial aspects would be more appropriate for the International Relations Strategy, but not for this policy.	No change to the policy.

4 Online Feedback Survey (30 October - 18 December 2020)

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
Respondent 1: No name or organisation (Online survey)	Question 1: How does this Draft International Relations Policy meet community social, economic, cultural, or environmental needs and aspirations? It could be fiscal and employment opportunities to the region. As a resident I know very little about current relationships other than the Sister City we have.	The feedback is noted and does not suggest any amendment to the draft policy.	No change to the policy
	Question 2: How well will this Draft International Relations Policy provide the framework for the City's current and future international relationships? Quite well	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy
	Question 3: What would you change in this Draft International Relations Policy? (What would you add, remove or amend?) I did not read the charters referred to, but I would add something about benchmarks and violations against human rights. How would this be done. For instance relationships with China would be off the cards with the Uyghur people's violations.	This feedback is appreciated. However, the draft policy cannot mention specifically all the violations against human rights but provides the guiding framework to promote human rights. Section 6.6 provides that any new proposal for International Relationships must demonstrate due consideration to human rights in accordance with the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights	No change to the policy

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
		and Section 6.12 provides for termination of any International Relationships that contravene the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.	
	Question 4: Do you have any further comments regarding the Draft International Relations Policy? No.	-	No change to the policy
Respondent 2: No name or organisation (Online survey)	Question 1: How does this Draft International Relations Policy meet community social, economic, cultural, or environmental needs and aspirations? Provided all aspects of the city's international relationships do adhere to the admirable principles as outlined, with an assurance that all arrangements, especially economic, do not disadvantage the Bendigo community. In particular I am remembering Rob Hunt when as Director of the Bendigo Bank he repeatedly told our community that economic capital must circulate within the regions for regional communities to garner the associated social capital. One large infrastructure program, the recent building of Bendigo's new hospital (presumably a state government arrangement) contravened this	The feedback is noted. Section 6.2 of the draft policy provides that the City will only enter into formal International Relationships that demonstrate adherence to all principles in the policy and create mutual benefit for the Greater Bendigo local community in economic, social and cultural, environmental, educational, and humanitarian aspects among other things.	No change to the policy

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	advice, having been built primarily by fly-in and fly-out teams of foreign workers. Besides having no knowledge of the fairness or otherwise of working conditions and wages of these foreign workers, such an arrangement deprived local and regional tradespeople and apprentices of a unique and phenomenal working and learning opportunity. Any similar economic partnerships engaged in by Council such as this, would contravene all the principles outlined in this draft policy. This is not a matter of racism; this is also a matter of equity and human decency, and not treating foreign workers as pawns for cheap labour.		
	<p>Question 2: How well will this Draft International Relations Policy provide the framework for the City's current and future international relationships?</p> <p>It appears to adhere well to accepted international human relations covenants. Its flexibility, being able to be reviewed as needed, or every two years, to ensure all arrangements benefit the city and our community, and that partnerships continue to adhere to all principles outlined, is good.</p>	This is positive feedback and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	<p>Question 3: What would you change in this Draft International Relations Policy? (What would you add, remove or amend?)</p> <p>No. 6. 2 needs tightening to ensure mutual benefit for the Bendigo community. I would like to see inserted here the following sentence, 'While one element only may be involved here, all principles as outlined in No. 5 of the policy must be demonstrated as present and adhered to.'</p>	<p>This is a valid point and Section 6.2 can be improved with the proposed amendment.</p>	<p>Amend the first paragraph of 6.2 to read as follows: “ The City will only enter into formal International Relationships that demonstrate adherence to all principles in this policy and create mutual benefit for the Greater Bendigo local community in at least one of the following categories:</p>
	<p>Question 4: Do you have any further comments regarding the Draft International Relations Policy?</p> <p>Under the false promise/lie of economic benefits, under no circumstances should the Council ever be associated with a disempowering economic partnership such as that discussed in Qn 1. above. Thank you for the opportunity to comment. I look forward to reading Council Bulletins or media reports on this draft policy's progress.</p>	<p>This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.</p>	<p>No change to the policy</p>
<p>Respondent 3: David Williamson (City of Greater Bendigo)</p>	<p>Question 1: How does this Draft International Relations Policy meet community social, economic, cultural, or environmental needs and aspirations?</p> <p>By providing a framework including principles and evaluation criteria to enable the City to</p>	<p>This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.</p>	<p>No change to the policy</p>

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	consider and assess priority international relations projects.		
	Question 2: How well will this Draft International Relations Policy provide the framework for the City's current and future international relationships? There is no reflection in the background on the types of projects this would cover other than Friends of Maubisse. Could you help identify the scope by identifying other examples?	This is good feedback. A detailed reflection on the types of projects and international relationships in the Greater Bendigo region are provided in the Greater Bendigo International Relations Issues and Opportunities Research Paper.	No change to the policy
	Have you compared to a couple of other similar local govt examples?	Yes. Benchmarking was done with similar policies in six local government areas including: Albury City Council, City of Ballarat, City of Greater Geelong, Greater Shepparton City Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, and Warrnambool City Council.	No change to the policy
	Question 3: What would you change in this Draft International Relations Policy? (What would you add, remove or amend?) In general need to be accurate when you use the term 'City' that it matches your definition. There are a couple of places where you mention e.g. City businesses etc,	Valid points raised. There should be consistency in the use of the different terms while referring to City of Greater Bendigo, Council	Amend Sections 2.1, 2.6, 3.2, 3.4, 3.5, and 3.6 by consistently applying the words "the City".

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	but you may be better to say Greater Bendigo or municipal.		
	2.2 - Greater Bendigo not Bendigo	Valid point.	Amend 2.2 and replace the words “migrate to Bendigo” with ‘migrate to Greater Bendigo.’
	2.2 - is it clear when you say: 'approaches and contacts are almost random'? Can you be clearer? Is that what you are meaning to say?	Valid point. The ambiguity can be removed to make the sentence clearer.	Amend 2.2 to remove the ambiguity with the following sentence: “These trends and forces are increasing in their impact and reach. Previously, approaches and contacts would be formal and highly structured, but these are increasingly becoming more dynamic, and responses are sought often with little notice or information.”
	2.3 - first sentence is awkward and also could explicitly identify state and federal government agencies as being players here.	This is a good point. The first sentence can be removed from the paragraph for more clarity.	Amend 2.3 and delete the following sentence: “There is now the potential for such a range of contacts, and with invitations at such a frequency, that real opportunities for benefits and gains for the City can be lost in the flurry of activity.”
	2.4 Greater Bendigo communities	Valid point. Adjustments need to be made to Section 2.4	Amend 2.4 and replace the words “Bendigo communities” with “Greater Bendigo communities.”

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	2.5 The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion is the actual title.	Valid point. Adjustments need to be made to Section 2.5.	Amend 2.5 and replace the words “the Great Stupa” with “5 The Great Stupa of Universal Compassion”.
	Also is the sentence about 'the task of vetting all opportunities to determine the value or benefits cannot be justified' clear enough. I think will need to vet all approaches however we then need to decide if it's worthwhile to act on an opportunity. Vetting is actually something we need to do to ascertain whether or not it's a priority worth responding to.	Valid point. Adjustments need to be made to Section 2.5 to make the sentence on vetting approaches clearer.	Amend 2.5 to replace the sentence “The task of vetting all opportunities to determine the value and benefits cannot be justified” with the following sentence: “The City has to vet all approaches to ascertain whether or not it's a priority or opportunity worth responding to.”
	3.2 Council expand to include countries or foreign governments.	Valid point. Adjustments need to be made to Section 3.2 to include countries.	Amend 3.2 to read as follows: “3.2. All International Relationships between the City and other overseas cities, organisations and countries”
	5.1 Can you include humanitarian in the principles e.g. at 5.1 and 5.7 just confirms our commitment to social justice and equity and not solely relations of 'mutual benefit' which could be construed as quid quo pro.	Amendment to Section 5.1 is not needed as this principle relate to mutual benefit and reciprocity, so adding humanitarian to the principle statement will remove the meaning. Support for humanitarianism has been included under Section 5.7.	No change to Section 5.1 of the policy. Amend Section 5.7 on Community participation, by adding the words” support for humanitarianism’ to read as follows: “5.7. Community participation - The City's International Relationships must maximise community participation, support for humanitarianism and be supported by appropriate community

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
			engagement. Partnerships with local and international stakeholders will be undertaken to facilitate community connectivity based on mutual benefit and cultural diplomacy.”
	6.1 lower case e for enter	Adjustments need to be made to 6.1.	Amend 6.1 and replace “E” on the word enter with “e”.
	6.6 Full title is VCHR and Responsibilities	Adjustments need to be made to 6.6.	Amend 6.6 and replace the words “the Victorian Charter of Human Rights” with “Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic)”
	5.11, 6.8 and 6.9 (very fluffy) could be combined and made clearer - i.e. Review bi-annually and add that there will be a report to Council on the outcomes of the review and time reviews such that it informs the development of the 4 yearly Council Plan?	<p>Section 6.8 can be made, but 6.8 and 6.9 have to be kept separate because 6.8 relates to review and 6.9 relates to outcomes of international relationships. Keeping the two sections separate makes it clearer and gives flexibility for individual projects. clearer</p> <p>5.11 cannot be merged with 6.8 and 6.9, because 5.11 relates to the policy principle of evaluation and review while 6.8 and 6.9 are policy rules and actions that reflect on this principle.</p>	Amend 6.8 to make it clearer to read as follows: “6.8. The City will review all International Relationships bi-annually to ensure the relationships are continuing to align with the Council Plan.”

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	6.11 the Council Plan	This is a valid point and adjustments need to be made to 6.11.	Amend 6.11 by adding “the” before Council Plan and deleting all text after the word Plan.
	6.12 VCHR and Responsibilities and make clear it’s the UN Declaration of Human Rights.	Valid point. 6.12 needs to be amended to clearly mention the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic) and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.	Amend 6.12 and replace the following content, “Any International Relationships that contravene State or Commonwealth law, the Victorian Charter of Human Rights or Universal Declaration of Human Right will be terminated” with the following content, “6.12. Any International Relationships that contravene State or Commonwealth law, the Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006 (Vic) and the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights will be terminated.”
	6.13 concluded rather than terminated	This a valid point and the policy needs to be amended to replace the word terminated with concluded.	Amend Section 6.13 to read as follows: “The City will evaluate all International Relationships whose tenure comes to an end to determine if they can be renewed or concluded in accordance with this policy.”
	7 City Council?	Adjustment needs to be made to 7.	Amend paragraph in Section 7 and remove the words “the City” before the word “Council” to read as follows:

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
			<p>“It is the responsibility of Council to consider and approve International Relationships. It is the responsibility of all City employees, volunteers and contractors engaged by the City who are involved in International Relationships on behalf of the City as outlined in section 3 of this policy, to plan and deliver International Relationships consistent with the policy scope, principles and rules.”</p>
	<p>8. UN Charter of HR and Directed to Manager - Community Partnerships Unit.</p>	<p>Valid point. Adjustments need to be made to include the Charter of the United Nations under Section 8. The City’s policy template requires a business unit to be listed and not the Manager.</p>	<p>Amend Section 8 to include Charter of the United Nations and United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights among related documents. The suggestion on including the word “Manager” is not considered.</p>
	<p>Question 4: Do you have any further comments regarding the Draft International Relations Policy? A great start. Just to reiterate has there been any benchmarking with other similar policies?</p>	<p>This is a positive comment. Benchmarking was done with similar policies in six local government areas and this is documented in the Greater Bendigo International Relations Issues and Opportunities Research Paper. This research paper provides an analysis of the key issues and opportunities regarding international relationships and options for</p>	<p>No change to the policy</p>

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
		consideration by the City of Greater Bendigo and includes examples from: Albury City Council, City of Ballarat, City of Greater Geelong, Greater Shepparton City Council, Mount Alexander Shire Council, and Warrnambool City Council.	
Response 4: No name or organisation (Online survey)	Question 1: How does this Draft International Relations Policy meet community social, economic, cultural, or environmental needs and aspirations? Looks pretty good.	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy
	Question 2: How well will this Draft International Relations Policy provide the framework for the City's current and future international relationships? Quite well.	This is a positive comment and supportive of the policy.	No change to the policy
	Question 3: What would you change in this Draft International Relations Policy? (What would you add, remove or amend?) It could probably do with more specific reference to the Wellbeing and Fairness goal of the council plan. There is significant scope for collaborations and international partnerships to further health and wellbeing across all the categories (from Wellbeing budgets to research partnerships), which	This feedback is noted. Specific reference to the Wellbeing and Fairness goal of the Council plan is not necessary for inclusion in the policy itself but can be discussed during the drafting of the International Relations Strategy.	No change to the policy.

Name/ Organisation	Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
	would be consistent/supportive of the Agenda for Sustainable Development.		
	Question 4: Do you have any further comments regarding the Draft International Relations Policy? (No comment)	-	No change to the policy

5 EMAIL FEEDBACK

5.1 Email Feedback from Victoria State Emergency Service (30 October 2020)

- *Feedback submitted by Ian Ralston.*

Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
Something which I think can be included in the Background are details of existing or previous Sister City relationships and countries with which Bendigo has forged relationships.	This is a valid point and improvements can be made to the background section.	Additional examples added to the background section of the draft policy.

5.2 Email Feedback from Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee (18 December 2020)

- *Feedback submitted by Rebecca Lee.*

Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
<p><u>Replacing content on BMFC under Point 2.4 with the following:</u></p> <p>Since 2006, the Victorian State Government has driven the development of formalised municipal partnerships between local governments in Victoria and in Timor-Leste, with the aim of supporting decentralisation of government services in Timor-Leste and strengthening public sector skills. To assist in the implementation of this partnership the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee (BMFC) was formed in late 2006 as a Special Committee of Council under Section 86 of the Local Government Act 1989.</p> <p>In 2016, the City formalised its relationship with Timor-Leste through the signing of a Municipal Cooperation Agreement with the District of Ainaro, of which Maubisse is a subdistrict. This is a government-to-government partnership in which the City supports strengthening of public sector skills within the municipality as it takes on more responsibilities as part of Timor-Leste's government decentralisation.</p>	<p>New content has been provided to replace the existing one under section 2.4 on Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee in the draft policy.</p> <p>The suggested content is very detailed for inclusion in the background section of the draft policy and needs to be summarised before replacing the contents of Section 2.4.</p>	Amend section 2.4 with revised content on the Bendigo Maubisse Friendship Committee.

Feedback	Comment / Analysis	Recommendation
<p>The BMFC supports and helps maintain the friendship relationship between the City and Maubisse, which provides the foundation for the municipal partnership. Both the municipal partnership and the friendship relationship contribute to improved living standards, access to basic services, training, capacity building and social programs in Timor-Leste, and engages both the Maubisse and Bendigo communities in its programs. This is an exemplar of how an ongoing humanitarian relationship can develop and be supported.</p> <p>It should be noted that in response to changes in Local Government Act 2020, the BMFC is transitioning its model of governance to an incorporated association.</p>		
<p><u>Additional feedback</u></p> <p>Section 5.11 Evaluation and review</p> <p><i>The City will ensure systematic evaluation of effectiveness of the policy and International Relationships to assess whether the objectives have been achieved, outcomes shared among stakeholders, and opportunities for improvement identified.</i></p> <p>Nowhere in the policy document are any objectives listed or articulated. In order for effective and ongoing monitoring and evaluation surely this needs to occur. If there were a clear list of objectives, then this would facilitate appropriate benchmarks against which to measure and evaluate progress and achievement.</p>	<p>The draft policy only states the purpose and does not state any policy objectives as implied by Section 5.11. This section needs to be revised for consistency.</p>	<p>Amend Section 5.11 to refer to the policy purpose and not objectives.</p>
<p>Furthermore, clear objectives would enable committees such as ours to identify (in consultation with the CoGB) those areas on which to focus our efforts and to be evaluated against.</p>	<p>This is good feedback and is relevant to the International Relations Strategy.</p>	<p>No change required.</p>

17. STRENGTHENING THE ECONOMY

17.1. Local Public Holiday - Bendigo Cup

Author	April Hinton, A/Coordinator Governance and Civic Support
Responsible Director	Jenn Spelling, Acting Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to apply to the Minister for Small Business to declare the Local Public Holiday for Bendigo for the Bendigo Cup to be on the Wednesday before Melbourne Cup (generally this will be the last Wednesday in October, but occasionally can be the first Wednesday in November) for the next five (5) years or as long as the Minister will approve.

Summary

Recommending that Council apply to the Minister for Small Business for the continuation of the Local Public Holiday for Bendigo Cup to be on the last Wednesday (preceding the Melbourne Cup on the first Tuesday in November) for all areas in the municipality of Greater Bendigo, west of the Campaspe River and east of the Campaspe River will continue to celebrate the Melbourne Cup holiday.

Historically, on application for the gazettal of the public holiday to the Minister for Small Business, the gazettal is only approval for a period of five (5) years at a time.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council support the application to the Minister for Small Business declaring the immediate Wednesday prior to the Melbourne Cup held the first Tuesday in November, Bendigo Cup Day, the Local Public Holiday for area in the municipality of Greater Bendigo, west of the Campaspe River.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 3 Strengthening the economy

Background Information

On March 18, 2009, the City endorsed the following recommendation:

“That the Greater Bendigo City Council gazette the last Wednesday in October as the local public holiday each year for the municipality for the Bendigo Cup, until such time as Council resolves that another day would be more appropriate or until there is any further change to the date of the Bendigo Cup”.

Report

Historically, on application for the gazettal of the public holiday to the Minister for Small Business, the gazettal approval is for a period of five (5) years, which concluded with the Bendigo Cup Public Holiday in October 2020.

As the geographic centre of Victoria, Bendigo is a critical hub for thoroughbred racing and the racing industry contributes substantially to the economy of the City of Greater Bendigo.

Race meetings in Bendigo are important family events and contribute to the culture and vitality of Bendigo. The Bendigo Cup is a highlight of the year and attracts a substantial crowd which grows each year.

The City prepared the [East Bendigo Local Structure Plan](#) recognising the importance of the thoroughbred racing industry. The Plan identifies the area around the Bendigo racecourse - especially to the south, as an 'equine precinct' and the preferred area for horse agistment and stabling facilities. The aim of the Structure Plan was to provide certainty for trainers who wished to locate their residences and stables in the area.

With the restrictions of COVID-19 last year, there was an impact on the industry with the inability of patrons being able to attend on-course, but quality horse fields were still attracted to the meeting. It is hoped that this year will see the return of patrons to this iconic event.

It should be noted that Heathcote Show Day continues to celebrate its local public holiday for Heathcote the same day as Melbourne Cup Day (first Tuesday in November). To distinguish the difference, the gazettal will be reflected as all areas in the municipality of Greater Bendigo, west of the Campaspe River. The municipality of Greater Bendigo situated east of the Campaspe River will continue to celebrate the Melbourne Cup holiday.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The following is an extract from the Public Holidays Act 1993 relating to the local public holiday declaration:

8A Council may request substitute holiday for Melbourne Cup Day

(1) A non-metropolitan Council may request in writing that the Minister make a declaration under section 8(1)—

(a) that the day appointed under section 6 being the first Tuesday in November (Melbourne Cup Day) is not in a specified year such a public holiday in the whole or any part of the municipal district of that Council; and

(b) that another day or 2 half-days (one half-day of which may be Melbourne Cup Day) be appointed as a public holiday or 2 public half-holidays in that year.

Consultation/Communication

Recent communication with the Bendigo Jockey Club has indicated its overwhelming support for the continuation of the gazettal of the last Wednesday in October as the Local Public Holiday for the Bendigo Cup.

Resource Implications

N/A

Attachments

N/A

18. ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Nil

19. EMBRACING OUR CULTURE AND HERITAGE

Nil

20. LEAD AND GOVERN FOR ALL

20.1. Q3 - Community Plan 2017-2021 Highlights

Author	Melissa Mazzarino, EA to Director Corporate Performance
Responsible Director	Jenn Spelling, Acting Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

To report to Council progress on the implementation of Annual Plan initiatives for the 3rd quarter 2020/2021.

Summary

The Greater Bendigo Community Plan contains Council's vision, values and direction for 2017-2021, which underpin the way the City manages and conducts its operations. The Annual Action Plan 2020/2021 supports this and details initiatives for the financial year. This document provides the highlights from the 3rd quarter.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council acknowledge the progress of implementing Annual Plan initiatives for 2020/2021, and receive the Annual Plan quarterly summary report.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 1 - Lead and Govern for all

Background Information

Greater Bendigo - creating the world's most liveable community is the vision to guide the work of the Greater Bendigo City Council over four years. How Council will achieve this is outlined in the Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021 which was adopted by Council on June 21, 2017.

Report

The Community Plan is a key strategic Council document to inform the community and council officers of Council priorities and commitment to six key goals. The six Community Plan goals are:

1. Lead and govern for all
2. Wellbeing and fairness
3. Strengthening the economy
4. Presentation and managing growth

5. Environmental sustainability
6. Embracing our culture and heritage

The Community Plan is supported by the Annual Plan developed each year and the Annual Plan is reported on quarterly. This report is the 3rd quarterly update for the Annual Plan 2020/2021.

Consultation/Communication

Council used a range of information to help decide on key directions, priorities and budget allocations. These include:

- Feedback from community members
- Councillor priorities
- Evidence about our population and their needs
- What was previously undertaken as part of adopted plans and strategies
- State and Federal Government priorities and directives
- The size of the available budget Community input into the Community Plan.

This council has a very strong commitment to

- Talking with and listening to community members
- Using community priorities to guide their decision-making
- Being transparent in their decision-making, and documenting what the community has said and providing feedback to them.

Community consultation that has been used in developing this plan has also included:

- An online survey (also available via Facebook and in hard copy)
- Postcards with a short survey delivered at a range of community venues and events
- Face-to-face meetings with groups with special knowledge of an area
- Community engagement results received during community engagement for other recent plans and strategies
- Personal communication given to Councillors and staff members in person and via email
- Two public discussion sessions where the first draft statements were 'tested' with community members.

A full report of the processes and findings from the community engagement activities has been published on the City of Greater Bendigo website.

Resource Implications

Nil

Attachments

1. Annual Plan Summary Report - Q3 Highlights

Attachment 1 - Community Plan 2017-2021 - March 2021 highlights

March 2021 update

Greater Bendigo – creating the world's most liveable community.

G / POPULATION GROWTH / COM MENT / COMMUNITY PLAN / EA ENVIRONMENT / 2017-2021 / HEA CES / COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

A liveable community is one which enables people to live healthy, safe, harmonious lives in attractive and affordable settings. Liveable places have an excellent range of services for children and adults of all ages and facilities that are accessible to all. They don't make unsustainable demands on the environment.

Council has set the following six Strategic Objectives to guide its decisions and actions over the next four years:

Strategic Objective 1**Lead and govern for all**

Effective community engagement will guide well informed, responsive decision-making and financially responsible resource allocations and processes which are transparent and accountable.

Strategic Objective 2**Wellbeing and fairness**

Inclusive policies, partnerships and projects that increase access improve health and learning opportunities by building better connections and quality of life for all.

Strategic Objective 3**Strengthening the economy**

Advocacy, innovation and support to grow jobs and diversify the local and regional economy.

Strategic Objective 4**Presentation and managing growth**

Planning, developments and infrastructure that increase our liveability and pride in where we live.

Strategic Objective 5**Environmental sustainability**

Protect and enhance our environment, conserve our resources and increase resilience to a changing climate.

Strategic Objective 6**Embracing our culture and heritage**

Recognise and celebrate our unique history and diverse cultures.

Goal 1: Council will lead and govern for all

Effective community engagement guides well informed decision-making and financially responsible resource allocations and processes that are transparent and accountable.

Objectives

- Engage with all communities
- Explain the reason for its decisions
- Be innovative and financially responsible
- Be accountable and efficient in its use of the community's money
- Take a leadership role in regional planning and advocacy and work in partnership with regional councils

March 2021 update

- Development is underway of an updated prospectus document which will be used to advocate funding opportunities for major projects to Federal and State Government
- Head contractor, Icon Fairbrother has been appointed for the construction of GovHub with an anticipated completion time at the end of 2022



Goal 2: Wellbeing and fairness

Inclusive policies, advocacy, partnerships and projects that improve participation and opportunities for equity and health. Increasing access and building better connections and quality of life for all.

Objectives

- Create a much healthier Greater Bendigo
- Promote positive wellbeing across the Greater Bendigo community
- Promote community connection
- Support participation and development for residents of all ages and abilities
- Create safe and resilient communities

March 2021 update

- A planning permit has been issued for the Kennington Recreation Reserve Pavilion upgrade. In addition, the main works contract has been awarded to a local builder with works scheduled to begin in May 2021
- Project planning for a number of key actions from Greater Bendigo's Food System Strategy has commenced, including work on developing a Local Food Brand
- The 2021 Action Plan for the Healthy Greater Bendigo initiative was presented to the Stewardship Group at the March meeting
- The Gender Equity Strategy draft workplace action plan is underway following consultation with all business units
- Management Volunteers and Law Training was held on March 24 for volunteer managers with 25 attendees



Goal 3: Strengthening the economy

Advocacy, innovation and support to grow jobs, attract visitors and diversify the local and regional economy.

Objectives

- Support local businesses and industry to be strong, vibrant and to grow and develop
- Make it easier for people to transition from education to employment
- Ensure Greater Bendigo is a welcoming place for new businesses and industries and supports creativity and innovation and visitor attraction

March 2021 update

- Priority action items in relation to COVID-19 are being implemented through the Creative Recovery Activation Fund as part of the Creative Industries Strategy
- Building Better Regions Fund application was submitted in March 2021 to further develop the Bendigo Airport Terminal and Business Park
- The draft International Relations Strategy was exhibited for public comment
- Feedback from the public on the draft International Relations Strategy is finalised for Council consideration



Goal 4: Presentation and managing growth

Plans, developments and infrastructure that increase our liveability and pride in where we live.

Objectives

- Plans for a growing population
- Plan to meet future housing needs
- Continue to implement strategies that increase the capacity of transport networks to better move people and goods and foster behaviour change that increases walking, cycling and use of public transport
- Keep Greater Bendigo attractive with good quality public facilities and places
- Provide and maintain urban and rural infrastructure to support the liveability of our community

March 2021 update

- The contract for the main works at the Botanic Gardens, White Hills has been awarded with works scheduled to commence in June 2021



Goal 5: Environmental sustainability

Protect and enhance our environment, conserve resources, reduce waste and the impact of climate change.

Objectives

- Drawing on the One Planet Living framework connect the health of the natural environment to the health and prosperity of our community
- Demonstrate leadership in sustaining the rich biological diversity of the Greater Bendigo region that sustains health ecosystems



March 2021 update

- Council has been briefed on the plan for kerbside reform requirement and a funding request has been placed with State Government
- Council has commenced development of the next iteration of the Environment Strategy with an emphasis on delivering tangible outcomes aligned with the One Planet principles
- Council has commenced a competitive tender process to seek submissions to achieve a Circular Economy locally, and ultimately working towards a zero-waste system municipality wide

Goal 6: Embracing our culture and heritage

Recognise and celebrate our unique history and diverse cultures.

Objectives

- Celebrate our unique heritage
- Build pride in and shared responsibility for our public spaces
- Offer and support a diverse range of events that attract and connect people
- Embrace diversity
- Advance reconciliation



March 2021 update

- The contractor has been procured and the building permit issued for the restoration of the Gas Works Purifier Shed



Council has continued to endorse a vision for improved liveability for the whole population. Knowing where we are making progress towards this vision requires us to set some measures or benchmarks where Greater Bendigo can be compared with other locations.

Twenty four liveability indicators have been chosen that relate to the following areas:

- A much healthier Greater Bendigo
- A fairer and more inclusive Greater Bendigo
- A more resilient Greater Bendigo
- A planned Greater Bendigo
- A proud and safe Greater Bendigo
- A sustainable Greater Bendigo
- A more creative, productive, innovative, adaptive and engaged Greater Bendigo

Councillors

Eppalock Ward

Cr Margaret O'Rourke

P. 0429 061 096

E. m.orourke@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Cr Matthew Evans

P. 0437 867 028

E. m.evans@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Cr Greg Penna

P. 0429 721 958

E. g.penna@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Lockwood Ward

Cr Jennifer Alden

P. 0499 005 735

E. j.alden@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Cr Rod Fyffe

P. 0419 874 015

E. r.fyffe@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Cr Vaughan Williams

P. 0437 858 776

E. v.williams@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Whipstick Ward

Cr David Fagg

P. 0437 892 918

E. d.fagg@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Cr Andrea Metcalf

P. 0499 009 096

E. a.metcalf@bendigo.vic.gov.au

Cr Julie Sloan

P. 0437 862 975

E. j.sloan@bendigo.vic.gov.au

15 Hopetoun Street, Bendigo
T: (03) 5434 6000
www.bendigo.vic.gov.au



20.2. Q3 Finance & Capital Management Report

Author	Nathan Morsillo, Manager Financial Strategy
Responsible Director	Andrew Cooney, Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the Council with a report on the financial position of the City of Greater Bendigo for the 2020/2021 financial year as at 31 March 2021.

Summary

The Finance and Capital Management Report to 31 March 2021 provides an update on actual financial performance against the 2020/2021 budget. The report also provides a summary of rate debtors; cash and investments; borrowings and grants.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the report comparing budgeted and actual revenues and expenses to 31 March 2021, in accordance with the requirements of the Local Government Act 2020.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 1 Lead and govern for all

Background Information

In accordance with Section 97 of the Local Government Act 2020: “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.”

Report

This report provides an update on the financial performance in comparison to the budget for the 2020/2021 financial year for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021.

Council approved an amended budget in July 2020, which resulted in a reduction in estimates for revenue. Council services are returning to normal, however the financial impact of COVID-19 on revenues in particular is still evident. Additional grant funds have been received, and rates receipts overall are tracking similar to previous years, however various user pays revenue streams continue to experience reductions. COVID-19 has also delayed some expenditures significantly across Council.

The unfavourable impacts are partially offset by a combination of savings and delayed expenditure. There are also specific additional costs such as increased cleaning. The majority of these have, to date, been offset by lower employee costs and other expenditure.

Being definitive about the financial impacts of COVID-19 across Council's 69 different services is not straight forward as the impacts are varied. Impacts year to date can be found in the City's YTD profit and loss statement discussed below. Currently the City maintains a net surplus compared to the revised COVID-19 budget adopted in 2020, however adjusting for additional grant income and one-off revenue items reduces this surplus.

Significant impacts continue to be monitored for revenue and expenditure for Rates; Leisure Centres; Parking; Bendigo Venue and Events; Tourism and Major Events; Bendigo Art Gallery; & certain Council supported entities. Council continues to provide relief to those experiencing financial hardship by halting debt collection and significantly extending payment terms across the business for fees and charges, in many cases to 30 June 2021 where requested for affected businesses. This provides cash flow relief (via deferral) where possible. Council strongly encourages anyone needing assistance to make early contact by calling our customer service desk on 5434 6000 or by emailing our rates team ratesenquiries@bendigo.vic.gov.au.

Actual Financial Performance Operating Results – YTD Actual vs YTD Budget

	YEAR TO DATE				FORECAST			
	YTD Budget \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	%	Annual Budget \$'000	Full Year Forecast \$'000	Forecast Variance \$'000	%
REVENUE								
Rates and Charges	126,592	126,419	(173)	(0%)	126,592	126,419	(173)	(0%)
Statutory Fees and Fines	3,105	2,829	(276)	(9%)	4,479	4,132	(347)	(8%)
User Fees	17,951	14,232	(3,719)	(21%)	24,655	20,655	(4,000)	(16%)
Government Grants - Operating	18,487	19,521	1,034	6%	31,549	33,963	2,415	8%
Government Grants - Capital	5,409	9,378	3,969	73%	7,212	16,889	9,677	134%
Contributions - Monetary	2,707	2,246	(461)	(17%)	3,363	2,030	(1,333)	(40%)
Contributions - Non Monetary	-	-	-	-	15,000	15,000	-	-
Interest on Investments	881	271	(610)	(69%)	1,174	360	(814)	(69%)
Other Revenue (Internal)	19,127	22,026	2,900	15%	25,511	27,540	2,029	8%
Share of NCGRLC	70	-	(70)	(100%)	94	94	-	-
Total Revenue	194,328	196,922	2,593	1%	239,628	247,081	7,453	3%
EXPENSES								
Employee Benefits	56,521	52,766	3,755	7%	75,952	73,036	2,916	4%
Contract Payments, Materials and Services	55,307	46,685	8,623	16%	72,636	66,633	6,004	8%
Plant and Equipment Operating Expenses	5,938	5,235	703	12%	7,617	7,357	260	3%
Depreciation and Amortisation	30,848	30,302	546	2%	41,131	41,232	(101)	(0%)
Borrowing Costs	1,387	1,377	10	1%	1,849	1,849	-	-
Net (Profit) / Loss on Disposal of Property, Plant, Infrastructure Held for Sale	-	(5,897)	5,897	100%	4,857	6,217	(1,360)	(28%)
Bad Debts	200	41	159	80%	268	268	-	-
Other Expenses (Internal)	19,148	21,462	(2,314)	(12%)	25,601	27,046	(1,445)	(6%)
Total Expenses	169,349	151,970	17,379	10%	229,912	223,638	6,274	3%
Operating Result	24,979	44,952	19,972	80%	9,716	23,443	13,726	141%
Other Comprehensive Income								
Net asset revaluation increments	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Comprehensive Result	24,979	44,952	19,972	80%	9,716	23,443	13,726	141%

Operating Result is a measure for accounting for an organisation's profit or loss for a given period. An Operating Result recognises all revenue and operating expenditure; it includes non-cash expenditure such as depreciation and non-cash revenue of donated assets.

Council's operating result as at 31 March 2021 is \$20M favourable to budget. The variance is due to the receipt of unbudgeted operational and capital grants; lower than anticipated employee benefits; and some underspends in the budget for materials and general expenses. These are predominantly as a result of changes to services impacted by COVID-19.

YTD Budget 31 March 2021 Surplus/(Deficit)	YTD Actual 31 March 2021 Surplus/(Deficit)	Variance
\$24.9M	\$44.9M	\$20M favourable

Major variances which contribute to the result include:

Area	Favourable/Unfavourable	Main Contributing Factors	Variance
User Fees	Unfavourable	User Fees and Charges are unfavourable due to COVID-19 restrictions and forced closure of the Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo Venue and Events and Bendigo & Heathcote Visitors centres. Landfill operations are \$1.4M unfavourable with tonnage of waste being lower than anticipated.	\$3.7M
Government Grants –Operating	Favourable	Operating Grants is currently favourable due to grants being brought forward from 2019/2020 financial year and certain State Government support grants.	\$1M
Materials & Services	Favourable	The current favourable result is in the main due to the forced closure of Bendigo Art Gallery, Bendigo Venue and Events and Bendigo & Heathcote Visitors centres in line with COVID-19 restrictions. Tourism and Major Events has also been unable to run	\$8.6M

Area	Favourable/ Unfavourable	Main Contributing Factors	Variance
		several larger events such as White Night. Events have started to pick up again with restrictions easing. Other units such as Parks and Works are underspent due to timing of invoices being received from external suppliers. This favourable result partially offsets the unfavourable result in User Fees and Charges.	
Government Grants – Capital	Favourable	The favourable result is due to additional funding, higher than that budgeted, having been received for road safety projects such as Blackspot and STILS.	\$3.9M
Net (Profit)/Loss on disposal of property	Favourable	The favourable result is due to the sale of Lyttleton Terrace falling into this financial year, and other minor disposals.	\$5.8M

Balance Sheet - YTD March 2020 vs YTD March 2021

	Annual Budget \$'000	YTD PREV Actual \$'000	YTD Actual \$'000	Year on Year Variance \$'000	%
Current Assets					
Cash and Cash Equivalents	46,761	80,079	90,708	10,630	13%
Trade and Other Receivables	22,488	33,610	32,040	(1,570)	(5%)
Inventory	-	450	416	(34)	(7%)
Other Assets/Prepayments	199	809	680	(129)	(16%)
Total Current Assets	69,448	114,948	123,845	8,897	8%
Non-Current Assets					
Investments in Associates	3,339	3,272	3,392	120	4%
Trade and Other Receivables	142	59	44	(15)	(26%)
Forestry Plantations	-	83	105	22	27%
Intangible Assets	2,482	216	244	28	13%
Plant, Equipment and Infrastructure	1,711,935	1,613,556	1,620,292	6,737	0%
Total Non-Current Assets	1,717,898	1,617,185	1,624,077	6,892	0%
TOTAL ASSETS	1,787,346	1,732,133	1,747,923	15,789	1%
Current Liabilities					
Trade and Other Payables	15,856	9,732	8,442	(1,290)	(13%)
Provisions	16,311	16,176	17,641	1,465	9%
Interest Bearing Liabilities and Borrowings	4,552	3,035	3,677	642	21%
Trust Funds	3,372	3,100	3,950	850	27%
Total Current Liabilities	40,091	32,044	33,711	1,668	5%
Non-Current Liabilities					
Provisions	10,745	10,721	12,666	1,945	18%
Interest Bearing Liabilities and Borrowings	35,939	50,796	44,348	(6,448)	(13%)
Total Non-Current Liabilities	46,684	61,516	57,013	(4,503)	(7%)
TOTAL LIABILITIES	86,775	93,560	90,725	(2,835)	(3%)
NET ASSETS	1,700,571	1,638,573	1,657,198	18,624	1%
Equity					
Accumulated Surplus	736,349	793,350	815,216	21,866	3%
Reserves	941,639	817,156	816,384	(772)	(0%)
Other Reserves	22,583	26,314	25,597	(717)	(3%)
TOTAL EQUITY	1,700,571	1,636,820	1,657,198	20,377	1%

Cash and Cash Equivalents are \$10.6M higher than the previous year due to the receipt of sale of land income, which includes the proceeds from the sale of the Lyttleton Terrace site to the State Government. These results are also include impacted by grants in advance received including from the State Government's *Working for Victoria* program, together with delayed expenditure across the City's services.

The City's investment portfolio currently has \$80M invested across seven different institutions. Reduced market interest in new term deposits is resulting in limited competition and extremely low rates. Interest rates on term deposits are averaging 0.41% (this was 0.49% in Q2 and 0.58% in Q1) across the portfolio, resulting in negative variances to budget for interest revenue.

The City committed to several initiatives to support residents and local businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic, which had an impact on cash in earlier quarters. Examples include waiving rent and various fees and charges, expediting payments to suppliers, relaxing debt collection and offering several payment plan options for rates. Rates collections overall in the current financial year have been at a similar level year to date as in previous years. There continue to be a small number of rate deferrals in place in response to COVID-19 related financial hardship. The City has paused the majority of debt collection activities.

It is forecast that borrowings will increase in coming years to support future Development Contribution Plans and strategic land purchases (new developments and Capital commitments). Cash holdings overall currently remain above minimum levels.

For business, farming and residential customers (primary place of residence) who are experiencing genuine financial hardship, the City's intention is to extend interest free periods into the 2021/22 financial year. Details of this and other support initiatives are included in Council's 2021/2022 proposed budget, which is currently available for public comment at letstalkgreaterbendigo.com.au.

Forecast Results

Overall, adjusting for grants received and rate deferrals provided, the City continues to forecast a cash deficit for the year, and a small net deficit to budget after adjusting for one of grants and income. The City's operating forecast to year end is included in the profit and loss table earlier in this report.

The operating surplus forecast to the end of the financial year is \$23.4M (\$13.7M positive to budget). However, when adjusted for one off income of additional funding for Safer Transport in Local Streets (STILS) and Blackspot programs (\$7.9M) and Lyttleton Terrace land sale income (\$5.5M), the City is tracking towards a \$10M surplus – which is on par with the COVID budget set at the beginning of the financial year. At a high level, the COVID-19 impacts on revenue in this financial year has been offset by a combination of savings and delayed expenditure. Capital delivery expenditure is below expectations year to date – and is continuing to be monitored monthly to ensure relevant individual project expectations are managed effectively.

Overall the City remains low risk for the majority of the key VAGO financial sustainability indicators, with the exclusion of the adjusted underlying result ratio. Long term financial sustainability to resource current service delivery will require efficiencies, which will be worked through as part of future budgets.

Consultation/Communication

Internal Consultation:

A review of the City's financial performance for the period 1 July 2020 to 31 March 2021 was undertaken by Council's Finance Committee, which is made up of all Councillors, on 13 May 2021.

Resource Implications

N/A

Attachments

N/A

20.3. Councillor Allowances

Author	Aaron Day, Lawyer
Responsible Director	Jenn Spelling, Acting Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

This report seeks Council's decision on the setting of Councillor Allowances following the community's feedback of the proposal to set Councillor Allowances at the maximum limit.

Summary

Council must complete a review of allowances prior to 30 June 2021.

Greater Bendigo City Council has been declared by the Minister for Local Government to be a Category 3 Council. On that basis:

- Councillors are entitled to allowance with the range of \$13,123 up to a maximum of \$31,444 per annum (plus the superannuation guarantee).
- The Mayor is entitled to an allowance of up to \$100,434 per annum (plus the superannuation guarantee).

At the Council Briefing on 12 April 2021, Council agreed with the proposal to set Councillor and Mayoral allowances at the maximum limits set out above, in line with previous annual allowance reviews undertaken by Council.

Council was required to advertise its decision to set allowances for 28 days and received submissions from three members of the community, all of which were supportive of the allowances being set at the maximum limits.

Council must now decide whether or not to confirm the maximum limits following the three supportive community submissions.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council:

Acknowledging the community feedback sought in relation to the proposal, resolves to set the maximum Councillor allowances to:

- a) \$31,444 per annum (plus the superannuation guarantee) for Councillors; and
- b) \$100,434 per annum (plus the superannuation guarantee) for the Mayor.

Policy Context

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal 1: Lead and govern for all

- Objective 1.1: Engage with all communities
- Objective 1.2 Explain the reason for its decisions
- Objective 1.3: Be innovative and financially responsible
- Objective 1.4: Be accountable and efficient in its use of the community's money

Background Information

The Act provides that the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors are entitled to receive from the Council an allowance which is to be set in accordance with a determination of the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal. Such determination would be made at the request of the Minister for Local Government.

To date, the Minister has not requested a determination. It is likely a request will be made mid-year and the Tribunal will take at least several months to make a determination.

The Act further provides that until the first determination is made by the Tribunal, the now repealed provisions of the *Local Government Act 1989* (Vic) relating to Councillor allowances continue to apply as though they remain in force. Relevantly, section 74(1) of the 1989 Act requires that Council must review and determine the level of the Councillor allowance and the Mayoral allowance within the period of 6 months after a general election or by the next 30 June, whichever is later. Accordingly, it is necessary for Council to complete a review of allowances prior to 30 June 2021.

Under the 1989 Local Government Act, Councillor and Mayoral allowances are set by limits and ranges imposed by the Minister for Local Government via publication in the Victorian Government Gazette.

The most recent gazetted notices regarding Councillor allowances were made by the Minister on 13 November 2019 and 23 December 2019. According to these notices, councils are divided into three categories based on population size. Category 3 councils have the largest population base and therefore the highest range for Councillor allowances.

Greater Bendigo is listed as a Category 3 Council, which is recognised in the highest category for allowances. This is an indication of the complexity of matters considered by Council and the high level of responsibility of Councillors.

On that basis:

- Councillors are entitled to an allowance within the range of \$13,123 up to a maximum of \$31,444 per annum.
- The Mayor is entitled to an allowance of up to \$100,434 per annum.

The position of Deputy Mayor is not afforded a separate category of allowance under the 1989 Act as the position was not required by that Act.

Mayoral and Councillor allowances are also subject to the addition of the equivalent of the superannuation guarantee (9.5%). Note that this percentage is scheduled to increase to 10.0% from 1 July 2021.

At the 12 April 2021 Council Briefing, Council set Councillor and Mayoral allowances at the maximum limit permitted of \$31,444 per annum, plus the legislated superannuation rate (currently 9.5%) for Councillors and \$100,434 per annum, plus the legislated superannuation rate (currently 9.5%) for the Mayor.

Council advertised this decision to set allowances to accept public submissions on the matter before making a final resolution for a period of 28 days. Pursuant to Section 74(4) of the 1989 Act, any person may make a submission under section 223 of the Act in relation to a review of Councillor allowances.

Following the expiry of the 28-day submission period on 18 May 2021, three members of the community made submissions, all of which were supportive of allowing the maximum allowances. Council officers have contacted each of the three community members who made submissions to invite them to present their feedback directly to Councillors. Each person elected not to present directly, but to rely upon their written submissions.

Report

Options/Alternatives:

If Council does not approve the Councillor Allowances, Councillors will not be remunerated.

Timelines:

Section 74(1) of the 1989 Act requires that Council must review and determine the level of the Councillor allowance and the Mayoral allowance within the period of 6 months after a general election or by the next 30 June, whichever is later. Accordingly, it is necessary for Council to complete a review of allowances prior to 30 June 2021.

Consultation/Communication

Pursuant to Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989 (Vic)*, three members of the community provided the following submissions in relation to the proposed maximum Councillor Allowances during the 28-day submission period:

First written submission:

I agree that the maximum allowed should be paid for councillors so they can focus on doing the best job they can rather than having to work full time elsewhere to cover the high cost of living. Even at the maximum rate councillors would be paid less than minimum wage to cover all the time spent on their role. You get what you pay for. I want to see councillors being devoted to seeing our amazing city go from strength to strength not worried about paying their mortgage or electricity bills. I don't want just rich business people stacking the council because they are the only people that can afford to run and then actually just take the time to further their business agendas.

Second written submission:

The amount of work councillors undertake on various committees as well Council meetings, with volumes of reading each week plus meeting with resident's warrants receiving the maximum allowance.

Third written submission:

I'm in support of the full maximum allowance to be made to Councillors and the Mayor. There is a great deal of time, effort and commitment expected of them from a wide range of stakeholders and I feel that the allowance is equitable to these expectations. thanks

Resource Implications

Nil. The budget was developed assuming that the maximum Councillor allowances would be paid.

20.4. Audit and Risk Committee's Biannual Chairperson Report

Author	Anna Connolly, Risk and Assurance Advisor
Responsible Director	Jenn Spelling, A/Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to brief Council on the Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson's second biannual report for 2020/21, which provides a summary of the activities and findings of the Committee since the last report.

Summary

In accordance with the Local Government Act (2020) and Audit and Risk Committee Charter, the Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson is required to provide a biannual report to Council on the activities and findings of the Committee.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council note the Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson's second biannual report for 2020/21.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference:

City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:

Goal: 1	Lead and govern for all
Objective:1.2	Be innovative and financially responsible

Background Information

The Committee is an advisory committee of the Council established to assist the Council to discharge its responsibilities under the Act to:

- monitor the compliance of Council policies and procedures with:
 - the overarching governance principles;
 - the Act and the regulations and any Ministerial directions;
 - other relevant laws and regulations;
- monitor internal controls;
- monitor Council's financial and performance reporting;
- monitor and provide advice on risk management and fraud prevention systems and controls;
- oversee internal audit function; and

- oversee external audit functions.

In accordance with the Local Government Act (2020), the Audit and Risk Committee Charter was reviewed and adopted by Council on the 19 August 2020. To adhere with the Act, there were five new requirements that Audit and Risk Committees must deliver on. One of the new requirements is to increase the reporting from the Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson to two reports per year. This is the second report for 20/2021.

Report

The Audit and Risk Committee Charter requires that the Chairperson report to Council biannually a summary of the activities and achievements of the Committee during the financial year, which Warren Pollock, the Chair has provided in Attachment 1 - Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson Biannual Report.

Consultation/Communication

The report was tabled at the Audit and Risk Committee meeting on Thursday 13 May 2021 and the Councillor Briefing on Monday 24 May 2021.

Resource Implications

Not applicable

Attachments

1. Audit and Risk Committee Chairperson's Biannual Report

Attachment 1 - Audit and Risk Committee Bi-Annual Chair Person Report May 2021

Bi-Annual Chairperson Report

The Audit and Risk Committee has various roles, but one of the main functions is to report to Council and provide appropriate advice and recommendations relevant to its charter in order to facilitate decision making by Council. The Audit and Risk Committee plays a key role in assisting Council to fulfil its governance and oversight responsibilities in relation to financial reporting, internal control, the risk management system, ethical accountability and the internal and external functions. The Audit and Risk Committee is a formally appointed Advisory Committee of the City of Greater Bendigo Council. Historically my report is submitted annually however moving forward, this report will be submitted twice each year.

Objectives of the Audit and Risk Committee

The main objectives of the Audit and Risk Committee are to assist the Councilors, Management and Staff by providing independent appraisals of:

- Compliance with legislative requirements and Council's policies and procedures.
- The effectiveness of the internal and external audit functions and the communication between the external auditor, internal audit, management and the council.
- The arrangements in place to safeguard assets and resources.
- The integrity of information.
- Internal control systems.
- To provide timely advice on Council on any matters which may be referred to it by Council.
- Organisational effectiveness in terms of program efficiency and economy against the Council Plan.

The current composition of the Audit and Risk Committee is:

Four Independent Members

Warren Pollock (Chair)
Jovana O'Bradovic-Tantra
Shannon Buckley
Stephen Brown (Appointed November 2020)

Three Councillors

Mayor Jennifer Alden
Cr Margaret O'Rourke
Cr Andrea Metcalf

Independent Members Panel

The independent members serve a 3-year term on a rotating basis. Mr Stephen Brown was appointed as an independent member in November 2020 to replace the outgoing Mr Graham Bastian.

Audit and Risk Committee

Since my last report, the Audit and Risk Committee has met on two occasions, 16th December via Microsoft Teams and 25th February in the Town Hall. It was very exciting to conduct this meeting face to face, given the challenges that Covid 19 presented last year. Key focus of the Committee is to oversee the conduct of External Audit and Internal Audit, recommend the approval of the Annual Financial Statements to Council, and review the management of risks for Council. The Audit Committee also reviewed the relevant local government and sector wide VAGO reports for applicability to City of Greater Bendigo.

The Internal Audit program undertaken by our Internal Audits in recent months included:

- ICT and Cyber Security Strategy and Governance (November 2020)
- Customer Service Practices across Council (February 2021)

The recommendations made by the Internal Auditors, and adopted by the Committee, are then transferred to management for implementation. A regular review is undertaken to assess which recommendations have been completed.

The Committee remains of the view that opportunities exist for the improvement of processes for the recognition and management of risks that may have an impact on the Council. Following changes to personnel with the responsibility of this area we look forward to improvements in reporting of the actions taken to manage this area.

Officers have been diligently actioning the recommended actions included in the reports which has resulted in a significant reduction in the number of actions outstanding at the end of the year. As a result, a number of key improvements/changes have been made to policies and procedures.

I am pleased to report that the Committee has continued to meet its objectives since the presentation of my last report.



Warren Pollock CA, Registered Company Auditor
Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee

20.5. Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (Phase 2) Grant Agreement

Author	Michelle Stedman, Coordinator Strategic Capital Management
Responsible Director	Jenn Spelling, Acting Director Corporate Performance

Purpose

To request Council to delegate to the Chief Executive Officer, the ability to enter into a grant agreement for the purpose of accepting funding under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (Phase 2).

Summary

The City has been requested to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) for the purpose of accepting \$4.6M funding under the Federal Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program.

RECOMMENDATION

That Council delegate to

1. The Chief Executive Officer the power to sign for and enter into a grant agreement with the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications (the Department) on behalf of the Greater Bendigo City Council for the purposes of accepting up to \$4,601,569 under the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program);
2. The Director Corporate Performance the power to
 - a. define the associated LRCI Program work schedule to the Department in accordance with eligible Capital Works projects identified within the 2021/2022 Council Budget;
 - b. attribute to and claim against the work schedule grant funding as appropriate; and
 - c. report on progress against the work schedule to the Department as per the conditions of the grant agreement.

Policy Context

Community Plan Reference: *City of Greater Bendigo Community Plan 2017-2021:*

Goal # 1	<u>Lead & Govern for All</u>
Objective #1.3	<i>Be innovative and financially responsible.</i>
Objective #1.4	<i>Be accountable and efficient in its use of the community's money</i>
Goal # 4	<u>Presentation & Managing Growth</u>

Objective #4.5	<i>Provide and maintain urban and rural infrastructure to support the liveability of our community.</i>
-----------------------	---

Background Information

In May 2020 the Australian Government announced a new \$500M Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI Program). Through the 2020/2021 Budget, the Australian Government announced a \$1 billion extension of the LRCI Program, following strong community and local government support.

Previous Council Decision(s) Date(s):

June 2020 – Council awarded funding from Phase 1 LRCI Program to Bendigo Botanic Gardens – White Hills Central Hub.

Report

The LRCI Program supports local councils to deliver priority local road and community infrastructure projects across Australia, supporting jobs and the resilience of local economies to help communities bounce back from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City of Greater Bendigo received \$2,245,916 under the first round of funding and has subsequently been offered \$4,601,569 for the second round of this Program.

This funding stream has been included in the 2021/2022 Council Budget and to accept receipt of this funding, the City needs to enter into a grant agreement with the Australian Government's Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Communications.

Due to the amount being above the CEO's delegation, it is requested that Council provide the CEO and Director Corporate Performance powers to efficiently accept and administrate this funding program and its reporting requirements.

Funding will be administered to eligible capital projects as identified within the 2021/2022 Council Budget.

Timelines:

The City is required to enter into a funding agreement and identify a compliant work schedule before 31 July 2021.

Consultation/Communication

As part of the process to develop the 2021/2022 Council Budget, significant consultation has been both undertaken and is underway with the community, Councillors and within the organisation as to inclusion of projects to be considered for this funding.

Resource Implications

The revenue associated with receipt of this grant has been recognised in the planning, preparation and consultation of the 2021/2022 Council Budget. Deliberations on inclusions within the capital works program for 2021/2022 have considered LRCI as an income stream that enabled increased investment in renewal and new capital works. This increased investment has also been considered in the context of a deliverable and sustainable capital works program.

21. URGENT BUSINESS

22. NOTICES OF MOTION

23. COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

24. MAYOR'S REPORT

25. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

26. CONFIDENTIAL (SECTION 66) REPORTS

26.1 Confidential Report pursuant to Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020 relating to Council business information

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council close the meeting to members of the public pursuant to Section 66(2)(a) of the Local Government Act 2020¹ to consider a report relating to Council business information.