

# AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

## COUNCIL MEETING

**5:30pm, Tuesday 18 August 2020**

VIRTUALLY VIA ZOOM

### COUNCILLORS

Cr Seema Abdullah (Mayor)  
Cr Dinny Adem (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr Bruce Giovanetti  
Cr Chris Hazelman OAM  
Cr Kim O'Keeffe  
Cr Les Oroszvary  
Cr Dennis Patterson  
Cr Fern Summer  
Cr Shelley Sutton

### VISION

**GREATER SHEPPARTON, GREATER FUTURE**

A thriving economy in the foodbowl of Victoria with excellent lifestyles, innovative agriculture a diverse community and abundant opportunities

# Values

Values reflect what we feel is important. Organisations may have core values that reflect what is important in the organisation. These values may be guiding principles of behaviour for all members in the organisation.

## **Respect first, always**

We are attentive, listen to others and consider all points of view in our decision making.

## **Take ownership**

We take pride in honouring our promises and exceeding expectations, and are transparent with and accountable for our actions.

## **Courageously lead**

We lead with integrity, and stand up and stand by what is in the best interests of the Greater Shepparton community.

## **Working together**

We work collaboratively to create higher quality outcomes that are more efficient, thoughtful, effective and responsive. We cannot accomplish all that we need to do without working together.

## **Continually innovate**

We are open to new ideas and creatively seek solutions that encourage us to do our best for our community.

## **Start the celebration**

As ambassadors for our people and place, we proudly celebrate the strengths and achievements of Council and the Greater Shepparton community.

**A G E N D A  
FOR THE  
COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD ON  
TUESDAY 18 AUGUST 2020 AT 5:30PM**

**CHAIR  
CR SEEMA ABDULLAH  
MAYOR**

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## Risk Level Matrix Legend

**Note: A number of reports in this agenda include a section on “risk management implications”. The following table shows the legend to the codes used in the reports.**

Likelihood	Consequences				
	Negligible (1)	Minor (2)	Moderate (3)	Major (4)	Extreme (5)
<b>Almost Certain (5)</b> Would be expected to occur in most circumstances (daily/weekly)	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME	EXTREME
<b>Likely (4)</b> Could probably occur in most circumstances (i.e. Monthly)	LOW	MEDIUM	MEDIUM	HIGH	EXTREME
<b>Possible (3)</b> Reasonable probability that it could occur (i.e. over 12 months)	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH	HIGH
<b>Unlikely (2)</b> It is not expected to occur (i.e. 2-5 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
<b>Rare (1)</b> May occur only in exceptional circumstances (i.e. within 10 years)	LOW	LOW	LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH

**Extreme** Intolerable – Immediate action is required to mitigate this risk to an acceptable level. Event/Project/Activity is not to proceed without authorisation

**High** Intolerable – Attention is needed to treat risk.

**Medium** Variable – May be willing to accept the risk in conjunction with monitoring and controls

**Low** Tolerable – Managed by routine procedures

**PRESENT:**

## 1 Acknowledgement

“We the Greater Shepparton City Council, begin today’s meeting by acknowledging the traditional owners of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton. We pay respect to their tribal elders, we celebrate their continuing culture, and we acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.”

## 2 Privacy Notice

This public meeting is being streamed live via our Facebook page and made available for public access on our website along with the official Minutes of this meeting.

## 3 Governance Principles

Council considers that the recommendations contained in this Agenda give effect to the overarching governance principles stated in Section 9 (2) of the *Local Government Act 2020*. These principles are as follows:

1. Council decisions are to be made and actions taken in accordance with the relevant law;
2. priority is to be given to achieving the best outcomes for the municipal community, including future generations;
3. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
4. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
5. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
6. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
7. regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
8. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

## 4 Apologies

Nil Received

## 5 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with sections 77A, 77B, 78 and 79 of the Local Government Act 1989 Councillors are required to disclose a “conflict of interest” in a decision if they would receive, or could reasonably be perceived as receiving a direct or indirect financial or non-financial benefit or detriment (other than as a voter, resident or ratepayer) from the decision.

**Disclosure must occur immediately before the matter is considered or discussed.**

## 6 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the minutes of the 21 July 2020 Council Meeting as circulated, be confirmed.**

## 7 Public Question Time

Nil Received

## 8 Community Directorate

### 8.1 Required Changes to Section 86 Committees of Management under the Local Government Act 2020

Author                      Committees Liaison Officer  
 Approved by              Director Community  
 Purpose                     For Decision by Council

#### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. **revokes the Instruments of Delegation, that were established under section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, for the following Special Committees as of 1 September 2020:**
  - **Arcadia Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management**
  - **Bunbartha Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
  - **Caniambo Hall Committee of Management**
  - **Central Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
  - **Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management**
  - **Dhurringile Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management**
  - **Dookie Memorial Hall Committee of Management**
  - **Dookie Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management**
  - **Harston Hall Committee of Management**
  - **Karramomus Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
  - **Katandra West Community Facilities Committee of Management**
  - **Kialla District Hall Committee of Management**
  - **Lemnos Recreation Reserve Committee of Management**
  - **Murchison Community Centre Committee of Management**
  - **Tallygaroopna Memorial Hall Committee of Management**
  - **Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management**
  - **Toolamba Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management**



2. **establishes Community Asset Committees, pursuant to section 65 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, for the following community assets:**
  - **Arcadia Recreation Reserve and Community Centre**
  - **Bunbartha Recreation Reserve**
  - **Caniambo Hall**
  - **Central Park Recreation Reserve**
  - **Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre**
  - **Dhurringile Recreation Reserve and Community Centre**
  - **Dookie Memorial Hall**
  - **Dookie Recreation Reserve and Community Centre**
  - **Harston Hall**
  - **Karramomus Hall and Recreation Reserve**
  - **Katandra West Community Facilities**
  - **Kialla District Hall**
  - **Lemnos Recreation Reserve**
  - **Murchison Community Centre**
  - **Tallygaroopna Memorial Hall**
  - **Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre**
  - **Toolamba Recreation Reserve and Community Centre**
  
3. **transfer all membership of the existing Special Committees across to the corresponding newly established community asset committee, maintaining current memberships terms until such time that there are new guidelines in place.**

### Executive Summary

Council currently has seventeen special committees of management which are delegated the responsibility to manage Council assets such as recreation reserves, facilities and halls.

However, on 1 May 2020 the sections of the Local Government Act 2020 relating to delegated committees and community asset committees came into effect.

Delegations made under the Local Government Act 1989 remain in force until 1 September 2020, therefore any existing committees operating under delegation will not have the power to exercise these delegations, after this date, until new committees are established.

Membership of the committees should be transferred to the new committees maintaining current terms to ensure continuing operation of the committees, and good management of these important local facilities. Membership will be reviewed at such a time when Guidelines have been finalised.

Currently the Guidelines from Local Government Victoria for community asset committees are in draft form under development on the Engage Victoria Website. Under the new Act, section 65, members of Community Asset Committees may be delegated powers, duties and functions of the council subject to terms and conditions set by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

All aspects of how such committees operate, are therefore matters for the council and the CEO to determine.

## Report Detail

Council currently has seventeen special committees with delegated powers pursuant to section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989*, they are:

- Arcadia Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management
- Bunbartha Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Caniambo Hall Committee of Management
- Central Park Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management
- Dhurringile Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management
- Dookie Memorial Hall Committee of Management
- Dookie Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management
- Harston Hall Committee of Management
- Karramomus Hall and Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Katandra West Community Facilities Committee of Management
- Kialla District Hall Committee of Management
- Lemnos Recreation Reserve Committee of Management
- Murchison Community Centre Committee of Management
- Tallygaroopna Memorial Hall Committee of Management
- Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management
- Toolamba Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Committee of Management

The new Act (2020) simplifies the approach to committees. The Act specifies only three types of committees, and provides brief detail regarding the powers and administrative arrangements related to those committees. Of these new committee types, community asset committees are committees established for the purpose of managing a community asset in the municipal district.

On 1 May 2020 the sections of the Local Government Act 2020 relating to delegated committees and community asset committees came into effect. Delegations made under the Local Government Act 1989 expire on 1 September 2020.

The 17 special committees need to be transitioned to Community Asset Committees to support their continued operation to oversee the management of local community assets.

It is recommended that in accordance with the above Council revoke the delegations for special committees currently managing the below Council facilities and establish community asset committees in their place to manage the facilities pursuant to section 65 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

- Arcadia Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Bunbartha Recreation Reserve
- Caniambo Hall
- Central Park Recreation Reserve
- Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Dhurringile Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Dookie Memorial Hall
- Dookie Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Harston Hall
- Karramomus Hall and Recreation Reserve
- Katandra West Community Facilities
- Kialla District Hall

- Lemnos Recreation Reserve
- Murchison Community Centre
- Tallygaroopna Memorial Hall
- Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Toolamba Recreation Reserve and Community Centre

As the Local Government Victoria Guidelines are still being established it is recommended that membership arrangements for each of the committees are maintained ensuring the continued management and operations of each of these Council Assets throughout this transition period.

Furthermore, new instruments of delegation will be required for each of the committees. Delegations are used to empower committees with the authority to make binding decisions on behalf of a council or council chief executive. An instrument of delegation is a written document that specifies what powers are delegated and to whom. For community asset committees, it is the chief executive's powers, duties or functions that are delegated to the collective members of the Community Asset Committee.

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

1.7 Council advocates on issues, priorities and needs that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.

1.8 Consultation that is transparent, robust and accessible, and clear, consistent and timely communication provided to inform, educate and engage with the community.

### SOCIAL

Develop resilient, inclusive, healthy communities that make Greater Shepparton a safe and harmonious place to live, work, learn, and play.

2.1 Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.

2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing.

2.3 Lifelong learning is valued and fostered in our community.

2.4 Social and cultural, educational and employment opportunities are created to enable children, young people, individuals and families to actively participate in their community.

2.6 Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.

2.9 Public places, open space and community facilities are safe and accessible for all and presented to a high quality.

### BUILT

Provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.

4.4 Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards.

4.5 Assets are well managed and their renewal is being planned through long term renewal strategies.

## Risk Management

Insignificant to Low risks have been identified and will be addressed at the operational level.

## Policy Considerations

The following were considered:

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- Council Plan 2017-2021
- The following were considered:
  - Council Plan 2017-2021
  - *Local Government Act 2020*

## Financial Implications

There are no additional financial implications to Council associated with this report. Operational budget is allocated to support operations within these facilities annually.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

The sections of the Local Government Act 2020 relating to committee delegations came into effect 1 May 2020. Delegations made under the former Local Government Act 1989 remain current until 1 September 2020.

As of 1 September 2020 any existing committees operating under delegation will not have the power to exercise these delegations, after this date, until new committees are established and new instruments of delegation will be created and authorised by the Chief Executive Officer.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no adverse environmental/sustainability impacts associated with this report.

## Social Implications

Community facilities offer a space for people to meet and participate in community life and are vital for place-making and social cohesion and interaction. It is important that the management of these facilities continues without disruption and complies with the new Local Government Act.

## Economic Impacts

There are no major economic impacts as a result of this report.

## Consultation

Council has notified existing Section 86 Committees of the changes outlined in this report as a result of the new Local Government Act 2020.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Direction 2 - Community

## Conclusion

It is recommended that in accordance with the above Council revoke the delegations for special committees currently managing the below Council facilities and establish community asset committees to manage the facilities pursuant to section 65 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

- Arcadia Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Bunbartha Recreation Reserve

- Caniambo Hall
- Central Park Recreation Reserve
- Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Dhurringile Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Dookie Memorial Hall
- Dookie Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Harston Hall
- Karramomus Hall and Recreation Reserve
- Katandra West Community Facilities
- Kialla District Hall
- Lemnos Recreation Reserve
- Murchison Community Centre
- Tallygaroopna Memorial Hall
- Tallygaroopna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre
- Toolamba Recreation Reserve and Community Centre

It is further recommended that membership of the former special committees be transferred across to the corresponding newly formed community asset committee for each facility and that current member terms be maintained.

### Attachments

Nil

## 8.2 Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex Plus (LGBTI+) Committee - Policy, Financial and Resourcing Implications

Author                      Coordinator Social Equity and Safety  
 Approved by              Director Community  
 Purpose                     For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

- 1. note the report outlining the policy, financial and resourcing implications of establishing a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and other sexuality, sex and gender diverse (LGBTI+) Committee and;**
- 2. undertake further work to establish a committee.**

### Executive Summary

Council has been working with members from the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and other sexuality, sex and gender diverse (LGBTI+) community for many years through participation and or support for local networks and local projects. GV Pride presented to Councillors at a briefing in late 2019 about ways Council could support the work and advocacy they undertake to further strengthen the working relationship. It has been identified that this work sits across many areas of Council and relates to a number of Council Plans, Strategies and Committees.

This report provides an overview of the policy, financial and resourcing implications of establishing a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and other sexuality, sex and gender diverse (LGBTI+) committee.

In addition, the report provides an outline of the existing advisory groups and networks in greater Shepparton that support and advocate on behalf of the LGBTI+ community and issues specific to the community. The report also provides current context for the establishment of a Council committee, including relevant Council plans and strategies, as well as State Government directions and State Legislation.

This report has been tabled as a result of a notice of motion at the 21 July 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting to:

1. Prepare a report outlining the policy, financial and resourcing implications of establishing a LGBTI+ Advisory Committee.



2. Provide the report no later than the August Council Meeting 2020.

## Report Detail

### Background and data analysis consideration

The abbreviation LGBTI+ refers to lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and other sexuality, sex and gender diverse. However, the limitations of this term when describing the full extent of people's genders, relationships, sexualities and lived experiences should be acknowledged.

Collectively, LGBTI+ people are recognised as a specific minority population group. Individually, they come from all walks of life and are part of all other population groups. How LGBTI+ people identify themselves is influenced by many factors, including their age, ethnicity, socioeconomic position and their lived experiences and relationships with others.

According to the Australian Institute of Health and Wellbeing:

- The 2016 National Drug Strategy Household Survey estimates that 3.2% of adults identify as homosexual or bisexual and 2.4% as not sure/other orientation.
- The Australian Bureau of Statistics 2014 General Social Survey, indicates that 3.0% of adults identified as gay, lesbian or as having an 'other' sexual orientation (ABS 2015).

Analysis of the 2016 Australian Bureau of Statistics census data of Population and Housing shows, that the number of same-sex couples in Australia represents around 1 in 100 (0.9%) of all couple families (either with or without children). Just under half of same-sex couples are female (49%), and one-quarter (25%) of female same-sex couples have children. Despite there being slightly more male same-sex couples, a considerably smaller proportion of male same-sex couples have children (4.5%). People in same-sex couples tend to be younger than people in opposite-sex couples (median ages of 40 and 48, respectively).

People in same-sex couples are more likely to live in capital cities, tend to be more highly educated, have higher labour force participation rates and earn higher incomes than people in opposite-sex couples.

Information regarding a regional lens to this data has been identified as a data collection gap, and advocacy has occurred to the ABS for the inclusion of sexual orientation and gender identity within the future ABS census collections.

LGBTI+ Victorians continue to experience discrimination and inequalities that result in poorer health and wellbeing than other Victorians.

The pervasiveness of abuse and discrimination results in LGBTI+ Victorians experiencing poorer health and wellbeing than other Victorians. Data from the 2017 Victorian Population Health Survey (Victorian Agency for Health Information, 2020) found that:

- 44.8 per cent of LGBTI+ adults had been diagnosed with anxiety or depression by a doctor compared with 26.7 per cent of the broader adult population
- 24.4 per cent of LGBTI+ adults had high or very high levels of psychological distress compared with 14.5 per cent of the broader adult population
- 27.1 per cent of LGBTI+ adults rated their satisfaction with life as low or medium, compared with 20.1 per cent of the broader adult population
- 22.1 per cent of LGBTI+ adults rated feeling that life is worthwhile as low to medium, compared with 16.5 per cent of the broader adult population
- 35.7 per cent of LGBTI+ adults rated self-reported health as excellent or very good compared with 42.5 per cent of the broader adult population
- 36.1 per cent of LGBTI+ Victorians were diagnosed with two or more chronic diseases compared with 25.1 per cent of the broader adult population

- 17.8 per cent of LGBTI+ adults in Victorian are daily smokers compared with 12.3 per cent of the broader adult population
- 13.4 per cent of LGBTI+ adults in Victoria had experienced family violence compared with 5.1 per cent of the broader population
- Compared with the broader adult population in Victoria, a significantly higher proportion of LGBTI+ adults never, or not often, felt valued by society.

Evidence from small-scale LGBTI+ targeted studies, and some larger population-based surveys, indicate that LGBTI+ people face particular disparities in terms of their mental health, sexual health and rates of substance use. The research clearly indicates the need to continue to address inequalities at both local and systemic level.

#### Policy considerations

The Victorian State Government is developing a Victorian LGBTI+ Strategy, which is currently in consultation phase. The final plan is due for release in 2021. This strategy will consider a wide range of social and structural issues that can be implemented across the State to better reflect LGBTI+ representation in Victoria and remove systemic practices that have resulted in under-presentation and discrimination within the state of Victoria. This may have implications or set some direction for Local Government to consider.

In addition to this, under the Victorian Gender Equality Act 2020, Council (and other large employers and government institutions) will be required to resource the development and delivery of a Gender Equality Strategy and Action Plan in 2021. Supporting resources for these requirements specifically detail that consideration be provided to community members that fall outside of the traditional gender binary of male / female and provides for a greater understanding of gender as a concept.

#### Local considerations

Greater Shepparton is currently home to a number of established networks and groups who currently represent, support and advocate on behalf of the LGBTI+ Community. Council officers are involved in the below groups via either representation on a network and regular attendance or contact with administrators depending on the nature of the Group or network. Through this representation and regular contact there is a two-way relationship for Council officers to connect with and hear from these groups within the Community and an opportunity for them to escalate barriers and enablers that they may be experiencing.

GV PRIDE INC. – *THE* Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Queer/Questioning, Asexual plus other sexuality/gender diverse (LGBTIQA+) social-support group located in the Shepparton/Goulburn Valley/North-East Victorian region. Goulburn Valley Pride Inc. is a volunteer run, community organisation supporting LGBTIQA+ people across Greater Shepparton. The Association is run by a Committee who meet regularly providing a safe space for support, friendship, family, networking and fellowship.

GV PRIDE INC. attend conferences, offer scholarships, host regular info sessions, plan and run trips to major LGBTIQA+ events & provide food to those who may not be able to afford it. They also host the very successful Out in the Open Festival in greater Shepparton.

GO LGBTI+ Alliance – The Regional Equality Roadshow was held in Shepparton in July 2020 where the Victorian Commissioner for Gender and Sexuality facilitated a community workshop. An outcome from this workshop was a commitment from multiple organisations and community members within greater Shepparton and the broader Goulburn Ovens region to create a working group that provides a safe, non-judgemental and inclusive environment to support the LGBTI+ community within the region and promote inclusive practices and raise awareness and advocate on issues affecting LGBTI+ groups within the community.



Trans Advisory Group (TAG) Shepparton – TAG Shepparton was formed to provide a community led space for trans and gender diverse people and allies to connect and highlight challenges faced by the trans and gender diverse community that live in a regional area, such as social isolation, discrimination and access to appropriate health service and gender affirming care requirements.

Council's current involvement within these platforms is strategically aligned with the below plans and strategies:

- Council Plan
- Greater Shepparton Youth Strategy and Action Plan,
- Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Universal Access and Inclusion Plan
- And other Plans and Strategies relating to equity, diversity and inclusion more broadly.

Council is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion for all. This is explicitly detailed in the Council Plan Objective *2.1 Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.*

Financial, Resourcing and Capability considerations

It is estimated establishing a LGBTI+ Committee of this specific nature would require support from internal departments; Community Wellbeing and Active Living given the breadth of topics that may be covered. Much consideration should also be given to the actual purpose of such a Committee and potential duplication and overlap with other existing Committees in the Greater Shepparton area.

Any further action to develop a Committee would require extensive consultation and would need to be developed in partnership with key organisations and groups to ensure there is no duplication of effort, resources and Committee need.

Council already have a number of Advisory Committees that support or contribute to improving outcomes for the LGBTI+ community and this is often incorporated into actions that aim to improve diversity, inclusion and equity for a number minority groups. A review of a number of committees would be required to ensure there is no duplication and clear purpose. Consideration also needs to be given to the form and function of a Committee in light of the absence of 'Advisory Committees' in the Local Government Act 2020. Council need to ensure that any Committee is fit for purpose with clear objectives and is meaningful for participating members, Council and the broader community.

The approximate per annum cost of operating such an Advisory Committee in the current form is \$21,928. This includes Council staff resourcing and potential actions arising from the committee. The actual financial cost will not be fully known until the terms of reference, meeting frequency, membership and reporting requirements is determined.

- Staffing - \$11,928 (Band 6 208 hours - 0.1EFT) and Band 4 104 hours – 0.05EFT) - committee lead and administrative support (attendance at meetings, minutes, agendas, follow up of actions, membership process).
- Actions - \$10,000

**Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity**

**LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.1 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnerships to improve health and wellbeing access and inequity.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best

interests of the community.

## **SOCIAL**

Develop resilient, inclusive, healthy communities that make Greater Shepparton a safe and harmonious place to live, work, learn, and play.

2.1 Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.

2.7 Greater Shepparton is valued for cultural celebrations, inclusion and engagement of our diverse communities.

## **Risk Management**

There are no risks associated with this report.

## **Policy Considerations**

This report is linked to a number of strategic documents including the Council Plan, Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan and the State Government's Gender Equality Strategy and Action Plan 2021.

## **Financial Implications**

The approximate per annum cost of operating such a committee is \$21,928. This includes Council staff resourcing and potential actions arising from the committee. The actual financial cost will not be fully known until the terms of reference, meeting frequency, membership and reporting requirements is determined.

	Approved 20/21 Budget for this proposal	This Proposal \$	Variance to approved budget \$	Comments
Revenue	0			
Staffing	0	\$11,928	\$11,928	Band 6 208 hours/ yr (0.1FTE), Band 4 104 hours/yr (0.05FTE)
Actions from committee		\$10,000	\$10,000	
Net result			\$21,928	

## **Legal/Statutory Implications**

There are no legal or statutory implications associated with this report.

## **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts associated with this report.

## **Social Implications**

The establishment of a committee would provide an avenue for greater engagement between Council and LGBTI+ community members, strengthening Council's commitment in creating an inclusive environment for marginalised members of our community where their voice is valued and heard. This will also support Council to better respond and cater to needs across all genders and across community more broadly.

## **Economic Impacts**

There are no economic impacts associated with this report.

## Consultation

Council has consulted with internal Council departments to ascertain the current deliverables within their strategies and plans in relation to LGBTI+ actions.

Council officers have also engaged with GV Pride and the Uniting Diversity project, regarding the scope and direction of the proposed group, identifying current gaps in LGBTI+ engagement and knowledge, as well as current and future initiatives being under taken from a local, states and national context.

Whilst this initial consultation has been beneficial for the purpose of this report, should further action be required, Council officers would initiate a full community engagement process with a broad range of stakeholders to inform further direction.

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Nil

### b) Other strategic links

- Greater Shepparton Youth Strategy and Action Plan 2019 – 2023  
5.3 - Young LGBTQTI+ members of the community feel valued by GSCC
- Greater Shepparton Public Health Implementation Plan 2017 – 2021  
A12 – Develop local strategies to guide LGBTQI affirming prevention, early intervention and accessible health care services

## Conclusion

Council is committed to equity, diversity and inclusion for all. This is explicitly detailed in the Council Plan Objective 2.1 *Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.*

The report provides an overview of the policy, financial and resourcing implications of establishing a lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and other sexuality, sex and gender diverse (LGBTI+) Committee.

## Attachments

Nil

## 9 Corporate Services Directorate

### 9.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation - July 2020

Author Acting Team Leader - Contracts & Procurement  
 Approved by Director Corporate Services  
 Purpose For Noting

#### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

That the Council note:

1. contracts awarded under delegated authority by a Director;
2. contracts awarded under delegated authority by a Manager; and
3. requests for tenders advertised but not yet awarded.

#### Executive Summary

To inform the Council of the status of request for tenders that have been awarded under delegation and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded.

#### Tendered Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by a Director

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2073	Watt Road Bridge, Mooroopna - Repair Works (2020)	Lump Sum Contract for the Watt Road Bridge, Mooroopna - Repair Works (2020)	\$141,467.70	Waratah Bridge Construction Pty Ltd
2049	Designated Area Migration Agreement	Lump Sum Contract for the Designated Area Migration Agreement	\$79,500.00	SED Advisory Pty Ltd

### Tendered Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by a Manager

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2043	Detailed Design of Princess Park Pavilion	Lump Sum Contract for the Detailed Design of Princess Park Pavilion	\$44,484.00	Cohen Leigh Architects

### Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
2048	Provision of Food Services (Readvertised)	Schedule of Rates Contract for the provision of delivered meals throughout the Greater Shepparton municipality.	Tender scheduled to close on 26 August 2020.
2033	Construction of the Maude Street Upgrade, Vaughan Street to High Street, Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for Construction of the Maude Street Upgrade, Vaughan Street to High Street, Shepparton	Tender scheduled to close on 19 August 2020.
2070	Construction of Wyndham Street and Fitzjohn Street Intersection, Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Wyndham Street and Fitzjohn Street Intersection, Shepparton	Tender Scheduled to close on 19 August 2020.
2060	Drainage Design of the Shepparton Stadium & Munarra Precinct	Lump Sum Contract for the Drainage Design of the Shepparton Stadium & Munarra Precinct	Tender scheduled to close on 5 August 2020.
2059	Design of Utility Upgrades of the Shepparton Stadium & Munarra Precinct	Lump Sum Contract for the Design of Utility Upgrades of the Shepparton Stadium & Munarra Precinct	Tender Scheduled to close on 5 August 2020.
2028	Supply and Installation of Leachate Pump, Compressor Pipe System, Cosgrove 3 Landfill Precinct	Lump Sum Contract for the Supply and Installation of Leachate Pump, Compressor and Pipe System, Cosgrove 3 Landfill Precinct	Tender closed on 8 July 2020. Currently being evaluated.
1968	Event Management of Fryers Street Food Festival	Lump Sum Contract for Event Management of Fryers Street Food Festival	Tender closed on 8 July 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.

### Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded (continued)

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
1961	Construction of Aquamoves Outdoor 50m Pool Heating	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Aquamoves Outdoor 50m Pool Heating	Tender closed on 24 June 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
2010	Construction of the Sports City Storage Compound	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of the Sports City Storage Compound	Tender closed on 10 June 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.
2027	Replacement of Cladding - 90 Welsford Street, Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for the Replacement of Cladding - 90 Welsford Street, Shepparton	Tender closed on 10 June 2020. Tender currently being evaluated.

#### Policy Considerations

Through the *Instrument of Delegation to the Chief Executive Officer* the Council has delegated authority to the Chief Executive Officer to award a contract up to the value of \$500,000 including GST.

The Council through the *Exercise of Delegations Policy* has delegated authority to the Directors to approve a contract up to the value of \$150,000 for goods and services and \$200,000 for works.

#### Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 186 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act) establishes the requirements for tendering and entering into contracts.

Section 186(1) of the Act requires that before Council enters into a contract for the purchase of goods or services to the value of \$150,000 or more, or for the carrying out of works to the value of \$200,000 or more, it must give public notice of the purpose of the contract and invite tenders or expressions of interest from any person wishing to undertake the contract.

#### Conclusion

It is important that decisions and actions taken under delegation be properly documented and transparent in nature. The report details the publicly advertised contracts awarded by the Chief Executive Officer and Directors under delegated authority of the Council during the period 1 July 2020 to 31 July 2020.

#### Attachments

Nil

## 9.2 Councillor Expenses Policy and Councillor Resources Policy

Author                      Team Leader Governance  
 Approved by              Director Corporate Services  
 Purpose                     For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

1. **adopt the Councillor Expense Policy 37.POL3**
2. **adopt the Councillor Resources and Facilities Policy 37.POL17**
3. **revoke the Councillor Expenses and Entitlements Policy which was previously adopted by Council on 17 September 2019**
4. **rescind the Notice of Motion resolved by Council on 1 April 2015 titled 'Confidential Notice of Motion 4/2015', noting that the subject matter is now addressed in the Councillor Expense Policy 37.POL3.**

### Executive Summary

In accordance with new requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020 (Act)*, Council is required to implement a suite of new governance policies by 1 September 2020.

One of these requirements relates to the adoption of a Councillor Expenses Policy.

This report seeks Council approval to revoke the former Councillor Expenses and Entitlements Policy, and replace it the format of two new policies, being the Councillor Expenses Policy and the Councillor Resources and Facilities Policy.

### Report Detail

Section 41 of *Local Government Act 2020* provides for Council to adopt and maintain an expense policy in relation to the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses for the Mayor, Councillors and members of the delegate committees which are incurred while carrying out their civic duties.



To develop this policy, Council staff reviewed the existing Councillors Expenses and Entitlements Policy, and took into regard the *Gender Equity Act 2020*. The *Local Government Act 2020* requires that this policy specifically include:

- Procedures to be followed in applying for reimbursement and in reimbursing expenses
- Reimbursement of childcare costs
- Reimbursement of costs incurred by those who are carers within the meaning of section 4 of the *Carers Recognition Act 2012*.
- Comply with any requirements prescribed by the regulations in relation to the reimbursement of expenses.

This policy will replace Council's existing Councillors Expenses and Entitlements Policy.

All guidance relating to Councillor Entitlements has been compiled as a new policy titled 'Councillor Resources and Facilities Policy' and is also presented for adoption.

The governance team has drafted these policies based on guidance material issued by Local Government Victoria and the Municipal Association of Victoria.

### Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

#### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

### Risk Management

There have been no risks identified in relation to the adoption of these Policies.

### Policy Considerations

These Policies have been reviewed and drafted in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

No conflicts have been identified with existing Council policies.

### Financial Implications

Any cost relating to Councillors professional development or the reimbursement of an eligible expenses will be considered through the annual budget process.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

Adoption of the Councillor Expenses Policy would ensure Council meets its legislative requirement under Section 41 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts associated with this report.

### Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with this report.

### Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with this report.



## Consultation

Councillors will be provided with a briefing in relation to the new format of these Policies and a summary of the changes made.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

There are no strategic links identified in relation to this report.

## Conclusion

Endorsement of the policies in the revised format will ensure Council takes action to meet its requirements under Section 41 the *Local Government Act 2020*.

## Attachments

1. Councillor Expenses Policy 37. POL 3 [9.2.1 - 11 pages]
2. Councillor Resources and Facilities Policy 37. PO L 17 [9.2.2 - 8 pages]
3. To Be Revoked: Councillor Expenses and Entitlements Policy [9.2.3 - 10 pages]

## 9.3 July 2020 Monthly Financial Report

Author	Manager - Finance & Rates
Approved by	Director Corporate Services
Purpose	For Noting

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council receive and note the July 2020 Monthly Financial Report**

### Executive Summary

The report presents Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the first month ended 31 July 2020.

### Report Detail

The 2020/2021 Budget was adopted at the Council Meeting held 16 June 2020.

The 2020/2021 Adopted Budget provided for an operating surplus of \$5.22 million with revenue of \$152.62 million and expenditure of \$147.4 million. The 2020/2021 Adopted Budget also provided for capital works of \$61.72 million.

Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget is presented to Council on a monthly basis.

The July 2020 Monthly Financial Report incorporates the following sections which are presented for Council's consideration:

- Operating Performance
- Capital Works Performance
- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement
- Capital Works Statement

### Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

#### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

1.9 Service standards and service delivery models are realistic and meet community

expectations and demand while being financial viable and in line with Council's core business.

### **Risk Management**

There are no risks identified in providing this financial report.

### **Policy Considerations**

There are no conflicts with existing Council policies.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications arising from this proposal.

### **Legal/Statutory Implications**

Section 137 of the *Local Government Act 1989* provides that Council maintain a budgeting and reporting framework that is consistent with the principles of sound financial management. In addition Section 138 requires that at least every 3 months a statement comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date is presented to Council at a Council meeting which is open to the public. This report satisfies that requirement.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts associated with this report.

### **Social Implications**

There are no social implications associated with this report.

### **Economic Impacts**

There are no economic implications associated with this report.

### **Consultation**

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

### **Conclusion**

The report presents Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the first month ended 31 July 2020.

### **Attachments**

1. July 2020 - GSCC Council Report - Monthly Financial Statements [9.3.1 - 8 pages]

## 9.4 Review of Investment and Cash Management Policy

Author Senior Financial Analyst, Graduate Accountant  
Approved by Director Corporate Services  
Purpose For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council adopt the Investment and Cash Management Policy 34.POL1.**

### Executive Summary

The Investment and Cash Management Policy provides guidance on the utilisation of cash on hand in accordance with the legislative framework.

The policy has been reviewed and changes made to facilitate a more sustainable approach to investing, by giving consideration to the fossil fuel alignment of the authorised deposit taking institutions.

Other minor changes include the inclusion of Moody's short-term ratings and an annual investment reporting requirement.

The updated policy is now presented for Council consideration.

### Report Detail

The Investment and Cash Management Policy provides guidance on the utilisation of cash on hand in accordance within the legislative framework. Emphasis is placed on investment decisions that manage exposure to risk and optimise returns on investment whilst ensuring sufficient liquidity for Council's operational needs.

A review of the policy has been undertaken by officers. While the focus remains on managing exposure to risk, optimising returns and ensuring sufficient liquidity, officers have taken the opportunity to broaden the objectives of the policy to ensure consideration is given to non-fossil fuel aligned authorised deposit-taking institutions (ADI's).

By positively screening for sustainable investments, Council will demonstrate strong leadership and enhance its current climate response by maximising opportunities of divesting funds away from ADI's supporting fossil fuel industries.

The revised policy allows Council to increase dealings with non-fossil fuel aligned ADI's with limited effect on investment return, while not compromising on acceptable credit risk, preservation of capital or liquidity of cash flow.

The revised policy achieves this by giving preference to ADI's that do not fund fossil fuel projects where:

- The investment is compliant with the credit risk and institutional parameters specified in the policy; and
- The rate of investment is greater than, equal to or within 10 basis points of other investments available at the time.

In addition, an amount of \$2 million may be invested in Green Term Deposits that align with the International Capital Market Association (ICMA) Green Bond Principles where:

- The investment is compliant with the credit risk and institutional parameters specified in the policy;
- The rate of investment is greater than, equal to or within 10 basis points of other investments available at the time; and
- The investment period does not exceed six months should the term deposit not be convertible to cash at any time with a maximum of 31 days notice.

Divestment from fossil fuels will be further investigated in the development of the Council's 2030 Zero Carbon Emission Target Plan.

In addition to providing increased opportunity for sustainable investments, Moody's ratings equivalent to the existing Standard and Poor's ratings have been included to improve investment opportunities. Standard and Poor's are not the primary investment ratings agency for many ADI's. By including Moody's ratings in the Investment Policy, Council will be able to access a greater range of investment opportunities.

The revised policy also includes provision for an annual investment performance report to the Executive Leadership Team.

The policy retains Council investing up to \$2 million per annum with the Goulburn Murray Credit Union and continuing to invest up to \$2 million per annum (within existing institution limits) with the Shepparton branch of the Bendigo Bank as part of the Shepparton Connected Community fund.

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

## Risk Management

Council officers have undertaken a risk assessment of the revised Policy and the following risks identified:

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Liquidity risk caused by over-committing to term deposits and being unable to convert these to cash at any time.	Rare	Moderate	Low	Term to maturity of authorised investments is limited from cash at-call to one year and total Green Term Deposit positions capped \$2m.
Loss of capital caused by obligors' inability to meet its financial commitments.	Rare	Major	Medium	Investment parameters in place to ensure Council only invests in term deposits that have high short-term investment ratings from Standard & Poors and Moody's.
Reputational risk caused by continued exposure to fossil fuel aligned ADI's	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Policy positioned to positively screen for and increase dealings with non-fossil fuel aligned ADI's.

### Policy Considerations

The revised policy updates the Investment and Cash Management Policy Version 2.0 34.POL1

### Financial Implications

The revised Policy allows for investment with ADI's that do not fund fossil fuels and in Green Term Deposits that have a return on investment that is up to 10 basis points less than other investment returns available at that point in time.

A 0.1% variation has been applied to the 2019/2020 actual returns on investment to assess the possible financial implications of this feature of the policy. The modelled result is \$25,951 less than what was received in 2019/2020, which is 3.3% of the total 2019/2020 return.

It is felt that this is an acceptable possible compromise to enable increased opportunities for divestment.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

The Policy complies with the Local Government Act 1989 in particular Sections 136 and 143.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The revised policy allows Council to increase dealings with non-fossil fuel aligned ADI's which will have a positive external sustainability impact.

### **Social Implications**

Not applicable.

### **Economic Impacts**

Not applicable.

### **Consultation**

Consultation has been undertaken with the Council's Sustainability and Environment Team.

### **Strategic Links**

Council policies provide the guidance to achieve the priorities and actions within the Council Plan and strategic activities.

The policies that the Council adopts ensure the strategic documents prepared have the required direction.

### **Conclusion**

The revised Investment and Cash Management Policy places a greater focus on divestment by giving preference to ADI's that do not fund fossil fuel projects and investing in Green Term Deposits.

The revised Policy also including Moody's ratings equivalent to the existing Standards and Poor's ratings. By doing this, Council will be able to access a greater range of investment opportunities.

### **Attachments**

1. Investment and Cash Management Policy - July 2020 [9.4.1 - 6 pages]

## 9.5 Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter

Author	Manager Corporate Governance
Approved by	Director Corporate Services
Purpose	For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council adopt Audit Risk Management Committee Charter.**

### Executive Summary

The draft Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter complies with Section 53 of the Local Government Act 2020 (Act) and has been based on the Model Audit and Risk Committee Charter developed by Local Government Victoria.

The draft ARMC Charter details the purpose and functions of the Committee as defined in the Act and proposes a key amendment to the current ARMC Charter with regards to appointment of Independent Members of the Committee. The draft ARMC Charter provides the option for Council to re-appoint an Independent Member to a second term and allow the Independent Member to apply for a third term via an open recruitment process. This charter also provides for appointment of the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee for a period of 12 months.

### Report Detail

The draft Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter has been developed following a review of Section 53 of the Act, and Local Government Victoria's Model Audit and Risk Committee Charter.

Greater Shepparton City Council's draft ARMC Charter was presented to the Audit and Risk Management Committee (Committee) at the June meeting. The draft ARMC Charter was amended following feedback from the Committee and then circulated back to the Committee for further comment.

A final draft has been provided for adoption by Council following further consultation with the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

The draft ARMC Charter details the purpose and functions of the Committee as defined in the Act. The main functions that the ARMC Charter are to provide oversight on are:

- Financial and Performance Governance
- External Audit
- Internal Audit



- Compliance reviews
- Risk management, and Fraud and Corruption
- Internal Control Environment
- Legislative Compliance
- Related third parties
- Ethics and Conduct
- Performance Review of the Charter and the Committee

The draft ARMC Charter proposes a key change with regards to appointment of Independent Members of the Committee. The draft ARMC Charter provides the option for Council to re-appoint an Independent Member to a second term and allow the Independent Member to apply for a third term via an open recruitment process. The charters provides for the appointment of the Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee for a period of 12 months.

### **Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity**

#### **LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

### **Risk Management**

Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter must be adopted by Council in accordance with Section 54 of the LG Act 2020 before 1 September 2020. The risk associated with this item has been rated as low as the Charter is to be presented to the August 2020 Meeting of Council for adoption.

### **Policy Considerations**

There are no Policy considerations with the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter.

### **Financial Implications**

Independent Members of the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter are entitled to remuneration in accordance with Section 53(6) of the of the Local Government Act 2020.

### **Legal/Statutory Implications**

Section 54(7) of the Local Government Act 2020 requires Council to approve the first Audit and Risk Committee Charter and establish the first Audit and Risk Committee on or before 1 September 2020.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts with the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter.

### **Social Implications**

There are no social implications with the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter.

### **Economic Impacts**

There are no economic impacts with the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter.

## Consultation

Consultation has occurred with members of the Committee prior to the Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter being presented to Council for approval.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- There are no direct links to this Strategy

### b) Other strategic links

- Council Plan 2017-2021
  - Leadership and Governance

## Conclusion

The draft Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter has been developed to meet the requirements of Section 54 of the Local Government Act 2020.

To comply with Section 54(7) of the Act, it must be adopted by Council before 1 September 2020.

The draft ARMC Charter includes details with regards to functions and objectives of Committee, along with additional options with regards to the appointment of Independent Members of the Committee.

The Committee has reviewed the ARMC Charter and support it being presented to the Council for adoption.

## Attachments

1. GSCC Audit and Risk Management Committee Charter 2020 2021 [5.2.3.1 - 16 pages]

## 9.6 Award of Contract 1942 - Provision of Office Catering Services

Author                    Team Leader Governance  
 Approved by          Director Corporate Services  
 Purpose                 For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

- 1 accept the tenders submitted for Contract 1942 – Provision of Office Catering Services – Panel of Suppliers from:**
  - 1.1 ARJ Food Pty Ltd**
  - 1.2 Little Gourmet Food Company**
  - 1.3 J and A Mallamaci Nominees Pty Ltd T/A Europa Deli and Café**
- 2 note that these tenderers will form a Panel of Suppliers under a Standing Offer Agreement based on schedule of rates to supply catering services for Greater Shepparton City Council**
- 3 note that the contract will be for a period of two (2) years with options for three (3) 12 month extensions**
- 4 authorise the Chief Executive Officer to award the contract extensions for three (3) 12 month periods subject to mutual agreement**
- 5 authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal the contract documents.**

### Executive Summary

The provision of office catering services is currently delivered under a panel of suppliers contract, which is due to expire on 1 September 2020.

Officers have undertaken a procurement process to re-establish a contract for catering services, with the recommendation of maintaining the format as a panel of suppliers.

The new contract has been broken down into three levels of service, where tenderers were invited to submit for any or all of the applicable levels of service.

Three tenders were received. It is recommended that all three tenderers be accepted onto the panel.

The total contract value over the five year period has been estimated at \$500,000.

Historically, Council's actual spend on catering has been under \$100,000 per annum and this year, spend has been further reduced due to COVID-19 with many meetings, functions and events now being held in a virtual format.

Despite these reductions, officers have undertaken a conservative approach in developing these cost estimates as the total contract value was close to the Chief Executive Officers financial delegation. The contract has therefore, been presented for Council approval to ensure ongoing compliance with Councils Procurement policy.

### Contract Details

Council intends to appoint a Panel of Suppliers to provide catering services for food and beverages to a range of standards. The contract will apply to Council Offices and Facilities for the supply and / or delivery of catering for meetings, training civic functions and events as coordinated by Council Staff.

Suppliers on Councils current Catering contract were notified of the impending expiry date, and advised that the new contract was being advertised.

The contract for the provision of catering services is based on three levels of service being provided. The levels range from basic catering through to full dinner service. Tenderers were asked to nominate the levels of service they could deliver, and the associated pricing schedules.

Three tenders were received. Two tenderers submitted for all three Levels of Service and one submitted for Service Level 3 only.

It is recommended that the companies be awarded a tender in the Levels of Service nominated.

Company Name	Level One Service	Level Two Service	Level Three Service
ARJ Food Pty Ltd	*	*	*
Little Gourmet Food Company	*	*	*
Europa Deli & Café			*

All three tenderers are part of Councils current catering contract and the evaluation panel is confident that they are able to meet Councils requirements for this contract.

### Tenders

Tenders were received from:

Tenders
ARJ Food Pty Ltd
Little Gourmet Food Company
J and A Mallamaci Nominees Pty Ltd T/A Europa Deli and Café

## Tender Evaluation

Tenders were evaluated by:

Title	Branch
Manager Corporate Governance	Corporate Governance
Team Leader Governance	Corporate Governance
Executive Assistant to the Director Community	Community
Acting Team Leader – Contracts and Procurement	Moderator

## Evaluation Criteria

Tenders were evaluated on the following criteria:

Evaluation Criteria	Weighting
Price	40%
Quality	20%
Previous Experience	10%
Capacity to Complete Contract and meet Functional Requirements	10%
OH&S	Pass / Fail
Registration under the Food Act	Pass / Fail
Environmental Sustainability	10%
Benefit to the Local Region	10%

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

## Risk Management

The appointment of a panel of suppliers minimises any risk to Council in the event that a supplier is unable to meet Council's catering requirements.

Any risks identified in relation to the performance or delivery of this contract has been identified as a low risk.

## Policy Considerations

The process for this tender was undertaken in accordance with the Procurement Policy and Procedure.

While Council's actual spend on catering has historically been under \$100,000 annually and Council continues to actively work on reducing this expense, cost estimates for this contract were close to the Chief Executive Officers delegation limit and the report has therefore been referred to Council for approval.

### **Financial Implications**

Financial Implications associated with catering expenditure are allocated each financial year as part of Council annual budget process.

### **Legal/Statutory Implications**

There are no legal / statutory implications associated with this report.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

The specification for this contract includes provision for the use healthy and sustainable food types and materials, including local sources, for the provision of catering services.

### **Social Implications**

There are no social implications associated with this report.

### **Economic Impacts**

There are no economic impacts associated with this report.

### **Consultation**

Internal consultation was undertaken in the development of the specifications for this contract.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

### **Strategic Links**

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Nil.

### **Conclusion**

The current contract for the provision of office catering services is due to expire in September. It is therefore recommended that the new contract be awarded, maintaining a similar structure with a panel of suppliers.

The tender evaluation panel is confident that all tenderers who submitted for the contract have the relevant skills and experience required to meet Councils needs.

### **Attachments**

Confidential Attachment

## 9.7 Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy

Author                      Team Leader Governance  
 Approved by              Director Corporate Services  
 Purpose                     For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflicts of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. having considered the submission received during the community engagement process for its draft Governance Rules, including the incorporated Election Period Policy, developed under section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, adopts the Governance Rules in the form attached to this Report;
2. having noted that no submissions were received during the community engagement process for its draft Public Transparency Policy, adopt the Public Transparency Policy in the form attached to this report; and
3. notes that the Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy, as adopted, will commence operation from 1 September 2020.

### Executive Summary

In accordance with new requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020* (Act), Council is required to implement a suite of new documents by 1 September 2020, two of which include the Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy.

At the 21 July 2020 Council Meeting, council resolved to release the draft Governance Rules and draft Public Transparency Policy for public consultation for a period of two weeks.

One submission was received in relation to the Draft Governance Rules.

Following consideration of this submission, the Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy are now presented in their final form for adoption.

### Report Detail

The new *Local Government Act 2020*, recently came into effect with the first of four transitional stages of implementation commencing on 6 April 2020.

As part of the second stage of implementation Council is required to have the following suite of governance policies implemented by 1 September 2020:

1. Governance Rules

Section 60 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides for Council to adopt and apply Governance Rules that consist of the following:

- The conduct of meetings of Council and Delegated Committees
- The form and availability of meeting records
- The election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor
- The appointment of an Acting Mayor
- The Election Period Policy
- The procedure for the disclosure of a conflict of interest by a Councillor or Delegated Committee Member
- The disclosure of a conflict of interest by a member of Council staff when providing advice to Council.

In addition, the Governance Rules must provide for Council to make fair decisions based on merit, and to ensure that any person whose rights will be directly affected by a decision of the Council is provided with the opportunity to communicate their views and have their interests considered.

1.1. Election Period Policy

The Election Period Policy forms part of the Governance Rules and provides guidance on Council operations during an election period. Specifically, it prohibits decisions that:

- relate to the appointment or remuneration the Chief Executive Officer
- commit Council to expenditure exceeding once per cent of income from general rates, municipal charges and service rates and charges in preceding financial year
- the Council considers could be reasonable deferred until the next council is in place.

1.2. Council Meeting Procedures

The Governance Rules will incorporate Councils Meeting Procedures which previously formed part of Councils Local Law No. 2 Procedures for Council Meetings and Common Seal.

A portion of the existing Local Law document will however, be retained. This will enable enforcement provisions relating to conduct in meetings, and the use of the common seal. The proposed Local Law is currently open for public consultation and will be considered at the September Council Meeting.

2. Public Transparency Policy

This policy gives effect to the *Public Transparency Principles* outlined in Section 58 of the Act and has been drafted in accordance with the template policy released by Local Government Victoria.

Advice and guidance material issued by the Municipal Association of Victoria, Local Government Victoria and Maddocks Lawyers has been used in the preparation of these Governance documents to ensure they comply with the relevant legislation and meet best practice standards.



**Summary of Response to Community Engagement:**

Council received one submission in relation to the draft Governance Rules. This submission has been considered in detail by Council Officers, and was provided to, and discussed with Councillors.

**NOTE:** Following discussion of this submission with Councillors, the Governance Rules will be amended accordingly.

The submission, along with Councils response, has been summarised in the below table.

<b>Submission Feedback</b>	<b>Officer's Response</b>
<p>Removal of clause 91.2.1 This clause relates to the requirement for a person who submitted a public question, or their representative, to be present in the public gallery.</p>	<p>Clause amended to state that the CEO, in consultation with the Mayor, may permit the submitter to attend virtually, where the option is available, or for the question to be considered where the submitter is not present at the meeting.</p>
<p>Proposed new clause which provides for Public question time to be considered following the confirmation of minutes (at the beginning of the meeting agenda), unless otherwise requested by the submitter and agreed to, by the Mayor.</p>	<p>While Council has adopted this as its current practice and intends to continue doing so, we do not believe the order of business in the Agenda is something that needs to be addressed through the Governance rules.</p>
<p>Amend clause 90.5 "A question submitted in writing by a member of the public, which has not been accepted by the CEO, will be provided in writing to all Councillors".</p>	<p>Proposed Amendment: Public questions will be considered by the CEO, in consultation with the Mayor. Where a question is being amended or refused by the CEO, the CEO, in consultation with the Mayor, may distribute the question and/or response to all Councillors.</p>
<p>Addition to clause 90.2.3 When a public question is denied in accordance with this clause, the CEO is to provide the relevant information to the submitter.</p>	<p>Officers extend reasonable support to members of the public who seek access to Council information, including matters considered at previous Council Meetings. However, we do not feel that this is something that needs to be formally regulated through the Governance Rules.</p>
<p>Proposed new clause which provides a process for the submitter to seek additional information from the Mayor or CEO, where they are not satisfied with the response to their question.</p>	<p>This scenario would be addressed through Councils complaints handling process, where the submitter, if dissatisfied with the response, could seek further clarification from the CEO and / or the Mayor.</p>
<p>General Comment Public Question time process at other Victorian Councils, were questions are accepted and responded to, in the meeting</p>	<p>To enable the best outcome to the community, questions should always be provided with notice, enabling Council officers to undertake research on the matter raised, prior to providing a response to the question.</p>

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

## Risk Management

There have been no risks identified in relation to the adoption of these documents.

## Policy Considerations

The following policies have been considered during the preparation of this report:

- Freedom of Information Policy
- Privacy Policy

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

Adoption of the Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy will ensure Council meets its legislative requirements under the Act.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts associated with this report.

## Social Implications

The Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy help to ensure Council operates with greater transparency and community participation.

## Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with this report.

## Consultation

The draft documents were made available for public consultation for a period of two weeks, with one submission received.

This submission has been considered in detail by Council, and a summary has been included in this report.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred, and the documents are now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

There are no strategic links associated with this report.

## Conclusion

Adoption of the Governance Rules and Public Transparency Policy will ensure Council takes action to meet its requirements under the *Local Government Act 2020*.

## Attachments

1. Public Transparency Policy [9.7.1 - 9 pages]
2. Report Attachment - Governance Rules [9.7.2 - 51 pages]

## 9.8 Revoking of Shepparton Show Committee in Response to the Changes to Section 86 Committee of Management under the Local Government Act 2020

Author                      Manager - Communications and Engagement  
 Approved by              Director Corporate Services  
 Purpose                     For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That Council revokes the Instrument of Delegation that was established under Section 86 of the *Local Government Act 1989* for Shepparton Show Me as of 1 September 2020.**

### Executive Summary

The Local Government Act 1989 supported Councils to establish a range of special committees of management which operate with specific Instruments of Delegation. Under Section 86 of this Act, approximately 20 years ago, Greater Shepparton City Council established the Shepparton Show Me Committee.

With the introduction of the new Local Government Act 2020, Section 86 Special Committees of Council are no longer part of the act, hence these committees will no longer have the power to exercise delegations.

Under the new Act existing special committees and their Instruments of Delegation need to be formally revoked. Such committees are now needing to work through how they will operate into the future.

This report is requesting that Shepparton Show Me as a Section 86 Committee and its Instrument of Delegation are revoked by 1<sup>st</sup> September 2020 as required by the new Act.

### Report Detail

Under the new Local Government Act 2020 Section 86 Special Committees of Council no longer form part of the act.

As a result, the special committees and their delegated powers need to be formally revoked by Council, with committees needing to take an alternative form if they are going to continue to operate going forward.

The Shepparton Show Me Committee and its Instrument of Delegation therefore need to be formally revoke in accordance with the new Local Government Act 2020.

The new Act (2020) specifies only three types of committees can be established:

- Delegated committee  
A committee formed by a council to which the council delegates “any power, duty or function of a Council under this Act or any other Act...” (s 11(1)). In effect, a delegated committee may exercise a power or undertake a duty or function as if it is the council. Under the Act, the formation of, appointment to, and administration of delegated committees is highly controlled given their ability to exercise statutory functions and powers on behalf of the council.
- Community asset committee  
A community asset committee is a committee with powers of the council, established and with members appointed by council, with powers delegated by the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), subject to the terms and conditions specified by the CEO, for the purpose of managing a community asset in the municipal district (s 65(2)).
- Audit and risk committee  
These committees are dealt with separately in the implementation process; however, all councils must establish an audit and risk committee and, crucially, this committee is not a delegated committee and cannot exercise statutory functions and powers of the council under delegation. Under the Local Government Act 2020, the roles and functions of audit and risk committees are set out under the Act, that are specific only to audit and risk committees (s 53-54).

With these being the only options for formal committee structures, Shepparton Show Me is no longer able to operate as a committee under the Act. Shepparton Show Me is not responsible for statutory decision making (delegated committee), it is not responsible for the management of Council assets (community asset committee) nor is it responsible for audit and risk functions.

And while the Act is silent on any other type of committee, Council is committed to retaining the expertise and services of the members of Shepparton Show Me to continue to drive the current five year marketing strategy that continues to support the delivery of the strategic objectives of the Greater Shepparton Great Things Happen Here (invest and grow) initiative.

This will see the transition from a Section 86 Committee to an operational working group with clearly defined terms of reference detailing the purpose, direction, responsibilities and structure of the group.

As an operational working group, it will continue to be overseen and supported by the Manager Communications and Engagement. The group will have a specific focus on continuing to position Greater Shepparton as the premier business and services hub for northern Victoria.

For over 20 years Shepparton Show Me has provided business and industry representatives with the opportunity to be highly engaged in driving strategies and activities that competitively attracted consumers and visitors to the region, and this working group structure will enable this work to continue.

The working group model already operates within Council that; hence a new structure is not being created in order to support the continuation of the Shepparton Show Me program. This model sees a broad range of projects successfully delivered.

As part of the transition to working group status, Shepparton Show Me will be re-named, with initiatives being delivered under the Great Things Happen Here banner.

### Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

#### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

#### ECONOMIC

Build a thriving, resilient economy where Greater Shepparton is recognised as a competitive place to invest and grow business.

3.1 The Greater Shepparton economy is prosperous, high value and a focus of choice for business, investment and employment.

3.2 Strong global, national and local business connections are developed and nurtured.

### Risk Management

Not applicable.

### Policy Considerations

Not applicable.

### Financial Implications

Not applicable.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

Revoking the Section 86 status of Shepparton Show Me complies with the new *Local Government Act 2020*.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

Not applicable.

### Social Implications

Not applicable.

### Economic Impacts

Not applicable.

### Consultation

Not applicable.

### Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Economic

b) Other strategic links

- 2019 -2023 Shepparton Show Me Marketing Strategy
- 2019 – 2023 Shepparton Show Me Marketing Strategy Action Plan

### Conclusion

With the introduction of the new Local Government Act 2020, Section 86 Special Committees of Council are no longer part of the Act. In accordance with the new Act existing the status and Instruments of Delegation Special Committees need to be revoked

by 1<sup>st</sup> of September 2020. The endorsement of this report ensures that Council complies with this requirement.

## Attachments

Nil

## 10 Sustainable Development Directorate

### 10.1 Consideration of the Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020

Author                      Senior Strategic Planner  
 Approved by              Director Sustainable Development  
 Purpose                     For Decision by Council

#### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

- 1. supports the Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020; and**
- 2. advocate for priority interventions listed in the Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020.**

#### Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton is the food bowl of Victoria, our reliance on agriculture underpins our social and economic prosperity and therefore the health of the climate is critical to the Greater Shepparton area.

The Goulburn Murray Irrigation District (GMID) is expected to change as a result of a variety of factors such as: climate change, technological improvements, water recovery, bio security and global market influence. While some of this change is associated with macro drivers that may be outside of our direct control, Council recognises the opportunities that innovative changes can make and seeks to embrace that change for the future prosperity of Greater Shepparton and the wider region.

Council understands the impact that climate change is having on weather patterns in the Goulburn Murray Region. At the Ordinary Council Meeting held in March 2020, Council declared a climate emergency, and resolved to adopt a 2030 Zero Carbon Emission target for Council's operations and to develop action plans to respond to these resolutions.

The Goulburn Regional Partnership has prepared the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* (the Resilience Strategy) to better deal with and adapt to change, including climate change.



The Resilience Strategy lays out eight ‘Resilience Principles’ with a series of proposed strategic interventions to assist each principle that will enable the Goulburn Murray Region to better deal with and adapt to change.

The Resilience Strategy will help set a longer-term framework, and engender a different way of looking at change, that will play an important role in minimising the impact of challenges, and maximising the many opportunities before us. Although this project was initially progressed by the Goulburn Regional Partnership, the success of the Resilience Strategy requires support from all three-tiers of Government, the GMID, and public and private organisations.

## Report Detail

The GMID is Australia’s largest irrigation district comprising 15,000 properties with a gross value of agriculture production of approximately \$1.4 billion. The region supports a population of 170,000 people consisting of regional cities and towns such as Cobram, Echuca, Kerang, Shepparton and Swan Hill. Agriculture is a major employment generator in the region with the main enterprises being horticulture, dairy, mixed cropping and grazing.

Currently and in the coming decades, agriculture and land management within the Goulburn Murray Region is facing many major challenges and shocks such as, but not limited to:

- The almost 50% net decline in water resources over the last 20 years and the constant variability of water availability for agriculture;
- man-made climate change;
- post COVID-19 economic uncertainty;
- the dairy industry’s role in the regional economy and the shift in demand patterns driven by the Asian market; and
- increasing numbers of rural residential properties and fragmentation of prime agricultural land.

To prepare for and confront these challenges associated with an unpredictable future, the GMID as a regional system will be required to continually adapt and change. The GMID is expected to change as a result of a variety of factors such as: climate change, technological improvements, water recovery, bio security and global market influence. While some of this change is associated with macro drivers that may be outside of our direct control, Council recognises the opportunities that innovative changes can make and seeks to embrace that change for the future prosperity of Greater Shepparton and the wider region.

In response to these macro drivers in our region, the Goulburn Regional Partnership has prepared the Resilience Strategy. The Resilience Strategy lays out eight ‘Resilience Principles’ and details a series of proposed strategic interventions to assist each principle and the Goulburn Murray region to better deal with and adapt to change. These eight resilience principles are:

1. Develop a ‘complexity view of the world’;
2. Develop governance that embraces change;
3. Foster cohesion, self-organisation and local responsibility;
4. Design for flexibility;
5. Manage networks and connectivity;
6. Value, retain and build response and recovery capacity;
7. Focus on slow variables leverage and tipping points; and
8. Learn for change.

The Resilience Strategy also identified a number of key interventions. These interventions provide a concerted momentum that will take the Goulburn Murray Region forward and will

change overtime as the Resilience Strategy evolves. Broadly speaking, Council can act in an advocacy role for a number of the key interventions outlined in the document.

The Resilience Strategy also recommends the establishment of a Regional Resilience Taskforce. This Taskforce will be responsible for embedding resilience principles into governance structure and processes.

Although this project was initially progressed by the Goulburn Regional Partnership, the success of the Resilience Strategy requires support from all three-tiers of Government, the GMID, and public and private organisations.

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.7 Council advocates on issues, priorities and needs that matter to our community in partnership with key stakeholders.

### ECONOMIC

Build a thriving, resilient economy where Greater Shepparton is recognised as a competitive place to invest and grow business.

3.1 The Greater Shepparton economy is prosperous, high value and a focus of choice for business, investment and employment.

### BUILT

Provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.

4.2 Urban and rural development is sustainable and prosperous.

4.4 Quality infrastructure is provided and maintained to acceptable standards.

### ENVIRONMENT

Enhance and protect the clean, green environment that makes Greater Shepparton the unique place it is.

5.2 The region's environmental assets are planned and managed to ensure they are enhanced and sustainable for future generations.

5.4 Council has positioned itself to be a leader in building Greater Shepparton's response to climate change issues, in partnership with key stakeholders.

## Risk Management

There are no adverse risks associated with noting the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020*.

## Policy Considerations

The recommendation to note the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will not conflict with any Council policies.

## Financial Implications

The recommendation to note the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* does not have any financial or budgetary implications for Council.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

The recommendation to note the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will not result in any legal or statutory implications.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The recommendation to note the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will not result in any adverse environmental or sustainability impacts.

It is understood that the realisation of certain priority interventions identified in the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will generate positive environmental benefits for the Goulburn Murray Region.

### Social Implications

It is not expected that noting the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will have any adverse social impacts.

It is understood that the realisation of certain priority interventions identified in the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will generate positive social benefits for Greater Shepparton and the wider Goulburn Murray region.

### Economic Impacts

The recommendation to note the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will not result in any economic impacts.

It is understood that the realisation of the findings and recommendations of the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* will generate positive economic benefits for Greater Shepparton and the wider Goulburn Murray region.

### Consultation

The *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* has undergone extensive consultation with major stakeholders to prepare the plan. The *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020* was facilitated by RMC Group Pty Ltd, the Australian Resource Centre and DG Consulting (Aus) Pty Ltd.

During the development of the *Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020*, over 200 people from the Goulburn Murray Region were consulted with including community members, young farmers, Traditional Owners, dairy and horticulture farmers, niche industries, industry groups, processors, local government staff and Councillors, and financial counsellors.

### Strategic Links

#### Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Topic: Environment – Conservation and enhancement of significant natural environments and cultural heritage

Objectives:

- To protect and manage the natural resources of water, air and land.
- To manage irrigated and non-irrigated land for long-term sustainable production purposes

Topic: Economic Development

Objectives

- To protect the productive agricultural land base and the valuable regional resource of irrigated land.
- To encourage tourism growth and in particular promote the tourism opportunities of the irrigated rural landscape and the food growing and processing industries.

## Conclusion

The GMID is expected to change as a result of a variety of factors such as: climate change, technological improvements, water recovery, bio security and global market influence. While some of this change is associated with macro drivers that may be outside of our direct control, Council recognises the opportunities that innovative changes can make and seeks to embrace that change for the future prosperity of Greater Shepparton and the wider region.

In response to these drivers in our region, the Goulburn Regional Partnership has prepared the Resilience Strategy.

The Resilience Strategy provides eight 'Resilience Principles' and details a series of proposed strategic interventions to assist each principle and the Goulburn Murray Region to better deal with and adapt to change. These interventions provide a concerted momentum that will take the Goulburn Murray Region forward.

The Resilience Strategy also recommends the establishment of a Regional Resilience Taskforce. This Taskforce will be responsible for embedding resilience principles into governance structure and processes.

Although this project was initially progressed by the Goulburn Regional Partnership, the success of the Resilience Strategy requires support from all three-tiers of Government, the GMID, and public and private organisations.

## Attachments

1. Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020 [7.1.1 - 36 pages]
2. Goulburn Murray Resilience Strategy 2020 - presentation to councillors [7.1.2 - 6 pages]

## 10.2 Establishment of a Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group

Author Graduate Strategic Planner Projects  
 Approved by Director Sustainable Development  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

- 1. authorise the formation of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference;**
- 2. adopt the Terms of Reference for the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Group;**
- 3. nominate the Mayor to serve on the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group; and**
- 4. note that Council officers will undertake an expression of interest process to invite nominations on the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group, in accordance with the Terms of Reference.**

### Executive Summary

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020, Council adopted the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* (the Strategy), which was developed to address the significant shortfalls of Affordable Housing stock in Greater Shepparton.

In June 2018, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* was amended to include the objective to 'facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing in Victoria', and to define 'Affordable Housing' as 'housing, including Social Housing, that is appropriate for the housing needs of very low, low, and moderate income households'. Consequently, Council successfully applied for funding under the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's (DELWP) 'Voluntary Affordable Housing Agreement Grant Program' to undertake the Strategy development.

The Strategy includes an Action Plan which encompasses a range of activities to be undertaken to achieve Council's vision that:

All members of the Greater Shepparton community have access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing.

Although undertaking ongoing advocacy and providing an array of support and funding programs for local housing-related organisations and disadvantaged residents, the facilitation of Affordable Housing provision has not traditionally been a function of Council. Consequently, a key Action in the Strategy is the establishment of an Affordable Housing Reference Group, to draw together relevant knowledge and expertise to guide Council in the development and delivery of the required outcomes.

The purpose of the Group is to support and advise Council on matters and issues related to Affordable Housing within the Municipality, including assisting in identifying suitable sites, conducting relevant research, responding to the needs vulnerable cohorts, promoting understanding and awareness, sourcing external funding, and providing recommendations on policy matters, including but not limited to, to the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.

The Group will have no executive authority, and will operate in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference (attached). It is expected to comprise the Mayor, up to eight representatives of local housing provision organisations, up to two community representatives, and up to three Council officers from the Strategic Planning and Community Strengthening teams.

Council will invite the nominated organisations to nominate representatives to the Group, and call for written expressions of interest to fill the community representative positions.

Establishment of the Group will provide an important resource for increasing the efficacy and efficiency of the remaining Actions proposed by the Strategy.

## Report Detail

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020, Council adopted the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* (the Strategy).

The Strategy was enabled by grant funding from the DELWP reflecting changes enacted in June 2018 to the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*. These changes acknowledged widespread and increasing housing issues across the state, to include the objective to 'facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing in Victoria', and to define 'Affordable Housing' as 'housing, including Social Housing, that is appropriate for the housing needs of very low, low, and moderate income households'.

Development of the Strategy revealed significant shortfalls of Affordable Housing stock in Greater Shepparton, affecting a broad number of cohorts, including women, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples, older people, young people, people with a disability, and new arrivals.

The Strategy includes an Action Plan which encompasses a range of activities to be undertaken to achieve Council's vision that:

All members of the Greater Shepparton community have access to safe, affordable and appropriate housing.

The Strategy draws on the premise of 'Housing First' which has been successfully implemented in Finland to reduce homelessness levels by a third over a seven-year period.

It includes four objectives that address specific aspects of the identified shortfalls of Affordable Housing stock:

1. Increase crisis and specialised housing responses to support vulnerable households;



2. Increase Social Housing stock;
3. Increase diversity of housing choice, including 'alternative' housing and lifestyle typologies; and
4. Increase diversity of dwelling size, beginning with one- and two-bedroom dwellings.

As well as advocacy for State and Federal funding to undertake substantial construction of new housing stock, it outlines a variety of means by which Council may facilitate and promote the provision of Affordable Housing through diverse agents, encouraging knowledge sharing, economical usage of existing resources, and collaboration between housing providers, government, developers, landowners, landlords and investors.

The specific requirements of Affordable Housing, combined with the varying contexts and approaches of the above stakeholders, necessitates a broad understanding of housing provision and related matters. However, although undertaking ongoing advocacy and providing an array of support and funding programs for local housing-related organisations and disadvantaged residents, the facilitation of housing provision has not traditionally been a function of Council.

Consequently, a key Action in the Strategy is the establishment of an Affordable Housing Reference Group, to draw together relevant knowledges and expertise to guide Council in the development and delivery of the required outcomes.

The purpose of the Group is to support and advise Council on matters and issues related to Affordable Housing within the Municipality, including:

1. To provide advice to Council on matters and issues relating to Affordable Housing within the Municipality;
2. To make recommendations to Council to promote and support delivery of Affordable Housing;
3. To assist Council to undertake relevant research, identify sites suitable for Affordable Housing, facilitate targeted responses to identified vulnerable cohorts, and conduct any other strategic level work required by Council;
4. To assist Council in sourcing external funding opportunities to further Affordable Housing;
5. To promote a collaborative and communicative approach between agencies, individuals, companies and Council, to identify possibilities for innovation, and maximise efficient use of resources;
6. To provide advice and recommendations to Council on policy matters relating to Affordable Housing, including but not limited to, the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme; and
7. To promote understanding and awareness of matters and issues relating to Affordable Housing within the Municipality.

The Group will have no executive authority, and will operate in accordance with the proposed Terms of Reference (attached).

It is expected to comprise:

- i. The Mayor (voting member);
- ii. One (1) voting member from each of the following eight (8) member organisations (more than one member from each organisation is welcome to attend the Group meetings but only one member has a vote);
  - Department of Health and Human Services
  - BeyondHousing
  - Wintringham Housing Limited
  - The Bridge Youth Services



- St Vincent de Paul Society
  - Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative
  - Ethnic Council of Shepparton and District Inc.
  - Country Women’s Association
- iii. a maximum of two (2) voting representatives of the community who are unaffiliated with any of the organisations outlined above; and
- iv. Up to two (2) members of Council’s Strategic Planning Team and one (1) member of Council’s Community Strengthening Team, including a Responsible Council officer to oversee the Group’s function (non-voting Group members).

Council will invite the nominated organisation to nominate representatives to the Group, and call for written expressions of interest to fill the community representative positions.

All applications for membership will be assessed according to the following selection criteria:

- An awareness of, and an interest in, the Affordable Housing in the Municipality, and a willingness to have an input into housing related issues;
- A commitment to support the provision of integrated and appropriate Affordable Housing sites within the Municipality;
- A knowledge of housing development processes and a willingness to acquire further knowledge;
- The ability to access networks and stakeholder groups;
- The ability to promote Affordable Housing outcomes within the Municipality; and
- Experience relating to affordable housing provision, including social housing.

Establishment of the Group will provide an important resource for implementing the other actions in the Strategy, with the available knowledge and experience expected to both add to and substantially increase the effective and efficient use of Council’s resources.

Once formed, the Group will determine its priorities and report on these to Council.

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### **LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.1 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnerships to improve health and wellbeing access and inequity.

1.3 Council demonstrates strong leadership and sound decision making in the best interests of the community.

### **SOCIAL**

Develop resilient, inclusive, healthy communities that make Greater Shepparton a safe and harmonious place to live, work, learn, and play.

2.1 Greater Shepparton is a welcoming, inclusive and safe place for all.

2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing.

### **BUILT**

Provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.

4.1 Growth is well planned and managed for the future.

4.2 Urban and rural development is sustainable and prosperous.

## Risk Management

There is no risk to Council in the establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group.

There is a low risk that the designated organisations will decline the invitation to have representation in the Group. In this instance, Council officers will engage with additional stakeholders in the housing space to attain the necessary membership.

## Policy Considerations

The establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group supports existing Council policies, and is a key action in the implementation of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020*.

## Financial Implications

The recommendation to establish the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group is not expected to have any direct financial or budgetary implications for Council.

Actions arising from future recommendations of the Group will be subject to annual budgetary processes. The Group is expected to be an important element in securing external partnerships and funding contributions for the delivery of Affordable Housing outcomes.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

All procedures associated with the establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group comply with relevant legislative requirements.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The recommendation to establish the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group will not result in any adverse environmental or sustainability impacts.

## Social Implications

The long-term implications of the establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group are expected to have positive social impacts, increasing community cohesion, wellbeing, and resilience, and contributing to civic participation and life satisfaction.

The implementation of a key action from the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* is expected to have a positive impact on community cohesion and civic participation.

## Economic Impacts

In the long term, the establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group is expected support further implementation of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020*, indirectly contributing to positive economic impacts, encouraging building and related industries, increasing participation in employment, and reducing dependence on welfare.

## Consultation

In accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Strategy 2009*, a range of consultation activities were undertaken during the development of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020*. Engagement was conducted with both the community and key organisations at the pre-draft stage between May and June 2019, and at the draft stage from October to December 2019:

- To provide the public with information to assist in understanding the problems, issues, alternatives and opportunities surrounding Affordable Housing (inform);
- To obtain public feedback on analysis, options, and potential solutions (consult);
- To ensure that concerns and aspirations are understood and considered (involve);
- To facilitate partnerships to develop alternatives and identify preferred solutions (collaborate).

All responses received were considered in the formulation of the Strategy.

Responses that identified the action to establish the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group were consistently supportive, and Council has received a number of preliminary expressions of interest regarding membership.

Council will call for nominations for the community representative positions by way of notice in the public notice section of the Shepparton News. Community representatives will be selected from expression of interest received.

Council officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Relevant Objectives:

- To provide for a broader range of dwelling densities and types of housing to meet current and future community needs and differing lifestyles
- To increase the supply of medium density housing in appropriate locations.
- To provide an equitable and efficient distribution of community facilities and services
- To encourage and implement activities that will strengthen community spirit.

### b) Other strategic links

- *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020*
- *Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011*
- *Greater Shepparton Public Health Strategic Plan 2018-2028*

## Conclusion

The establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group is an important step in implementing the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020*, which was adopted by Council in April 2020.

Council recognises adequate housing as a basic human right and the foundation of the region's liveability, health and wellbeing, and productivity. It further acknowledges the complexities of varying priorities and approaches to the provision of Affordable Housing. It is necessary to secure inputs from a broad array of stakeholders to maximise effective and efficient use of Council's resources in facilitating Affordable Housing outcomes.

It is recommended that Council authorise the formation of the Group under the proposed Terms of Reference, and engagement to invite applications for membership, to ensure appropriate advice and guidance in promoting safe, affordable and appropriate housing for the Greater Shepparton community.

## Attachments

1. Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group- Draft Terms of Reference [10.2.1 - 8 pages]

## 10.3 Car Parking on Fraser Street, Shepparton

Author	Manager Building Planning and Compliance
Approved by	Director Sustainable Development
Purpose	For Noting

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council note that the Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' is considered to be a designated paid timed on-street car park.**

### Executive Summary

In mid-2019, Council engaged GTA Consultants Pty Ltd to prepare the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy 2020* (the GTA Report). To inform the consideration of the findings and recommendations of the GTA Report, Council undertook a financial analysis of six modelled scenarios for alternative parking regimes across the Shepparton CBD to better understand the financial impact on annual revenue levels.

Based on the financial analysis and net community benefit, Council officers recommended adopting free timed off-street parking within the Shepparton CBD. It was considered that a combination of free timed off-street parking and paid timed on-street parking would provide an appropriate balance between many competing factors in the Shepparton CBD whilst minimising the impact on Council's long-term financial sustainability.

The inclusion or exclusion of Fraser Street was discussed with both Councillors and the Parking Reference Group (which includes members of the Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry) in the preparation and finalisation of the Council Report considered by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) held on 21 April 2020. Amongst other things, Council resolved to: *'provide free timed off-street car parking within the Shepparton CBD at Council-owned car parks'*.

Council officers commenced the implementation of this resolution in late April 2020 and the first initiative was the provision of free timed off-street car parking. A number of matters needed to be considered as part of the implementation including: what time limits to apply, when the time limit should start, communication and marketing, coordination of installation/ replacement of signage and removal of ticket machines. These matters were also communicated and discussed with Councillors and the Parking Reference Group. At no stage was the omission of Fraser Street raised as an issue; it was not considered to form part of this initiative.

On 13 July 2020, Council commenced the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*. The implementation of the initiative was heavily advertised on Council's social media pages, the Shepparton News and on local televised news.

During the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 July 2020, a Councillor sought to raise an urgent matter in relation to the free off-street parking initiative that had commenced on 13 July 2020. The Councillor noted that there has been some confusion in the community as to whether Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' is considered to be an on-street or off-street car park. This matter did not meet the criteria to be admitted as urgent business.

Council officers acknowledge the matter to be of interest to the community and have prepared this Council Report to address this item, notwithstanding that Council had previously resolved on this matter at the 21 April OCM.

In summary, since its construction in 2001, Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' has always been considered to be a street and a paid parking location, and was not included in the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*. Given the current high utilisation rate already evident, any change would not provide any direct economic benefit. This is unlike the benefits derived from making carparking free (but timed) to encourage better utilisation of carparks where occupancy rates are low. Maintaining the current car parking regime of paid timed parking will continue to encourage increased turnover of car parking spaces ensuring that it aligns with the car parking principles contained within the GTA Report.

This Council Report reconfirms Council's previous resolution from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020 and requests that the Councillors note that previous resolution.

## Background

The efficient management of car parking is essential to the functionality, liveability and sustainability of the Shepparton Central Business District (CBD). To achieve this, Council has undertaken numerous programs, initiatives and schemes seeking to achieve this.

### Development of Fraser Street

Prior to the construction of the Maude Street Mall in 1989, Fraser Street was a one-way street with vehicular traffic heading east from Wyndham Street to Maude Street. During this period, there were no car parking bays; however, there was vehicular access to the rear of the former Shepparton Post Office and an access lane for commercial properties on the northern side.

Between 1989 and 2001, Fraser Street served as part of the Maude Street Mall and was closed to traffic. In 2001, Council introduced the 'West Walk Car Park' on Fraser Street, which provided paid car parking spaces along part of Fraser Street changing the purpose of the area. This was introduced to provide car parking for the Shepparton Mall.

Due to the success of this parking area, at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 7 May 2002, Council resolved to engage a contractor through a competitive tender process to undertake works to upgrade the 'West Walk Car Park' to accommodate an additional 14 new car parking bays, two disabled car parking bays and a loading zone. The car parking layout has remained unchanged since this upgrade. Since 2002, Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' has remained a paid parking location.

### Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy

In mid-2019, Council engaged GTA Consultants Pty Ltd to prepare a car parking strategy to guide the future of car parking management in the Shepparton CBD.



In November 2019, GTA Consultants Pty Ltd undertook targeted consultation with Council officers, external stakeholders and a community reference group comprising members of the Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI) to understand the issues and opportunities for car parking in the Shepparton CBD.

In April 2020, GTA Consultants Pty Ltd prepared the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy 2020* (the GTA Report). The GTA Report, was prepared via a three-stage process:

**Stage One:** Council commissioned Matrix and Transportation Pty Ltd to undertake a car parking survey, which included data collection of car parking usage and turnover rates.

**Stage Two:** In May 2019, GTA Consultants Pty Ltd was appointed to undertake an analysis of the data secured in Stage One of the car parking survey. The analysis found that the demand for parking across the CBD was not consistent, with different areas experiencing high and low demands.

**Stage Three:** In October 2019, GTA Consultants Pty Ltd was appointed to prepare a strategic car Parking Strategy for the management of car parking across the Shepparton CBD.

The Parking Strategy sought to:

- identify current and future challenges facing the Shepparton CBD;
- articulate Council and the community’s vision for parking;
- explore and recommend potential options to manage car parking;
- develop four case studies to test the application of car parking management approaches; and
- recommend the way forward for car parking in the Shepparton CBD.

The Parking Strategy developed four objectives that guided the development of its findings and recommendations (see Figure 1). The objectives were used to develop parking policies and management tools based on its principles of good parking management (see Figure 2).



Figure 1: The objectives of car parking in the Shepparton CBD



Figure 2: The principles of good parking management.

Overall, the Parking Strategy contained a number of car parking principles to assist the viability of central business areas. Such principles must balance competing objectives: providing efficiency for motorists using the centre, while ensuring that the amount of car parking provided does not detract from the amenity and walkability of the centre. Overall, the better management of car parking rather than attempting to satisfy parking demand is seen as being more effective.

The management of car parking can achieve this by providing timed and paid parking in central or activity areas, surrounded by timed and free areas within easy walking access to the CBD, and, finally, untimed and free in outer areas to achieve efficient car parking turnover.

To inform and guide reform to the previous paid parking regime, Council officers undertook a financial analysis of six modelled scenarios for alternative parking regimes across the Shepparton CBD to better understand the financial impact on annual revenue levels. Based on the financial analysis and net community benefit, Council officers recommended adopting free timed off-street parking within the Shepparton CBD.

It was considered that a combination of free timed off-street parking and paid timed on-street parking would provide an appropriate balance between the many competing factors outlined in this report whilst minimising the impact on Council's long-term financial sustainability.

The inclusion or exclusion of Fraser Street was discussed with both Councillors and the Parking Reference Group (which includes members of the SCCI) in the preparation of the parking report and the plan identifying free timed parking would apply. Figure 3 displays the Council-owned car parks: *Shepparton CBD Free Off-Street Parking Map*.



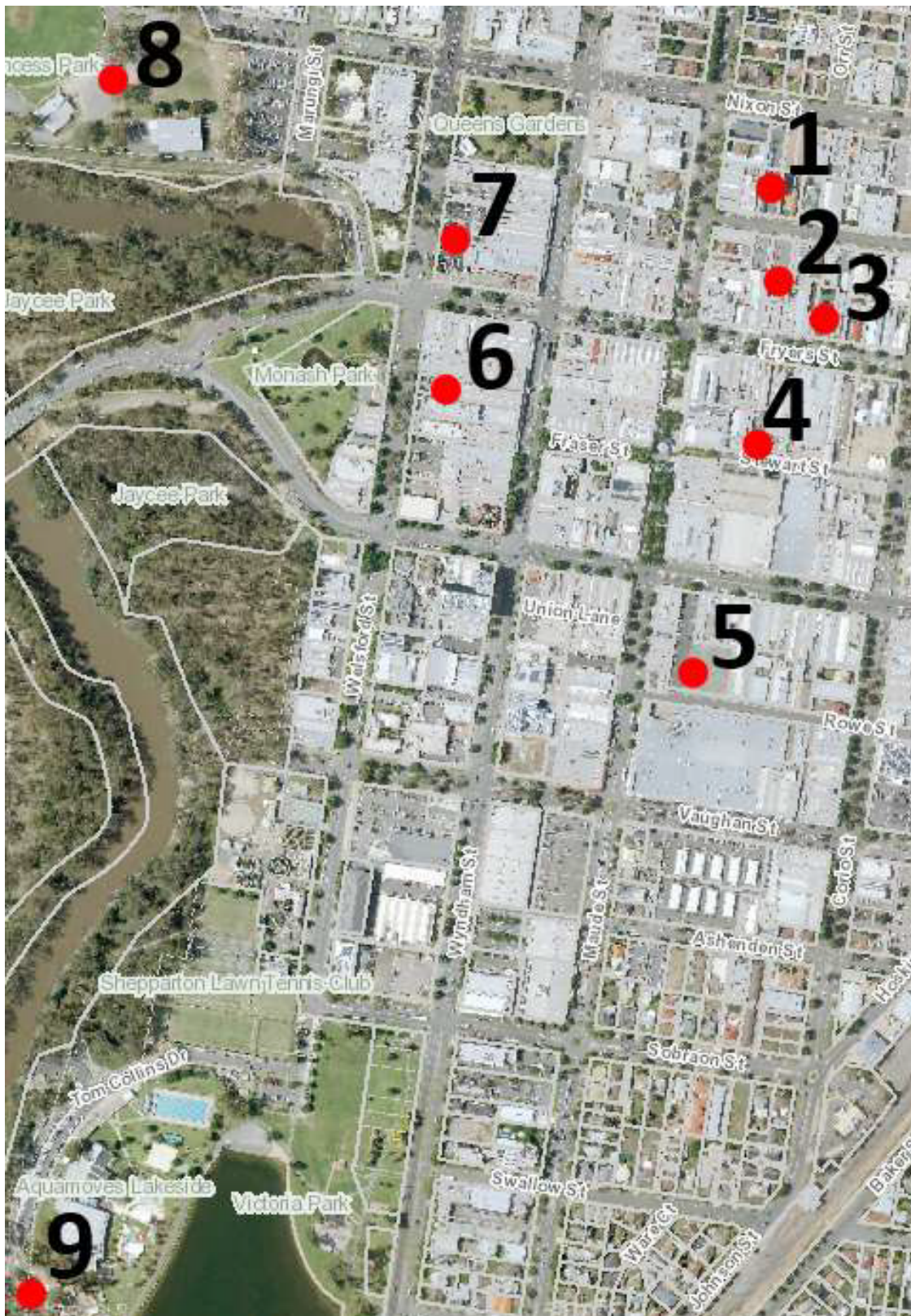


Figure 3: Council-owned car parks in the Shepparton CBD (401 car parking spaces in car parks 1-7).

- 1. Maude/Nixon carpark – 68 spaces including 2 disabled.
- 2. Edward Street carpark – 39 spaces including 1 disabled.
- 3. Fryers Street – 34 spaces.
- 4. Stewart Street carpark – 25 spaces including 2 disabled.

5. High Street carpark – 124 spaces including 5 disabled.
6. Welsford Street/Wyndham Mall carpark – 26 spaces including 2 disabled.
7. Opposite 90 Welsford Street – 85 spaces including 4 disabled (part Council part privately owned).

To assist with the provision of free all-day parking, Council will also construct new car parks within the vicinity of the CBD and Aquamoves at the following locations:

8. Goyen Reserve – 26 new spaces currently under planning, with construction expected in the 20/21 financial year.
9. Tom Collins Drive – 25 new spaces currently under construction (5 sealed and 20 unsealed).

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020, Council resolved the following with regard to parking in the Shepparton CBD:

- 1. receive and note the Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy prepared by GTA Consultants Pty Ltd;*
- 2. receive and note the complimentary parking survey conducted by the Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry;*
- 3. resolve to provide free timed off-street car parking within the Shepparton CBD at Council-owned car parks;*
- 4. note the estimated \$250,000 (ex GST) per annum reduction in income associated with free off-street car parking, and agree to address this shortfall in the 2020/2021 budget to be considered by Council at a Special Council Meeting on 28 April 2020; and*
- 5. note that any changes to the current car parking regime will be implemented at a suitable time as part of the COVID-19 recovery phase to ensure the ongoing safety of the community.*

#### Implementation of the Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme

Council officers began planning work to implement the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme* in a COVID-19 recovery phase in late April 2020. As part of this work, regular communication was undertaken with Councillors and members of the Parking Reference Group, which also comprised members of the SCCI.

The following main tasks were undertaken by Council officers in conjunction with Councillors and members of the Parking Reference Group:

1. determining appropriate time limits for each car park included in the resolution;
2. coordinating the replacement and installation of new signage, and the removal of ticket machines;
3. prepare a communications plan to ensure that any proposed changes to existing car parking arrangements were understood by the community; and
4. agree on a date for the implementation of the initiative.

The inclusion or exclusion of Fraser Street was discussed with both Councillors and the Parking Reference Group. At no stage was the omission of Fraser Street raised as an issue; it was not considered to form part of this initiative.

On the 13 July 2020, Council implemented the first initiative of the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*: free timed off-street car parking at Council-owned car parks in the Shepparton CBD. This initiative provided approximately 333 (this figure excludes the 68 spaces in the Maude/Nixon carpark were previously free and all-day) free timed off-street



car parks in the Shepparton CBD (approximately 10% of the total commercial parking spaces in the Shepparton CBD). The implementation of the initiative was heavily advertised on Council's social media pages, the Shepparton News and on local televised news.

Following the implementation of the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*, Council officers updated Council's webpage to identify those off-street Council-owned car parks that were now free, the timing regime in place and the capacity of each of these car parks.

Whilst the map on Council's website was updated, some of the text on the webpage erroneously listed Fraser Street as a free, timed off-street car parking area. Council officers acknowledge that the information provided on Council's website pertaining to Fraser Street was incorrect and apologise for any inconvenience caused to the community as a result of this. Once Council officers became aware of the issue, the information included on Council's website was immediately reviewed and updated.

Council officers also acknowledge that the temporary removal of parking meters from Fraser Street as part of the Parking Scheme was also an error; however, the meters were immediately reinstalled prior to the commencement of the free off-street Parking Initiative.

The following section of the Council Report outlines a variety of additional considerations that have informed Council officers' view that Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' should not form part of the Parking Scheme:

1. Walking Distance to Council-owned 'Off-Street' Car Parking

Figure 4 below outlines the distance of 'off-street' Council-owned car parks to the centre of the Maude Street Mall.

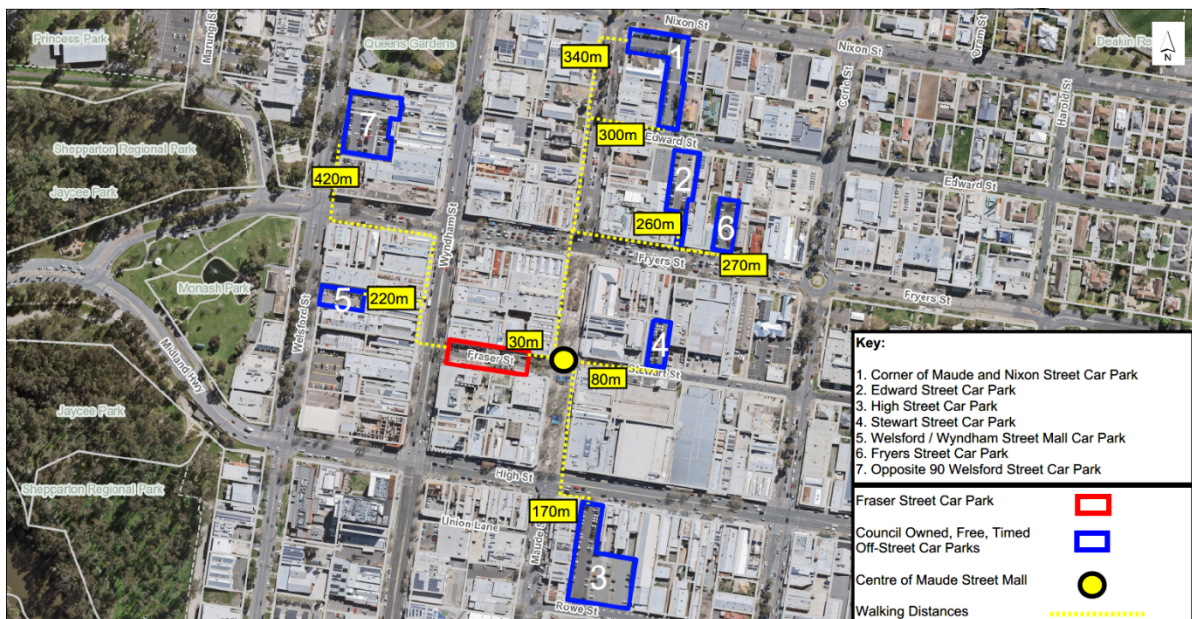


Figure 4: Walking distances to Council owned off-street car parks.

Council officers submit that the implementation of the free off-street car park initiative at the seven Council-owned car parks provides a variety of car parks proximate or a short walk from the centre of the CBD. The initiative satisfies the principles of good parking management promoted in the GTA Report: a concentric approach to the provision of off-street car parks within a 5-minute walk from the centre of the Maude Street Mall.

2. Signage

The case studies undertaken in the GTA Report made a number of recommendations for the CBD. Specifically, the GTA Report recommended that Council improve awareness of parking through wayfinding signage, implementing dynamic signage, and updating the parking app to provide real time data. This will dramatically assist members of the community in finding a suitable car park, especially during peak periods. This work will be done as part of a future Council initiative.

3. The Maude Street Mall Upgrade and the Design Intent for Fraser Street

Council is currently in the process of obtaining revised designs from Group GSA Pty Ltd to refine Option 4 Concept Design for the Maude Street Mall Upgrade previously developed by Spiire Australia Pty Ltd in 2018.

As part of the Maude Street Mall Redevelopment Project, the western portion of 'West Walk Car Park' will receive a significant upgrade to facilitate a 'Town Square' that will include a new play area and enhanced pedestrian spaces. The 'Town Square' will align with the broader Maude Street Mall Redevelopment Project's objectives.

It is envisaged that the 'Town Square' will create a cohesive link between the new Maude Street Mall and the proposed public amenities in the vicinity of the Telstra Tower (refer to Figure 5 below). Construction of the 'Town Square' is envisaged to commence after the completion of the Maude Street Mall Redevelopment.

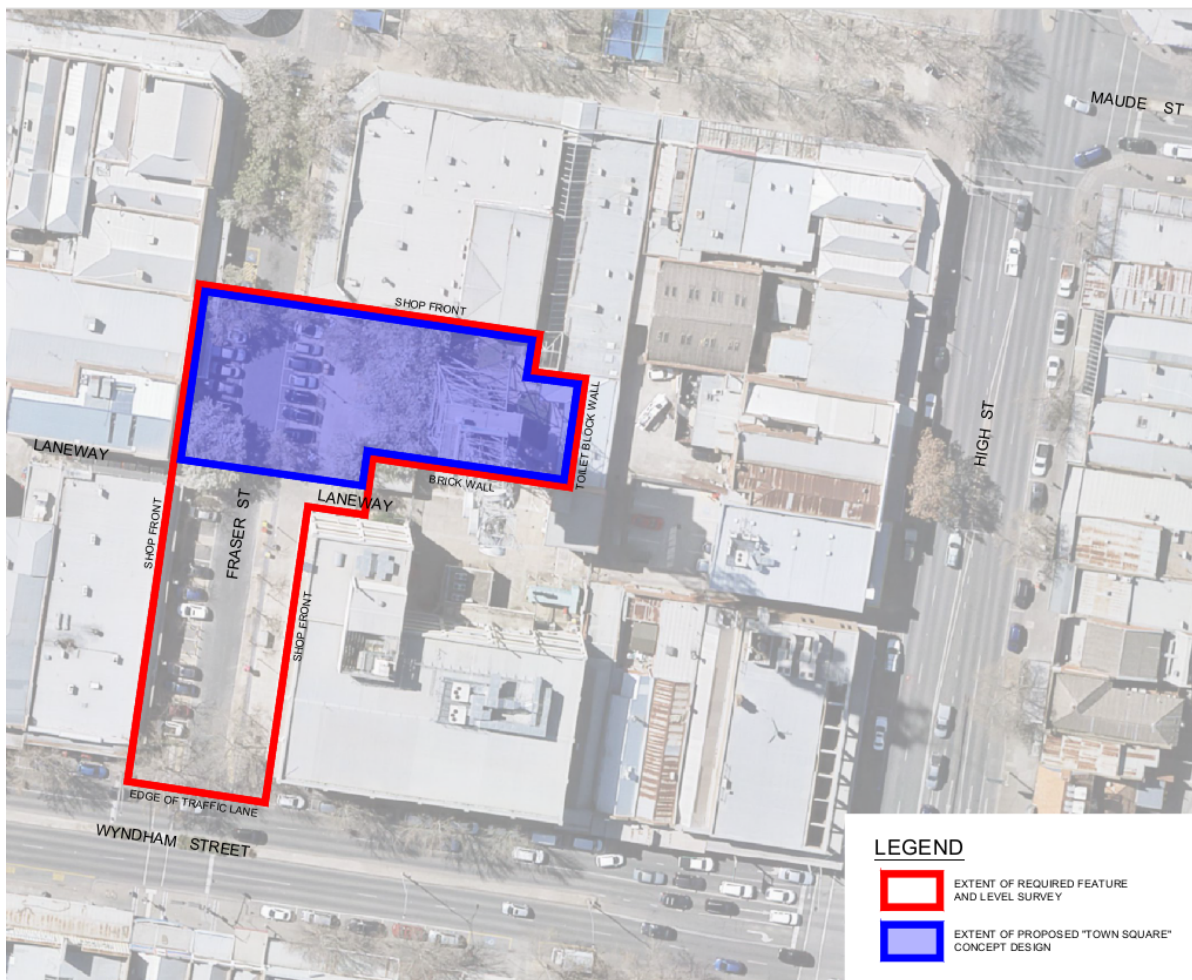


Figure 5: Draft extent of the proposed 'Town Square' concept.



It should be noted that the existing car parking facilities at ‘West Walk Car Park’, adjacent to the Telstra Tower, may potentially be removed or reduced as part of the ‘Town Square’ proposal. This proposal is still currently under development and more information will become available once known.

**4. The Status of ‘West Walk Car Park’**

Since its formalisation in 2001, the ‘West Walk Car Park’ has been a paid parking location and Council officers are of the view that it should remain as such.

It is worth noting that, if this parking regime is amended, the ‘West Walk Car Park’ / Fraser Street would be the only Council-owned car park that would have multiple retail business fronting onto it. Such a change may be perceived to provide an unfair advantage to those businesses. The Maude Street Mall Redevelopment Project will facilitate paid timed parking in a similar manner that other on-street car parks in the Shepparton CBD do. Other Council-owned off-street car parks adjoin the rear of businesses and accessibility is limited (e.g. Rowe Street car park and ‘Wyndham Walk’ car park).

**5. Occupancy Rates of the ‘West Street Walk Carpark’**

In September 2018, as part of Stage 1 of the preparation of the GTA Report, Council engaged Matrix Traffic & Transport Data Pty Ltd to undertake a count of occupancy rates for carparks in the CBD. This data was obtained over two days on Friday, 14 September and Tuesday, 18 September 2018 from 7am until 10pm. Specifically, a breakdown of the occupancy rating and the capacity of the Fraser Street Car Park / ‘West Walk Car Park’ can be found in Figures 6 and 7 below.

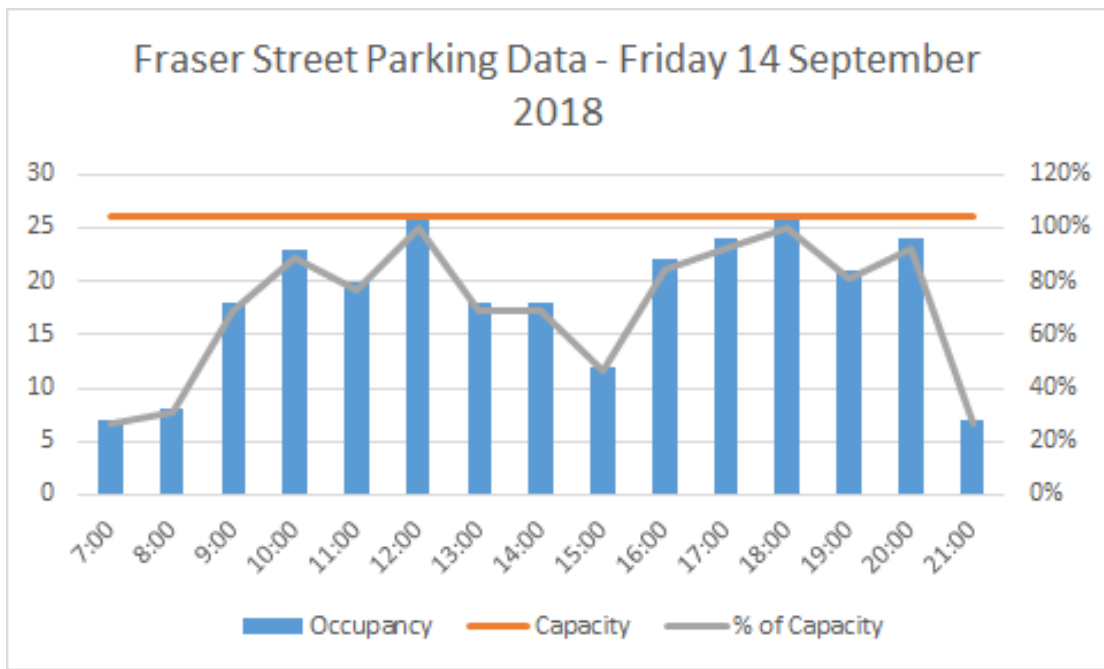


Figure 6: Fraser Street Car Parking Data – Friday, 14 September

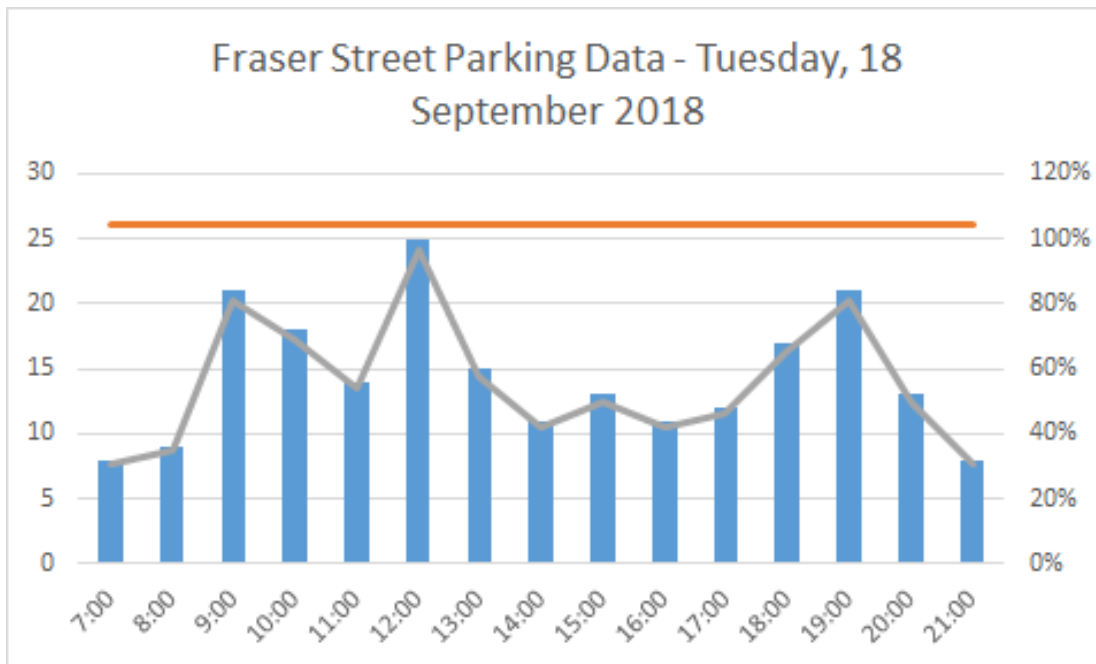


Figure 7: Fraser Street Car Parking Data – Tuesday, 18 September 2018

The data found that Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' had high utilisation during the 'peak periods' of the day resulting in appropriate levels of turnover as recommended by the GTA Report. It specifically found that the car park was at an average of 70% capacity (26 spaces) on Friday, 14 September 2018 and at an average of 55% capacity on Tuesday, 18 September 2018, indicating a high turnover for this area. Given this high utilisation rate, Council officers submit that the current parking regime for Fraser Street should remain unchanged.

Community Consultation about the Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme

To better ensure that wider community knowledge of the new free, timed, off-street car parking initiative, Council undertook a rigorous advertising and consultation campaign. This included:

- notification on Council's webpage and social media pages;
- notifications to mobile phones through the PayStay app (where downloaded);
- printed flyers and posters which were displayed in local businesses in the Shepparton CBD;
- advertisements in the *Shepparton News* (see Figure 8 below), the *Shepparton Adviser*, televised local news outlets, radio stations, digital billboards; and
- displaying signage at the Maude Street Mall.



Figure 8: Copy of Notice placed in the *Shepparton News*.

The consultation associated with the Parking Scheme has been extensive and clear through a variety of different communication channels to ensure that the public understands where Council-owned car parks are located and where the free but timed off-street car parking regime now applies.

**Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity**

**LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

1.8 Consultation that is transparent, robust and accessible, and clear, consistent and timely communication provided to inform, educate and engage with the community.

**Risk Management**

This Report is provided for information only and therefore does not expose Council to any risks.

Council officers consider that an appropriate amount of consultation with members of the public, Councillors and the Parking Reference Group has already been undertaken as part of the development of the GTA Report and the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*.

**Policy Considerations**

This Report is provided for information only and therefore does not provide any recommendation that would impact on Council policy.

**Financial Implications**

This Report is provided for information only and therefore does not impose any financial implications on Council.

**Legal/Statutory Implications**

This Report is provided for information only and therefore does not impose any legal or statutory implications on Council.

**Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts associated with this Report.



## Social Implications

This Report is provided for information only and therefore does not raise any social implications.

## Economic Impacts

This Report is provided for information only and therefore does not raise any economic implications.

## Consultation

This Report is provided for information only.

The free parking initiative held by Council during December 2019 – January 2020 was surveyed by Council staff and the SCCI. Both surveys indicated positive feedback from the community and traders regarding the free parking initiative, with the desire for another free parking trial.

The development of the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy* was informed through one-on-one meetings and workshops with representatives from key stakeholder organisations. This includes the SCCI, Department of Transport, La Trobe University and the Shepparton Show Me Committee.

Council officers began planning the implementation of the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme* in late April 2020. As part of this work, regular communication was undertaken with Councillors and members of the Parking Reference Group, which also comprised members of the SCCI. The inclusion of the seven off-street car parking locations was agreed upon by all parties involved during these discussions. At no stage was the omission of Fraser Street raised as an issue; it was not considered to form part of this initiative.

Since the introduction of *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*, the Parking Reference Group further considered this and formed the view that the Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' should be considered a free timed off-street car park. This position does not align with Council's previous resolution at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020.

In spite of this recommendation, Council officers consider the Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' to be a designated paid timed on-street car park, and that the parking regime is operating effectively and should remain unchanged.

Council officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and that the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Topic: Settlement and Housing

Theme: *Growth*

Objective 4: to provide convenient access to a range of activity centres and employment opportunities that can serve the expanded community.

Topic: Economic Development

Theme: *Retail/Commercial Centres*

Objective 2: To develop the Shepparton CBD as a regional centre for commerce and Entertainment.

Topic: Infrastructure

*Theme: Traffic and Transport Systems:*

Objective 1: To promote linkages with other regional cities to cater to traffic movements which include various users.

Objective 6: To ensure the safety and efficient functioning of the roads for a variety of users.

b) Other strategic links

- *Shepparton CBD Strategy 2008*
- *Greater Shepparton Commercial Activity Centres Strategy 2015*
- *Greater Shepparton Movement and Place Strategy – Vision and Objectives March 2017*
- *Shepparton Railway Precinct Master Plan 2017*
- *Shepparton Health & Tertiary Precincts Action Plan 2020*

## Conclusion

In mid-2019, Council engaged GTA Consultants Pty Ltd to prepare the *Shepparton CBD Car Parking Strategy 2020* (the GTA Report). In considering the GTA Report at the Ordinary Council Meeting (OCM) held on 21 April 2020, Council officers also recommended that Council provide free timed parking within Council-owned off-street car parks across the Shepparton CBD. It was considered that a combination of free timed off-street parking and paid timed on-street parking would provide an appropriate balance between many competing factors in the Shepparton CBD whilst minimising the impact on Council's long-term financial sustainability.

The inclusion or exclusion of Fraser Street was discussed with both Councillors and the Parking Reference Group (which includes members of the Shepparton Chamber of Commerce and Industry) in the preparation and finalisation of the Council Report. It was agreed that Fraser Street would not be included in the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme* that commenced on 13 July 2020. This report has outlined a variety of reasons as to why this is considered appropriate.

During the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 July 2020, a Councillor sought to raise an urgent matter in relation to the free off-street parking initiative that had commenced on 13 July 2020. The Councillor noted that there has been some confusion in the community as to whether Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' is considered to be an on-street or off-street car park. This matter did not meet the criteria to be admitted as urgent business.

Council officers acknowledge the matter to be of interest to the community and have prepared this Council Report to address this item, notwithstanding that Council had previously resolved on this matter at the 21 April OCM.

In summary, since its construction in 2001, Fraser Street / 'West Walk Car Park' has always been considered to be a street and a paid parking location, and for this reason was not included in the *Shepparton CBD Off-Street Parking Scheme*.

This Council Report reconfirms Council's previous resolution from the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020 and requests that the Councillors note that previous resolution.

## Attachments

Nil

## **10.4 Adoption of Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan - Lifting the Matter from the Table**

### **Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report**

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

At the Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 July 2020 moved:

**Moved by Cr Adem**

**That the matter lay on the table until the August 2020 Council Meeting.**

**CARRIED**

### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Council resolve to take the matter from the table.**

## 10.5 Adoption of Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan

Author Graduate Strategic Planner Amendments  
 Approved by Director Sustainable Development  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

1. receive and note the **Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Community Engagement Summary Report January 2020;**
2. receive and note the **Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Background Report July 2020;**
3. adopt the **Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan;** and
4. note that **Council officers will begin preparing a planning scheme amendment to implement the Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan into the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme.**

### Executive Summary

The *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan* (the Growth Plan) will integrate Council's considerable strategic work relating to growth, land use planning and infrastructure requirements into a cohesive framework, incorporating the various components into a blueprint for the future.

The Victorian Planning Authority (VPA), in conjunction with Council, has prepared the Growth Plan to identify strategic advantages, address key challenges, and set a vision to guide sustainable growth and development up to 2050. It will address residential, commercial and industrial needs, major infrastructure requirements and staging options, such as drainage, recreation and open space networks, and provide for the future needs of the transport network.

Preliminary consultation with key stakeholders, such as referral authorities, agencies and service providers was undertaken, and the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional Growth Plan Key Issues and Opportunities Report, February 2019* was released for public consultation between 22 February and 25 March 2019 to confirm draft issues and

opportunities, test principles and outcomes, identify additional issues and develop a draft vision statement.

The *Draft Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan 2019* (Draft Growth Plan) builds on the key issues and opportunities for the area identified during pre-draft consultation, and sets a vision and objectives for Shepparton and Mooroopna to the year 2050. The Draft Growth Plan was placed on community consultation for a period of six weeks between September and October 2019. The extent of community consultation and results are listed in the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Community Engagement Summary Report January 2020* (Conversation Report, see Attachment 1).

37 submissions were received on the Draft Growth Plan. Themes that emerged from the community consultation period included:

- conflicts between farming and urban uses;
- cycling walking and horse trails;
- residential and industrial land supply;
- retail;
- infrastructure; and
- the development of Mooroopna.

The final Growth Plan provides new residential and industrial framework plans for the Shepparton, Mooroopna and Kialla urban areas to guide urban development to 2050, and incorporates feedback that emerged from key stakeholders, agencies and members of the general public.

It is recommended that Council adopt the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan*. The adoption of the Growth Plan will provide Council with a strategic planning framework that will assist in the preparation of more detailed local plans, and help Council to advocate for funding to deliver infrastructure to support the sustainable growth of the city.

### Report Detail

Shepparton is nominated as a regional city forecast for major growth in the *Hume Regional Growth Plan 2014* and *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050*. To inform this future growth, the Victorian Planning Authority (VPA), in conjunction with Council, has prepared the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan* (the Growth Plan). The Growth Plan identifies Shepparton and Mooroopna's strategic advantages, addresses key challenges, and sets a vision to guide sustainable growth and development to 2050.

The current Framework Plan for Greater Shepparton is the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy*, which was adopted in 2006. This document provides a blueprint for building sustainable economic activity and maximising the quality of life in Greater Shepparton.

Since the finalisation of this Strategy, Greater Shepparton has experienced a significant amount of growth, particularly in Shepparton and Mooroopna, and investment in infrastructure from the Federal and State Governments. It was considered necessary to prepare a revised Framework Plan to adequately plan for Shepparton and Mooroopna's future.

Council was successful in attaining funding of \$200,000 from the Streamlining for Growth Fund, administered by the VPA in the 2016/2017 financial year. This funding allowed Council to undertake a Drainage Strategy and an Open Space Report to resolve gaps in the provision of infrastructure within the area.

The *Open Space Project Report* was completed by local consultants Spiire Australia Pty Ltd in June 2018. The *Drainage Catchment Analysis and Strategy* was completed by Water Technology Pty Ltd in July 2018. In addition to the above background reports, updated population forecasts were completed by .id consulting Pty Ltd in June 2018. Other background reports including Council and State Government policy documents have been used as an evidence base that has informed the preparation of the Growth Plan, which is summarised in the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan Background Report July 2020* (Background Report, see Attachment 2).

Council successfully applied for additional funding of \$200,000 from the Streamlining for Growth Fund in the 2017/2018 financial year, to prepare the Draft Growth Plan, which has been informed by the Drainage and Open Space studies and previous strategic work. The VPA provided \$150,000 of resources to the project, while \$50,000 was utilised for additional consultancy work. Council contributed \$100,000 towards the project in the form of in-house assistance.

The Growth Plan is a high-level and broad strategy that:

- compiles and reviews existing strategies;
- identifies gaps in the provision and services of key infrastructure, such as drainage and transport networks;
- prepares reports where gaps have been identified;
- sets out the future vision for Shepparton and Mooroopna;
- guides sustainable future growth and development over the next 30 years;
- identifies the steps needed to manage growth;
- defines key projects and infrastructure required to support growth; and
- provides an improved and more certain environment for making both public and private investment decisions.

To inform the development of the Growth Plan, the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan - Key Issues and Opportunities Paper, February 2019* was prepared. The key issues and opportunities for the area were based on a review of existing literature and consultation with key stakeholders.

The Growth Plan provides new residential and industrial framework plans for the Shepparton, Mooroopna and Kialla urban areas to guide urban development to 2050 (see Figure One), and will be used to coordinate, guide and inform the preparation and consideration of future more detailed local plans and planning permit applications.



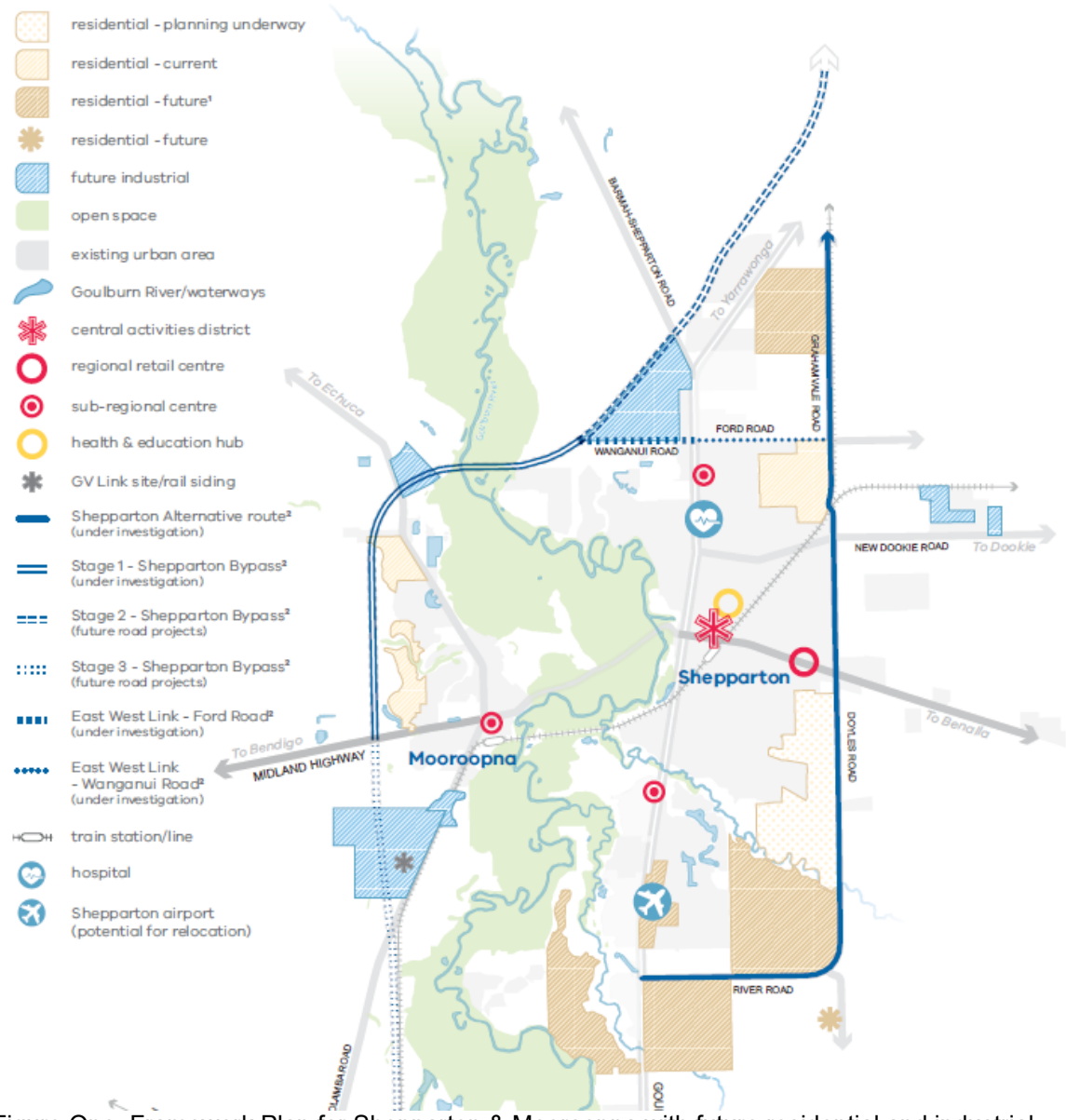


Figure One: Framework Plan for Shepparton & Mooroopna with future residential and industrial areas.

**Stakeholder Engagement**

Preliminary consultation with key stakeholders was undertaken, including a workshop on 17 April 2018 and individual consultation sessions on 1, 2 and 3 May 2018. The purpose of this preliminary consultation was to confirm draft issues and opportunities, test principles and outcomes, identify additional issues and develop a draft vision statement.

The *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional Growth Plan Key Issues and Opportunities Paper, February 2019* was released for public consultation between 22 February and 25 March 2019, and the results were summarised in the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan – Key Issues and Opportunities Report, Community Engagement Summary Report, June 2019*. The VPA also prepared the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Primary School Engagement Report October 2018* to summarise the consultation undertaken with primary schools in Shepparton and Mooroopna.



At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on the 17 September 2019, Council resolved to:

1. receive and note the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan – Key Issues and Opportunities Report, Community Engagement Summary Report, June 2019*;
2. authorise for exhibition the *Draft Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan 2019* for public comment for a period of six weeks beginning on 20 September 2019 and concluding on 1 November 2019; and
3. note that Council officers will report back to Council on any feedback, comments and submissions received from the public during the consultation period.

As a result of the resolution, the *Draft Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan 2019* (Draft Growth Plan) was placed on community consultation for a period of six weeks between September and October 2019. Overall Council and the VPA received 37 written submissions via email and online survey from members of the public. The extent of community consultation and results are listed in the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Community Engagement Summary Report January 2020* (Conversation Report, see Attachment 1).

Six major themes that emerged from the submissions include:

- conflicts between farming and urban uses;
- cycling walking and horse trails;
- residential and industrial land supply;
- retail;
- infrastructure; and
- the development of Mooroopna.

15 late submissions were also received to the Draft Growth Plan, the majority of which were promoted by a letter drop initiated by a local resident in the Dobson's Estate area. Dobson's Estate is a residential subdivision in Shepparton East that is reportedly the source of perceived land use conflicts with farming and residential uses. The majority of these submissions sought to have the land in the broader Shepparton East area be retained in the Farming Zone. The Growth Plan affirms the position of these submitters therefore they are considered resolved.

#### Shepparton East Agricultural Land Use Options Study

11 of the submissions received were from, or on behalf of, landowners from Investigation Areas 4 and 10 in Shepparton East seeking this land be identified for residential or industrial development. Submissions indicated that the agricultural viability of the area was compromised by its proximity to residential development, perceived which was the source of land use conflict.

In response to these submissions, the VPA and Council engaged RMCG Pty Ltd to prepare the *Shepparton East Agricultural Land Use Options Study* (Study, March 2020). RMCG Pty Ltd was engaged to provide advice on:

- the viability of agricultural land in Shepparton East;
- alternative farm management practices or alternative farming practices that are suited to the land's context; and
- a planning response to the existing land use conflict between farming and rural residential.

The key findings of the Study, in terms of agricultural viability are:

- Shepparton East has an ideal combination of natural attributes for high-value agriculture, including excellent soil types, Mediterranean climate and access to a secure supply of high-quality water;
- farm businesses are establishing new orchards, affirming the productive potential of the area;
- an assessment of farm size, land values, land use conflict and planning policy on the viability of farming in Shepparton East found that farm size to be the most significant factor currently impacting farm viability; and
- the biggest barrier to increasing farm scale is the uncertainty created by ambiguous planning policy, being the status of some land in Shepparton East being within Investigation Areas 4/10.

The key findings of the Study, in terms of land use conflicts are:

- there are some residential and industrial land uses adjacent to Shepparton East, while not ideal from a land use conflict risk point of view, the residential estates are contained and well defined;
- complaints regarding noise from the use of scare guns are received by Council from time to time. There have been no ongoing disputes;
- EPA guidelines provide clear standards and thresholds for operation of farm machinery, frost fans and scare guns and from the low number of complaints it would appear that farmers are operating within the guidelines; and
- a land use conflict risk assessment was completed and did not identify any high priority risks that reduce the viability of agriculture.

The Study prepared by RMCG Pty Ltd affirmed the conclusion in the draft Growth Plan that this land should be reinforced as productive farmland. The final Growth Plan continues to reinforce the land in Investigation Areas 4/10 as productive farmland.

#### Changes to the Growth Plan

Council and the VPA made numerous changes to the Growth Plan based on feedback from submissions. Table one identifies the six major themes that emerged from the public consultation and how the final Growth Plan has responded to them.

Theme	Changes made to the Draft Growth Plan
Conflicts between farming and urban uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Made reference to the <i>Shepparton East Agricultural Land Use Options Study</i> to reinforce Investigation Areas 4/10 in Shepparton East to be retained as farmland.</li> <li>• Added a new Action 1.1.2 to implement a recommendation of this Study to prepare a communication and media program to increase awareness and understanding of EPA guidelines and farm management practices.</li> </ul>
Cycling, walking and horse trails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Referenced the strategic cycling corridors and principle bicycle network.</li> <li>• Identified the consideration of horse riders when planning off-road trails.</li> <li>• Identified Parks Victoria as a stakeholder when considering mountain bike riding.</li> <li>• Referenced the 2020 BMX World Championships.</li> </ul>

Theme	Changes made to the Draft Growth Plan
Residential land supply	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Changed the priority of the Kialla North Growth Corridor from medium-term to short-term. This is in response to submissions and supported by the <i>Shepparton Land Supply Demand Assessment</i> (2019) which identified a shortage of lower density lot supply.</li> </ul>
Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Linked the funding needed for major projects to the Growth Plan principles.</li> <li>Strengthened the vision to reference the social and economic benefits of infrastructure provision.</li> <li>Updated discussion on health and tertiary education infrastructure provision.</li> </ul>
Retail	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Add Action 1.4.2 to prepare a structure plan for the Shepparton north sub-regional centre.</li> </ul>
Mooroopna-specific issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Added a number of key destinations to Figure 6 which shows opportunities for Mooroopna.</li> </ul>

Table One. Themes from public comments and Growth Plan response.

Council and the VPA also discussed and made several corrections and changes to condense the document and improve its readability. This included re-wording the vision and several principles, moving some information to the Background Report and amending the plans to improve messaging.

#### Next Steps and Implementation

It is recommended that Council adopt the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan*. The adoption of the Growth Plan will assist Council in the preparation of more detailed local plans, and help Council to advocate for funding to deliver infrastructure to support the sustainable growth of the city.

Council is currently progressing the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) translation with the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP), with the restructure of the policy component of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme (Planning Scheme) critical to set a framework for the Growth Plan's implementation.

There are two flood studies that require implementation into the Planning Scheme, which have informed the identification of growth areas and support the principles of the Growth Plan. It is important that these flood studies are implemented prior to, or concurrently with, the Growth Plan.

The adoption of the Growth Plan will enable Council to begin the process for a Planning Scheme Amendment to have the Growth Plan implemented into the Planning Scheme. It is anticipated that Council will be the planning authority for the amendments to implement the flood studies and the Growth Plan, with the VPA to play an ongoing advisory role to ensure that the amendments are implemented in a timely manner.

### **Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity**

#### **BUILT**

Provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.

4.1 Growth is well planned and managed for the future.

4.2 Urban and rural development is sustainable and prosperous.

### **Risk Management**

The recommendations will not result in any risk to Council.

### **Policy Considerations**

The Growth Plan supports and builds upon existing Council policy, including the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006*, the *Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011* and the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme. The recommendations do not conflict with any Council policy.

### **Financial Implications**

The recommendations to adopt the Growth Plan will not result in any financial implications for Council, however it should be noted that the implementation of the Growth Plan through a future planning scheme amendment will result in financial implications to Council. This has been accounted for as a key planning initiative in Council's adopted 2020-2021 Budget.

To date, the VPA provided \$150,000 of resources to the project, while \$50,000 was utilised for additional consultancy work, where required. Council has contributed \$100,000 towards the project in the form of in-house assistance.

### **Legal/Statutory Implications**

The recommendations will not result in any legal or statutory implications. The future implementation of the Growth Plan in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme will allow for the consideration of the findings and recommendations of the Growth Plan during the assessment of planning permits, further strategic works, etc.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

A key component of the Growth Plan is a *Drainage Catchment Analysis and Strategy*, undertaken by Water Technology Pty Ltd. This document considers the impact of flooding and drainage on development in the area and explores how considered development might improve flooding, drainage, water quality and amenity and incorporate integrated water management opportunities.

The findings of this document have been utilised in the preparation of the Growth Plan to ensure that any potential impacts on the environment can be appropriately mitigated.

The Growth Plan has also been informed by multiple Council and State Government policy documents which seek to manage and mitigate impacts to the environment. The Growth Plan contains several outcomes that aim to bolster Greater Shepparton's environmental resilience by managing and mitigate environmental impacts and to ensure that environmental considerations are at the forefront of Council's decision-making process.

The recommendations will not result in any adverse environmental or sustainability impacts.

### **Social Implications**

The Growth Plan will, among other things, identify strategic greenfield and infill sites for residential and industrial development within Shepparton and Mooroopna. The preparation of a comprehensive Growth Plan will assist in the release of additional land for development and allow for greater housing choice and diversity, and the location of new commercial and industry within Shepparton and Mooroopna. This will result in positive social outcomes for Greater Shepparton.

The recommendation will not result in any adverse social implications.

## Economic Impacts

The Growth Plan will provide clear direction and certainty to land owners and developers regarding areas suitable for development. It will identify opportunities for investment in infrastructure and development of residential areas, as well as industrial/commercial areas. It is expected this will lead to continued growth in construction, as well as economic growth associated with overall population growth.

The recommendation will not result in any adverse economic implications.

## Consultation

Preliminary consultation with key stakeholders, such as referral authorities, agencies and service providers, has been undertaken. This preliminary consultation included a workshop on 17 April 2018 as well as individual consultation sessions on 1, 2 and 3 May 2018. The purpose of this preliminary consultation was to confirm draft issues and opportunities, test principles and outcomes, identify additional issues and develop a draft vision statement.

The *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional Growth Plan Key Issues and Opportunities Paper, February 2019* was released for public consultation between 22 February and 25 March 2019, and the results were released in the *Key Issues and Opportunities Community Engagement Report June 2019*.

Council resolved to release the *Draft Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan* for exhibition for six weeks between September and October 2019, where 37 public submissions were received. The results were released in the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Community Engagement Summary Report January 2020*.

In response to submissions in Shepparton East citing concerns over land use conflicts, Council and the VPA commissioned RMCG Pty Ltd to prepare the *Shepparton East Agricultural Land Use Options Study*, where additional consultation with landowners in Shepparton East was undertaken.

Council officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred in previous stages and that the Growth Plan is now ready to be adopted by Council.

It should be noted that further community consultation will take place as part of the Planning Scheme Amendment process to implement the Growth Plan.

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Relevant objectives:
- To provide for sufficient suitable additional land for urban growth
- To release land efficiently in terms of location, supply of services and infrastructure.
- To recognise the constraints of the floodplain on the development of land and minimise the future economic impacts of flooding.
- To locate industrial developments effectively, by utilising existing and planning infrastructure, and consolidating the existing main industrial areas.
- To provide sustainable infrastructure to support the growth and development of the municipality
- To provide for a broader range of dwelling densities and types of housing to meet current and future community needs and differing lifestyles
- To increase the supply of medium density housing in appropriate locations



- To provide a restricted amount of land for rural residential purposes, without impacting on the long-term growth potential of urban centres and productive agricultural land.

#### b) Other strategic links

- Shepparton CBD Strategy 2008
- Greater Shepparton Housing Strategy 2011
- Industrial Land Review, City of Greater Shepparton, 2011
- Hume Regional Growth Plan 2014
- City of Greater Shepparton Commercial Activity Centres Strategy 2015
- Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme
- Shepparton Heath & Education Precincts Action Plan 2020

### Conclusion

The Growth Plan will guide the sustainable development of Shepparton and Mooroopna to the year 2050, and will integrate the strategic work undertaken by Council relating to growth, land use planning and infrastructure into a cohesive framework, incorporating the various components into a blueprint for the future.

Relevant background reports have now been completed. These reports informed the preparation of the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan - Key Issues and Opportunities Paper, February 2019*. The Paper identified the key issues and opportunities for the area based on a review of existing literature and consultation with key stakeholders, which have in turn informed the development of the draft Growth Plan.

Following a Council resolution, the Draft Growth Plan was placed on exhibition for six weeks, where 37 submissions were received. Council and the VPA made numerous changes to the Growth Plan based on feedback from submissions.

The Growth Plan is now ready to be considered by Council. It is recommended that Council receive and note the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Community Engagement Summary Report January 2020* and the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Background Report July 2020*, adopt the *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan*, and to note Council officers' intention to prepare a planning scheme amendment to implement the Growth Plan.

### Attachments

1. Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Community Engagement Summary Report January 2020 [**10.5.1** - 18 pages]
2. Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan, Background Report July 2020 [**10.5.2** - 41 pages]
3. Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan [**10.5.3** - 31 pages]

## 10.6 Freedom Food Land Sale

Author Statutory Planner  
 Approved by Director Sustainable Development  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

That the Council resolve to:

1. authorise the sale of part of the land at 30R Florence Street, Shepparton, shown generally as “1” on Spiire Plan Drawing Number 307410UD00, being approximately 2,618m<sup>2</sup> in area and the carrying out of all necessary actions to effect the sale;
2. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign, or sign and seal, all documentation associated with or necessary to effect the sale.

### Executive Summary

Council is the owner of the land at 30R Florence Street, Shepparton (**Land**), which it uses for the purposes of the Telford drainage basin.

The land adjoining the Land to the immediate north, being 102 Old Dookie Road, is occupied by milk manufacturer, Freedom Foods Group Ltd. Freedom Foods processes several hundred million litres of milk per year and employs over 100 people.

It has been identified that the southernmost building on the Freedom Foods land requires an 18m setback from the boundaries of the land in order to comply with building and fire safety requirements. It is currently in non-compliance with these requirements.

Freedom Foods has approached Council in relation to the purchase of part of the Land to allow it to comply with its fire safety requirements.

Officers propose to subdivide and sell an approximately 2,618m<sup>2</sup> parcel of the Land, being the rectangular area along the northern boundary of the Land marked “1” (**Parcel 1**) on the following plan:





Part of the basin is located within Parcel 1. As part of the sale of Parcel 1, officers propose to procure, at the purchaser’s cost:

- the filling of part of the basin, being the part of the basin within Parcel 1;
- the regrading of the remainder of the basin; and
- the re-fencing of the Land along the new title boundary.

It is proposed that until such time as the necessary works are completed, Council will continue to occupy Parcel 1 and operate the basin pursuant to a licence for a nominal figure of \$1.00 per annum.

In accordance with the Council’s resolution at the June 2020 Ordinary Council Meeting, officers advertised the proposed land sale in the Shepparton News for a 28 day period. Officers received no submissions from public in response to the proposed land sale.

Officers having progressed the proposed land sale in accordance with the *Local Government Act* and obtained two valuations for the land, recommend that the Council authorise the sale of the 2618sqm of land to Freedom Foods subject to a satisfactory purchase price being obtained.

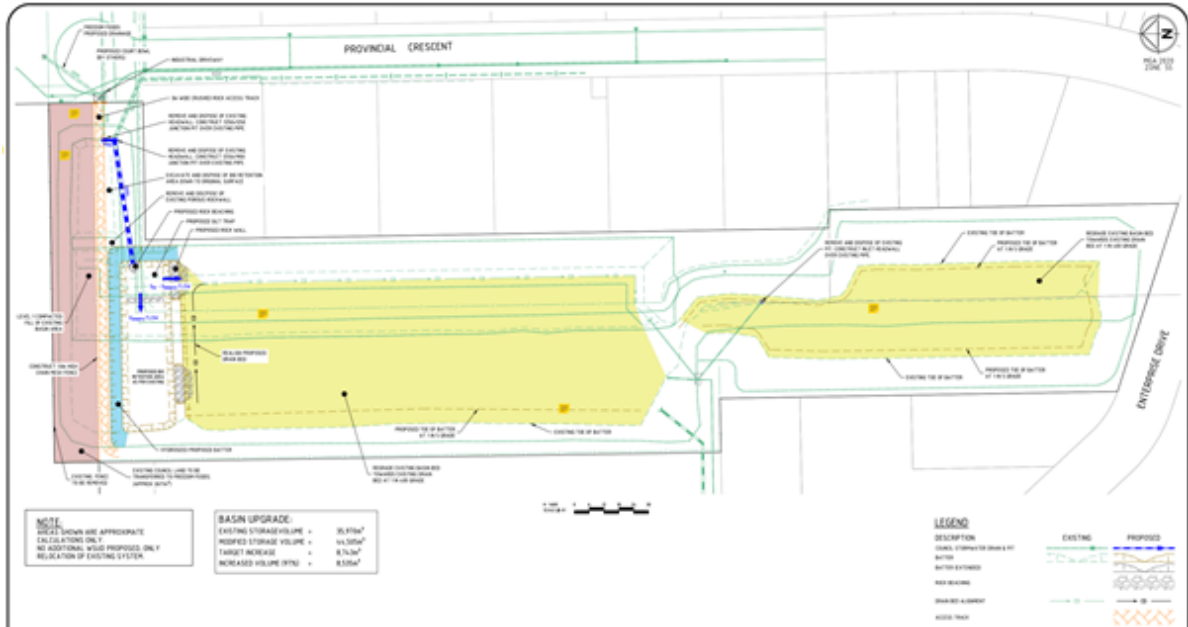
### Report Detail

A building inspection was carried out on the land at 102 Old Dookie Road, Shepparton which identified that the southernmost building on the land was in non-compliance with the Building Code of Australia (BCA). The BCA generally requires the building to be provided with an 18m-wide open space around the entire perimeter of the building for the purpose of emergency vehicle access and facilitating firefighting activities.

In order to comply with this requirement, Freedom Foods has approached Council in relation to purchasing part of the land at 30R Florence Street, Shepparton (Land), being immediately to the south of the Freedom Foods land. Parcel 1 has been identified as an appropriate area of the Land that will allow Freedom Foods to comply with the BCA.

The Land currently holds the Telford drainage basin, which provides retention and water treatment for the Florence Street industrial precinct. The basin's current capacity is 35,970m<sup>3</sup>.

To offset the loss in basin capacity resulting from the sale, Council has engaged Spiire to prepare a plan for the proposed realignment and regrading of the basin. The plan results in an increased storage volume of 44,505m<sup>3</sup>, being an 8,535m<sup>3</sup> increase. The plan of the proposed basin works is as below.



It is proposed that, as a term of the sale, the purchaser must bear the cost of re-establishing and regrading the basin to Council's standard and in accordance with a final plan to ensure that the capacity of the basin is maintained. The filling of the part of the basin within Parcel 1 and the erection of fencing along the new title boundary is also proposed to be undertaken at the cost of the purchaser as part of the sale.

The Land is within the Industrial 1 Zone and will not need to be rezoned if sold.

**Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity**  
**LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE**

Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.

1.1 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnerships to improve health and wellbeing access and inequity.

1.4 Financial management is responsible and effective in responding to challenges and constraints with a focus on the financial sustainability of the Council.

**Risk Management**

Officers consider that the primary potential risk is selling the land at a value not in accordance with a formal valuation. Officers will manage this risk by engaging a certified valuer with the necessary qualifications to provide an independent valuation and propose to make the land available for purchase in accordance with the valuation. This is in accordance with Council's obligations under section 189 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

**Policy Considerations**

Officers consider policy support exists at Clause 21.07-3 of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme for the development of drainage infrastructure including:

Objectives - Urban stormwater management

- To maintain and enhance stormwater quality throughout the municipality.
- To ensure that new development complies with the Infrastructure Design Manual.

### Financial Implications

Two independent valuations of the land have been undertaken. Should the land be sold, Council will receive income from the sale in accordance with the valuations.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

Officers have obtained a fee proposal from Holding Redlich who will be engaged to ensure that the land sale is undertaken in accordance with the *Local Government Act*.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The proposed land sale has neutral environmental or sustainability impacts. The successful purchaser will be required to complete drainage works to ensure the capacity and water treatment measures are re-constructed.

### Social Implications

Officers consider that the proposed land sale and subsequent basin works has a neutral social outcome given the functional nature of a drainage basin in a non-residential catchment.

### Economic Impacts

Should Freedom Foods successfully purchase the land it will allow an expansion in milk processing at the site which will result additional employment for the Greater Shepparton community.

### Consultation

Council has published a public notice of its intention to sell the Land in accordance with section 189 of the *Local Government Act*. The public notice invited submissions on the proposed sale under section 223 of the *Local Government Act* for a period of 28 days. No submissions were received.

Officers have also been in discussions with Freedom Foods to ensure transparency in the proposed sale process.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

### Strategic Links

Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy (GS2030)

Under the Infrastructure topic in GS2030 the following objective relates to drainage:

*To maintain an efficient and environmentally sensitive stormwater management system.*

### Conclusion

Officers consider it appropriate to proceed with the sale of part of the Land and that the sale will be in the best interests of the community. The proposed sale will allow Freedom Foods to provide sufficient clearance and access for firefighting activities in compliance with the BCA and improve its operations, as well as enabling the procurement of works to increase the capacity of the basin and improve drainage services for the catchment.

### Attachments

Nil

## 11 Infrastructure Directorate

### 11.1 Final Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan

Author Sporting Clubs Officer  
 Approved by Director Infrastructure  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

#### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council adopt the Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan.**

#### Executive Summary

The Congupna Recreation Reserve is located approximately 8km from the centre of Shepparton to the north east, within the township of Congupna. The township is centred along the Goulburn Valley Highway and Katamatite-Shepparton Main Road. Some of the main facilities include a primary school, football/cricket oval and tennis courts.

Council identified the need to develop a Master Plan to provide a current and detailed strategic framework for the future planning, development and management of sport and recreation opportunities, open space and preservation of natural environment for residents and to address the future community needs.

Consultation has taken place with key stakeholders in developing the Master Plan. The stakeholders have included the Congupna Recreation Reserve user groups, Council officers and peak sporting associations. Consultation included a survey to all user groups, face to face discussions, workshops and also phone conversations. This plan has also been prepared in conjunction with the Draft Congupna Framework Plan 2020 which has included a community drop-in session and provided valuable community input to the Recreation Reserve Master Plan.

A detailed background report has been prepared including a Landscape Master Plan summarising the key priorities for the recreation reserve which include:

- Heating and cooling – Community Hall
- Toilet upgrades and compliance – Community Hall
- Football change rooms – Minor upgrades and repairs
- Electronic scoreboard
- New community change room and clubroom facility
- Oval and netball court lighting

At an Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 April 2020, Council resolved to release the *Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan* for public exhibition and comment.

The *Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan* was released for public comment from 22 April 2020 to 5 June 2020. This consultation was undertaken in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Strategy* and five submissions were received by Council.

Full details of all submissions have been outlined in the attached submission summary.

Council officers have responded to feedback received and are satisfied that no changes or updates are required to the draft that was issued for public consultation. The contents of the submission are either already included in the plan or outside the scope or are more relevant to form part of the *Draft Congupna Framework Plan 2020*.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan.

### Report Detail

Congupna Recreation Reserve plays a vital role in the provision of open space, sport, recreation, community and event opportunities for the local community.

Council has identified the need to develop a master plan to provide a current and detailed strategic framework for the future planning, development and management of sport and recreation opportunities, open space and preservation of natural environment for residents.

A detailed background report has been prepared including a Landscape Master Plan summarising the key priorities for the recreation reserve which include:

- Heating and cooling – Community Hall  
The community hall has not had a heating or cooling upgrade in over 40 years. Council's Building Maintenance department have placed this project on the renewal program for the 2020/2021
- Toilet upgrades and compliance – Community Hall
- Football change rooms – Minor upgrades and repairs
- Electronic scoreboard
- New community change room and clubroom facility
- Oval and netball court lighting

The *Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan* was released for public comment from 22 April 2020 to 5 June 2020. This consultation was undertaken in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Strategy* and five submissions were received by Council.

No changes or updates to the *Draft Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan* have been made from submissions received during the public exhibition period.

One submission of note was received by Urbis who represent landowners of land to the north and adjacent of the Recreation Reserve. The submission included comments and statements that are aligned with the *Draft Congupna Framework plan 2020* which is currently underway. A written response was provided to Urbis acknowledging all comments and submissions, also encouraging Urbis to make a formal submission to the *Draft Congupna Framework plan 2020* upon its release for public exhibition in the second half of 2020.



## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### **SOCIAL**

Develop resilient, inclusive, healthy communities that make Greater Shepparton a safe and harmonious place to live, work, learn, and play.

2.2 Our community is supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing.

2.6 Volunteering is promoted and encouraged along with other measures to improve community resilience.

2.9 Public places, open space and community facilities are safe and accessible for all and presented to a high quality.

2.10 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnership efforts across health and wellbeing.

### **ECONOMIC**

Build a thriving, resilient economy where Greater Shepparton is recognised as a competitive place to invest and grow business.

3.3 Greater Shepparton is a major destination for events and tourism (e.g. progression of the business case for the Greater Victoria Commonwealth Games bid).

## Risk Management

There are no adverse risks anticipated from releasing the draft Master Plan for public consultation.

## Policy Considerations

All consultation associated with the Master Plan has been undertaken in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Policy 2020*.

## Financial Implications

The recommendation to adopt the Master Plan does not have any financial or budgetary implications for Council, other than the direct costs associated with advertising and staff time. However, the future implementation of the recommendations will be subject to individual detailed investigations and funding allocations as part of adopting future annual budgets.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

All procedures associated with the Master Plan comply with relevant legislative requirements.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The recommendation to adopt the Master Plan will not result in any adverse environmental or sustainability impacts.

## Social Implications

The recommendation to adopt the Master Plan will not result in any adverse social impacts.

## Economic Impacts

It is not expected that adopting the Master Plan will have any adverse economic impacts.

## Consultation

Council officers recommend that Council adopt the Master Plan with public consultation now complete.

Initial stakeholder consultation has been undertaken with the user groups of the reserve, Council officers and peak sporting associations.

The draft Master Plan was released for public exhibition for a period of six weeks from 22 April 2020 to 5 June 2020. Five written submissions were received. The public consultation associated with the Master Plan was undertaken in accordance with the Council's *Community Engagement Policy 2020*.

Council officers have responded to feedback received and are satisfied that no changes or updates are required to the draft that was issued for public consultation. The contents of the submission are either already included in the plan or outside the scope or are more relevant to form part of the *Draft Congupna Framework Plan 2020*

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

### Strategic Links

#### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

*Direction 2: Community Life* – Enhance social connectedness, physical and mental health and wellbeing, education and participatory opportunities in order to improve liveability with a greater range of public open spaces, and recreation and community services.

*Vision 4.3.5 Different New Residential Development* – A priority on an active community with walking and cycle networks linked to major attractions as a major consideration

#### b) Other strategic links

Greater Shepparton Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan – Priority 14 – Physical Activity

### Conclusion

The Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan has been subject to a community consultation process, including releasing the draft for public comment. Council officers have responded to feedback received and are satisfied that no changes or updates are required to the final Master Plan.

It is recommended that Council adopt the Congupna Recreation Reserve Master Plan.

### Attachments

1. Congupna Recreation Reserve Masterplan [11.1.1 - 38 pages]
2. DRAFT Congupna Master Plan I Public Exhibition Feedback and Comments [11.1.2 - 1 page]
3. Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Master Plan - Short to Medium Term - Version 2 - 13 December 2019 [11.1.3 - 1 page]
4. Congupna Recreation Reserve and Community Centre Master Plan - Medium to Long Term - Version 2 - 13 December 2019 [11.1.4 - 1 page]



## 11.2 Award of Contract 1995 - Design and Construction of Saleyards Pen Renewal

Author Project Engineer  
 Approved by Director Infrastructure  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

- 1. accept the tender submitted by Pro-way Livestock Equipment for Contract No. 1995 Design and Construction of Renewal Stock Pens at Shepparton Saleyards for the Lump Sum price of \$656,430.64 (including GST).**
- 2. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to sign and seal the contract documents.**

### Executive Summary

The Shepparton Regional Saleyard is a Council owned facility, managed under contract by a private company and with sales coordinated by the Shepparton Stock Agents Association.

Condition assessments of the yards over the past 12 months have identified that a large proportion of the livestock pens are showing severe signs of corrosion damage and require repair to mitigate the safety risk to the public, stock agents and saleyard staff and ensure animal welfare.

Tenders were called for the repair of the saleyard pens (Contract No. 1995) and the evaluation panel has recommended the awarding of this contract to Pro-way Livestock Equipment, who are a specialised contractor in this field.

### Contract Details

This tender is for a Design and Construct contract.

The designer must ensure that consideration is given to:

- Design to meet all current and relevant standards and codes. (i.e Australian Standards, Building Codes, accessibility standards, sustainable design standards, health and safety standards). Fencing to comply with VicRoads Standard Section 707 (attached) as a minimum.

- Pen sizes could differ to best fit in the available space under the roof
- All the gates are aligned to allow a straight passage
- Safety of the staff managing the saleyards. e.g. a revolving door / gate in the middle of four pens to allow staff to escape a charging animal(s)
- Water troughs and connections
- Footings including structural engineers sign-off
- Lighting switches and access to them.
- One pen and one ramp are to be left operational at all times during the works.

## Tenders

Tenders were received from:

Tenderers
Moggill Cove Pty Ltd, Kialla Victoria
Pro-way Livestock Equipment Pty Ltd, Wagga NSW

All tenders received were assessed as being conforming.

Pro-way Livestock has submitted an alternative tender with a safer and upgraded design concept along with a tender to replace the pens in the current setting. The price evaluation for comparison is based on the lump sum price for the alternative design.

Pro-way Livestock Equipment is a specialised contractor for the works scoped in the tender document and has significant experience in the field.

Moggill Cove is a construction contractor who proposed collaborating with a sub-contractor for the main component of the scoped works.

## Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

### **ECONOMIC**

Build a thriving, resilient economy where Greater Shepparton is recognised as a competitive place to invest and grow business.

3.1 The Greater Shepparton economy is prosperous, high value and a focus of choice for business, investment and employment.

### **BUILT**

Provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.

4.5 Assets are well managed and their renewal is being planned through long term renewal strategies.

This procurement is consistent with the strategic objective in the Council Plan for 2017-2021, to “provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.”

## Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Timeframes	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Strict monitoring of works and allowance for additional resources for completion of work in given timeframe.
Access to site, pedestrian management during construction	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Site layout, temporary fencing and work methodology to maximise access for Saleyard users during works but also communicate diversions as required.
COVID-19	Possible	Moderate	Moderate	No negative impacts recorded in construction and adherence of relevant safe procedures.
Bushfires & smoke	Likely	Moderate	Moderate	Abandon site, Delay works and use of protective gear for smoke

## Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with Council Policy.

## Financial Implications

The proposed works will be funded from the capital budget for the Saleyards. Note that the budget allowance of \$190,000 was carried forward from the 2019/2020 budget to allow for the scope of the work and the contract tender process to be completed appropriately. The required budget will be included in the Q1 revision if the recommendation is adopted.

	Approved Budget Estimate for this proposal <sup>1</sup>	This Proposal GST Exclusive	Variance to Approved Budget Estimate	This Proposal GST Inclusive <sup>2</sup>
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue				
Expense	\$190,000.00	\$596,755.13	\$406,755.13	\$656,430.64
Net Total	\$190,000.00	\$596,755.13	\$406,755.13	\$656,430.64

<sup>1</sup> Budgets are GST exclusive

<sup>2</sup> For Contract Award reports the GST inclusive expense shall match the amount reported in the recommendation

## Legal/Statutory Implications

Tender process has been carried out according to the requirements of *Section 186* of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no impacts on the environment and the proposed contractor has an accredited environmental management system to support their proposal.

## Social Implications

There are no known social impacts of this proposal

## Economic Impacts

The Shepparton Saleyards provides a facility for local farmers to buy and sell animal stock which has been increasing over the years. The expected income from the Saleyards is \$1.4million for 2020-2021 financial year. The proposed upgrade will accommodate current and future trading of livestock in a safe manner.

## Consultation

Consultation for this project has included discussions with specialist suppliers, engineering firms, the Goulburn Valley Stock Agents Association and Saleyards management.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred and the matter is now ready for Council consideration.

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Infrastructure – The provision and restructure of urban and rural infrastructure to enhance the performance of the municipality and facilitate growth.

### B) Council budget 2020-2021

2.3 Economic - Develop and maintain the Shepparton Regional Saleyards as a state-of-the-art selling facility.

## Conclusion

The evaluation panel has assessed Pro-way Livestock Equipment as having the highest scoring tender. Pro-way Livestock has also demonstrated considerable experience in stock pen construction and the panel is confident that they can deliver this project well based on the information submitted.

## Attachments

Confidential Attachment

## 12 Councillor Reports

### 12.1 Councillor Activities

#### 12.1.1 Councillor Activity Report - July 2020

Author Governance Support Assistant  
 Approved by Chief Executive Officer  
 Purpose For Noting

#### Disclosures of Conflict of Interest in Relation to this Report

Under section 80C of the *Local Government Act 1989* officers and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests, including the type and nature of interest.

No Council officers or contractors who have provided advice in relation to this report have declared a conflict of interest regarding the matter under consideration.

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That the summary of the Councillors' community interaction and briefing program be received and record of Assemblies of Councillors be noted.**

#### Councillor's Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 July 2020 to 31 July 2020, some or all of the Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

- Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning Meeting with Waste and Regional Recovery Group Chairs and Executive Officers
- VicHealth Webinar | Mayor Guest Speaker
- Waste and Regional Recovery Group Chairs and Executive Officers | Meeting with Minister D'Ambrosio
- Site Tour | Cosgrove and Dookie Rail Trail
- Goulburn Valley Highway Bypass Meeting
- Development Hearing Panel
- COVID-19 Municipal Recovery Committee Meeting
- SAM Limited Artistic and Acquisitions Committee
- Regional Cities Victoria | Mayor's Meeting
- Murray Darling Association | Annual Conference Meeting
- Site Tour | Tatura Library
- Professional Women's Group | Mayor Guest Speaker
- Local Government Mayoral Advisory Panel Meeting
- Municipal Association of Victoria Regional Meeting | Rural North East
- Murray Darling Association | Board Meeting
- Site Tour | New SAM
- Affordable Housing Interviews | University of Technology Sydney
- Regional Cities Victoria | Meeting with Minister Symes
- Greater Shepparton Women's Charter Advisory Group Meeting

- Regional Cities Victoria | Meeting with Minister for Local Government, The Hon Shaun Leane
- Municipal Association of Victoria Virtual Mayoral Forum
- Parking Reference Group Meeting

In accordance with section 80A of the *Local Government Act 1989* records of the Assemblies of Councillors are attached.

### Attachments

1. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 7 July 2020 [**12.1.1.1** - 2 pages]
2. Councillor Briefing Session - 7 July 2020 [**12.1.1.2** - 1 page]
3. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 14 July 2020 [**12.1.1.3** - 2 pages]
4. Councillor Briefing Session - 14 July 2020 [**12.1.1.4** - 1 page]
5. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 21 July 2020 [**12.1.1.5** - 1 page]
6. Councillor Briefing Session - 21 July 2020 [**12.1.1.6** - 1 page]
7. CEO and Councillor Catch Up - 28 July 2020 [**12.1.1.7** - 2 pages]
8. Councillor Briefing Session - 28 July 2020 [**12.1.1.8** - 3 pages]



## **12.2 Council Committee Reports**

Nil Received

## **12.3 Notice of Motion, Amendment or Recession**

Nil Received

## **13 Documents for Signing and Sealing**

Nil Received

## 14 Confidential Management Reports

### 14.1 Designation of Confidentiality of Information - Report Attachments

#### RECOMMENDATION

**That the Council:**

In accordance with section 77(2)(b) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) the Council designates as confidential all documents used to prepare the following agenda items, previously designated by the Chief Executive Officer in writing as confidential under section 77(2)(c) of the Act.

- **Report 9.6: Award of Contract 1942 – Provision of Office Catering Services.** This report attachment relates to a contractual matter, which is a relevant ground applying under section 89(2)(d) of the Act.
- **Report 11.2: Award of Contract 1995 – Design and Construction of Saleyards Pen Renewal.** This report attachment relates to a contractual matter, which is a relevant ground applying under section 89(2)(d) of the Act.

## 15 Urgent Business not Included on the Agenda

## 16 Close of Meeting