

# AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

## COUNCIL MEETING

**5:30PM, Tuesday 16 February 2021**

In The Function Room, Riverlinks Eastbank

### COUNCILLORS

Cr Kim O’Keeffe (Mayor)

Cr Robert Priestly (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Geoffrey Dobson

Cr Greg James

Cr Shane Sali

Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Fern Summer

### 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 16 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 5:30PM**

**CHAIR  
CR KIM O'KEEFFE  
MAYOR**

**INDEX**

<b>1 WELCOME TO COUNTRY</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>2 ACKNOWLEDGEMENT</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>3 PRIVACY NOTICE</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>4 GOVERNANCE PRINCIPLES</b> .....	<b>6</b>
<b>5 APOLOGIES</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>6 DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>7 CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>8 PUBLIC QUESTION TIME</b> .....	<b>7</b>
<b>9 COMMUNITY DIRECTORATE</b> .....	<b>8</b>
9.1 Community Engagement Policy .....	8
<b>10 CORPORATE SERVICES DIRECTORATE</b> .....	<b>13</b>
10.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation - November 2020 - January 2021 .....	13
10.2 Councillor Code of Conduct .....	18
10.3 Complaints Policy 37.POL8.....	21
10.4 January 2021 Monthly Financial Report.....	24
10.5 2020/2021 Quarter Forecast Review .....	26
10.6 Rates Rebate for Retail Land Occupied by Charitable Organisation Policy.....	30
10.7 Council Plan 2020-21 Quarter One Progress Report.....	33
<b>11 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORATE</b> .....	<b>36</b>
11.1 Affordable Housing Reference Group - Terms of Reference and Endorsement of Committee Members .....	36
11.2 Heritage Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference.....	42
11.3 Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan .....	46
<b>12 INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTORATE</b> .....	<b>50</b>
12.1 Road Discontinuance Part Shelby Court, Shepparton .....	50
12.2 Approval of Variation for Contract No. 2070 - Wyndham & Fitzjohn Street Intersection Works.....	53

12.3 Approval of Variation for Contract No. 2032 - Maude Street Stages 3 & 4 - Replacement of Water Main .....	58
<b>13 DOCUMENTS FOR SIGNING AND SEALING .....</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>14 COUNCILLOR REPORTS .....</b>	<b>63</b>
14.1 Councillor Activities .....	63
14.2 Council Committee Reports .....	65
14.2.1 Murray Darling Association .....	65
14.3 Notice of Motion, Amendment or Rescission .....	66
<b>15 URGENT BUSINESS NOT INCLUDED ON THE AGENDA .....</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>16 CLOSE OF MEETING .....</b>	<b>66</b>

## 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 Welcome to Country

To be presented by Cr James on behalf of the Yorta Yorta Elders Council and the 16 family groups.

## 2 Acknowledgement

“We, Greater Shepparton City Council, acknowledge the Yorta Yorta Peoples of the land which now comprises Greater Shepparton, we pay our respect to their tribal elders, we celebrate their continuing culture and we acknowledge the memory of their ancestors.”

## 3 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.

## 4 Governance Principles

Council considers that the recommendations contained in this Agenda gives 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 economic, social and environmental sustainability of the municipal district, including mitigation and planning for climate change risks, is to be promoted;
4. the municipal community is to be engaged in strategic planning and strategic decision making;
5. innovation and continuous improvement is to be pursued;
6. collaboration with other Councils and Governments and statutory bodies is to be sought;
7. the ongoing financial viability of the Council is to be ensured;
8. regional, state and national plans and policies are to be taken into account in strategic planning and decision making;
9. the transparency of Council decisions, actions and information is to be ensured.

## 5 Apologies

Nil Received.

## 6 Declarations of Conflict of Interest

In accordance with section 130 (1)(a) of the *Local Government Act 2020* Councillors are required to disclose any “conflict of interest” in respect of a matter to be considered at a Council Meeting.

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

## 7 Confirmation of Minutes of Previous Meetings

### RECOMMENDATION

**That the minutes of the 15 December 2020 Council Meeting as circulated, be confirmed.**

## 8 Public Question Time

Nil Received.

## 9 Community Directorate

### 9.1 Community Engagement Policy

Author	Acting Manager - Community Wellbeing
Approved by	Director Community
Purpose	For Decision by Council

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 Community Engagement Policy 07.POL4.**

#### Executive Summary

Council has had a Community Engagement Policy in place for many years to guide Council's community engagement activities and commitment.

An extensive review and update of Council's Community Engagement Policy was undertaken in 2019/20. This featured community consultation and a survey in October and November 2019 and further consultation in January-March 2020. The policy was adopted at the April 2020 Council Meeting.

Changes to the Victorian Local Government Act 2020 (the **Act**) under Section 55, have made it mandatory for all councils to have a community engagement policy in place by 1 March 2021 and there is a further requirement to review all policies within six months of a general election.

Council's Community Engagement Policy has been updated to comply with Sections 55 and 56 of the Local Government Act 2020. This includes detail in regard to the requirement of deliberative engagement practices with relation to the development of the Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan and Asset Plan and the inclusion of the community engagement principles as prescribed in supporting documentation from Local Government Victoria.

The Community Engagement Policy was released for public comment from 15 to 29 January 2021, receiving three submissions.

Following consideration of feedback, Council Officers believe the Policy is ready for adoption.



## Report Detail

The Local Government Act 2020 (the **Act**) introduces new requirements for Victorian councils, including a stronger focus on community engagement.

Key changes are:

1. Councils must adopt and maintain a Community Engagement Policy.
2. A Council must develop or review a Community Vision, Council Plan, Financial Plan, and Asset Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices.
3. The Community Engagement Policy must be capable of being applied to the making of Council's local laws, Council's budget and policy development.

The Act does not define deliberative engagement; rather, the Act directs councils to demonstrate deliberative engagement practices, recognising that:

1. The level and scale of deliberation and the appropriate deliberative engagement method should be determined by each council in line with other considerations such as the scope or complexity of the topic, the level of knowledge or expertise required to engage meaningfully, the opportunity to co-design the solution with the community and the resources available to deliver the engagement.
2. Deliberative engagement is a relatively new concept for some Victorian Councils and requires some time for the practice to mature.

In addition, Section 56 of the Local Government Act 2020 outlines five community engagement principles:

1. The community engagement process has a clearly defined objective and scope.
2. Participants in community engagement will have access to objective, relevant and timely information to inform their participation.
3. Participants in community engagement will be representative of the persons and groups affected by the matter.
4. Participants in community engagement are entitled to reasonable support to enable meaningful and informed engagement.
5. Participants in community engagement are informed of the ways in which the community engagement process will influence Council decision making.

The Community Engagement Policy gives effect to these community engagement principles and outlines Council's commitment to engaging with our community in planning for Greater Shepparton's future.

It outlines how Council will facilitate genuine and transparent opportunities for the community to provide feedback and inform the decisions made by Council. Where the problem is complex and challenging, the policy addresses how Council will draw upon expertise and collective intelligence to find shared solutions and shared responsibility with the community.

The policy through 'Our Commitments' will act as a guide to community members to know what to expect in planning for community engagement and what role they can play in our decision making.

Under CEO delegation, the Community Engagement Policy was released for public comment from 15 January 2021 for two weeks. The feedback period closed on Friday 29 January 2021. Three submissions were received, no changes were made to the Policy as a result of the submissions. One submission detailed support for the adoption of the Policy, the other two submissions called for greater transparency and an improved engagement process across Council which is relevant to the Corporate Procedure.

The Policy as presented in this report, reflect changes required under the Local Government Act 2020, the requirement to have a Community Engagement Policy in place by 1 March 2021, and within six months of a general election.

Further work will be undertaken in 2021 to improve Council's Community Engagement Procedures and methods and to ensure consistency and compliance with the intent and regulation of Sections 55 and 56 of the Local Government Act 2020 and build the engagement capacity of Council.

Additional information- Previous Engagement in 2019/2020

In late 2019 and 2020, the internal Community Engagement Working Group revised and reviewed Councils approach to community engagement, and consulted with the community in broad terms about Community Engagement. Council received more than 200 responses to the survey and an additional four responses following public exhibition of the Policy in January/ February 2020.

The community told Council they like to receive information from Council via:

- Email 47%
- Social media 43%
- Letterbox drops 38%
- Information sessions 34%
- Council's website 33%

The community would like Council to engage with them about:

- Neighbourhood and Community Plans 77%
- Strategies such as waste, community safety, budget, rates 70%
- Major roadwork upgrades 66%
- Future plans for growth 66%
- Streetscape and sporting ground redevelopments 64%

The community also specifically highlighted parking and children's services as topics they would like to be engaged about.

The community indicated they would like to hear from Council at all stages, including when an idea is being developed, drafted, and fully developed. The community have also indicated it is important to engage right at the beginning of projects, as well as 'closing the loop' (letting them know how and if their feedback has been used).

The community indicated the information most important to them is what is happening in their town, neighbourhood, street, and municipality.

Council received only four comments on the Policy following its public exhibition in February 2020. The 4 submissions received were in relation to the listing of Councils values, two requested more information on the engagement process and the other was in relation to Council listening to/ acting on the majority not minority but no comment on the policy itself.

**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.

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

### Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Council does not meet its legislated obligation to have a Community Engagement Policy that meets the requirements of the LG Act 2020	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Required changes have been made as per the direction and intent set out by S55 & 56 of the Local Government Act 2020 and the public feedback period.

### Policy Considerations

This report is consistent with existing Council Policy.

### Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

This report is compliant with Council's legal and statutory obligations.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts as a result of this report.

### Social Implications

Effective community engagement builds relationships between Council and the community. It enables two-way communication and ensures community feels valued and listened to.

A community that is provided with opportunity to proactively participate in decision making and provide feedback becomes more connected, empowered, and cohesive.

Ultimately effective community engagement allows Council to be better informed, and achieve better outcomes with – and for – the community it serves.

### Economic Impacts

Effective community engagement enables Council to draw on localised knowledge, which leads to outcomes that are more practical, effective, and likely to be accepted by the community. It builds trust in Council.

This leads to a more effective use of resources and funds.

### Consultation

Significant consultation occurred in the review and update of the Policy in 2019/2020. The two additional weeks of consultation in January 2021 enabled further public comment on the Policy and ensures some level of transparency across the required changes which are a result of the introduction of the Local Government Act 2020.

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

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Nil

### b) Other strategic links

- Nil

## Conclusion

Changes to the Victorian Local Government Act in March 2020 under Section 55, have made it mandatory for all councils to have a community engagement policy in place by 1 March 2021 and there is a further requirement to review all policies within six months of a general election.

Council's Community Engagement Policy has been updated to comply with required changes under Section 55 of the Local Government Act 2020. This includes detail in regard to the requirement of deliberative engagement practices with relation to the development of the Council Plan, Community Vision, Financial Plan and Asset Plan and the inclusion of the community engagement principles as prescribed in supporting documentation from Local Government Victoria.

The Policy is now ready for adoption.

## Attachments

1. Community Engagement Policy 07.POL4 [9.1.1 - 8 pages]

## 10 Corporate Services Directorate

### 10.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation - November 2020 - January 2021

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

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 the Chief Executive Officer;
2. contracts awarded under delegated authority by a Director;
3. contracts awarded under delegated authority by a Manager; and
4. request 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 during the period 1 November 2020 to 31 January 2021, and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded as at 28 January 2021.

#### Tendered Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by the CEO

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2101	Deakin Reserve Netball Courts – Civil Works	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of a netball court including lighting & shelters at Deakin Reserve	\$335,815.92	Jarvis Delahey Contractors Pty Ltd

**Tendered Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by the CEO (continued)**

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2102	Deakin Reserve Netball Courts – Building Works	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of a toilet amenities block and entrance shed at Deakin Reserve, Shepparton.	\$345,368.10	Moretto Building Pty Ltd
2089	Karibok Park Streetscape Upgrade – Stage 1	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of streetscape upgrade works on Vaughan and Rowe Streets, Shepparton (adjacent to Karibok Park)	\$283,565.70	Jarvis Delahey Contractors Pty Ltd
2023	Line Marking Services – Panel of Suppliers	Panel of Suppliers Contract for the provision of Line Marking Services in Shepparton and surrounds for 2 years	\$484,000.00	J & A Harry Pty Ltd T/A Linemasta  Head, Transport for Victoria T/A Sprayline  Goulburn Valley Linemarking Pty Ltd
2067	CBD Inner Eastern Link Road Design	Lump Sum Contract for the CBD Inner Eastern Link Road Design	\$158,053.50	JJ Ryan Consulting Pty Ltd

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

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2061	Heritage Advisory Service	Schedule of Rates Contract for the provision of a Heritage Advisory Service for 2020-2021 (with option for further term of one year)	\$89,356.80	Perceval Pty Ltd trading as Heritage Concepts

**Tendered Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority by a Director (continued)**

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2083	STiLS Traffic Calming Infrastructure - Mooroopna	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of traffic calming infrastructure at Morrell St, Alexandra St, Ann St, Northgate St Mooroopna	\$123,960.10	Tactile Australia Pty Ltd
2084	STiLS Traffic Calming Infrastructure – Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of traffic calming infrastructure at Corio St, Edward St, Byass St, Lockwood Rd, Purcell St, St Georges Rd and Stewart St, Shepparton	\$147,724.50	Tactile Australia Pty Ltd
2072	Integrated Water Management Plan – Kialla North	Lump Sum Contract for the Kialla North Integrated Water Management Plan	\$87,282.00	Alluvium Consulting Pty Ltd
2071	Traffic Impact Assessment – Kialla North	Lump Sum Contract for the Kialla North Traffic Impact Assessment	\$67,175.00	GTA Consultants Pty Ltd

**Tenderer Contracts awarded under Delegated Authority by a Manager**

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2056	Construction of Pedestrian Crossing Flashing Lights Upgrade, Marungi Street, Shepparton	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Pedestrian Crossing Flashing Lights Upgrade, Marungi Street, Shepparton	\$93,460.40	BG & RM Williams Electrical Pty Ltd
2066	Carbon Emissions Assessment	Lump Sum Contract for a Carbon Emissions Assessment	\$42,449.00	Ndevr Environmental Pty Ltd



**Tenderer Contracts awarded under Delegated Authority by a Manager (continued)**

Contract Number	Contract Name	Contract details, including terms and provisions for extensions	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2090	Karibok Park – GV Water Main Upgrade	Lump Sum Contract for the GV Water Main Upgrade at Karibok Park	\$92,378.55	Tactile Australia Pty Ltd
2031	Creative City Strategy	Lump Sum Contract for the Creative City Strategy	\$43,703.00	Mark Wilkinson
2111	Construction of Car Park Public Lighting, Park Street, Tatura (Douglas Street Car Park)	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Car Park Public Lighting, Park Street, Tatura (Douglas Street Car Park)	\$98,494.00	Watters Electrical Pty Ltd
2118	Supply and Installation of Kidstown Perimeter Fence – Stage 1	Lump Sum Contract for the Supply, and Installation of the Kidstown Perimeter Fence – Stage 1	\$48,398.68	FIA Commercial Fencing Pty Ltd

**Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded**

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
2069	Construction of Landscaping and Irrigation – Block 4, McLennan Street Mooroopna	Lump Sum Contract for the construction of landscaping, concrete pavement, irrigation and associated works in Block 4 McLennan Street, Mooroopna	Tender Scheduled to close on 24 February 2021.
2040	Supply of Resource Recovery Glass Bins	Lump Sum Contract for the Supply of Resource Recovery Glass Bins	Tender closed on 27 January 2021. Tender currently being evaluated
2093	Home Modifications – Panel of Suppliers	Schedule of Rates Contract for the Panel of Suppliers – Home Modifications	Tender closed on 9 December 2020. Tenders currently being evaluated.
2057	Design, Supply and Installation of Shade Sail Structure for Colaura Gardens, Toolamba	Lump Sum Contract for the Design, Supply and Installation of Shade Sail Structure for Colaura Gardens, Toolamba	Tender Closed on 9 December 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 November 2020 to 31 January 2021.

### Attachments

Nil

## 10.2 Councillor Code of Conduct

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 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 Councillor Code of Conduct dated 16 February 2021 and revoke all previous versions.**

### Executive Summary

Recent changes to the *Local Government Act 2020* (“the Act”) require Council to review the Councillor Code of Conduct and approve any amendments within the period of four months after a general election.

The Councillor Code of Conduct has been reviewed and updated in accordance with the requirements of the Act and the *Local Government (Integrity) Regulations 2020*, and is now presented to Council for adoption.

### Report Detail

The Act requires a Council to develop and maintain a Councillor Code of Conduct which details the standards of conduct expected to be observed by Councillors.

Section 139 of the Act stipulates that the Councillor Code of Conduct:

- Must include the standards of conduct, and any other provisions prescribed by the regulations
- May include any other matters which Council considers appropriate.

Recent changes to the Act require Council to review the Councillor Code of Conduct and approve any amendments within the period of four months after a general election. Another notable change to the legislation is the need for the code to be adopted by formal resolution of the Council by at least two-thirds of the total number of elected Councillors

Maquarie Local Government Lawyers were engaged to facilitate the review of the Councillor Code of Conduct to ensure the revised document met the statutory requirements of the Act and the *Local Government (Integrity) Regulations 2020*.

Councillors were involved in a workshop to review the proposed changes and provided with the opportunity to make further suggested amendments and inclusions. These changes have now been made and the Code is presented for adoption.

## 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.

1.5 Council is high performing; customer focused and is marked by great people and quality outcomes.

## Risk Management

The review of the Councillor Code of Conduct is a statutory requirement under the Act. Identified risks have been detailed in the below table, all of which would result in a breach of legislation.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Councillor Code of Conduct is not adopted within the statutory timeframe	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Councillors have been informed of statutory deadlines, consultation has taken place and the review has been completed within the statutory timeframe.
Councillor Code of Conduct does not comply with the Act	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Councillors have been advised of statutory requirements and the Code has been reviewed by Macquarie Local Government Lawyers to ensure compliance.

## Policy Considerations

The review and adoption of the Councillor Code of Conduct does not conflict with any Council Policies.

## Financial Implications

The marginal cost associated with seeking external review of the Code of Conduct has been accounted for as part of the 2019/2020 budget process.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 139(4) of the Act requires Council to review the Councillor Code of Conduct within four months of the general election. The Code has been reviewed within the statutory timeframe to meet Councils legislative requirements.

Section 139(5) of the Act requires that the Councillor Code of Conduct must be adopted by a formal resolution of the Council passed at a meeting by at least two-thirds of the total number of elected Councillors. All Councillors have been briefed on the Code and made aware of this statutory requirement.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

There are no environmental/sustainability impacts associated with the review and adoption of the Code of Conduct.

### **Social Implications**

There are no social implications associated with the review and adoption of the Councillor Code of Conduct.

### **Economic Impacts**

There are no economic impacts associated with the review and adoption of the Councillor Code of Conduct.

### **Consultation**

All Councillors have been consulted during the review of the Code of Conduct.

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

### **Strategic Links**

#### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Councillor Code of Conduct does not conflict with the strategies contained in the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

#### b) Other strategic links

No other strategic links have been identified

### **Conclusion**

The Councillor Code of Conduct has been reviewed in accordance with the Act and is now ready for Council consideration / adoption.

### **Attachments**

1. Councillor Code of Conduct 2021 [**10.2.1** - 9 pages]

## 10.3 Complaints Policy 37.POL8

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 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 Complaints Policy 37.POL8.**

### Executive Summary

Council encourages all members of the community to provide feedback on the services we offer, and the way in which they are delivered.

Although Council has always had a complaint handling process in place which was based on the Victorian Ombudsmans' '*good practice guide on complaint handling for Councils*', it hasn't previously been documented in the form of a Policy.

The recent implementation of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) has introduced a new requirement for Council to adopt and implement a Complaints Policy by April 2021. The new Policy must address a number of key aspects of complaint handling and review, which are outlined in Section 107 of the Act.

The attached Complaints Policy has been developed to formalise current complaint handling practices, in addition to meeting the requirements of the Act.

### Report Detail

Council encourages all members of the community to provide feedback on the services we offer, and the way in which they are delivered.

As an organisation, we recognise the importance of accountability for our decision making and that members of our community expect us to provide a transparent, accountable and responsive service.

This policy has been developed to ensure our complaint handling process is accessible and transparent to the community members we serve, and ensures our complaint handling performance continues to be delivered in a fair and consistent manner.

Section 107 of the Act stipulates that Council's Complaints Policy must include the process for dealing with complaints made to the Council, in addition to the prescribed process for internal (independent) review of any action, decision or service. The attached policy

addresses these matters in detail, in addition to clarifying the roles and responsibilities of Council staff in relation to the complaint handling process.

The policy provides clear direction to members of the community on:

- what constitutes a complaint;
- how a complaint can be lodged;
- who the complaint should be addressed to;
- how complaints will be managed; and
- the external review options available to complainants in the event that they remain dissatisfied with an outcome following internal review.

Officers are aware that Local Government Victoria are currently consulting with the Ombudsmans' office and Victorian Councils in relation to updating the '*good practice guide on complaint handling for Councils (2015)*' in line with the new requirements of the Act. The progress of this review will be closely monitored to ensure Councils policy remains consistent with any advice or model Policy documents which may be subsequently provided to the Local Government sector.

## 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.

1.5 Council is high performing; customer focused and is marked by great people and quality outcomes.

## Risk Management

The adoption of a Complaints Policy is a statutory requirement under the Act. Identified risks have been detailed in the below table, all of which would result in a breach of legislation.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Complaints Policy is not adopted within the statutory timeframe	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Councillors have been informed of statutory deadlines, consultation has taken place and the review has been completed well in advance of the statutory timeframe.
Complaints Policy does not comply with the Act	Unlikely	Major	Medium	Councillors have been advised of statutory requirements. Policy has been reviewed internally to ensure it complies with the Act.

## Policy Considerations

The Complaints Policy supports a number of existing Council Policies, including:

- Employees Code of Conduct 46.PRO12
- Councillor Code of Conduct
- Public Interest Disclosure Policy 37.POL9
- Privacy Policy 37.POL12

## Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with the adoption of this Policy.

## Legal/Statutory Implications

Adoption of this Policy prior to 24 April 2021 will ensure Council meets its statutory requirements under the Act.

## Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental/ sustainability impacts associated with the adoption of this Policy.

## Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with the adoption of this Policy.

## Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with the adoption of this Policy.

## Consultation

The relevant internal departments have been consulted during the development of this Policy and a briefing has been provided to Councillors.

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

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Complaints Policy does not conflict with the strategies contained in the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

### b) Other strategic links

No other strategic links have been identified

## Conclusion

The Complaints Policy has been developed in accordance with the Act and is now ready for Council consideration / adoption.

## Attachments

1. Complaints Policy 37 POL8 [KF4F] [10.3.1 - 7 pages]

## 10.4 January 2021 Monthly Financial Report

Author	Management Accountant
Approved by	Director Corporate Services
Purpose	For Noting

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 January 2021 Monthly Financial Report.**

### Executive Summary

The report presents the Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the seven months ended 31 January 2021.

### Report Detail

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

The 2020/2021 Budget provided for an operating surplus of \$5.22 million with revenue of \$152.62 million and expenditure of \$147.40 million. The 2020/2021 Budget also provided for capital works of \$61.72 million.

On 15 September 2020, Council adopted the 2020/2021 Q1 Adopted Forecast with an accounting surplus of \$6.80 million which is \$1.59 million more than the 2020/2021 Adopted Budget. The capital works program of \$65.28 million is forecast to be expended during the 2020/2021 financial year which is an increase of \$3.56 million from the 2020/2021 Adopted Budget.

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

The January 2021 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 Statements
- 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 financially 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.

## Strategic Links

There are no strategic links associated with this report.

## Conclusion

The report presents Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget for the seven months ended 31 January 2021.

## Attachments

1. January 2021 - Monthly Financial Statements [10.4.1 - 11 pages]

## 10.5 2020/2021 Quarter Forecast Review

Author	Management Accountant
Approved by	Director Corporate Services
Purpose	For Noting

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 the note the 2020/2021 Quarter 2 Forecast Review.**

### Executive Summary

The report presents the Council's 2020/2021 Quarter 2 Forecast Review compared to the Adopted budget and 2020/2021 Q1 Forecast Review.

### Report Detail

Under section 138 of the *Local Government Act 1989* the Chief Executive Officer at least every three months must ensure quarterly statements comparing the budgeted revenue and expenditure for the financial year with the actual revenue and expenditure to date are presented to the Council.

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

The 2020/2021 Budget was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 16 June 2020. The 2020/2021 Budget provided for an operating surplus of \$5.22 million with revenue of \$152.62 million and expenditure of \$147.40 million. The 2020/2021 Budget also provided for capital works of \$61.72 million.

The 2020/2021 Q1 Adopted Forecast was adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting held 15 September 2020. The 2020/2021 Q1 Adopted Forecast provided an operating surplus of \$6.80 million, an increase on the 2020/2021 Adopted Budget surplus of \$1.58 million, largely due to an increase in Capital Grant income. The 2020/2021 Q1 Adopted Forecast also provided for capital works of \$65.28 million an increase of \$3.56 million on the adopted budget due to capital works re-budgeted from the 2019/2020 financial year.

The budget review process involved Managers reviewing the adopted budget for their departmental areas compared to actual income and expenditure. Managers are to update forecasts to reflect the expected year end result. The Executive then undertake a detailed review to understand and confirm forecast variations. The review is then submitted to Council for Consideration.

Forecast variances to the adopted budget include re-budgeted projects that are to be delivered in 2020/2021 financial year where funding was received or is held from last financial year and were not included in the adopted budget 2020/2021.

The Chief Executive Officer is of the opinion a revised budget is not required.

### **COVID-19 Financial Impact**

The financial impact on Greater Shepparton City Council's accounts due to COVID-19 continue to be monitored and understood.

The 2020/2021 Adopted Budget assumed COVID-19 restrictions through to the end of September 2020, which resulted in a net cost of \$2.22m.

The Q1 Adopted Forecast identified further reductions in User Fees and Charges (\$2.08m reduction) and Statutory Fees and Fines (\$50k reduction) relating to COVID-19.

The Q2 Forecast Review has again identified further reductions in User Fees and Charges (\$820k reduction).

While the majority of financial impacts relate to reduced income, some offsetting expenditure savings in Employee Costs (Q1 Adopted Forecast \$836k and Q2 Forecast Review \$325k) have been identified from facility closures, event cancellations and postponements. However, funds have been reallocated to initiatives within the adopted economic response packages such as the Visitor Economy COVID-19 Recovery and Activation Grants.

The estimated net cost of the COVID-19 pandemic on the 2020/2021 financial year is \$4.28m.

### **Environmental Upgrade Agreements – Quarterly Statement**

There have been no new environmental upgrade agreements entered into this quarter as at 31 December 2020.

There are currently 6 environmental upgrade charges in operation with a total value of \$3,402,002.66. Charges due this year total \$451,938.64 and \$25,524.00 arrears plus interest \$1,797.00. Total payments of \$116,188.13 have fallen due, with \$109,825.05 paid and \$6,363.08 unpaid.

### **Fees and Charges – Waste Management – Cosgrove Landfill**

In September 2020 the State Government announced a further 6 month deferral to the introduction of an increase to the landfill levy. The Greater Shepparton City Council 2020/2021 Adopted Budget had listed increased waste fees for Cosgrove Landfill to be introduced at 1 January 2021 in line with the expected increase in the landfill levy.

With the deferral of the landfill levy increase to 1 July 2021, the previous waste charges at the Cosgrove Landfill (1 July 2020 to 31 December 2020) will be extended to 30 June 2021.

Charge (1 Jan 2021 to 30 June 2021)	Adopted Charge Inc GST	New Charge Inc GST
Industrial/Commercial Waste (per tonne)	\$196.00	\$181.50
0-999 Tonnes of waste per annum (per tonne)	\$196.00	\$181.50
1,000-5,000 Tonnes of waste per annum (per tonne)	\$193.00	\$176.45
5,001-8,000 Tonnes of waste per annum (per tonne)	\$188.00	\$171.35
8,001-9,000 Tonnes of waste per annum (per tonne)	\$181.00	\$162.20
9,001+ Tonnes of waste per annum (per tonne)	\$177.00	\$158.10
Municipal Waste (per tonne)	\$165.00	\$158.10
Prescribed Waste (per tonne)	\$309.00	\$298.85

## 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 financially 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

The financial implications are covered in the Q2 Forecast Review attachment.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1989 provides that Council maintains 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

N/A

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- N/A

### b) Other strategic links

- N/A

## Conclusion

The report presents the Council's 2020/2021 Q2 Forecast Review compared to the 2020/2021 Adopted budget and 2020/2021 Q1 Forecast Review.

## Attachments

1. 2020 2021 Quater 2 Forecast Review [**10.5.1** - 18 pages]

## 10.6 Rates Rebate for Retail Land Occupied by Charitable Organisation Policy

Author Team Leader - Rates & Revenue  
 Approved by Director Corporate Services  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 Rates Rebate for Retail Land Occupied by Charitable Organisations Policy 16.POL3.**

### Executive Summary

Council's Rates Rebates for Retail Land Occupied by Charitable Organisations Policy 16.POL3 adopted at the Ordinary Council Meeting 18 April 2017 is due for review.

Minor changes have been made to the definition and policy application sections to ensure the rebate criteria and how it will be applied is easy to understand and consistent.

### Report Detail

The *Local Government Act 1989 Section 154(2)(c)* states the land is not rateable if any part of the land is used exclusively for charitable purpose and furthermore states in *Section 154(4)(c)* that any part of the land used for the retail sale of goods is not exclusively used for charitable purpose. Therefore, *Section 154(4)(c)* deems land that is used for the retail sale of goods is rateable regardless of the ratepayer being a charitable organisation.

The Policy specifically applies to charitable organisations and is not available to Not For Profit (NFP) organisations due to the distinction between the two. All charities must be not for profit however, not all NFP organisations are charities. Although NFP organisations carry on without the purpose of making a profit or gain for members, the outcomes of the organisation may not be for the benefit of the community as a whole. For example, local sporting, recreational and social clubs.

The Policy presented allows Council to acknowledge the valuable services charitable organisations provide to the wider community by providing a rates rebate to these organisations without causing a negative distributional effect on other ratepayers.

The Policy enables a 50 per cent rebate to be applied, upon application, to the general rate and the municipal charge for retail land that is occupied by a charitable organisation where the sale of goods at the premises contributes to the organisation's objectives. The rebate

reduces the organisation's expenditure to allow funds to be utilised in developing and maintaining programs that benefit the community.

### 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

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Rates rebate being applied to a property that is not occupied by a charitable organisation.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	The Policy Application requires an annual application to ensure the Rebate Criteria continues to be meet.

### Policy Considerations

The Policy clearly defines the criteria the ratepayer is required to meet to be eligible for the rates rebate, as well as defining how the policy will be applied to ensure consistency and transparency.

To mitigate a rates rebate being applied to a property that is no longer occupied by a charitable organisation the Policy states that an application is only valid for the financial year in which it is received.

### Financial Implications

To date for 2020/2021 there have been eight applications received and approved, equating to rebates totalling \$21,777.20.

As this Policy allows for a rebate rather than a waiver the reduced income only applies to the current financial year, the rebate does not have a cumulative effect on future rate revenue.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

The Policy has reference to the following Acts:

- *Local Government Act 1989*
- *Fire Services Property Act 2012*
- *Charities Act 2013*

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

No environmental or sustainable impacts have been identified.

### Social Implications

Council recognises the valuable services that charitable organisations provide the community and believe the value of the rebate provide will be used to ensure the organisation continues to benefit the community.

### Economic Impacts

No economic impacts have been identified.

## Consultation

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 the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

### b) Other strategic links

- The Policy has been developed in line with Council's current Rating Strategy;
- Information collected will be treated in accordance with Council's Privacy Policy.

## Conclusion

To ensure Council can continue to provide a rates rebate to charitable organisations that occupy retail land it is recommended that the Policy be adopted.

## Attachments

1. Rates Rebate for Retail Land occupied by [VMH2] [10.6.1 - 5 pages]



## 10.7 Council Plan 2020-21 Quarter One Progress Report

Author Corporate Planning Analyst  
Approved by Director Corporate Services  
Purpose For Noting

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 the Council Plan 2020-21 Quarter 1 Progress report.**

### Executive Summary

In accordance with Section 90 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council developed and adopted a four-year Council Plan on 20 June 2017. The Council Plan contains Key Strategic Objectives and Strategies to achieve those objectives.

This report provides the first quarter update of 2020-21 in relation to the actions taken to achieve the Key Strategic Objectives identified in the 2017-2021 Council Plan and forms part of council's accountability framework. The report also includes progress made in achieving the Key Strategic Activities contained within the 2020-21 Budget, which form Council's Performance Statement.

The Council Plan becomes the organisational focus for the development of Directorate and Business Unit plans and ultimately the individual responsibilities of officers, which are subsequently reflected in those officers' annual appraisals.

Of the identified general actions for progress reporting in relation to measuring achievement, the majority of actions (40 out of 52) are on target.

### Report Detail

The 2017-2021 Council Plan identified Goals, Key Strategic Objectives and Strategies for implementation across the life of the plan.

Based on the outcomes of the community consultations, Council identified five themes to describe what we are working towards in achieving the community's vision of a Greater Shepparton - Greater Future. As these goals explicitly align with the Municipal Public Health Planning Framework (Department of Health Services, 2001) with the emphasis on the built, social, economic and natural environments, the Council Plan also addresses the legislative requirements for the Municipal Health and Wellbeing Plan.

These five themes are:

1. Leadership and Governance - Provide strong civic leadership, advocacy and good governance in the operation of Greater Shepparton City Council.
2. Social - Develop resilient, inclusive, healthy communities that make Greater Shepparton a safe and harmonious place to live, work, learn and play.
3. Economic - Build a thriving, resilient economy where Greater Shepparton is recognised as a competitive place to invest and grow business.
4. Built - Provide and support appealing relevant infrastructure that makes Greater Shepparton an attractive, liveable regional city.
5. Environment - Enhance and protect the clean, green environment that makes Greater Shepparton the unique place it is.

### Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

#### LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

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

1.5 Council is high performing; customer focused and is marked by great people and quality outcomes.

### Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Failure to report to Council and the community	Unlikely	Moderate	Low	Continue quarterly reports to Council

### Policy Considerations

There are no policy considerations associated with this report.

### Financial Implications

The report contains no financial implications, however many of the initiatives contained within the Council Plan required Council to allocate funds in its 2020-21 budget to provide the finances to continue implementation of the Council Plan.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

The report complies with Councils' obligations to monitor and report on progress in relation to achieving the strategic objectives and strategies contained within the council plan. The provision of regular reporting, in addition to the Annual Report, provides an opportunity for Council and the community to consider the progress made towards achieving the targets set by Council against the Council Plan.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The report contains no environmental/sustainability impacts, however many of the initiatives contained within the Council Plan were targeted at improving Greater Shepparton's sustainability, both as an organisation and a municipality.

### Social Implications

The report contains no social implications, however there are a number of initiatives contained in the Council Plan that were aimed at improving the health and well-being of the Greater Shepparton communities and the wider municipality. This is expected to improve social outcomes.

## Economic Impacts

The report contains no economic impacts however there were a number of initiatives contained in the Council Plan that were aimed at improving the economic wellbeing of the Greater Shepparton municipality.

## Consultation

Internal consultation occurred with the responsible officers regularly updating individual actions and the overall review of all plans by the Executive Team.

Community consultation was achieved by publishing quarterly reports in the Council meeting agenda and including the plan and quarterly updates on Councils website.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Keep Informed	Council Meeting Minutes Council Website

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

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The Council Plan 2017-2021 plays a pivotal role in the delivery of the short term plans and aspirations of council and the community whilst following the long term strategies of Greater Shepparton 2030.

### b) Council Plan 2017-2021

The Council Plan 2017-2021 supports the short term direction of the organisation (4 years) and provides linkage to the strategies developed and or implemented over the duration of the plan

### c) The Annual Budget 2020-21

The Annual Budget 2020-21 supports the short term direction of the organisation (1 year)

## Conclusion

This report provides the 2020-21 first quarter update with progress on achieving the Key Strategic Objectives contained within the 2017-2021 Council Plan and the Key Strategic Activities contained within the 2020-21 Budget.

## Attachments

1. Council Plan 2020-21 Quarter 1 Summary Report [10.7.1 - 6 pages]
2. Council Plan 2020-21 Quarter One Progress Report [10.7.2 - 54 pages]

## 11 Sustainable Development Directorate

### 11.1 Affordable Housing Reference Group - Terms of Reference and Endorsement of Committee Members

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 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 amended Terms of Reference of the Affordable Housing Reference Group; and
2. endorse the appointment of the following community representatives for a two year term concluding on 31 March 2023:
  - Tania Tonks
  - Rebecca Lorains
  - Bruce Mactier

#### Executive Summary

On 21 April 2020, Council adopted the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* (the Strategy), which identified significant shortfalls of Affordable Housing stock in Greater Shepparton, and provided an Action Plan to address them.

Although active in advocacy and providing an array of support and funding programs for local housing-related organisations and disadvantaged residents, the direct 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.

Council resolved to establish the Group and adopt Terms of Reference (TOR) on 18 August 2020. The Group will have no executive authority, and will operate in accordance with the TOR.

In November 2020, the Victorian Government launched the Big Housing Build program, investing an unprecedented \$5.3 billion in Social and Affordable Housing over four years. Of this, Greater Shepparton has been guaranteed a minimum allocation of \$45 million. The Group is expected to play an integral role in ensuring maximum benefit is attained from this investment, and to provide an important resource for responding to ongoing changes and other emerging opportunities that result from this significant shift in government policy.

In late November 2020, Council invited eight organisations operating in the Social Housing sector to nominate representatives to the Group, and called for written expressions of interest to fill the community representative positions. To date, eight nominations have been received, five from housing-related organisations (Department of Health and Human Services, Beyond Housing, Wintringham, The Bridge Youth Services, and St Vincent de Paul Society), and three from the community:

- Tania Tonks;
- Rebecca Lorains; and
- Bruce Mactier.

Council officers have reviewed the community nominations and noted that all applicants offer substantial experience and knowledge, fulfilling the selection criteria outlined in the TOR.

Having assessed the nominations received for appointment to the Affordable Housing Reference Group, and given the additional potential offered by the Big Housing Build Program, Council officers consider that increasing the maximum number of Community Representatives from two (2) to four (4) will significantly enhance the capability of the Group to achieve its purpose.

In addition, on 30 November 2020, the Victorian Government announced that the Department of Health and Human Services will be separated into two new departments to enable more specific attention to be given to the health system and to the State's social recovery in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The new Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) commences operation on 1 February 2021, necessitating an amendment of the member organisations list.

Council officers recommend adoption of the revised TOR to implement these changes, and to enable appointment of all of the listed nominated members.

## 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), 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 direct 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.

Council resolved to establish the Group and adopt Terms of Reference (TOR) on 18 August 2020. The Group will have no executive authority, and will operate in accordance with the Terms of Reference.

In November 2020, the Victorian Government launched the Big Housing Build program, investing an unprecedented \$5.3 billion in Social and Affordable Housing over four years. Of this, Greater Shepparton has been guaranteed a minimum allocation of \$45 million. The Group is expected to play an integral role in ensuring maximum benefit is attained from this investment, and to provide an important resource for responding to ongoing changes and other emerging opportunities that result from this significant shift in government policy.

Also, in November 2020, Council invited eight organisations operating in the Social Housing sector to nominate representatives to the Group, and called for written expressions of interest to fill the community representative positions. To date, eight nominations have been received, five from housing-related organisations (Department of Health and Human Services, Beyond Housing, Wintringham, The Bridge Youth Services, and St Vincent de Paul Society), and three from the community:

- Tania Tonks;
- Rebecca Lorains; and
- Bruce Mactier.

Council officers have reviewed all of the nominations and noted that all applicants offer substantial experience and knowledge, fulfilling the selection criteria outlined in the TOR.

The adopted TOR included the provision that the Group would 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.

Having assessed the nominations received for appointment to the Affordable Housing Reference Group, and given the additional potential offered by the Big Housing Build Program, Council officers consider that increasing the maximum number of Community Representatives from two (2) to four (4) will significantly enhance the capability of the Group to achieve its purpose. A corresponding amendment of point 4(a)iii is proposed to be made to the TOR.

In addition, on 30 November 2020, the Victorian Government announced that the Department of Health and Human Services will be separated into two new departments to



enable more specific attention to be given to the health system and to the State's social recovery in response to the Covid-19 pandemic. The new Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (DFFH) commences operation on 1 February 2021. Consequently, the Group's Terms of Reference has been revised to replace 'Department of Health and Human Services' with 'Department of Families, Fairness and Housing' at point 4(a)ii.

Council officers recommend adoption of the revised TOR to implement these changes, as well as minor date updates, alignment rectifications, and grammatical changes.

### **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.

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

#### **SOCIAL**

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

2.10 Council demonstrates strong regional and local partnership efforts across 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.

### **Risk Management**

There is no risk to Council in the establishment of the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group, or in the adoption of the revised TOR.

Failure to approve the appointment of the proposed members to the Group may delay the Group's commencement of operations, and undermine the implementation of the actions in the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* and the delivery of appropriate housing to members of the community in need.

### **Policy Considerations**

There are no conflicts with any Council policies arising from the amendment of the TOR for the Group and the appointment of the identified members.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications relating to the adoption of the revised TOR for the Group and the appointment of the identified members.

### **Legal/Statutory Implications**

The adoption of the revised TOR for the Group and the appointment of the identified members complies with all relevant legislation.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The adoption of the revised TOR for the Group and the appointment of the identified members will not have any negative environmental or sustainability impacts.

### Social Implications

While there are no direct social implications arising from the recommendation to adopt the revised TOR and appoint Group members, the commencement of operation for the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group is 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 also expected to have a positive impact on community cohesion and civic participation.

### Economic Impacts

The adoption of the revised TOR for the Group and the appointment of the identified members will not result in any economic impacts.

### 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 received a number of preliminary expressions of interest regarding membership.

Council utilised the earlier consultation on the Strategy to target nomination invitations to individuals with particular expertise and/or interest in the provision of Affordable Housing, who might be willing to nominate for the Group. Council also utilised all means available, given Covid-19 restrictions, to call for nominations for the community representative positions, by way of Council's website, a notice in the public notice section of the Shepparton News, and social media.

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

On 21 April 2020, Council adopted the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* (the Strategy), which identified significant shortfalls of Affordable Housing stock in Greater Shepparton, and provided an Action Plan to address them.

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.

Council resolved to establish the Group and adopt Terms of Reference (TOR) on 18 August 2020. The Group will have no executive authority, and will operate in accordance with the TOR.

Since then, the Victorian Government have launched a program to substantially increase the delivery of Affordable Housing across the state, including a \$45 million guaranteed allocation for Greater Shepparton. The Group is expected to play an important role in the dispersal of this funding, and in managing further opportunities arising through this significant policy shift.

Council officers have called for nominations from housing organisations and the community, receiving three responses for the community representative positions, all of which fulfill the criteria. Council officers recommend the appointment of these applicants to commence operations of the Group and enhance the capability of the Group to achieve its purpose, noting that there may be additional members appointed at a later date.

To facilitate this, Council officers recommend the adoption of a revised Terms of Reference, to increase the maximum number of Community Representatives from two (2) to four (4), enhance the capability of the Group to achieve its purpose. The revised Terms of Reference also includes an update to the list of member organisations, reflecting the division of the Department of Health and Human Services announced on 30 November 2020, and the establishment of a new Department of Families, Fairness and Housing to address housing related matters.

The adoption of these recommendations will ensure that Council will receive the necessary advice and guidance in supporting the provision of safe, affordable and appropriate housing for the Greater Shepparton Community.

## Attachments

1. Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group - Terms of Reference February 2021 [11.1.1 - 8 pages]

## 11.2 Heritage Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference

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 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 amended Terms of Reference for the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee.**

### Executive Summary

Council authorised the formation of the Heritage Advisory Committee (the Committee) at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 January 2012. As part of the resolution, Council adopted Terms of Reference (TOR) to guide the future operation of the Committee.

The primary purpose of the Committee is to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality. The Committee is a critical way of raising awareness of cultural heritage issues, as well as promoting community participation in cultural heritage issues within the municipality.

The Committee reviewed its TOR in 2020, and has agreed to request that Council adopt an amended TOR to reflect the ongoing evolution and growth of the Committee's capacity to support and advise Council on cultural heritage matters. The proposed changes to the TOR will ensure that they are fit-for-purpose and will allow the Committee to fulfil its primary purpose to Council.

By continuing to support the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee, Council is continuing to embrace a cost-effective opportunity of raising awareness and promoting community participation in cultural heritage issues within the municipality.

### Report Detail

Council authorised the formation of the Heritage Advisory Committee (the Committee) at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 17 January 2012. As part of the resolution, Council adopted Terms of Reference (TOR) to guide the future operation of the Committee.

The TOR establishes the primary purpose of the Committee, to advise Council on heritage matters across Greater Shepparton, and identifies a list of roles that the Committee fulfils. These roles include but are not limited to the provision of the best possible advice to Council on how to conserve and promote the unique cultural heritage of Greater

Shepparton and to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality.

Council has amended the TOR for the Committee on a number of occasions to ensure it is fit-for-purpose. Council last resolved to adopt amended TOR at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 18 July 2018 to change the number of community representatives to 'a minimum of two and a maximum of six', to add additional assessment criteria for candidates, and to refine operation of Committee activities including the biennial Cultural Heritage Awards and Bruce Wilson Memorial Heritage Lecture.

The Committee has reviewed the TOR in 2020 and has agreed to request that Council amend its TOR to include the following revisions:

- To change 'heritage-related tourism' at point 2(i) to 'heritage-related assets and experiences';
- To insert point 2(m) to outline that the Committee will assist Council in hosting Heritage Open Days;
- To insert point 2(n) to outline that the Committee will assist Council in determining allocation of Heritage Grants to maintain and conserve properties within the Heritage Overlay in the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme;
- To remove the words 'within the Municipality' from point 3(b), supporting a wider range for Committee site visitations and education tours;
- To amend point 4(a) to limit members' eligibility to undertake Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, or Secretary roles to no more than three (3) consecutive terms, and to enable the Chairperson of a Sub-committee to be elected by the Sub-committee instead of the Committee Chairperson;
- To insert point 4(c) to necessitate an attendance minimum of six (6) meetings per year for members, excepting Councillor representatives and Council staff, with the requirement for an apology to be received when a member cannot attend a meeting or for a leave of absence to be requested where successive absences may be necessary;
- To insert a bullet point at item 5 outlining that members, excepting Councillor representatives and Council staff, are expected to actively participate in at least one (1) Sub-Committee outside the scheduled monthly Committee meetings;
- To remove reference to the *Local Government Act 1989* from item 6, and update the reference to the *Assembly of Councillors Operational Procedure 37.PRO6*; and
- To implement minor formatting, numbering and grammatical changes throughout the TOR.

These changes reflect ongoing improvements in the capacity of the Committee to support and enhance Council's management and development of cultural heritage matters with and for the community.

## 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.

### SOCIAL

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

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

## **BUILT**

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

4.3 Greater Shepparton's heritage places, cultural landscapes, and objects are protected and conserved for future generations.

### **Risk Management**

Failure to approve the revised TOR for the Committee would reduce the Committee's ability to operate effectively and jeopardise its core purpose to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality.

### **Policy Considerations**

There are no conflicts with any Council policies arising from the adoption of the revised TOR for the Committee.

### **Financial Implications**

There are no financial implications relating to the adoption of the revised TOR for the Committee.

### **Legal/Statutory Implications**

The proposal conforms with the provisions of all relevant legislation.

### **Environmental/Sustainability Impacts**

The adoption of the amended TOR for the Committee will not have any negative environmental or sustainability impacts.

### **Social Implications**

The adoption of the amended TOR will allow the Committee to continue to operate effectively as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters in the municipality.

### **Economic Impacts**

The adoption of the amended TOR for the Committee will not result in any economic impacts.

### **Consultation**

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred during both the formation and operation of the Committee, and the key activities it has been involved in since its establishment.

The Committee consists of a diverse range of organisations and community representatives from across the municipality. All members have been provided with opportunities to participate in discussion regarding the TOR and to provide input on the proposed revisions.

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

## Strategic Links

### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The revised TOR for the Heritage Advisory Committee is consistent with the objectives, strategies and actions outlined in the Environment Section of the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006*.

### b) Other strategic links

The revised TOR for the Heritage Advisory Committee will also develop and implement one of the key recommendations of the *Greater Shepparton Heritage Study Stage IIB 2013*.

## Conclusion

Council authorised the formation of the Committee on 17 January 2012. As part of the resolution, Council adopted TOR to guide the future operation of the Committee.

The primary purpose of the Committee is to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality. The Committee is a critical way of raising awareness of cultural heritage issues, as well as promoting community participation in cultural heritage issues within the municipality.

The Committee has agreed to request that Council amend the TOR. The proposed changes to the TOR will ensure that they are fit-for-purpose and will allow the Committee to fulfil its primary purpose to Council.

It is recommended that Council adopt the amended TOR for the Committee.

By continuing to support the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee, Council is continuing to embrace a cost-effective opportunity of raising awareness and promoting community participation in cultural heritage issues within the municipality.

## Attachments

1. Heritage Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference - February 2021 [11.2.1 - 4 pages]

## 11.3 Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan

Author	Team Leader Strategic Planning
Approved by	Director Sustainable Development
Purpose	For Decision by Council

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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, regarding the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan*, the Council:

1. notes the resolution made at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 August 2020 to ‘defer the adoption of the Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan for six months to allow time for extended consultation with the Greater Shepparton community’;
2. notes that the additional community consultation submission period closed on 24 December 2020; and
3. determines to defer consideration of adoption of the *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan* to the March 2021 Council Meeting.

### Executive Summary

The *Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan* (the Growth Plan) will integrate Council’s 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 collaboration 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.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 August 2020, Council resolved to defer the adoption of the Growth Plan for six months to allow time for extended consultation with the Greater Shepparton community. This additional community consultation commenced on Monday, 16 November 2020 and concluded on Thursday, 24 December 2020. 78 submissions were received during the additional community consultation period.



Council is considering all feedback received and will consider a final Growth Plan at the March 2021 Council Meeting.

### 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 identifies Shepparton and Mooroopna's strategic advantages, addresses key challenges, and sets a vision to guide sustainable growth and development to 2050.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 August 2020, Council resolved to '*defer the adoption of the Shepparton and Mooroopna 2050 Regional City Growth Plan for six months to allow time for extended consultation with the Greater Shepparton community*'.

This additional community consultation period allowed further opportunities for the community to provide informed feedback to Council about the future of Shepparton and Mooroopna, and where growth would best be accommodated. Consultation commenced on Monday, 16 November 2020 and concluded on Thursday, 24 November 2020.

78 submissions were received in response to the additional community consultation period. On Tuesday, 19 January 2021, submitters to the Growth Plan were provided with the opportunity to verbally brief Councillors on their submissions and outline their concerns.

Council is considering all feedback received and will consider a final Growth plan at the March 2021 Council Meeting.

### 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.

#### BUILT LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

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 recommendations do not conflict with any Council policy.

### Financial Implications

The recommendations will not result in any financial implications for Council.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

The recommendations will not result in any legal or statutory implications.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

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

### Social Implications

The recommendation will not result in any adverse social implications.

### Economic Impacts

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 undertook the following actions during the additional consultation period between 16 November 2020 to 24 December 2020:

- Direct emails to all stakeholders consulted with so far;
- The inclusion of a 'subscribe for updates' feature on the 2050 Growth Plan Council website;
- Council's e-newsletter which was sent to approximately 5,500 subscribers;
- Information on Council's website;
- Social media promotion with link back to website;
- Attendance / presentation to the Mooroopna and Shepparton Community Planning Group meetings, electronic communication with other community planning groups.
- Advertisements in the Shepparton News / Adviser.
- Direct letters to every registered household address on the Australian Postal System in the Greater Shepparton municipality

Council is considering all feedback received and will consider a final Growth Plan at the March Council Meeting.



## 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.

At the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 18 August 2020, Council resolved to defer the adoption of the Growth Plan for six months to allow time for extended consultation with the Greater Shepparton community. This additional community consultation commenced on Monday, 16 November 2020 and concluded on Thursday, 24 December 2020. 78 submissions were received during the additional community consultation period.

Council is considering all feedback received and will consider a final Growth Plan at the March 2021 Council Meeting.

## Attachments

Nil

## 12 Infrastructure Directorate

### 12.1 Road Discontinuance Part Shelby Court, Shepparton

Author                      Coordinator Property  
 Approved by              Director Infrastructure  
 Purpose                    For Decision by Council

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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. in accordance with Sections 206 and 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989* (the Act), public notice be given in the *Shepparton News* of the intention to discontinue part of the court bowl at Shelby Court.
2. stipulate in the public notice that persons may make a submission on the proposed road discontinuance and sale in accordance with Section 223 of the Act and that written submissions must be received within 28 days of publication of the public notice;
3. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to undertake the administrative procedures necessary to enable the Council to carry its functions in relation to this matter under Section 223 of the Act;

if any submissions are received under Section 223 of the Act:

- a. hold an additional Council Meeting to hear from any person or persons who request to be heard in support of a Section 223 written submission and, if required, the additional Council Meeting be held at a time and date to be determined; and
- b. a report on any Section 223 submissions received by the Council, along with a summary of any hearings held, be provided to the Council Meeting at which the matter is to be considered.

## Executive Summary

As part of the proposed subdivision and development of land to the east of Shelby Court, Shepparton Council has been requested to close and transfer a portion of the current court bowl abutting the proposed new lots 2 and 3 at Shelby Court, Shepparton to the developer. This portion of land will be amalgamated with the adjoining land and the court will be extended and a new court bowl created as part of the subdivision.

This proposal will facilitate the development of additional lots within the site. To allow the process to begin for this action to occur Council's formal authorisation is now sought.

## Report Detail

A planning permit has been lodged with Council for subdivision of land at the end of Shelby Court, Shepparton to create six separate lots. As part of the proposed subdivision Shelby Court will be extended and the court bowl re-established further to the east to facilitate access to the new allotments created as part of the subdivision (refer to the attached plan).

The portion of the existing court bowl will be discontinued, and transferred to the developer and amalgamated into the adjoining land. As part of the subdivision the developer will extend the roadway further to the east and will establish a new court bowl at the end of the extended roadway. Council will receive title to the extended roadway including the new court bowl created under the plan of subdivision.

## 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.

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

### 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.

## Risk Management

As the existing court bowl is being replaced by another court bowl further to the east, no risks have been identified.

## Policy Considerations

This proposal does not conflict with any existing Council policies.

## Financial Implications

The cost of the discontinuance including any advertising, subdivision costs and legal expenses, will be met by the developer. The developer is providing additional roadway and a court bowl to enable a further development of the site.

### Legal/Statutory Implications

This procedure is being undertaken in compliance with the *Local Government Act 1989*. Section 206 clause 3 of Schedule 10 provides the Council with the power to discontinue a road reserve and transfer ownership of the land. This will enable the land to be subdivided and transferred to the developer.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

No environmental or sustainability impacts have been identified with this proposal. The transfer of land in the court bowl to the developer will enable a better outcome for the development of this site.

### Social Implications

This proposal will provide a better outcome for the developer, and a more efficient and appropriate development of land will have positive social outcomes for our community.

### Economic Implications

As indicated above, all costs associated with this discontinuance will be paid by the developer, so there will be no economic impacts on Council. The development of this site into six additional parcels will be of greater value to the community in the type of businesses that could be attracted to this site.

### Consultation

Consultation has been undertaken with various Council departments including planning, assets, projects, parks, sport and recreation and risk. Each department has indicated their support for this proposal. Council has also undertaken consultation with various authorities regarding assets in the part of the roadway being discontinued and all of the authorities have indicated in writing that they have no objection to the discontinuance of the part court bowl and transfer back to the developer. Consultation has also been undertaken with the Environment department and there is no opportunity to plant trees on this road reserve as its movement further to the east is being undertaken to enhance the development of the site. Any application to place trees on this site would be blocked by the planning department.

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

### Strategic Links

#### a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- Not applicable.

#### b) Other strategic links

- Not applicable.

### Conclusion

That Council advertise the discontinuance of the part court bowl at Shelby Court, Shepparton under Section 223 of the *Local Government Act 1989*.

### Attachments

1. Shelby Court - Proposed Subdivision plan [12.1.1 - 1 page]

## 12.2 Approval of Variation for Contract No. 2070 - Wyndham & Fitzjohn Street Intersection Works

Author Team Leader Projects  
 Approved by Director Infrastructure  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 payment of Variations 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 under Contract 2070 - Construction of Wyndham Street and Fitzjohn Street Intersection for a total value of \$244,023.55 inc GST**
2. **authorise the Chief Executive Officer to approve additional variation payments, up to a cumulative limit of \$110,000.00 inc GST.**

### Executive Summary

This report seeks authorisation for payment of Variations with a cumulative value of \$221,839.59 excluding GST for Contract 2070 Construction of Wyndham Street and Fitzjohn Street Intersection and to provide the Chief Executive Officer authorisation to approve payment of any additional variations, up to a limit of \$100,000.00 excluding GST, that are required to complete the contract works.

These variations have been approved by the Superintendent for the contract under the AS4000 General Conditions of Contract on the basis that they were essential to achieve the project intent and the costs claimed assessed as being reasonable.

The project remains under budget following approval of these variations.

The variations are primarily related to latent conditions below ground throughout the site, including very poor ground conditions throughout the length of Fitzjohn St and shallow depth of existing asphalt within the Wyndham-MacIntosh intersection. These variations also include a credit for reductions in the drainage scope of works following negotiated changes with Regional Roads Victoria (RRV).

In accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, for contracts above \$250,000.00 including GST, Council approval is required for payment of variations where a total of all variations exceeds 20% of the contract sum. The original contract sum for this contract,

CN2070, was \$2,869,981.50 excluding GST. The percentage for all variations, including for which this approval is sought, for this contract is 34% of the original approved contract sum and therefore requires Council approval for payment.

### Report Detail

Apex Earthworks Pty Ltd was awarded the Contract 2070 for the construction of Wyndham Street Fitzjohn Street intersection for the amount of \$2,869,981.50 excluding GST, by the Council, in September 2020.

The delivery of this contract has been heavily impacted upon by very poor ground conditions, typically in the form of saturated clays, often in combination with many shallow underground services that have constrained construction methodology options.

The original design had sought to minimise construction costs through the retention of existing pavements where possible and using lower cost pavement construction methodologies which have been successfully employed in many other projects. However, the poor ground conditions and shallow services found on site have required significant redesign of pavements and replacement of all existing pavements throughout the scope of works.

The variations for which approval for payment is sought are summarised in the table below:

Variation #	Variation Description	Value GST Exclusive
16	Pavement change in small areas	\$24,757.64
17	Fitzjohn Street subgrade treatment and soft spots	\$100,590.86
18	Intersection full depth asphalt	\$162,590.00
19	Drainage scope changes	-\$73,807.22
20	Scope changes to concrete, kerb and fencing on Wyndham Street	\$6,135.31
21	Removal of redundant Telstra pit in Fitzjohn Street	\$1,573.00
	TOTAL	\$221,839.59

Variation 16 involved the change in pavement type for narrow sections along the edge of the road pavement. Following preliminary excavation works and the required changes to the main pavement areas it was determined that it was no longer practical to construct the original design pavement type for these areas requiring an upgraded to be consistent with the adjacent pavement type.

Variation 17 involved upgrading of the pavement design to address poorer than anticipated ground conditions along the length of Fitzjohn Street. Initial attempts to reconstruct the road in accordance with the design failed because the existing ground could not sustain the compaction needed to support the road construction. To address this issue, extensive use of cement treated crushed rock was required together with deep lift asphalt in the high stress area at the intersection of Fitzjohn Street and Wyndham Street.

Variation 18 during preliminary excavation works it was determined that the existing pavement in the intersection of Wyndham Street and MacIntosh Street/Hassett Street was not suitable to be retained as detailed in the original design. The pavement was not consistent and in places much thinner than design investigations had determined and therefore not capable of safely sustaining the breaking and acceleration forces generated by the introduction of traffic signals. To overcome this deficiency and to ensure that the rideability of the road surface was acceptable, it was necessary to adopt the same deep-lift



pavement design throughout the intersection to avoid the introduction of many small changes of grade within traffic lanes.

Variation 19 comprises a number of changes to the drainage scope of works. Working with RRV and the contractor, part of the network of subsoil drainage under the road pavement was able to be removed from the scope. These works, in addition to a number of minor changes to pits and other modifications to manoeuvre around other underground assets has resulted in a net credit to Council.

Variation 20 relates to a series of minor changes to the extent of pedestrian fencing and minor alignment adjustments to concrete paths to achieve an acceptable level of safety for pedestrians and cyclists.

Variation 21 relates to the removal of redundant Telstra infrastructure that was in conflict with the construction of a short section of Fitzjohn Street.

Previously approved variations for this contract total \$767,460.25 excluding GST. With the proposed variations this brings the cumulative variation sum to \$989,299.84 excluding GST, which equates to 34% of the original approved contract sum.

The Superintendent has assessed the variation amounts as being reasonable and consistent with market rates. The additional works have been assessed as necessary to achieve the project intent.

The project has several key milestones remaining before completion and it is likely other minor variations will be required to complete the project. Therefore, to enable efficient management of the contract it is recommended that the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to approve any additional variations up to a limit of \$110,000 including GST.

### Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

#### **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.

### Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
COVID-19 Restrictions	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Work within State Government guidelines
COVID19 – Material	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Work with contractor to order all materials that could have likely delay at start of project

Emergency Access	Likely	Major	Extreme	Coordinate works program with traffic management plans and allocate adequate access to emergency management. Advise emergency services well in advance of any changes to Traffic Management Plans.
Delays in completing the works	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Monitor construction activities regularly and report/ request any approvals timely

### Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with existing Council policy. The action sought under this report ensures compliance with Council's Procurement Policy and Council's Exercise of Delegations Policy.

### Financial Implications

The Superintendent has assessed the need for the variation and the variation estimate and has concluded that the works are necessary to achieve the project intent and the estimate of additional cost to be reasonable.

The approved 2020/21 capital budget for Wyndham Street/Fitzjohn Street construction projects is \$5,035,000 excluding GST. There is no change to the approved budget required as a result of these variations.

	Approved Budget Estimate for this Project <sup>1</sup> \$	Current Approved Contract Value GST Exclusive \$	Revised Contract Value including these variations GST Exclusive \$	Change in Contract Value GST Exclusive \$	Change in Contract Value GST Inclusive \$
Revenue					
Expense	5,035,000	3,637,224.76	3,859,064.35	221,839.59	244,023.55
Net Total					

<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

This recommendation is consistent with the Local Government Act 2020.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

No environmental impacts have been identified as a result of this recommendation.



## Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with this recommendation.

## Economic Impacts

The contractor is based in Shepparton and utilises all local sub-contractors where possible, including all plant and materials.

## Consultation

Officers have consulted with RRV in developing the technical solutions that form the basis of these variations. RRV are in agreement with those solutions.

Ongoing engagement has been undertaken throughout this project with business owners/operators and residents. Regular updates in relation to this project is distributed via various communications media including website updates and letter drops. VMS boards are also displayed advising expected delays during the construction works.

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) Other strategic links

- N/A

## Conclusion

Officers recommend that Variations 16, 17, 18, 19, 20 and 21 to Contract No. 2070 - Construction of Wyndham Street and Fitzjohn Street Intersection, be approved for payment in accordance with the Superintendent's assessment of the claim.

## Attachments

Nil

## 12.3 Approval of Variation for Contract No. 2032 - Maude Street Stages 3 & 4 - Replacement of Water Main

Author Team Leader Projects  
 Approved by Director Infrastructure  
 Purpose For Decision by Council

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 payment of Variation 1 under Contract 2032 – Maude Street Stages 3 & 4 – Replacement of Water Main for a total value of \$53,982.50 inc GST**
2. **authorise the Chief Executive Officer to approve additional variation payments, up to a cumulative limit of \$25,000.00 inc GST**

### Executive Summary

The purpose of the report is to authorise payment of variation 1 with a value of \$49,075.00 excluding GST for Contract 2032 Maude Street Stages 3 & 4 – Replacement of Water Main and to provide the Chief Executive Officer authorisation to approve payment of any additional variations required to complete the contract up to a limit of \$25,000.00 including GST.

This variation has been approved by the Superintendent under the AS4000 General Conditions of Contract on the basis that they were essential to achieve the project intent, the costs were assessed as being reasonable and the costs were recoverable from Goulburn Valley Water.

The variation is in relation to additional works requested by the asset owner, Goulburn Valley Water, after initial site inspection. The variation represents seven additional mains to meter connections to replace old infrastructure, an additional 2 new fire services and hydrant replacements. Due to the extra depth required to connect to the main, the variation consists of excavation, crushed rock backfill, tipping fees and additional traffic management costs.

In accordance with Council's Procurement Policy, for contracts valued between \$50,001 and \$250,000 including GST, Council approval is required for payment of variations where a total of all variations exceeds \$30,000. The original contract sum for this contract, CN2032, was \$239,849.50 including GST. The value of this variation exceeds \$30,000 and therefore requires Council approval.

## Report Detail

DKM was awarded the Contract 2032 for Maude Street Stages 3 & 4 Water Main Replacement for the amount of \$218,045 by the ELT in September 2020.

This variation is a result of a request from Goulburn Valley Water, following an initial site inspection, to upgrade old assets associated with the primary scope of work. The assets are serviced by the watermain being replaced under this contract and undertaking the works now will avoid having to excavate and replace the assets in the near future, which would require significant disturbance of the proposed streetscape upgrades and further disruption to businesses.

The assets to be upgraded include 7 additional mains to meter connections to replace old infrastructure, an additional 2 new fire services and hydrant replacements. Due to the extra depth required to connect to the main, the variation consists of excavation, crushed rock backfill, tipping fees and additional traffic management costs.

The additional costs associated with this variation will be funded by Goulburn Valley Water under the signed Developers Agreement for this project.

The Superintendent has assessed the variation amount as being reasonable and consistent with market rates.

Due to excavating in depths over 1.5m there may be unknown minor variations still required to complete the project. Therefore, to enable efficient management of the contract it is recommended that the Chief Executive Officer be authorised to approve any additional variations up to a limit of \$25,000 including GST.

## 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.

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

## Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
COVID-19 Restrictions	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Work within State government guidelines
COVID-19 material	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Work with contractor to order all material that could likely delayed the project
Total Fire Ban Days	Likely	Moderate	Medium	Work with Contractor about starting early and working on weekends to meet deadlines

### Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with existing Council policy. The action sought under this report ensures compliance with Council's Procurement Policy and Council's Exercise of Delegations Policy.

### Financial Implications

The Superintendent has assessed the need for the variation and the variation estimate and has concluded that the works are necessary to achieve the project intent and the estimate of additional cost to be reasonable.

The approved 2020/21 capital budget for Maude Street Stages 3 & 4 Watermain Replacement project is part of the overall Maude Street Revitalisation project with a budget

	Approved Budget Estimate for this Project	Current Approved Contract Value	Revised Contract Value Including this Variation	Change in Contract Value	Change in Contract Value
	GST exclusive \$	GST exclusive \$	GST exclusive \$	GST exclusive \$	GST inclusive \$
Revenue					
Expense	437,000	218,045	267,120	49,075	53,982.50
Net Total					

<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

This recommendation is consistent with the Local Government Act 2020.

### Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

No environmental impacts have been identified as a result of this recommendation.

### Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with this recommendation.

### Economic Impacts

The contractor is currently utilising accommodation in Shepparton during the week and utilises local sub-contractors where possible, including all plant and materials.

### Consultation

Ongoing engagement has been undertaken throughout this project with business owners/operators and residents. Regular updates in relation to this project is distributed via various communications media including website updates and letter drops. Weekly meet and greet sessions are conducted to inform business of the works.

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) Other strategic links

- Nil

## Conclusion

Officers recommend that Variation 1 to Contract No. 2032 – Replacement of Water Main - be approved for payment in accordance with the Superintendent's assessment of the claim.

## Attachments

Nil



## 13 Documents for Signing and Sealing

Nil Received.

## 14 Councillor Reports

### 14.1 Councillor Activities

#### 14.1.1 Councillor Activities - December 2020 and January 2021

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

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

Under section 130 of the *Local Government Act 2020* officers, delegates and persons engaged under a contract providing advice to Council must disclose any conflicts of interests.

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 12 December 2020 – 31 January 2021, some or all of the Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

- Implementation Matters for CEOs, Mayors and Councillors - Local Government Victoria
- Audit & Risk Management Committee Meeting
- Greater Shepparton Secondary College and Minister for Education "Topping Out" Ceremony
- Museum of Vehicle Evolution (MOVE) | Visit by Minister for Employment, Small Business and Innovation
- SAM Site Visit | Minister for Employment, Small Business and Innovation
- Rumbalara Elders BBQ Luncheon with Councillors
- Development Hearing Panel (DHP) Meeting
- Goulburn Valley Congolese Association Reception - New Arrivals Congolese Community
- Parking Reference Group Meeting
- Meeting with Minister for Regional Development and Agriculture
- Meeting with Leader of Opposition and Wendy Lovell
- Greater Shepparton Municipal Recovery Meeting
- Goulburn Ovens TAFE Shepparton – The 'New Cafe' Walkthrough
- Australian Open Tennis Trophies presentation by John Fitzgerald
- Australia Day 2021 | Small Town Ceremonies – Arcadia, Shepparton, Mooroopna, Tatura, Murchison and Dookie



- Tatura Library | Community Opening
- Best Start Early Years - Ask of Government
- Beyond The Gap Seminar

In accordance with section 106 of *Councils Governance Rules* the records of the Assemblies of Councillors are attached.

### Attachments

1. Councillor Induction Session 10 November 2020 [14.1.1.1 - 2 pages]
2. Councillor Induction Session 12 November 2020 [14.1.1.2 - 2 pages]
3. Councillor Induction Session 17 November 2020 [14.1.1.3 - 3 pages]
4. Councillor Briefing Session 17 November 2020 [14.1.1.4 - 2 pages]
5. Councillor Induction Session 19 November 2020 [14.1.1.5 - 1 page]
6. Councillor Induction Session 23 November 2020 [14.1.1.6 - 1 page]
7. Councillor Induction Session 24 November 2020 [14.1.1.7 - 1 page]
8. Councillor Induction Session 30 November 2020 [14.1.1.8 - 1 page]
9. Councillor Briefing Session 1 December 2020 [14.1.1.9 - 5 pages]
10. Councillor Induction Session 3 December 2020 [14.1.1.10 - 1 page]
11. Councillor Induction Session 7 December 2020 [14.1.1.11 - 2 pages]
12. Councillor Briefing Session 8 December 2020 [14.1.1.12 - 3 pages]
13. Councillor Induction Session 8 December 2020 [14.1.1.13 - 1 page]
14. Councillor Induction Session 9 December 2020 [14.1.1.14 - 1 page]
15. Unconfirmed Minutes Development Hearing Panel Hearing 18 December 2020 [14.1.1.15 - 196 pages]
16. Councillor Briefing Session 18 January 2021 [14.1.1.16 - 2 pages]
17. Councillor Briefing Session 19 January 2021 [14.1.1.17 - 1 page]
18. CEO and Councillor Catch Up 19 January 2021 [14.1.1.18 - 2 pages]
19. CEO and Councillor Catch Up 27 January 2021 [14.1.1.19 - 1 page]
20. Councillor Briefing Session 27 January 2021 [14.1.1.20 - 2 pages]

## 14.2 Council Committee Reports

### 14.2.1 Murray Darling Association

Author	Cr Dobson
Approved by	Chief Executive Officer
Purpose	For Noting

#### **Murray Darling Association**

The Murray Darling Association is a group of 12 Local Government Districts, representing 167 councils across 4 states and the ACT, whose role is to advocate for proper water outcomes across the Murray Darling Basin. The MDA is the peak body for local governments in the management of Basin water resources, working harmoniously to inform and influence state and federal governments.

Greater Shepparton City Council Joins Federation Council [Corowa], Berrigan Shire, Moira Shire, Edward River Shire and other councils in Region 2 and until the Annual General Meeting on December 7, 2020, was chaired by former Greater Shepparton councillor, Dennis Patterson.

Greater Shepparton City Council provides a strong voice in advocating sustainable water movements throughout the Goulburn and Murray River Valley together with the orderly flow of irrigation and environmental water.

It is important, therefore, that Greater Shepparton has a strong seat at the negotiating table to be a voice in the southern Murray Darling Basin.

Of immediate concern to Region 2 is the potential allocation of 450 GLs to businesses downstream from The Barmah Choke, with the potential that the majority of that water coming off the Goulburn system.

A further concern is the potential creation of a diversion channel to bypass the Barmah Choke, which will have an effect on the Barmah National Park.

Both of these issues are being opposed by the Region 2 group of councils.

At the AGM, Dennis Patterson was recognized for his work and advocacy and Cr. Geoff Dobson was elected to the executive of the Region 2 District under the chairmanship of Cr. Bronwyn Thomas from Federation Council.

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Council note Cr Dobson's report on the Murray Darling Association.**

#### **Attachments**

Nil

### **14.3 Notice of Motion, Amendment or Rescission**

Nil Received

### **15 Urgent Business not Included on the Agenda**

Nil Received.

### **16 Close of Meeting**