

AGENDA

Greater Shepparton City Council

COUNCIL MEETING

3:00PM, Tuesday 28 May 2024

In the Council Boardroom

COUNCILLORS

Cr Shane Sali (Mayor)

Cr Sam Spinks (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Dinny Adem

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Geoffrey Dobson

Cr Greg James

Cr Ben Ladson

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 28 MAY 2024 AT 3:00PM**

**CHAIR
CR SHANE SALI
MAYOR**

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Risk Level Matrix Legend

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

Risk Matrix			Consequence				
			Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major	Catastrophic
			1	2	3	4	5
Likelihood	Rare	1	LOW 1	LOW 2	LOW 3	LOW 4	MEDIUM 5
	Unlikely	2	LOW 2	LOW 4	MEDIUM 6	MEDIUM 8	HIGH 10
	Possible	3	LOW 3	MEDIUM 6	MEDIUM 9	HIGH 12	HIGH 15
	Likely	4	LOW 4	MEDIUM 8	HIGH 12	HIGH 16	EXTREME 20
	Almost Certain	5	MEDIUM 5	HIGH 10	HIGH 15	EXTREME 20	EXTREME 25

Low	1-4
Medium	5-9
High	10-16
Extreme	17-25

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.

1 Welcome to Country

Welcome to country will not be performed in the absence of Cr James.

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.

All care is taken to maintain your privacy; however as a visitor in the public gallery, it is assumed that your consent is given in the event that your image is broadcast to the public. It is also assumed that your consent is given to the use and disclosure of any information that you share at the meeting (including personal or sensitive information) to any person who accesses those recordings or Minutes.

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

RECOMMENDATION

That the apology from Cr Greg James be noted and a leave of absence be granted.

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 Council:

1. **Confirm the minutes of 23 April 2024 Scheduled Council Meeting with the following change:**

Item 12.3: correct the reference to tenderer GVOSS with GOVSS.
2. **Confirm the minutes of 7 May 2024 Additional Council Meeting.**

8 Public Question Time

Nil Received.

9 Deputations and Petitions

Nil Received.

10 Community Directorate

10.1 Creative City Grants Program - Round One 2023/2024

Author Manager - Riverlinks Venues
 Approved by Director Community
 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 successful applicants awarded funding under delegated authority for Round One of the 2023/2024 Creative City Grants Program as follows:

Organisation	Amount Awarded
Mooroopna Education and Activity Centre	\$2,000
Splinter Contemporary Artists	\$4,690
Goulburn Valley Writers' Group Inc	\$1,200
Are Able Limited	\$2,500
TOTAL	\$10,390

Executive Summary

Aligning with Council's Creative City Strategy, the Creative City Grants aim to better support the region's creative sector by:

- increasing accessibility of funding to local individual creatives, as well as groups and organisations
- streamlining the application process
- increasing the potential for more ambitious and impactful projects that encourage investment into the region.

The objectives of the Creative City Grants Program are to:

- support local creative talent
- contribute to the diversity and vitality of creative activity across our region
- encourage active participation in the arts for all
- strengthen Greater Shepparton's identity as a Creative City.

Round One of this program opened on 1 February 2024 and closed on 17 March 2024. For the 2023/24 financial year the Creative City Grants Program has a total budget of \$20,000. Round One 2023/24 is allocating \$10,390 from this amount.

The Grant Assessment Panel received a total of nine applications for this round. Five applications were deemed ineligible based on the funding criteria. The remaining four applications were assessed by the Grant Assessment Panel and have been awarded funding under delegated authority.

Report Detail

The Creative City Grant aims to ensure that Council's investment in the arts and creative industries remains relevant and effective as a part of the Creative City Strategy.

Applicants can apply for a range of activities including:

- projects to develop new creative works, content, products or services
- projects to present new creative works including productions, exhibitions, publications and performances
- a new arts component of an existing arts or cultural event
- professional or skills development opportunities for local creatives
- projects that creatively engage communities
- start-up costs for a new creative idea, business or project.

Grants of up to \$5,000 are available per project. The Program opened on 1 February 2024 and closed on 17 March 2024. The Grant Assessment Panel received a total of nine applications for this round. Five applications were deemed ineligible based on the funding criteria. The remaining four applications were assessed by the Grant Assessment Panel and have been awarded funding under delegated authority as detailed within the attached Outcome Assessment Summary Report.

The Creative City Grants Program has an acquittal process which must be completed by successful applicants at the finalisation of the project. The acquittal requires the applicants to provide a report on the outcome of the project and supporting documents including invoices and photographs of the events/project. Applicants that fail to complete the acquittal to a satisfactory standard are unable to apply for Council's future grant programs.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.3 Council services will be realistic and delivered in an efficient and effective manner with the aim of continuously looking for delivery that matches our ever-changing environment.

1.6 Council provides customer service that meets the needs of the community.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY and WELLBEING

We will support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of all in our community, ensuring universal access to information, services, housing, healthcare and learning opportunities.

2.9 Community members are supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional and creative wellbeing.

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

3.5 Encourage and facilitate investment and expansion.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region’s requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.11 Develop and improve Community and recreation facilities.

Risk Management

Consideration has been given to risk management issues during the assessment of all applications for funding support.

Insignificant to low risks have been identified and will be addressed at the operational level. All grant recipients will be required to consult fully with Council representatives prior to, and during their projects to identify any potential adverse consequences, and to devise a strategy to minimise any risks.

Applicants have been asked to confirm that they have the necessary public liability insurances for projects where activities are being undertaken by the Grantees themselves. This will be confirmed prior to the release of any funds.

The risk of conflict of interest to the Assessment Panel members has been addressed with the inclusion of a Conflict of Interest Declaration on the Grant Assessment Form.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Program fails to go ahead due to lack of planning	Unlikely	Minor	Low	Ensure programs are followed up
Grant money is not spent as per the applications	Unlikely	Moderate	Medium	Grant program to have an acquittal program to ensure funds have been used appropriately

Policy Considerations

Applications under the Creative City Grants Program have been assessed and awarded funding under delegated authority in accordance with Council’s Grant Distribution Policy adopted on 16 March 2021.

Financial Implications

For the 2023/24 financial year, the Creative City Grants Program had a total budget of \$20,000. Round One 2023/24 is allocating \$10,390 from this amount.

Legal/Statutory Implications

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

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no known environmental/sustainability implications arising from this report. Successful applicants must ensure that when planning their project, consideration is given to how to avoid negatively impacting on the environment and promoting sustainability as contained in the Grant Program Guidelines.

Social Implications

This funding is supporting projects that build or strengthen the Greater Shepparton Community. Projects recommended for approval are community driven and lead. They demonstrate the strength of community connection, inclusion, engagement and meaningful participation in community life in Greater Shepparton.

Economic Impacts

The projects funded through this grant may result in increased visitation, in addition to supporting purchases from local suppliers, contributing positively to the Greater Shepparton economy.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Policy and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIA's to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020.

Consultation

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Ensure that the information about the application process was widespread	Media Release Website Social Media Email lists and networks
Consult	Grant Information Session Appointments offered to discuss applications whilst the grants are open.	Information sessions offered on: 7 February 2024 6:00pm via Teams
Involve	Project Administration Officer and Community Development Officers provide assistance to community groups	Consultation on an individual basis during the application process.
Collaborate	Successful community groups/members will be responsible for the implementation of their projects which will provide the opportunity for community capacity building	Successful applicants will drive their funded projects and can seek help if a variation is required during the project's delivery.
Empower	Whilst decision making regarding successful grant applications is made by Council, community groups will be responsible for the delivery of projects.	Community organisations and/or individuals will deliver their projects.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- 4.2 Direction 2: Community Life
- 4.3.9 The Municipality is Culturally Active

b) Other strategic links

- Greater Shepparton Council Plan 2021 - 2025
- Greater Shepparton Creative City Strategy 2022-2027
- Greater Shepparton Public Health Strategy Health Plan 2018-2028
- Greater Shepparton's Reconciliation Action Plan
- Greater Shepparton Gender Equality Strategy 2021 - 2025
- Disability Action Plan
- Greater Shepparton Youth Strategy and Action Plan 2019 – 2023
- Universal Access and Inclusion Plan 2022 – 2026
- Greater Shepparton Community Development framework

Conclusion

Round One of the 2023/2024 Creative City Grant Program received a total of nine applications, with five applications deemed ineligible against the assessment criteria. The remaining four applications as contained in the attached Outcome Assessment Report Summary have been awarded funding under delegated authority in accordance with Council's Grant Distribution Policy.

Attachments

1. Creative City Grant 23/24 - Outcome Assessment Report [**10.1.1** - 2 pages]

11 Corporate Services Directorate

11.1 Contracts Awarded Under Delegation - April 2024

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:

1. **note the contracts awarded under delegation pursuant to a formal tender process for the reporting period; and**
2. **note the requests for tender advertised but not yet awarded.**

Report Detail

To inform the Council of the status of request for tenders that have been awarded under delegation during the period 6 April 2024 to 13 May 2024, and those that have been publicly advertised but are yet to be awarded as at 13 May 2024. The report does not include all purchasing activities, only procurement which requires a formal quotation or tender process.

Contracts Awarded under Delegated Authority

Contract No.	Contract Name	Details	Value inclusive of GST	Awarded to
2302	Construction of Edgewater Estate Creek Reserve Landing - Sevens Creek Drive, Kialla	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Edgewater Estate Creek Reserve Landing - Sevens Creek Drive, Kialla	\$377,565.54	Preston's Turf and Garden
2354	Construction of Lauriston Estate St Lukes Shared Path, Shepparton North	Lump Sum Contract for the Construction of Lauriston Estate St Lukes Shared Path, Shepparton North	\$235,189.90	Mawson Constructions Pty Ltd

Requests for Tenders advertised but not yet awarded

Contract No.	Contract Name	Contract detail, including terms and provisions for extensions	Status
2370	Provision of Secretariat, Lobbying & Advocacy Services for Regional Cities Victoria	Lump Sum Contract for the Provision of Secretariat, Lobbying & Advocacy Services for Regional Cities Victoria	Tender closed on 1 May 2024 and is currently under evaluation
2371	Major Culvert Renewal - Merrigum Ardmona Road, Merrigum	Lump Sum Contract for the Major Culvert Renewal - Merrigum Ardmona Road, Merrigum	Tender closed on 10 April 2024 and is currently under evaluation
LC318	Shepparton Regional Saleyards Commercial Lease	Expression of Interest - Shepparton Regional Saleyards Commercial Lease	Expressions of Interest close 7 June 2024

- The tenders for CN 2356 Guard-Rail Installations at Sheep Pen Creek, Kialla East and CN 2361 Survey and Design for Sealed Road Capital Renewals (Package 1 & 2) are no longer proceeding to award. Submissions received for both these tenders exceeded the respective allocated budgets. Council officers are now reviewing the scope of these works and will look to re-tender as soon as possible.

Through the S5 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 \$1,000,000.

The financial delegation to Directors to approve contracts up to a value of \$750,000 for goods and services and works are included in the S7 Instrument of Sub-Delegation by Chief Executive Officer.

Collaborative / Third Party Purchasing Arrangements

In accordance with Clause 5.2.11 of the Procurement Policy, Council has the option to utilise third party collaborative purchasing arrangements for various procurement activities. These collaborative arrangements are established to be an effective and efficient way of sourcing goods and services. Benefits include pre-approved supplier lists, cost savings through economies of scale and dedicated contract administration.

The following collaborative arrangement has recently been opted into:

Contract No.	Entity	Contract Details
2375	MAV	Trucks, Buses, Specialised Trucks & Bodies MAV NPN 1.23

Legal/Statutory Implications

In accordance with Section 108 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council has adopted its Procurement Policy establishing the value at which Council must invite a tender or seek an expression of interest.

Conclusion

It is important that decisions and actions taken under delegation be properly documented and transparent in nature. The report details the contracts awarded under delegated authority of the Council during the period 6 April 2024 to 13 May 2024.

Attachments

Nil

11.2 Reserve Accounting Policy

Author Acting Manager - Finance & Rates
 Approved by Director Corporate Services
 Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

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 Reserve Accounting Policy as attached; and
2. endorse the establishment of the following Reserves:

Statutory Reserves:

1. Cash in Lieu of Car Parking
2. Developer Contributions Fund
3. Recreational Land Contributions

Discretionary Reserves:

1. Waste Management
2. Strategic Land Sales & Acquisition
3. Defined Benefits Superannuation
4. Insurance Property Settlements

Executive Summary

The purpose of this report is to adopt a new Reserve Accounting Policy and establishment of statutory and discretionary reserves outlined within the report.

This policy will strengthen Council's management of cash balances and financial reserves, through consistent identification, administration and use of externally and internally restricted financial reserves.

Report Detail

Pursuant to section 102 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act) Council must prepare and adopt financial policies that give effect to the financial management principles.

The financial management principles per in section 101 of the Act are:

1. Revenue, expenses, assets, liabilities, investments and financial transactions must be managed in accordance with a Council's financial policies and strategic plans;
2. Financial risks must be monitored and managed prudently having regard to economic circumstances;
3. Financial policies and strategic plans, including the Revenue and Rating Plan, must seek to provide stability and predictability in the financial impact on the municipal community;
4. Accounts and records that explain the financial operations and financial position of the Council must be kept.

Council currently has the following financial management policies in place:

- Borrowing Policy
- Investment and Cash Management Policy
- Accounting for Property, Infrastructure, Plant and Equipment Policy
- Hardship Policy
- Rates Rebate for Retail Land Occupied by Charitable Organisations Policy

It is recommended that Council adopt a Reserve Accounting Policy to strengthen Council's management of cash balances and financial reserves, through consistent identification, administration and use of externally and internally restricted financial reserves.

Council currently manages statutory reserves and internal allocations via internal procedures, whereby a reconciliation of 'non-discretionary investments' is kept. These funds are not disaggregated from equity on the balance sheet and Council do not currently separately describe the nature and purpose of each non-discretionary investment. The non-discretionary investment reconciliation is used to calculate unrestricted cash, is subject to audit, but is no longer required to be separately disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

This policy seeks to formalise processes for identification, administration, use and reporting of restricted funds and improve compliance with *AASB 101 – Presentation of Financial Statements*.

Establishment of the following statutory reserves is recommended:

Cash in Lieu of Car Parking	Cash in lieu of car parking contributions are received under 45.09 of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme and restrictions apply to the use of funds collected.
Recreational Land Contributions	Recreational land contributions are received under 53.01 of the Greater Shepparton Planning Scheme and restrictions apply to the use of funds collected.
Developer Contributions	Contributions received under Developer Contribution Plans (DCP's) or S173 Agreements. Restrictions apply as set out in the DCP and under provisions outlined in the <i>Planning and Environment Act 1987</i> .

Establishment of the following discretionary reserves is recommended:

<p>Waste Reserve</p>	<p>Council owns and operates a regional landfill, resource recovery centres and provides kerbside waste collection services.</p> <p>The net annual surplus arising from operating the regional landfill are held for the cost of strategic projects, compliance (including rehabilitation required per the EPA licence) and long-term planning for Council's landfill.</p> <p>Council Kerbside Service Charges are levied under S162 of the <i>Local Government Act 2020</i> and can only be used to cover the cost of waste recycling and resource recovery services. The waste reserve will be subject to an overhead cost.</p> <p>Balance as at 30 June 2023: \$4,014,529</p>
<p>Strategic Land Sales & Acquisition Reserve</p>	<p>The purpose of this reserve is to ensure the net proceeds arising from the sale of surplus land are restricted for use for future strategic land acquisitions or growth infrastructure requirements identified in precinct structure plans requiring Council funding.</p> <p>Net proceeds arising from sale of surplus land should not be used to subsidise the cost of Council operational or asset renewal needs, these costs should be funded by the annual revenues of Council.</p> <p>Balance as at 30 June 2023: \$727,501</p>
<p>Defined Benefits Superannuation</p>	<p>Council makes the majority of its employer superannuation contributions to accumulation funds. Some contributions are made to defined benefit funds. As a contributing employer to the defined benefits fund, Council may be required to meet funding calls to ensure the fund is in a satisfactory financial position. Refer note 9.3 of Council's 2022/23 Financial Statements for further information. The last funding call was in 2009/10.</p> <p>The purpose of this reserve is to hold funds to assist with any future funding call associated with defined benefits superannuation liabilities. A cap of \$1,000,000 is appropriate in line with potential risk.</p> <p>Balance as at 30 June 2023: \$1,000,000</p>

Establishment of the following statutory reserves is recommended:

Property Insurance Settlements	<p>The purpose of this reserve is to ensure that cash arising from property insurance settlements is used in accordance with the terms of the settlement agreement. Council’s insurance policy requires property settlement funds to be used to fund similar assets in a similar location, funds cannot be used for operations.</p> <p>As a result of the October 2022 Flood, Council expects to receive cash settlements on a small number of assets. Funds will be released from the reserve as capital works projects meeting the settlement agreements are budgeted for and delivered through Council’s annual budget.</p> <p>Balance as at 30 June 2023: \$0</p>
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Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Council does not have sufficient cash to meet future obligations	Rare	Catastrophic	Medium	Council undertakes robust long-term financial planning and manages cash balances in accordance with the Investment and Cash Management Policy. Disaggregating restricted cash balances from equity into reserves further strengthens Council’s financial controls.

Policy Considerations

This report gives regard for Council’s existing financial management policies, including the Investment and Cash Management Policy.

Financial Implications

The Reserve Accounting Policy will require Council to disaggregate statutory and discretionary reserves from equity, providing greater transparency of total cash and term deposits held by Council that is subject to restrictions.

Legal/Statutory Implications

This policy and report have been written with regard to Section 102 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and *AASB 101 – Presentation of Financial Statements*.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental impacts associated with this report.

Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with this report.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with this report.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Policy and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIA's to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020.

The following determination was made by officers.

A Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted.

This policy does not meet the criteria to require an assessment.

Consultation

In drafting this policy, officers have consulted with internal departments including Governance and Planning. Reference material from FinPro and other Council's has also informed development of the policy.

Development of accounting policy is not subject to community engagement.

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 links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

- Council Plan 2021-2025 – Good governance and sustainable financial management.

Conclusion

This report presents the Reserve Accounting Policy for adoption and recommends the establishment of various statutory and discretionary reserves.

Attachments

1. Reserve Accounting Policy [11.2.1 - 8 pages]

11.3 April 2024 Monthly Financial Report

Author	Acting Team Leader – Financial Analysis
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 April 2024 Monthly Financial Report, as attached.

Executive Summary

The report presents the Council's actual financial performance compared to the 2023/2024 Adopted Budget and 2023/2024 Q3 Adopted Forecast, as at 30 April 2024.

Report Detail

The Council's actual financial performance compared to the budget is presented to Council monthly.

The April 2024 Monthly Financial Report incorporates the following sections which are presented for Council's consideration:

- Dashboard
- Income Statement
- Balance Sheet
- Cash Flow Statement
- Statement of Capital Works
- Operating Statement

Operating Position

Council's year-to-date (YTD) budget performance and projected full year adjusted underlying position are reflected in the income statement within the attachment.

The YTD actual adjusted underlying resulting is a surplus of \$1.74 million, due to annual rates being generated at the start of the year. As the financial year progresses and expenditure is incurred, Council is projecting a full year deficit of \$19.63 million.

This result is impacted by the Federal Financial Assistance Grants that relate to the current financial year but were received as income in 2022/2023. When the impact of this early receipt is removed, the projected full year deficit is \$3.3 million (refer to the “Operating Result” as show within the attachment).

Since the Q3 Adopted Forecast, there has been a \$1.6 million reduction to the projected full year deficit, mostly due to an increase in Monetary Contributions. This favourable movement has been partially offset by an increase in Materials and Services.

Monetary Contributions projected full year income has increased mostly due to additional insurance claim contributions relating to property damaged in the October 2022 Flood Event.

Materials and Services projected full year expenditure has increased mostly due to additional legal fee expenditure in the Strategic and Statutory Planning areas, mostly relating to unexpected VACAT hearings. Further detailed explanations are provided in the notes to the income statement, within the attachment.

Capital Works

YTD capital works expenditure is \$31.59 million, which equates to 67% of the Q3 Adopted Forecast.

Council’s projected full year capital expenditure has reduced to \$46.92 million, which is a \$492,000 decrease compared to the Q3 Adopted Forecast.

Most of this reduction is due to:

- A \$286,000 reduction in Parks, Open Space and Streetscapes mostly due to an adjustment to the scope of the South Growth Corridor Edgewater Estate Landscaping works
- A \$180,000 reduction in Plant Machinery and Equipment mostly due to a delay in the delivery of motor vehicle and plant items

Balance Sheet

Council has adopted the liquidity ratio (current assets as a percentage of current liabilities) as a further measure of financial sustainability.

The 2023/2024 Adopted Q3 Forecast liquidity was forecast to be 161% which is within the desired range.

The 2023/2024 Adopted Q3 Forecast Review and 2021-2031 Financial Plan continue to indicate challenges in maintaining liquidity at the required level, and Council’s continued focus on financial sustainability through the review of services, reduction in operating expenses, increases in revenue and prioritisation of renewal ahead of new assets is required.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Poor performance against budget	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Regular monitoring and reporting of performance against budget and forecast variances.
Deterioration of Council's financial position against the adopted Finance Plan, resulting in diminished ability to achieve and maintain financial sustainability, as measured by the adjusted underlying operating result, liquidity and renewal and upgrade of assets.	Possible	Moderate	Medium	Linkage of budget setting and performance to the adopted Financial Plan.

Policy Considerations

The monthly financial report has been prepared in accordance with accounting policies and the 2021-2031 Financial Plan.

Financial Implications

The financial implications associated with this report are detailed in the April 2024 GSCC Monthly Financial Statements report.

Legal/Statutory Implications

Section 101 of the *Local Government Act 2020* provides that Council maintains a budgeting and reporting framework that is consistent with the principles of sound financial management. In addition, Section 97 requires that 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.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

No environmental or sustainability impacts have been identified in relation to this report.

Social Implications

No social impacts have been identified in relation to this report.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Policy and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIA's to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020. The following determination was made by officers.

A Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted.

This report does not meet the criteria to require an assessment.

Economic Impacts

No economic impacts have been identified to this report.

Consultation

External consultation has not occurred regarding the contents of this report. Consultation, however, has and will take place on certain specific items within the budget as and when appropriate.

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 links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

- 2021-2031 Financial Plan

Conclusion

The report presents the Council's actual financial performance compared to the 2023/2024 Adopted Budget and the 2023/2024 Q3 Adopted Forecast Review, as at 30 April 2024.

Attachments

1. April 2024 GSCC Monthly Financial Statements [11.3.1 - 11 pages]

12 Sustainable Development Directorate

12.1 Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee - Nomination of Community Representatives

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 the Council appoint Robyn Slee as a community representative to the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee for a term commencing on 1 June 2024 and concluding on 1 December 2025.

Executive Summary

Council authorised the formation of the Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee (the Committee) on 17 January 2012. The primary purpose of the Committee is to act as an advocate for all cultural heritage matters within the municipality.

The Terms of Reference for the Committee (see Attachment 1 – Heritage Advisory Committee Terms of Reference) allow for a minimum of two and a maximum of six community representatives who are not associated with any of the historical groups and societies already represented on the Committee. These community representative positions have a two-year term. The current community representative positions became vacant on 19 September 2023.

A call for community representative nominations for membership of the Committee occurred in August and September 2023. Advertising was undertaken through the local newspapers, Council's website, media releases, radio interviews and social media. Three nominations were received. With the level of vacancies, it was determined that the positions remain open on the website for interested people to apply. One application has now been received.

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 to guide the future operation of the Committee.

The Committee's membership consists of up to two Councillors, up to two members of Council's Strategic Planning Team, Council's Heritage Adviser, one voting member from each of the ten identified member organisations, and a minimum of two and a maximum of six community representatives unaffiliated with any of these organisations.

Due to intermittent attendance of member organisation representatives, it is difficult to obtain a quorum. The additional community membership will increase the functionality of the committee.

Three community representatives were appointed to the committee in November 2023 for a two-year term which will expire on December 2025.

Due to the small number of nominations for the community representative positions after advertising in August and September 2023, the vacant positions were left open on Council's website.

On 11 December 2023, a sub-committee of the Heritage Advisory Committee met and assessed the nomination against the six selection criteria outlined in the Terms of Reference:

- an awareness of, and an interest in, the cultural heritage of the Municipality, and a willingness to have an input into the issues relating to this heritage;
- a commitment to the preservation of cultural heritage sites within the Municipality;
- acknowledge of heritage conservation processes and a willingness to acquire further knowledge;
- the ability to access historical or conservation networks and stakeholder groups;
- the ability to promote heritage within the Municipality; and
- experience in an area of building conservation.

The sub-committee recommend that Council re-appoint Robyn Slee as a community representative until 1 December 2025.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY and WELLBEING

We will support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of all in our community, ensuring universal access to information, services, housing, healthcare, and learning opportunities.

2.6 Welcome and embrace multicultural communities and their cultures.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.6 Engage with historical societies and museums to develop a plan that ensures their sustainability.

Risk Management

Council reduces the governance risks associated with the operation of the Heritage Advisory Committee by ensuring that members are appointed, and appointments are rescinded in accordance with the *Local Government Act 2020*.

Failure to appoint community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee would fail to meet Council's obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020*. It would also reduce the Committee's ability to promote community participation in and raise awareness of cultural heritage issues within the municipality.

Policy Considerations

Appointing community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee does not conflict with existing Council policies.

There are no costs associated with the appointment of community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

The approved budget for the Heritage Advisory Committee is \$1,500 in the 2023/2024 financial year. This budget is allocated to meet the operating costs of the Committee within that financial year.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal or statutory implications associated with resolving to appoint community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

The appointment of members to the Heritage Advisory Committee accords with the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*. No human rights were negatively impacted upon through the advertisement and consideration of the appointment of the community representative to the Heritage Advisory Committee. It is not foreseen that the appointment of community representatives will impact upon the rights of all individuals and groups regarding freedom of expression, right to be heard, entitlement to participate in public life and property rights.

This proposal is consistent with the provisions of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

The appointment of community representatives for the remainder of the vacant term is in accordance with the Committee's revised Terms of Reference, adopted by Council at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 21 February 2023.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts associated with the appointment of community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Social Implications

There are no direct social implications associated with the appointment of community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

The operation of the Committee has positive social impacts. The Committee is seen as a critical way of raising awareness and promoting community participation of cultural heritage issues within the Municipality. The Committee will continue to raise awareness within the community of cultural heritage conservation.

Economic Impacts

There are no direct economic impacts associated with the appointment of community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee.

Consultation

Council 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 formation by Council.

The original call for community representative nominations for membership of the Committee for this term occurred during in August and September 2023. Advertising was undertaken through the local newspapers, Council's website, media releases and social media.

Due to the small number of nominations the vacant positions remained open on Council's website. This will continue during this term until the remaining positions have been filled.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

The appointment of community representatives to the Heritage Advisory Committee is consistent with the objectives, strategies and actions outlined in the Environment Section of the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006*.

Conclusion

It is recommended that Council appoint Robyn Slee to the Heritage Advisory Committee for a term ending in on 1 December 2025:

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.

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

Attachments

1. Greater Shepparton Heritage Advisory Committee - Terms of Reference - February 2023 [12.1.1 - 7 pages]

12.2 Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Major Events Strategy 2024 - 2028

Author Economic Development Project Officer
 Approved by Director Sustainable Development
 Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

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 release the draft Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events Strategy 2024 - 2028 for public consultation pursuant to Council's Community Engagement Policy, as attached.

Executive Summary

Greater Shepparton City Council (Council) awarded the Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events Strategy (EDVEMES) contract (Contract 2291) to Urban Enterprise Pty Ltd to independently develop an overarching strategy for the region.

The Greater Shepparton EDVEMES is designed to guide regional growth and development for Greater Shepparton over the next five years (2024 to 2028). This will be an important strategic document for Council to identify opportunities to promote economic, community, and employment growth outcomes through the key pillars of Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events.

The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that the Council has an economic focus and a clear strategic direction pertaining to the region's local economy into the future. The Strategy highlights outcomes that can be achieved within the region and details each project within the proposed draft EDVEMES via 29 key strategic direction areas. The draft EDVEMES is now ready for final public consultation.

Report Detail

Council engaged Urban Enterprise Pty Ltd to complete an Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events Strategy ('the Strategy'). Urban Enterprise Pty Ltd was appointed in accordance with the Council's procurement policy. The decision making process involved the appointment of an evaluation panel and a selection process.

Since project inception, Urban Enterprise has been working with Council's Economic Development team to develop a thorough draft strategy which included an extensive engagement program with background research, benchmarking, and extensive consultation with a variety of key stakeholders, Council departments and the public providing significant input into the draft report.

The following outlines the strategic framework for Greater Shepparton to guide the Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Event pillars.

Vision

The following vision for economic development, the visitor economy and major events in Greater Shepparton is informed by the project goal, council plan and strategic considerations:

“Greater Shepparton will achieve long term and sustainable growth through a resilient and productive community, business base, tourism industry and event sector.”

EDVEMES Objectives:

- Increase local consumption
- Grow and expand the jobs base
- Improve liveability outcomes for residents
- Increase business and infrastructure investment
- Increase the value of the visitor economy
- Enhance the economic benefits of tourism events

Key Pillars

The strategic framework is comprised of the three key pillars that drive the economy. Community and investment in Greater Shepparton – Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events. These are summarised below:

Pillar 1: Economic Development

Pillar 1A: Population and Demographics

Maintaining liveable and engaged communities that foster economic inclusion and supports resident and workforce attraction:

1. Supporting Economic Inclusion and Jobs Access for Diverse and Disadvantaged Communities
2. Suitable Resident and Worker Accommodation
3. A high-Amenity and Vibrant Urban Centre
4. Thriving and Activated Small Towns

Pillar 1B: Business and industry Directions

5. Provide Access to Job Ready Workforce
6. An Engaged and Productive Business Community
7. Supporting Environmental Sustainability
8. Economic Growth Through Major Serviced Based Organisations
9. Supporting the Food Production and Processing Industry
10. Promoting Industry Diversity and Business Investment Opportunities
11. Advocacy for Major Infrastructure Projects
12. Appropriate Supply of Zoned Commercial and Industrial Land
13. Accessing International Markets and Global Trade Outcomes

Pillar 2: Visitor Economy

Creating high value tourism industry that provides a quality visitor experience and supports a diverse range of visitor markets.

14. Accommodating for Visitor Growth
15. Promoting Visitor Dispersal
16. Arts and Culture Development (inc Indigenous Experiences)
17. Riverfront Activation and River Precinct Development
18. Consolidate Destination Branding and Tourism Governance
19. Development of High-Value Products and Experiences
20. Contemporary Visitor Servicing Practices
21. Monitoring Visitor Economy Performance and Growth

Pillar 3: Major Events

Sustaining Greater Shepparton's role as a leading regional events destination and generate positive economic and community outcomes across the municipality.

22. Impact of COVID-19 and Implications for Future Events
23. Importance of high-Value Events
24. Accurate and Effective Data Collection and Analysis
25. Supporting Event Diversification
26. Providing of Quality Event Facilities and Supporting Infrastructure
27. Supporting Event Dispersal
28. Role of Council as Capacity Builders
29. Targeted and Contemporary Event Funding Criteria

Further detail is attached to this report via the Greater Shepparton Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events Strategy 2024 – 2028 Draft Report.

The draft EDVEMES will be released for public consultation for a minimum period of five weeks. All feedback will be considered and assessed by Council officers and Urban Enterprise Pty Ltd and reflected accordingly in the final version of the EDVEMES.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable, and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

- 3.1 Council will promote the use of the Universal Design Principles across the regions to make Greater Shepparton an accessible tourism hub.
- 3.2 Council to prioritise the redevelopment of the Shepparton Sports and Events Centre.
- 3.3 Completion of the SAM precinct including playground and activation of Victoria Park Lake Caravan Park.
- 3.4 Completion of the redevelopment of the Shepparton CBD precinct.
- 3.5 Encourage and facilitate investment and expansion.
- 3.6 Attract people to live, work, study and remain in our region.
- 3.7 Expanded educational opportunities.
- 3.8 Maximise utilisation and investment return on Council assets.
- 3.9 Expand Greater Shepparton's visitor economy.
- 3.10 Efficient land use planning to encourage and support future development.
- 3.11 Enhancing water security in our region.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.5 Support the development of GV Link.

4.6 Engage with historical societies and museums to develop a plan that ensures their sustainability.

4.7 Create a smart city.

4.9 Reliable, efficient, affordable, and accessible transport.

4.10 Progress housing and business development opportunities.

4.11 Develop and improve Community and recreation facilities.

ENVIRONMENT and CLIMATE EMERGENCY

We will prioritise our environment and take urgent action to reduce emissions and waste to protect public health and create a region that mitigates and adapts to climate change.

5.3 Council commits to supporting the establishment of a circular economy within Greater Shepparton.

Risk Management

There are no adverse risks associated with disbursing the strategy for public consultation. The consultation process will allow for the community to provide feedback regarding this document.

Policy Considerations

The draft EDVEMES supports existing Council policy including The *Greater Shepparton City Council: Council Plan 2021-2025* and the *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy*.

Financial Implications

This recommendation does not have any financial or budgetary implications for Council. The EDVEMES will provide an overarching framework to guide the next five years Economic Development Department budget in line with long term Council financial plan.

The development of the strategy has seen an extensive consultation and engagement period with Council, industry and community along with the development of a detailed background and benchmarking report to inform the final draft strategy. The contract for the independent development of this project is \$95,000 (exc GST).

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal/statutory implications associated with the adoption of this Strategy.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no adverse environmental impacts associated with disbursing the draft EDVEMES for public consultation. The EDVEMES will provide a great framework to support key environment and sustainability improvements and enhancements over the next five years with several of the draft key strategy direction areas supporting environmental improvements.

Social Implications

There are no adverse social impacts associated with disbursing the EDVEMES for public consultation. The consultation process will allow for the community to provide feedback regarding this document, and all received feedback will be considered.

The EDVEMES will support and enhance social impacts across the municipality as economic development areas often have a social element which is integral to providing a quality region to live, work, visit, play and invest.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Policy and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020. The following determination was made by officers. A Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted. This policy / program / service does not meet the criteria to require an assessment. A GIA will be completed for the final EDVEMES, after public consultation has concluded.

Economic Impacts

The draft EDVEMES has been developed to enhance economic impact across the region. The draft EDVEMES has 29 key strategic direction areas across economic development, visitor economy and major events area and these will allow help to develop further economic opportunities for the region to help support economic growth, jobs creation, visitation, and investment to the region.

Consultation

The draft strategy has been informed by an extensive consultation program with a variety of key stakeholders, Council departments and the public providing initial input.

Specifically, this consultation process included:

- Industry and Community Survey – 113 participants
- Targeted key stakeholder interviews (18 separate interviews) - 25 participants
- Industry workshops (2 workshops) - 18 participants
- Council (8 workshops) - 51 participants

Officers believe that appropriate consultation for the draft EDVEMES has occurred, and the matter is now ready for final public consultation.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

Theme - Economic Development

Objectives:

- To support developing and emerging agribusinesses and their increasing requirement for high technical infrastructure.
- To develop and promote the municipality as a regional centre for food and primary industry research and development
- To provide increased opportunities for local job creation.
- To develop the Shepparton CBD as a regional centre for commerce and entertainment.
- To revitalise the CBD of Shepparton and improve the urban design and architectural standards of retail/commercial areas.
- To sustain a growing and diverse industrial base.
- To encourage tourism growth and promote the tourism opportunities of the irrigated rural landscape and the food growing and processing industries.

b) Council Plan

- Vibrant and diverse economy
- Infrastructure and technology
- Environment and climate emergency

Conclusion

The Economic Development, Visitor Economy, and Major Events Strategy 2024 - 2028 has been independently prepared by Urban Enterprise Pty Ltd. The purpose of the Strategy is to ensure that the Greater Shepparton City Council has an economic focus and a clear strategic direction pertaining to the region's local economy into the future across three critical pillars being economic development, visitor economy and major events.

These pillars will help support the overarching objectives of the EDVEMES to increase local consumption, grow and expand the jobs base, improve liveability outcomes for residents, increase business and infrastructure investment, increase the value of the visitor economy, and enhance the economic benefits of tourism events

Council officers now present the draft strategy for consideration to be released for public consultation.

Attachments

1. Draft Strategy Economic Development, Visitor Economy & Major Events Strategy 2024-2028 [12.2.1 - 77 pages]

12.3 Sponsorship and Partnership Policy

Author	Team Leader – Major Events
Approved by	Director Sustainable Development
Purpose	For Decision at a Council Meeting

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 Sponsorship and Partnership Policy, as attached.

Executive Summary

Council provides assistance to a range of events and projects each year that support our community through financial and in-kind measures. Council receives frequent requests and opportunities to support various projects and events. To facilitate support of suitable events and projects in line with Council Plan and relevant strategies it has been identified that the organisation requires a policy to reflect good governance. These projects and events strengthen our community connections and provide a sustainable platform for events and projects in the community.

Sponsorships and partnerships, especially those that are committed to for multiple years, provide groups with the flexibility to further develop and plan, be inclusive and supports a sustainable future, and decreases the administrative burden.

The Sponsorship and Partnership Policy has been developed as an overarching organisational document which outlines Council's role and responsibilities when providing support via sponsorship / partnership arrangement and in-kind support.

Report Detail

Following the release of the report from the Victorian Auditor-General's Office on Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants in May 2022 ("VAGO Report") the Economic Development Department has developed an organisational wide Sponsorship and Partnership Policy which outlines Council's roles and responsibilities when providing support via sponsorship / partnership arrangement and in-kind support.

Whilst Council had already implemented many of the controls recommended within the report, there was a clear need to have a well-documented procedure for distributing Council funds and providing in-kind support.

The purpose of the attached Sponsorship and Partnership Policy is to ensure that Council's sponsorship principles, processes and procedures achieve the following objectives.

- ensure a consistent and unbiased approach is applied to all requests
- to assist as many eligible requests as possible that do not fit within the parameters of the Greater Shepparton City Council's annual budget
- ensure that an appropriate eligibility and acquittal process is established
- provide guidance on how repeated requests will be managed
- outline Council's requirements in relation to legislative compliance and acquittals
- ensure any potential risks related to arrangements made are identified and mitigation actions are developed and delivered as far as practical
- allow for multi-year agreements in relation to events allowing for continuity and sustainability for the benefit of Council and the Greater Shepparton municipality, ensuring it lies within budget capabilities
- provides direction on when to transition a particular group's activity from grants programs to a sponsorship/partnership, subject to strategic Council alignment.

Officers have undertaken extensive research on policies from other Council's in drafting this policy as well as extensive consultation internally. The document also considers the many different strategies and plans in place throughout Council.

Officers are now seeking endorsement from Council for the Sponsorship and Partnership Policy to be established.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse, and liveable region.

1.3 Council services will be realistic and delivered in an efficient and effective manner with the aim of continuously looking for delivery that matches our ever-changing environment.

1.6 Council provides customer service that meets the needs of the community.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable, and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

3.8 Maximise utilisation and investment return on Council assets.

3.9 Expand Greater Shepparton's visitor economy.

Risk Management

Below are some of the key risks identified from the Victorian Auditor General's Report. The mitigation action has been incorporated into the updated Sponsorship and Partnership Policy.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Staff or Councillors approving applicants unfairly based on personal interest	Possible	Moderate	High	<p>Ensure applications for sponsorship are approved for assessment if they meet eligibility and assessment criteria and record the decision-making process to ensure funding and in-kind decisions are transparent.</p> <p>Councillors removed from any decision-making processes or any influences in the decision-making process.</p> <p>Officers will declare any conflicts of interest relevant to the submission</p>
An applicant giving staff or Councillors benefits for awarding them sponsorship	Possible	Major	High	<p>Ensure conflicts are identified, managed, and do not influence decision making.</p> <p>Councillors removed from any decision-making processes or influencing the decision-making process.</p>
Recipient using funds for purposes outside the sponsorship agreement	Possible	Moderate	Medium	<p>Ensure sponsorship agreements are clear, concise and acquittal forms are provided in a timely manner to check funds have been used for intended purposes.</p>

Policy Considerations

Officers have developed this policy in line with the Grant Distribution Policy to ensure uniformity and is consistent with recommendations made under the Victorian Auditor-General's Office report on Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants in May 2022.

Financial Implications

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. The Sponsorship and Partnership Policy assists in providing an overarching framework for Council to consider events and projects in line with Council's adopted budget.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal / statutory implications arising from this report, however this document ensures VAGO's concerns are addressed.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts arising from the report specifically. It is noted that environmental and sustainability impacts are reviewed as a key part of sponsorship and partnership assessments.

Social Implications

There are no social implications arising from this report. Social impacts and implications are reviewed as a key part of sponsorship and partnership assessments.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts arising from this report. Economic impacts and implications are reviewed as a key part of sponsorship and partnership assessments to ensure that the region benefits from the support of relevant events / projects to assist local business thrive and grow.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Guidelines and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020.

Recommendations from GIA	Outcome
Build awareness of the program through education	Increased uptake of sponsorship / partnerships available Inclusivity, welcoming and accessible
Promotion of program through advertising, information sessions, social media etc	As above
Increased accessibility through multiple languages	As above

Consultation

Officers undertook extensive research of other local government areas Sponsorship Policies to help inform the Greater Shepparton City Council document. In addition, please see the below table outlining the summary of consultation undertaken within internal departments.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Information provided too internal stakeholders in relation to corporate procedure and policy requirements going forward.	<p>Team Leader Major Events and Grants Coordinator briefing internal stakeholders of VAGO report recommendations and procedural changes.</p> <p>Briefing to Executive Leadership Team in relation to the policy and implementation.</p>
Consult	<p>Consultation with internal departments have been conducted and includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Finance • Governance • Riverlinks • Community • Economic Development <p>Departments have reviewed and provided feedback where relevant and incorporated into the policy.</p>	<p>Cooperative consultation, open and honest conversations. Consultation with the following officers relating to relevant departments include: Manager Finance, Manager Governance, Manager Riverlinks, Community Department and Team Leader Diversity, Manager Economic Development and Team Leader Major Events.</p> <p>Each officer was provided a copy of the draft document and feedback was provided as seen to be relevant by the reviewer to the author for inclusion and / or consideration.</p>
Empower	Encourage internal stakeholders to follow procedural requirements when managing Council sponsorship and partnership programs.	Team Leader Major Events and Grants Coordinator to brief internal stakeholders of procedure and policy Documents. Further assistance will be provided to empower each department to develop relevant Sponsorship and Partnership Distribution Operational Guidelines that help guide the implementation of the policy.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- There are no links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

- Greater Shepparton Economic Development, Tourism and Major Events Strategy 2017-2021
 - Strategy 8. Provide incentives for the attraction of business and investment that diversify and add value to the local economy.

Conclusion

The Sponsorship and Partnership Policy has been developed to ensure that Council maximises its return on investment by delivering programs consistently, transparently and efficiently. Council officers are now seeking endorsement for the Sponsorship and Partnership Policy.

Attachments

1. Sponsorship and Partnership Policy [12.3.1 - 10 pages]

12.4 Grant Distribution Policy

Author Executive Assistant - Sustainable Development / Grants Coordinator
Approved by Director Sustainable Development
Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

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 Grants Distribution Policy, as attached.

Executive Summary

Council provides a wide range of grants and funding each year to the community. The purpose of these grants is to provide financial support for projects which benefit, build and strengthen the community's capacity.

The provision of these grants involves substantial sums of public funds annually. The Grant Distribution Policy ("the Policy") is an overarching document which guides and informs stakeholders in relation to the processes, practices and procedures Council follow when developing and delivering grant programs.

Following the release of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office report on Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants in May 2022 ("VAGO Report") Council officers conducted a review of the grant operating processes, practices and procedures. Whilst Council had already implemented many of the controls recommended within the VAGO report, there was a clear need to document these controls in the Policy. The recommended Policy amendments are detailed below and within the attachment to this report.

Council officers now recommend the amendments be endorsed by Council to ensure that Council can continue to deliver grant programs in an efficient, effective and transparent manner. The recommendations will also allow the implementation of effective controls for Council's grant programs to give the community confidence that public money is spent as intended.

Report Detail

Council provides a wide range of grants and funding each year to the community. The purpose of these grants is to provide financial support for projects which build and strengthen the capacity of the community.

The provision of these grants involves substantial sums of public funds annually. The Grant Distribution Policy is the overarching document which guides and informs stakeholders in relation to the process, practices and procedures Council follow when delivering grant programs.

Following the release of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office report on Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants in May 2022 ("VAGO Report"), Council officers conducted a review of the policy as well as operating practices and procedures. Whilst Council had already implemented many of the controls recommended within the VAGO report, there was a clear need to document these controls in the Policy. The following paragraphs detail the amendments to the Policy, which are important to help Council reduce the risk of fraud and ensure grant programs are transparent, fair and benefit the community.

Section 5.3 of the Policy has been updated to help inform the community on how applications will be assessed, whereas the previous version of the policy did not contain a sufficient level of detail in this regard. This level of disclosure provides a transparent process which will assist the community in preparing funding applications.

Policy Section 5.6 dealing with the application and evaluation process, has now been amended to include a formula for allocating grant funds based on total scores and percentage of the funding pool. This formula will provide consistency in funding allocations across all Council grant programs. By properly documenting the formula for funding allocations Council mitigates the risk associated with inconsistent decision making.

Council officers also recommend amending Policy Section 5.4 in relation to funding exclusions. This amendment will ensure that applicants are not seeking funding for "raffles, prize money and awards." This section also stipulates that applicants are not eligible for funding if they have outstanding acquittals or have failed to meet Council's reporting requirements (e.g. applicant has failed to adequately report on expenditure).

Policy Section 5.6 has been amended to exclude Councillors from assessing and making recommendations on grant applications. Whilst this practice was already followed, Council had failed to adequately document this has recommended in Section 2.2 of the VAGO report.

Finally, Section 5.6 has also been amended to require all grant programs to be reviewed at the end of each financial year. Without the inclusion of this requirement Council cannot make informed decisions on how to best allocate funding if regular evaluations do not occur. Documenting this requirement within the Policy will allow Council to evaluate the overall sustainability of each grant program in a timely manner.

Officers are now seeking endorsement of the amended Grant Distribution Policy as provided within the attached document.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.3 Council services will be realistic and delivered in an efficient and effective manner with the aim of continuously looking for delivery that matches our ever-changing environment.

1.6 Council provides customer service that meets the needs of the community.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

Risk Management

Below are risks identified from the Victorian Auditor General's Report. The mitigation action has been incorporated into the updated Grant Distribution Policy.

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Staff or Councillors selecting recipients unfairly based on personal interests	Possible	High	12	Ensure grant applications are only assessed against eligibility and assessment criteria, and record the decision-making process to ensure funding decisions are transparent.
An applicant giving staff or councillors benefits for awarding them a grant	Possible	High	12	Ensure conflicts are identified, managed and do not influence decision-making.
Recipient using funding for purposes outside of the grant's objectives	Possible	High	12	Ensure funding agreements are clear and concise, and acquittal forms are provided in a timely manner to check funds have been used for the intended purposes.

Policy Considerations

The Policy has been reviewed to ensure it is consistent with recommendations made under the Victorian Auditor-General's Office report on Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants in May 2022.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising directly from this report.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal/statutory implications arising from this report, however these updated documents ensure VAGO's concerns are addressed.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts arising directly from this report.

Social Implications

There are no social implications arising directly from this report.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts arising directly from this report.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Policy and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIA's to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020. There are no direct significant gender implications arising from these documents.

Consultation

Officers believe that appropriate consultation has occurred, and the matter is now ready for Council consideration. Details in relation to the specific consultation that has occurred is outlined in the table below.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Information in relation to updating the policy requirements has been provided to current community grant program coordinators in the Community Department, Parks, Sport and Recreation Department and Economic Development Department. The documents have also been provided to the Manager Finance for review and comment.	Grants Coordinator briefing provided to Executive Leadership Team in relation to VAGO report recommendations and procedural changes required. In addition this information has been provided to Manager Community Wellbeing, Manager Parks, Sport and Recreation, Manager Economic Development and Manager Riverlinks through a number of face-to-face meetings and email correspondence.
Consult	Consultation has occurred with internal stakeholders mentioned above to provide feedback and suggestions on the existing community grant processes and procedures. This feedback has been incorporated into the document attached to this report.	Cooperative consultation, open and honest conversations through face-to-face meetings and email correspondence.
Empower	Encourage internal stakeholders mentioned above to follow procedural requirements when managing Council grant programs.	Grants Coordinator has provided detailed instructions and training sessions to abovementioned stakeholders to ensure there is an understanding of the new policy and operational procedures when managing community grant programs. Further training and instructions will be provided following the endorsement of these documents. Information will also be disseminated at the next community grant information session.

Strategic Links

a) Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy

- There are no links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

- Greater Shepparton Economic Development, Tourism and Major Events Strategy 2021-2026 (currently under review)
 - Strategy 8. Provide incentives for the attraction of business and investment that diversify and add value to the local economy.

Conclusion

Following the release of the Victorian Auditor-General's Office report on Fraud Control Over Local Government Grants in May 2022 ("VAGO Report") Council officers conducted a review of the grant operating processes, practices and procedures.

This review resulted in several recommended amendments being made to the Grant Distribution Policy as detailed within the attached document. The recommendations will allow the implementation of effective controls for Council's grant programs to give the community confidence that public money is spent as intended.

Council officers are now seeking endorsement of the amended Grant Distribution Policy.

Attachments

1. Grant Distribution Policy [12.4.1 - 8 pages]

12.5 Lease of Land to Kids Under Cover to Realise a Village 21 Development - Lifting report from the Table

Author Executive Assistant – Sustainable Development/Grants Coordinator
Approved by Director Sustainable Development
Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

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.

At the Scheduled Council Meeting on Tuesday 23 April 2024 a resolution of Council to laid this matter on the table.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council resolves to lift the matter from the table.

12.6 Lease of Land to Kids Under Cover to Realise a Village 21 Development

Author Executive Assistant - Sustainable Development / Grants Coordinator
 Approved by Director Sustainable Development
 Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

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, having previously undertaken a community engagement process in accordance with Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

1. **revise the leasing term of Council-owned land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton to Kids Under Cover for a term of 20 years at a peppercorn rental (of \$1.00 per annum plus GST) to realise a Village 21; and**
2. **authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and enter into an Agreement for Lease with Kids Under Cover to realise a Village 21.**

Executive Summary

At the Council Meeting held on 20 September 2022, Council resolved, amongst other things, to commence a community engagement process in accordance with *Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020* and the *Greater Shepparton City Council Community Engagement Policy 2021* regarding the proposed lease of the land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton.

Community consultation commenced on 3 October 2022 and was subsequently extended until 28 November 2022. Council received one early submission, 19 submissions and three verbal presentations during the consultation period.

Following the consideration of all submissions, on the 20th of December 2022, the Council resolved the following;

**Moved by Cr Spinks
Seconded by Cr Adem**

That the Council, having undertaken a community engagement process in accordance with Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*:

- 1. receive and note the contents of the submissions received or heard and Council officers' responses outlined in the *Conversation Report – Proposed lease of land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton December 2022*, as attached;**
- 2. endorse the leasing of Council-owned land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton to Kids Under Cover for a term of 10 years at a peppercorn rental of \$1.00 per annum (excluding GST) with a single option to renew to realise a Village 21;**
- 3. authorise the Chief Executive Officer to negotiate and enter into an Agreement for Lease and Lease with Kids Under Cover to realise a Village 21, provided further that Kids Under Cover provides evidence of funding for its proposal before 31 December 2023;**
- 4. inform all submitters of Council's decision in relation to this matter; and**
- 5. keep submitters informed in relation to the announcement of any future funding to realise this project.**

CARRIED UNOPPOSED

Since the Council decision, the lease has been progressed in accordance with point 3 of the resolution.

Russell Kennedy, acting on behalf of Council has also been negotiating the terms of the lease agreement.

As part of the negotiations, Kids Under Cover (KUC) have advised that following a meeting with Homes for Victoria, Home Vic has advised that they will not accept lease terms under 20 years (even with options) and that the lease term needs to be 20 years + potential options in accordance with their funding agreement.

Consequently, this report recommends that the Council agree to a revised lease term of 20 years, so that the project can progress.

Report Detail

In June 2018, the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* (the Act) was amended to include the objective "to facilitate the provision of Affordable Housing in Victoria", requiring Council, in its role as Planning Authority, to consider the need and opportunity to implement Affordable Housing outcomes. The Act defines 'Affordable Housing' as 'housing, including Social Housing that is appropriate for the housing needs of very low-, low- and moderate-income households.

Following extensive consultation, Council resolved to adopt the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* (the Affordable Housing Strategy) at the Council Meeting held in April 2020. The Affordable Housing Strategy demonstrated an undeniable need for Affordable Housing across Greater Shepparton.

Beyond the municipality's identification as the Victorian regional city with the highest level of homelessness, at 5.6 homeless persons per 1,000, 1,041 households are on the waiting list for social housing support, 27% of low-income households are facing housing stress (2,716 households), and overall rental affordability decreased by 10% between 2008 and 2018.

Up to 2020, the Affordable Housing Strategy found that despite some allocations under several Commonwealth and State-funded programs, Council advocacy and programs to support low-income households, and remarkable work by housing providers, the resources required to address housing issues in Greater Shepparton exceeded those available.

The Affordable Housing Strategy draws on the premise of 'Housing First' that has been successfully implemented in Finland to reduce homelessness levels by a third over a seven-year period. Beyond advocacy for Commonwealth and State funding to undertake substantial construction of new stock, it outlines a variety of ways in which Council may facilitate and promote the provision of Affordable Housing through diverse agents, encouraging knowledge sharing, economical usage of existing resources, and collaboration between housing providers, government, developers, landowners, landlords and investors.

The Affordable Housing Strategy aims to promote increased stock across the spectrum of affordable models, including crisis accommodation and social housing to address acute housing needs, 'alternative' options like cohousing, which may address the needs of identified 'at risk' cohorts, and broader diversity in size and configuration in the market-based supply to mitigate potential future shortfalls.

Council also subsequently resolved to form the Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Reference Group to provide expert advice on ways that Council can realise Affordable Housing outcomes and on the implementation of the Affordable Housing Strategy.

Kids Under Cover is a not-for-profit organisation focused on delivering the unique combination of studio accommodation and education scholarships as a practical and proven strategy in preventing youth homelessness. Kids Under Cover recently launched the Village 21 Model, an innovative model seeking to assist at-risk young people to successfully transition to independent living from out of home care.

Council officers proposed several potential site options and lots that may be suitable given the requirements described by Kids Under Cover: 4 Deane Court, Shepparton was the preferred lot. On 24 February 2022, Kids Under Cover confirmed it required assistance from Council and stated that its preference was 4 Deane Court, Shepparton.

The proposal would enable the construction of accommodation and implementation of a support program for six young people between the ages of 18-21 who have recently exited foster care. The Village 21 Model provides a communal building containing a kitchen, living room and laundry, three two-bedroom studios with a bathroom and two one-bedroom studios for live-in mentors, and a communal BBQ area. Kids Under Cover would be responsible for the maintenance of the buildings on site and their eventual removal at a future date.

After re-evaluating the suitability of the site and community consultation, Kids Under Cover has formally withdrawn its request to lease the land at 4 Deane Court, Shepparton and instead requested support to lease 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton.

Kids Under Cover and Council officers also explored alternative sites that may be more suitable for the Village 21 Program. Council officers recommended 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton as a more suitable location. Council officers considered this to be an effective way of realising Affordable Housing outcomes (see Figure One below). The site's size and ideal location within Shepparton will ensure excellent amenity for future residents, enabling them to be securely and appropriately housed. The land is identified as a 'reserve' for open space purposes. Given the size of the site and its unembellished nature, it is considered capable of accommodating the proposal and formalised open space as envisaged in the *Urban Forest Strategy 2017*.

Figure One: Location of 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton (the location is outlined and shaded in blue).



Consultation

At the Council Meeting held on 20 September 2022, Council resolved, amongst other things, to provide in-principle support for the preparation of any funding applications by Kids Under Cover to realise three two-bedroom studios for Affordable Housing purposes on 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton and to commence a community engagement process in accordance with *Section 115 of the Local Government Act 2020* and the *Greater Shepparton City Council Community Engagement Policy 2021*.

Community consultation commenced on Monday, 3 October 2022 and was subsequently extended until Monday, 28 November 2022. Council received one early submission, 19 submissions and three verbal presentations during the consultation period.

Submissions were invited via an online submission form, by email and by post and verbal briefings were delivered via online.

Council used multiple methods to engage with key stakeholders and the broader Greater Shepparton community during the additional community consultation phase, including:

- a letter to adjoining landowners and occupiers of land;
- a letter to relevant stakeholders and referral agencies;
- a media release, which attracted media attention from the Shepparton News;
- public notice in the Shepparton News on Friday, 4 November 2022; and
- an online submission portal on the 'Shaping Greater Shepp' website.

A range of common themes were identified in submissions, these were, in no particular order:

- crime and safety concerns;
- Greater Shepparton needs more housing for at risk youths;
- the site should be turned into a park/play space;
- proposed development is too dense;
- increased traffic congestion because of the development;
- impact on the value of surrounding properties;
- inappropriate location;
- impacts on surrounding residential properties; and
- nowhere to put bins for weekly collection.

A Conversation Report was prepared to summarise the submissions received and heard, and Council officers' responses to the themes raised.

Council considered the outcome of the consultation process relating to Council's intention to lease part of the Council-owned land to Kids Under Cover for a term of 10 years at a peppercorn rental to realise a Village 21.

After considering all submissions, Council officers recommended that Council resolve to lease the land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton to Kids Under Cover.

On the 20th of December 2022, the Council resolved to endorse the leasing of the land to KUC for the lease term as set out above.

However, as part of the lease negotiations, KUC have advised that Homes for Victoria will not support a short lease term of 10 years even with options to extend. A minimum lease term of 20 years is required in accordance with their funding agreement.

Council officers consider this to be a reasonable request and should be supported.

The amended lease term will facilitate the delivery of this much needed housing project.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse, and liveable region.

1.1 Council to take an active leadership role for access and inclusion in our community.

1.7 Youth leadership is fostered, encouraged, and embraced.

SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY and WELLBEING

We will support the mental and physical health and wellbeing of all in our community, ensuring universal access to information, services, housing, healthcare and learning opportunities.

2.4 Leave no one behind.

2.7 Address issues contributing to homelessness.

2.8 Support for families and children at all stages of their learning and development.

2.9 Community members are supported to achieve and sustain physical, emotional, and creative wellbeing.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.10 Progress housing and business development opportunities.

Risk Management

The recommendation will not result in any extreme risk to Council. However, failure to sell part of the land will bring considerable risk to Council in addressing the growing Affordable Housing crisis, undermine the implementation of the actions in the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* and *Greater Shepparton City Council: Council Plan 2021-2025*, and Victorian government funding. As a result, there are high reputational risks to Council.

Policy Considerations

There are no conflicts with Council policies. The project follows the objectives and goals of the *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020* to increase Affordable Housing.

Financial Implications

The various transactional documents contemplated by the arrangements under the MoU will safeguard the Council's interests. The proposed Section 173 agreement will ensure that the obligation to use the newly constructed dwellings for the purposes of Affordable Housing will continue in perpetuity.

By partnering with Kids Under Cover, Council officers are also satisfied with Kids Under Cover Ltd's track record of community involvement, are well-positioned to deliver the project requirements and outcomes that are sought. The proposed Section 173 Agreement will ensure that the obligation to use the newly constructed dwellings for the purposes of Affordable Housing will continue in perpetuity.

Legal/Statutory Implications

The *Local Government Act 2020* requires Council, before selling or exchanging land, to publish notice of its intention to sell the land, undertake a community engagement process in accordance with its community engagement policy and obtain a recent valuation. This community engagement process is provided for in Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

A community engagement process was undertaken from 3 October 2022 to 28 November 2022 in accordance with Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Greater Shepparton City Council Community Engagement Policy 2021*.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

The development of the reserve at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton will have minimal impacts on the environment. The land is identified as a 'reserve' for open space purposes. Given the size of the site and its unembellished nature, it is considered capable of accommodating the proposal and formalised open space as envisaged in the *Urban Forest Strategy 2017*.

Social Implications

The project has the potential to deliver significant social benefits to the community of Greater Shepparton. The proposal will provide accommodation for some of Greater Shepparton's most at-risk individuals and households through the realisation of much needed Affordable Housing.

Economic Impacts

The project has the potential to deliver significant economic benefits to the region and to the local youth at risk of homelessness.

The leasing of land to Kids Under Cover will create two full-time employment positions for approximately ten years for the live-in mentors and assist youth to enter the employment market.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) Operational Policy and understand the requirements in relation to conducting GIAs to ensure Council remains compliant with obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020.

Consultation

Council undertook community consultation for a period more than eight weeks between 3 October 2022 to 28 November 2022.

Methods of engagement included letterbox drops to surrounding landowners and occupiers to the proposed site, a consultation webpage on Council's Shaping Greater Shepparton website with an online submission form, a public notice, and a media release.

A total of one early submission, 19 submissions and three verbal presentations during the consultation period were received during the consultation process. The results of the community consultation and Council officers' response to the key themes raised are contained within Attachment One: *Conversation Report - Proposed lease of the land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton December 2022*.

Officers believe that appropriate consultation occurred, and the amendment to the lease term will not impact on the community.

Strategic Links

- *Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy 2006;*
- *Shepparton CBD Strategy 2008;*
- *Commercial Activity Centres Strategy 2015;*
- *Greater Shepparton Affordable Housing Strategy: Houses for People 2020;* and
- *Shepparton & Mooroopna 2050: Regional City Growth Plan 2021.*

Conclusion

At the Council Meeting held on 20 September 2022, Council resolved, amongst other things, to provide in-principle support to lease land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton to Kids Under Cover and to undertake a community engagement process to understand the community's views on the proposal.

A community engagement process was undertaken from 3 October 2022 to 28 November 2022 in accordance with Section 115 of the *Local Government Act 2020* and the *Greater Shepparton City Council Community Engagement Policy 2021*.

After considering all submissions received or heard, Council officers recommended that Council resolve to lease the land at 20-22 Perrivale Drive, Shepparton to Kids Under Cover to realise a Village 21.

On the 20th of December 2022, the Council resolved (amongst other things) to endorse the leasing of the land to facilitate the KUC project.

The amendment to the lease term is required to allow KUC to meet their funding obligations. The additional lease term will make no material difference to the community but will enable the project to occur.

Attachments

Nil

13 Infrastructure Directorate

13.1 Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee

Author Manager Infrastructure
 Approved by Director Infrastructure
 Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

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. Dissolve the Greater Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee;**
- 2. Acknowledge and thank all past Advisory Committee members; and**
- 3. Note the formation of an Aerodrome user group following the dissolving of the committee**

Executive Summary

The Greater Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee has been in place for many years. The purpose of the committee is to provide advice to council in relation to the on-going functioning and performance of the Shepparton Aerodrome.

Membership to the Committee has recently expired, and it is proposed that it be dissolved, and a User Group be formed instead of an Advisory Committee.

Consultation has occurred with recent Committee members, and they feel that future liaisons between users and council be better served in a less formal manner.

Report Detail

The sole purpose of the Greater Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee is to provide advice to Council in relation to the ongoing functioning and performance of the Shepparton Aerodrome.

For many years, the Shepparton Aerodrome Advisory Committee has provided council with specialised aviation advice and an avenue for users to raise matters pertaining to Aerodrome operations. The Greater Shepparton City Council would like to thank all past Advisory Committee members for dedicating their time and effort serving on the committee.

The current structure of the committee allows for advice, but it has no executive authority. The transition of the Advisory Committee to a user group will retain an avenue for the user group to contact and Council regarding key issues in relation to the Aerodrome, however; will reduce the amount of administration support Council provides to the Aerodrome.

The Shepparton Aerodrome services a small number of community members but is a vital service in terms of Emergency relief and helicopter and fixed wing Ambulance services.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.8 Good governance and sustainable financial management.

VIBRANT and DIVERSE ECONOMY

We will drive the visitor economy by growing visitor experiences and major events that provide employment and other opportunities to the community. Our economic development will focus on establishing a strong, adaptive, sustainable and thriving region supported by agriculture and a diverse range of industries.

3.5 Encourage and facilitate investment and expansion.

3.6 Attract people to live, work, study and remain in our region.

3.8 Maximise utilisation and investment return on Council assets.

3.9 Expand Greater Shepparton's visitor economy.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.8 Plan, prioritise and communicate asset maintenance and new asset delivery.

Risk Management

Risks	Likelihood	Consequence	Rating	Mitigation Action
Lack of communication between the User Group and Council	Possible	Low	1	Council will meet with interested Aerodrome users 4 times a year. This will give users an opportunity to discuss the Aerodrome Operations. Council also has an Aerodrome Manager as well as an Aerodrome Responsible Officer who is on-call 24/7 to support Aerodrome users

Policy Considerations

This decision will not affect any council policy considerations.

Financial Implications

Council officers (Manager, Team Leader, Depot Officer, and Administration Officer) will no longer be required to attend bi-monthly Advisory Committee meetings therefore a positive financial resource impact will occur.

Legal/Statutory Implications

The current committee have no legal or statutory requirements so there will be no implications with this proposal.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental or sustainability impacts arising from this proposal.

Social Implications

Dissolving the Advisory Committee will assist in engaging with all users of the Aerodrome and increase stakeholder participation.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts arising from this proposal.

Gender Impact Assessment

A Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted.

This report does not meet the criteria to require an assessment.

Consultation

Council Officers including the Aerodrome Manager (Infrastructure Manager), Aerodrome Responsible Officer's (Depot Officer, Team Leader Civil Infrastructure), Governance (Team Leader Governance) and members of the Advisory Committee have had meeting's regarding transitioning from an Advisory Committee to a user group.

These discussions were positive, and the Committee expressed that they would like to move from the current structure to a less formal structure. Council officers believe that moving towards a user group will be beneficial for both the users and council officers.

Level of public participation	Promises to the public/stakeholders	Examples of techniques to use
Inform	Users will be informed of Aerodrome Operations as required	User group meetings will be held every 3 months with interested users. These will be held on-site at the Aerodrome
Consult	The Aerodrome Manager and Aerodrome Responsible Officers will consult with users as required	Officers will send out updates via e-mail to user group members on aerodrome matters
Involve	The user group will be involved in Aerodrome Operational decisions, but ultimately council being the Aerodrome Manager will have the decision-making power	User group meetings will be held every 3 months with interested users. These will be held on-site. Users will also have mobile phone contact with council's Aerodrome Responsible Officer on a 24-hour basis
Collaborate	Feedback and advice received from the user group will be incorporated into decisions made regarding Aerodrome Operations	This will enable ongoing collaboration between the user group and the Council.

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 links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

Conclusion

It is recommended that the current Advisory Committee dissolve and a user group made up of Aerodrome users be formed.

Council would like to acknowledge and thank all past Advisory Committee members for their dedicated work and advice pertaining to the Shepparton Aerodrome.

Attachments

Nil

13.2 Revoking of Public Toilet Policy

Author	Manager - Parks, Sport and Recreation
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 revoke the Public Toilet Policy.

Executive Summary

The Public Toilet Policy was initially created in 2013, then reviewed/ adopted by Council in 2019 coinciding with the introduction of the Public Toilet Strategy.

The objective of the policy was to formalise the Greater Shepparton City Council's commitment to the provision of quality, universally accessible and appropriately located public toilet amenities to meet community needs.

Upon reviewing the Public Toilet Policy, it was identified that its content is duplicated and captured within the Public Toilet Strategy. Given the Public Toilet Strategy 2020 is a public facing document, Council officers recommend revoking the Public Toilet Policy.

Report Detail

The Public Toilet Policy was initially created in 2013, then reviewed/ adopted by Council in 2019 coinciding with the introduction of the Public Toilet Strategy.

The objective of the policy was to formalise the Greater Shepparton City Council's commitment to the provision of quality, universally accessible and appropriately located public toilet amenities to meet community needs.

Upon reviewing the Public Toilet Policy, it was identified that its content is duplicated and captured within the Public Toilet Strategy. The Public Toilet Strategy 2020 is a public facing document that outlines Greater Shepparton City Council's commitment to the provision of quality, universally accessible and appropriately located public toilet amenities to meet community needs.

The strategy guides the provision and management of public toilets with respect to:

1. Siting and distribution
2. Accessibility
3. Quality and service levels
4. Equality
5. Public safety
6. Service communication

This strategy applies to all public toilets within the Municipality that are owned and managed by Council. The strategy excludes toilets within permanent staffed Council buildings, community centres, local commercial centres and leased areas.

Officers are seeking approval to revoke the current Public Toilet Policy and perform the required management functions in line with the Public Toilet Strategy.

Furthermore, the Public Toilet Strategy 2020 will be reviewed, updated and approved every three years by Council.

The strategy includes an appendix that outlines the capital investment program for when public toilets are to be renewed and built as new facilities over a ten-year period. Whilst this appendix is used and maintained as a live document by officers annually, the appendix within the strategy document will only be updated formally as part of the three yearly review and presented for adoption. The toilets identified and due each year for replacement /renewal will be presented annually as part of the capital works budget.

Council Plan/Key Strategic Activity

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP

We will prioritise leadership in the community to celebrate our cultures, people and places that makes Greater Shepparton a unique, vibrant, diverse and liveable region.

1.6 Council provides customer service that meets the needs of the community.

INFRASTRUCTURE and TECHNOLOGY

We will focus on the planning of our region's requirements to enable delivery of technology and infrastructure to meet the current and future needs of the community.

4.1 Council will implement the Universal Design Principles as a key tool in all our infrastructure and technology projects.

4.11 Develop and improve Community and recreation facilities.

Risk Management

The risks identified are low as Council will rely upon the relevant operational guidelines and standards.

Policy Considerations

There are no implications associated with the revocation of this policy as Council will rely upon the relevant operational guidelines and standards.

Financial Implications

There are no identified financial implications associated with the revocation of this policy.

Legal/Statutory Implications

There are no legal or statutory implications identified.

Environmental/Sustainability Impacts

There are no environmental impacts associated with the revocation of this policy.

Social Implications

There are no social implications associated with the revocation of this policy.

Economic Impacts

There are no economic impacts associated with the revocation of this policy.

Gender Impact Assessment

Officers reviewed the Gender Impact Assessment (GIA) which was undertaken during the development of this procedure / policy to ensure it remains compliant with Councils obligations outlined in the Gender Equality Act 2020.

A Gender Impact Assessment was not conducted.

This policy / program / service does not meet the criteria to require an assessment.

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 links to the Greater Shepparton 2030 Strategy.

b) Other strategic links

- Public Toilet Strategy 2020
- Universal Access and Inclusion Plan 2022 - 2026

Conclusion

Officers are seeking approval to revoke the current Public Toilet Policy and once the Public Toilet Policy revoking is approved, the Public Toilet Strategy 2020 will then be reviewed and presented to Council for approval every three years.

Attachments

Nil

14 Confidential Management Reports

14.1 Designation of Confidentiality of Information - Report

The following report and seven listed attachments have been designated confidential under Governance Rule 108 and in accordance with the definition of *Confidential Information* in the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act).

- Intention to sell land GV Link – Completion of Local Government Act Processes

These documents contain information, which is consistent with the Local Government Act 2020, definition of 'Council Business information, being information that would prejudice the Council's position in commercial negotiations if prematurely released'.

14.2 Close Meeting to Members of the Public

RECOMMENDATION

That pursuant to section 66(1) of the Local Government Act 2020, resolve that the Council Meeting be closed to members of the public for consideration of the following confidential item:

- **Intention to Sell Land GV Link – Completion of Local Government Act Processes.**



15 Documents for Signing and Sealing

Nil Received.

16 Councillor Reports

16.1 Councillor Activities

16.1.1 Councillor Activities - April 2024

Author Executive Assistant to the CEO
 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 interests regarding the matter under construction.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council receive and note the summary of the Councillors' Community Interactions and Informal Meetings of Councillors.

Mayor's Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 April 2024 to 30 April 2024, the Mayor has been involved in the following activities:

Shepparton Festival - Media & Official Opening of the Festival 2024
 Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Shepparton Gators Basketball (GSBA) | Opening Round
 Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Shepparton Rotary Club - Car Show
 Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) | RCV Chair and Victorian Planning Authority Chair
 Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

**Greater Shepparton City Council & Toyoake City Council
 International Relations Dinner**
 Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Little Children's Food Bowl Festival
 Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

**Minister Announcement | Minister for Community Sport
Regional Sport Infrastructure Fund - Shepparton BMX Projects**
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Eid Festival – Shepparton Turkish Association
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Fire Ops 101
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

**Goulburn Murray Trade Skills Centre – Redevelopment
Walk through with the Minister for Training and Skills**
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Parliament of Victoria | Legislative Council Regional Sitting - Welcome Reception
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) | General Meeting
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Visit and tour | Shepparton Access & Eco Store
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

FoodShare Visit | Minister for Training and Skills
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Rotary District 9790 - Conference 2024
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Melbourne to Museum of Vehicle Evolution (MOVE) | Luncheon
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Morris Registrar Car Event 2024 – Welcome function
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

GSCC & Murray River Group of Councils
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Goulburn Valley Grammar School | ANZAC Day Service 2024
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

ANZAC Day 2024 - Dawn Service | Shepparton
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

ANZAC Day 2024 – Wreath Laying Ceremony | Shepparton
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

The Consul General - Hanna Pappalardo | Italian Ceremony (Murchison)
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Morris Register of Australia 2024 – Car Show Exhibition
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Sabah Harvest Festival 2024
Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

National Transport Research Organisation (NTRO) - Port Melbourne

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Mayor and Councillors' Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 April 2024 to 30 April 2024, the Mayor and Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

Punjab Sports Club - Shepparton | 8th Kabaddi Cup

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

Gators Basketball Game | Opening Round

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

Shepparton Rotary Car Show

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

Shepparton Festival - Opening of the Festival 2024

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Ben Ladson

Viewing the Volvo Electric Vehicle | FOOTT Waste

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Greg James

Cr Ben Ladson

Cr Fern Summer

Mayor & Councillors - Town Catch Up | Kialla Central

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Greg James

Cr Dinny Adem

Cr Anthony Brophy

Shepparton Saleyards Advisory Committee Meeting

Cr Geoff Dobson

Calder Woodburn Memorial Meeting

Cr Anthony Brophy

Converge on the Goulburn 2024

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Fern Summer

Cr Ben Ladson

Cr Anthony Brophy

Australian Flying Disc Association | Division 2 - Championships (Frisbee)

Cr Fern Summer

Breakfast in the Park - Mooroopna Probus

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Murray Darling Basin - Leadership Summit 2024

Cr Geoff Dobson

Shepparton Vaisakhi Mela 2024 Tournament – Flag Raising

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

EcoCafe Enterprises | Official Opening

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Greg James

Cr Fern Summer

Cr Ben Ladson

Parliament of Victoria | Youth Forum

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Greg James

Cr Fern Summer

Cr Ben Ladson

Greater Shepparton Business Network | Launch of Business Big Ideas Festival

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Seema Abdullah

Best Start Early Years Alliance Meeting

Cr Seema Abdullah

Development Hearing Panel Meeting

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Shepparton Vaisakhi Mela 2024 Tournament

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Fern Summer

Cr Ben Ladson

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Seema Abdullah

Get Hooked on Fishing! Family Fun Event

Cr Ben Ladson

Melbourne to MOVE | Finish Line Festival

Cr Ben Ladson

Cr Anthony Brophy

RiverConnect Implementation Advisory Committee Meeting

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

ANZAC Day 2024 | Murchison

Cr Fern Summer

ANZAC Day 2024 - Dawn Service - Shepparton

Cr Anthony Brophy

Anzac Day Service 2024 - Mooroopna

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Anzac Day Service 2024 – Toolamba

Cr Anthony Brophy

Anzac Day Service 2024 – Tatura

Cr Ben Ladson

Australian Local Government Women's Association (ALGWA) Conference 2024

Cr Seema Abdullah

Tamil New Year

Cr Anthony Brophy

2024 Morris Register of Australia National Rally | Closing Ceremony

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Mayor & Councillors - Town Catch Up – Tatura

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

Attachments

1. Informal Meeting of Councillors and CEO Catch Up 5 March 2024 [**16.1.1.1** - 1 page]
2. Informal Meeting of Councillors and CEO Catch Up 12 March 2024 [**16.1.1.2** - 1 page]
3. Informal Meeting of Councillors and CEO Catch Up 19 March 2024 [**16.1.1.3** - 1 page]
4. Informal Meetings of Council Councillor Briefing 2 April 2024 [**16.1.1.4** - 2 pages]
5. Informal Meetings of Council Councillor Briefing 9 April 2024 [**16.1.1.5** - 2 pages]
6. Informal Meetings of Council Councillor Briefing 16 April 2024 [**16.1.1.6** - 2 pages]
7. Informal Meetings of Council Councillor Briefing 23 April 2024 [**16.1.1.7** - 2 pages]
8. Informal Meetings of Council Councillor Briefing 30 April 2024 [**16.1.1.8** - 2 pages]
9. Informal Meeting of Councillors and CEO Catch Up 2 April 2024 [**16.1.1.9** - 1 page]
10. Informal Meeting of Councillors and CEO Catch Up 9 April 2024 [**16.1.1.10** - 1 page]
11. Informal Meeting of Councillors and CEO Catch Up 16 April 2024 [**16.1.1.11** - 1 page]

16.1.2 Councillor Activities (Amended) - March 2024

Author Senior Governance Officer
 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 interests regarding the matter under construction.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council receive and note the amended summary of the Councillors' Community Interactions and Informal Meetings of Councillors.

Mayor's Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 March 2024 to 31 March 2024, the Mayor has been involved in the following activities:

2024 Winner of Australia's Best Hot Cross Bun & Australia's Best Vanilla Slice | Official Presentation

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

RCV | Wodonga City Council and Logic Wodonga visit

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

RCV | Rural Councils Victoria Reception – Melbourne

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Property Council of Australia - Victorian Division | Geelong Outlook

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Soroptimist International of Shepparton | International Women's Day Breakfast

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Opening of Rock Festival in Shepparton

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) Meeting

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

2024 Country Fire Authority | Volunteer Fire Bridge Victoria - Urban Junior State Championships

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Interfaith Iftar - Function and Dinner

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Local Government Information Session - Commercial and Industrial Property Tax Reform.

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

HussIn 14th Birthday Open Day and Charity Show – pre event visit by the Mayor

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Regional Cities Victoria (RCV) delegation - Parliament House, Canberra

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

St Anne's College - Grade 1 & 2 | Mayoral Visit

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Wilmot Road Primary School - Grade 3 & 4 | Visit to Council

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

'Melbourne Victory' Chief Executive Officer and members | Visit to Greater Shepparton

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Goulburn Murray Community Leadership | Fairley Leadership Program – Launch

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Citizenship Ceremony 2024 - 28 March 2024

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Devenish Dookie & District | Royal Children Hospital Appeal

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Shepparton Lawn Tennis Club | 2024 'Centenary' Easter Tournament

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Mayor and Councillors' Community Interaction and Briefing Program

From 1 March 2024 to 31 March 2024, some or all of the Councillors have been involved in the following activities:

Badminton Victoria | Junior State Titles presentations

Cr Fern Summer

The Big Ask! - Community Mental Health Event

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Fern Summer

Shepparton Albanian - Harvest Festival 2024

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Fern Summer

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Dinny Adem

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Ben Ladson

Eastern Goulburn Valley - Country Women's Association | AGM

Cr Dinny Adem

International Women's Day | Victoria's Chief Health Officer - Dr Clare Looker

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Anthony Brophy

Cr Dinny Adem

GV Afghan Women Association - Shepparton | International Women's Day

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Dinny Adem

Cr Seema Abdullah

Victorian Aboriginal Community Services Association (VACSA) - Basketball Classic | Grand Final Presentations

Cr Greg James

Greater Shepparton City Council - Councillors Town Catch Up – Dookie

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Anthony Brophy

Wulumbarra Marrin-Bidja Workshop - Cultural Burn

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Development Hearing Panel (DHP)

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Shepparton Italian Festa

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Fern Summer

Cr Dinny Adem

Cr Ben Ladson

Visitor Economy and Major Events | Industry Luncheon

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Greg James

Tatura Park Advisory Committee Meeting

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Greater Shepparton City Council - Councillors Town Catch Up – Murchison

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Seema Abdullah

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Anthony Brophy

Official Opening | All Saints Anglican School & Commissioning of Foundation Principal

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Anthony Brophy

University of Melbourne, Dookie Campus Tour & DiGS Information Session

Cr Dinny Adem

2024 Country Fire Authority | Volunteer Fire Bridge Victoria - Urban Senior, Rural Junior & Senior State Championships | Opening Ceremony

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Anthony Brophy

HussIn 14th Birthday Open Day and Charity Show

Cr Anthony Brophy

36th Philippine House Anniversary and Multicultural Event

Cr Anthony Brophy

HOLI - *Hindu* Festival of Colours

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Anthony Brophy

National Galley of Victoria (NGV) collection comes to SAM

Deputy Mayor, Cr Sam Spinks

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Anthony Brophy

GV Libraries Special Board Meeting

Cr Greg James

Unveiling of Gifted Furphy Tank End from Furphy family

Mayor, Cr Shane Sali

Cr Geoff Dobson

Cr Anthony Brophy

Attachments

Nil

17 Notice of Motion, Amendment or Rescission

17.1 Notice of Motion 8/2024 - Community Feedback on the Fortnightly Collection of the Red Bin

Author Senior Governance Officer
Approved by Chief Executive Officer
Purpose For Decision at a Council Meeting

Cr Ben Ladson has given a notice of intent to move:

RECOMMENDATION

That the Council:

1. Call for a Council Officer Report that seeks community feedback on the fortnightly collection of the landfill bin (red lid bin).
2. For the Council Report detailing officer recommendations be presented at the July 2024 Ordinary Council Meeting.

18 Urgent Business not Included on the Agenda

Nil Received.

19 Close of Meeting