



# **Ordinary Meeting of Council Attachments**

**Monday 29 April 2019**

**Council Chamber, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood**

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**ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – PUBLIC RECORD**

**Assembly Details:**

Date: Monday 18 March 2019      Time: 6:00pm      Location: Meeting Room 4,  
Braeside Avenue,  
Ringwood

**Attendees:**

<b>Councillors</b>		
Cr Rob Steane (Mayor)	Cr Marijke Graham	Cr Mike Symon
Cr Kylie Spears (Deputy Mayor)	Cr Tasa Damante	Cr Nora Lamont
Cr Tony Dib, JP	Cr Paul Macdonald	
<b>Council Officers:</b>		
Steve Kozlowski	Chief Executive Officer	
Marianne Di Giallonardo	Director Corporate Services	
Grant Meyer	Acting Director Strategy & Community	
Adam Todorov	Director Operations, Assets & Leisure	
Andrew Fuaux	Director Development & Amenity	
Tim Cocks	Manager Leisure	Items 2-4
Josh Burt	Coordinator Sport, Recreation and Events	Items 2 & 4
Jeanette Ingram	Sports and Recreation Planning and Policy	Item 2
Amity Patten	Manager Karralyka Centre	Item 3
Kirstie Dench	Sports and Recreation Liaison Officer	Item 4
Chloe Messerle	Administration Officer - Governance	

**Apologies:**

Councillors:	Cr Samantha Mazzuchelli
Council Officers:	Phil Turner

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure:**

Councillors:	Nil
Council Officers:	Nil

**Items Discussed:                    ## Confidential**

1	Council Meeting Agenda
2	Equally Active - Womens & Girls Active Female Participation Strategy
3	Maroondah 2019 Spiegelent Update
4	Capital Works for Community Groups and Committees of Council 2019/20
5	Council Chamber Concept Option##
6	Planning Issue - Illegal Brothels##
7	Items of a General Nature Raised by Councillors

**Record completed by:**

Council Officer	Chloe Messerle
Title	Governance Officer



**ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – PUBLIC RECORD**

**Assembly Details:**

Date: Monday 8 April 2019

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Meeting Room 4,  
Braeside Avenue,  
Ringwood

**Attendees:**

**Councillors**

Cr Rob Steane (Mayor)  
Cr Kylie Spears (Deputy Mayor)  
Cr Tony Dib, JP

Cr Samantha Mazzuchelli  
Cr Tasa Damante  
Cr Paul Macdonald

Cr Mike Symon  
Cr Nora Lamont  
Cr Marijke Graham

**Council Officers:**

Steve Kozlowski  
Marianne Di Giallonardo  
Grant Meyer  
Adam Todorov  
Andrew Fuaux  
Dale Muir  
Kirsten Jenkins

Chief Executive Officer  
Director Corporate Services  
Acting Director Strategy & Community  
Director Operations, Assets & Leisure  
Director Development & Amenity  
Manager Revenue Property & Customer Service Item 2  
Manager Health, Local Laws and Emergency Management Item 3  
Emergency Management Officer Item 3  
Manager Leisure Item 4  
Coordinator Sport, Recreation and Events Item 4  
Senior Strategic Planner Item 5  
Team Leader Governance

**Others:**

Mr Kim Fox - Treasurer, MENA - Item 1  
Mr Colin O'Loughlin - Vice President, MENA - Item 1

**Apologies:**

Councillors:

Nil

Council Officers:

Phil Turner, Director Strategy & Community

**Conflict of Interest Disclosure:**

Councillors:

Cr Spears: Item 1 - HE Parker Multisports Stadium  
Reason: Cr Spears is President of Melbourne East Netball Association, anchor tenant of the stadium

Council Officers:

Nil

**Items Discussed:                    ## Confidential**

1	HE Parker Multisports Presentation
2	Property Matters - 193 Dorset Road Croydon - 4A Kitchener Road Croydon
3	Municipal Fire Management Plan
4	Melbourne Outer East Hockey Feasibility Study
5	Ringwood MAC Planning Scheme Amendment Update
6	Neighbourhood Character Study Review Update
7	Draft Councillor Expenses Support and Reimbursement Policy
8	MAV May 2019 State Council Motions
9	April Community Assistance Fund
10	Items of a General Nature Raised by Councillors

**Record completed by:**

Council Officer	Stephen Onans
Title	Team Leader Governance

**Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee Meeting  
Thursday 7 March 2019, 9:30am – 11:30am**

**Meeting held at Ringwood Lake Park**

*Minutes are yet to be confirmed. They will be presented to the Committee at the next meeting to be held on 16 May 2019.*

**Attendees:**

Cr Kylie Spears (Chair), Angela Fitzpatrick, Kim Gear, Cara Hudson, Jacob Matthew, Judith Lenthall, Ron Major, Amelia Milroy, Melinda Spencer

**Support:**

Fiona Burridge, Jack Mulholland, Judy Morris (admin support)

**Guest speakers:**

Anton Peiris, Coordinator Asset Management; and Stefanie Black, Open Space Projects Improvements

**1. Opening of meeting**

Welcome by Cr Kylie Spears

**1.1 Apologies:**

Cr Tony Dib, Michelle Egan, Andrea Salmon, Jenny Newman

Cr Kylie Spears

**Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 15 November 2018**

Minutes moved by:

Moved: Cara Hudson      Seconded: Amelia Milroy

**1.2 Conflict of Interest Declaration/Minutes/Business Arising**

No conflicts of interest were advised

Cr Kylie Spears

**2. Tour of Ringwood Lake Park**

Anton Peiris, Co-ordinator Asset Management, and Stefanie Black, Open Space Projects Improvements

The Committee was consulted during the design stages of Ringwood Lake Park and this tour provided an opportunity to provide further feedback from a disability perspective.

The Committee were asked for their advice on concepts that have worked well at Ringwood Lake Park that could be introduced in other Council play spaces in the future.

The following points were made:

- Natural seating around the sandpit is a good height for inclusiveness
- Great to see a parent/toddler swing and the liberty swing included in the general swing area
- Good use of natural landscape as barriers and for shade
- Synthetic grass is often used by families with babies, very family friendly as can watch other children on the swings while sitting in a shaded, grass area
- Different coloured surfaces work well for vision impaired, like those near the swing area
- Good incorporation of wooden carved native animals

- Soft fall pathways in timber playground area are good from a safety perspective but also work well for people with mobility issues. This surface is not as jarring on the body as a hard surface
- Height of timber climbing frame encourages spacial awareness
- Relaxing setting and water is calming - positive for mental health
- Many quiet spaces around the park
- Different surfaces throughout the park offer different sensory experiences
- Good use of inclusive play equipment such as the whirly-go-round, ramps on climbing frame, water wheel on the eel
- Flat surfaces throughout the area so easily accessible for those with mobility concerns
- Disabled parking area is great. It would be worthwhile to consider including at other Council parks and reserves
- Further promotion of the accessible features of the park

Some suggestions were made:

- Directional signage for toilets, swings etc
- Signs for the toilet facilities are too low and can't be seen by someone in a wheelchair - a second set of signs could be installed above the corten steel panel
- Synthetic grass can get very hot if exposed to the sun. It is fine at this park as the area is well shaded but important to keep in mind for future applications.
- Shade is needed over the sandpit area
- Kerb rails are needed at the beginning of the timber climbing frame all the way to the start of the silver ramp to prevent someone with limited mobility falling off the side
- It would be good if the current red rails on the climbing frame went all the way to the bottom to prevent someone slipping and falling off the side
- The water wheel was hard to turn for someone with a physical disability
- Silver stepping shapes were slippery to walk on
- It would be helpful to have an information sign about the matching game on the climbing frame
- Council could better promote fully fenced parks within Maroondah to the community

### **3. Morning Tea**

### **4. 2018 Disability Advisory Committee Achievements Report**

Fiona Burridge, Community Development Officer

The Committee were provided with an electronic copy of the 2018 Disability Advisory Committee Achievements Report prior to the meeting and a hardcopy of the Report at the meeting.

The Achievements Report was recently presented to Councillors detailing the Committee's history, objectives and achievements over the past twelve months. Cr Spears advised that it was well received and that the Committee's work is highly valued.

The Report was accepted by the Committee with no changes made. The report will now be presented to Council at the next Council meeting on 18 March 2019.

Comments were made regarding Croydon Memorial Pool being well used by families and could include a music/movie night during summer. A request was made for an update on the Maroondah Leisure Pricing Policy.

**Action:** Fiona to follow up on an update on Maroondah's Leisure Pricing Policy at a future meeting

**5. Draft Disability Policy & Action Plan 2019-2021**

Fiona Burrridge, Community Development Officer

The Committee was provided with a copy of the Draft Disability Policy & Action Plan 2019-2021 with an electronic copy to be emailed with the minutes of the meeting.

The Plan works towards Maroondah's 2040 outcomes: -

- *a safe, healthy and active community*
- *an accessible and connected community*
- *an inclusive and diverse community.*

The Plan is a statutory obligation prepared in line with the requirements of the Disability Act 2006. Council reports on the progress of the Plan in its Annual Report.

The Draft Plan will be placed on public exhibition for a four week period from 20 March to 17 April 2019.

Several areas of the Plan were discussed:

- Highlights of Disability Policy & Action Plan 2014-2018.
- Disability statistics within Maroondah which relates to all ages.
- Outline of community engagement which included Café Consult at the 2017 Maroondah Festival, community surveys, workshops, interviews with disability organisations and internal consultation.
- The report covers four key focus areas
  - Social & Economic Inclusion
  - Services & Information
  - Design, Infrastructure & Transport
  - Advocacy & Leadership

The previous plan extended for four years whereas this plan is for a three-year period to align the timeline with the Maroondah Health & Wellbeing Plan.

Although the public can give feedback until 17 April 2019, it has been requested that the Committee provides feedback by the end of March to allow time to address any concerns or suggestions.

Once the consultation period has finished, any required changes will be made, and the Draft Disability Policy & Action Plan 2019-2021 will be formally presented to Council. The Plan will be designed, printed and distributed to Council facilities and other interested parties.

Communication access training for Council's Customer Service Team was mentioned as well as Council employment for people with disabilities. Both topics are related to actions in the draft Plan.

Any questions regarding the Draft Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 can be directed to Fiona Burrridge, Community Development Officer.

**6. Information on PTV Presentation**

Jacob Matthews, Member of Disability Advisory Committee

Jacob attended the Public Transport Victoria (PTV) International Day of People with a Disability event and presented on the challenges of using public transport for people with a physical disability. Jacob's focus was Croydon Station as he had been advocating for quite some time for suitable shelter to be available at the station.

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Jacob presented a very clear message of the impact and consequences on his daily life if he can't access public transport. He was keen for changes to be made across the whole network not just at Croydon station. He also spoke about the need for raised platforms near the driver's door to help increase independence and inclusion.

Jacob suggested that PTV look at their planning and design process and consider changing policies, so suitable shelter and raised platforms would be automatically included in new and upgraded stations. Jacob's presentation was well received by the employees of PTV.

Council's MetroAccess Officer also attended the event and spoke about a film titled 'Defiant Lives' by Sarah Barton which is a story of how the disability rights movement in the United States, Britain and Australia literally changed the world we live in. It was suggested that the movie could be presented to the Maroondah community.

**Action:** MetroAccess Officer to investigate the cost of presenting 'Defiant Lives' in Maroondah.

Discussion was held on the Chrisalis Foundation Inc which is a not for profit foundation which raises funds to provide resources, support and education to young people living with disabilities in Victoria to enable them to live a fulfilling life.

Jacob announced that he is the Ambassador for Chrisalis Foundation for the next two years as publicised in their first newsletter for 2019.

**Action:** Fiona to email the newsletter to the Committee with the minutes.

**7. MetroAccess projects for 2018/2019**  
Jack Mulholland, MetroAccess Officer

Council's MetroAccess Officer is working on a unique and important project regarding pornography and the impact on people with autism. The project is called 'Porn is NOT the norm'. An outline of the project was given with discussion on future resources and support. The project is being driven by Maroondah City Council and we are waiting on a response from the State Government regarding a request for future funding.

**8. Other Business**

Kylie spoke about a disability housing building located in Caroline Street Ringwood. There has been recent kerb and channel works which has resulted in people in wheelchairs not able to cross the channel. Kylie has reported the issue to Council's Engineering department and they are investigating it.

**9. Close of meeting**

The meeting closed at 11:30 am  
The next meeting will be held on 16 May 2019.

Cr Kylie Spears

Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 27 February 2019

**Minutes – Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee**

**Wednesday 27 February 2019**

**Meeting held at Realm 6pm -7.30pm**

- 1) Attendees:** Cr Mike Symon (Chair), Cr Marijke Graham, Deputy Mayor Cr Kylie Spears, Roger Archbold, Les Chessells, Jo Herbig, Sharyn Mullens Taylor, Kiron Robinson, Debra Styles (Manager Community Services), Rosalie Hastwell (Team Leader Arts and Cultural Development), Emily Jones (Curator Exhibitions and Collection)

**Apologies:** Grant Meyer (Acting Director – Planning and Community)

**2) Conflict of Interest**

None

**3) Confirmation of Record of Proceedings:**

**Move:** That the Record of Proceedings from the Meeting held on 12 December 2018 be accepted

**First:** Cr Kylie Spears

**Second:** Roger Archbold

**4) Business arising from last meeting:**

**a) Public Art update**

**Action 6.1** The Committee's advice for a design-led approach to the H E Parker Hall of Fame has been communicated to the project management group. Further advice will be provided by Arts and Cultural Development staff to the group as required.

**Action 6.2** A communications plan has been put in place regarding the relocation of the Leaf Totems sculpture from Croydon Civic Square to Maroondah Federation Estate and the commissioning of a replacement work for the Square by late June. Advertising is currently underway for artists to respond to the brief for the new commission. .

**Action 6.3** Arts and Cultural Development staff are investigating a curated signal box art project to be presented in conjunction with the 2019 - 2020 Mc Givern Prize, utilising signal boxes in Ringwood between the two exhibition sites at Realm and Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery.

**b) Indigenous Arts Action Plan update**

Les Chessells and Rosalie Hastwell will co-ordinate a workshop for MMIGP members and Arts and Cultural Development staff to identify detailed actions in line with the Maroondah Reconciliation Action Plan

Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 27 February 2019

**5) The Backyard**

MAAC members visited The Backyard site, Ringwood Town Square. Roger Archbold and Rosalie Hastwell gave a brief introduction and presentation about the site, its urban artworks, ownership, management and uses to date. A short presentation ( attached) and further discussion following the visit included:

- Brief overview of arts and cultural events presented by /supported by Council in the Backyard during 2017 and 2018
- Updates on Council's liaison with Eastland regarding a partnership to present Public Art Tours, as well as further arts events in The Backyard
- Some of the potentials and challenges of activating the site

**Action:**

**5.1** Encourage Karralyka to invite Spiegel tent artists to view the site and consider potential for commercial events. Invite Manager of Karralyka to a future meeting to discuss potential links between the Backyard and Spiegel tent programming

**5.2** Arts and Cultural Development to present opportunity for local artists and groups to view the site and consider potential activations

**5.3** Ensure that strategies for further activation of The Backyard and other outdoor spaces within the Ringwood arts precinct are included as part of the Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025

**6) Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025**

An outline of proposed key areas for research and consultation towards the Strategy was presented and discussed.

The MAAC endorsed the key focus areas with some further inclusions within these areas. (See attached).

It was noted that the phrase "Art in unexpected places" which appears in the document is also the byline that is used by the Immerse Festival ( Knox City Council) as well as some other arts programs/initiatives.

**Action:** Research and consultation for the 2020 - 2025 Arts and Cultural Development Strategy to include the key focus areas as outlined in the attached document.

**7) Collection Policy**

Curator Exhibitions and Collection Emily Jones presented an overview of the Maroondah City Council Art Collection, (See attached). Discussion points included:

- Opportunities for public access to the Collection including at Realm
- Engagement with schools and broader community
- Priorities for Collection strategy - which may include local focus and interest; potential for a specialized collection

**Action:** Jo Herbig to provide Emily Jones with a copy of Acquisition Criteria recently adopted by Knox City Council

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Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 27 February 2019

**Action:** An additional meeting to be scheduled for March or April to include establishing priorities for the Collection strategy

**8) Other Business**

- a) Council has submitted an application for funding from the VicHealth Gender Equality and Creative industries grants program for *Advantage!*, an arts, sport and gender equality project developed through a creative collaboration between Maroondah City Council, Ausdance, Fresh Theatre, the Melbourne East Netball Association (MENA) and the Eastern Football League (EFL) with support from corporate partner Eastland.
- b) Additional meetings may be scheduled during 2019 in order to provide adequate time for discussion around key policies and plans including the Collection Policy and 2020 - 2025 Arts and Cultural Development Strategy. MAAC members confirmed that the most suitable time for additional meetings is Wednesdays 6 - 7.30pm.

**9) Next Meetings**

An additional meeting will be scheduled for March/April in line with Items 7 and 8 above. The meeting will be held at Maroondah Federation Estate. Further details will be emailed to MAAC members as soon as possible

Following the additional meeting in March/April ( see above) the next scheduled meeting will be Wednesday 29 May 6 - 7.30pm.

## Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum

### Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 21 February 2019

**Time:** 6:00pm (Forum)

**Location:** Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre  
Clarendon Rooms A&B, 1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf

**Theme:** Resource Recovery Issues and Opportunities 2019

Item	Description
1.	<b>Welcome &amp; introduction</b> - Cr Dot Haynes, Forum Chair
2.	<b>Minutes of last meeting</b> <b>Moved:</b> Cr Jack Medcraft (Hume City Council), <b>Seconded:</b> Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule City Council) Motion carried. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 November 2018 were adopted.
3.	<b>Election of Forum Chair, Deputy Chair and SPAG representatives</b> - Rob Millard, CEO, MWRRG <b>Returning Officers</b> – Cr Sam Alessi, Evy Papadopoulos (MWRRG Board). <b>Election of Forum Chair</b> <b>Nominees:</b> Cr Lina Messina (Darebin City Council), Cr Megan Bridger-Darling (Maribyrnong City Council). <b>Election result:</b> Cr Lina Messina (Darebin City Council) was elected Forum Chair. <b>Election of Forum Deputy Chair</b> <b>Nominees:</b> Cr Megan Bridger-Darling (Maribyrnong City Council), Cr Dot Haynes (City of Manningham), Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule City Council). <b>Election result:</b> Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule City Council) was elected Deputy Chair. <b>Election of Councillor Representatives of SPAG (five positions)</b> Cr Lina Messina (Darebin City Council) automatically appointed as Forum Chair. <b>Nominees:</b> Cr Bill Bennett (City of Whitehorse), Cr Megan Bridger-Darling (Maribyrnong City Council), Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule City Council), Cr Jim Child (Yarra Ranges Shire Council), Cr Jess Dorney (Moreland City Council), Cr Dot Haynes (City of Manningham), Cr Collin Ross (Cardinia Shire Council), Cr Steve Kozmevski (Whittlesea City Council). <b>Election result:</b> Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule City Council), Cr Collin Ross (Cardinia Shire Council), Cr Jess Dorney (Moreland City Council), Cr Megan Bridger-Darling (Maribyrnong City Council) were elected.
4.	<b>Metro update</b> - Rob Millard, CEO, MWRRG
5.	<b>MWRRG Board update &amp; referrals</b> - Cr Colleen Gates, MWRRG Board Chair
6.	<b>SPAG update</b> - Cr Lina Messina, SPAG Acting Chair - See Feb SPAG meeting minutes
7.	<b>TARG update</b> - Misty Johannsen, TARG Chair - See Feb TARG meeting minutes

8. **Panel Discussion - "What are the current recycling issues and responses for local government?"**

Convenor: Rob Millard, CEO, MWRRG

Panel: Damian Wells, Executive Director, Regulatory Capability, Engagement & Legal, EPA Victoria; Kath Rowley, Executive Director, Climate Change, DELWP Victoria; Greg Mulcahy, Strategic Contracts Manager, MWRRG; Mark Smith, Exec Officer, Victorian Waste Management Association

9. **Motion from the floor brought by Cr Clarke Martin (Bayside City Council).**

*That the Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum advise the MWRRG Board of the need to ask the Minister for the Environment to urgently convene a taskforce comprising representatives for MAV, the Metropolitan Waste Management Forum, the Metropolitan Waste Management and Resource Recovery Group and key State Government decision makers to identify and implement sustainable solutions to the current crisis in the recycling sector.*

Motion seconded by Cr Megan Bridger-Darling (Maribyrnong City Council). **Motion carried.**

10. **What's next & closing address – Cr Lina Messina, Forum Chair**

**Meeting close and networking - Meeting closed at 8.30 pm**

**Attendees**

**Councillors:** Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule); Cr Clarke Martin (Bayside); Cr Cynthia Watson (Boroondara); Cr Bruce Lancashire (Brimbank); Cr Amanda Stapledon (Casey); Cr Lina Messina (Darebin); Cr Colin Hampton (Frankston); Cr Jack Medcraft (Hume); Cr Dot Haynes (Manningham); Cr Megan Bridger-Darling (Maribyrnong); Cr Mike Symon (Maroondah); Cr Steve Abboushi (Melton); Cr Brian Little (Monash); Cr Dale Martin, Cr Jess Dorney (Moreland); Cr Antonella Celi, Cr Simon Brooks, Cr Hugh Fraser (Mornington Peninsula); Cr John Dumaresq (Nillumbik); Cr Katherine Copey (Port Phillip); Cr Judy Hindle (Stonnington); Cr Bill Bennett (Whitehorse); Cr Stevan Kozmevski (Whittlesea); Cr Peter Maynard (Wyndham); Cr Mike McEvoy (Yarra); Cr Jim Child (Yarra Ranges)

**Council officers:** Russell Darling (Banyule); Tim Cummins (Bayside); Natasza Purser (Boroondara); Robert Keenan (Brimbank); Jacqui Kelly (Cardinia); Michael Jansen (Casey); Sue Phillips (Darebin); Bruce Howden (Frankston); Phil Robertson, Tony Barca (Greater Dandenong); Kaylene Johnson (Hobsons Bay); Daniel Freer (Kingston); Misty Johannsen (Knox); Drago Lijovic (Manningham); Damian Thorp, Tony Rocca (Maroondah); April Williams (Monash); David Basil (Moonee Valley); Michaela Skett (Moreland); Jessica Wingad (Mornington Peninsula); Mikael Ooi (Nillumbik); Peter Benazic (Port Phillip); Ian Smith, Noel Kiernan (Stonnington); Brad Byrne (Whittlesea); Lisa Coffa (Yarra); Graham Brew (Yarra Ranges)

**MWRRG staff:** Robert Millard, Jo Regel, Corey Hale, Paul Clapham, Slavka Scott, Tony Rijs, Michelle Lee, Katherine Lyttle, Stan Vermeeren, Gayle Seddon, Greg Mulcahy, Jess Hand, Christine Dirksz, Dee Stanton, Nina Thomas, Robert Komel, Peter Richardi

**MWRRG Board:** Evy Papadopoulos, John Watson, Theresa Glab, Cr Tom Melican (Banyule), Cr Sam Alessi (Whittlesea), Cr Collin Ross (Cardinia), Cr Colleen Gates (Hobsons Bay)

**Guests:** Angela Hoefnagels, Kath Rowley (DELWP); Cate Turner (Sustainability Victoria); Mark Smith (VWMA); Damian Wells (EPA Victoria); Claire Dunn, Emlyn Breese (MAV)

**Apologies:** Margaret Donnan (MWRRG Board), Steven White (Bayside); Cr Matthew Kirwan (Greater Dandenong); James Roscoe (Glen Eira); Bernadette Thomas (Hume); Tim Scott (Kingston); Cr Simon Crawford, Steve Hamilton (Maribyrnong); Cr Cathy Oke, Kirstin Coote (Melbourne); Cr Bob Turner, Donna Schembri (Melton); Ian Barnes (Whitehorse); Simon Clay (Wyndham); Cr Jackie Fristacky (Yarra)

## Metropolitan Local Government Waste Forum

### Meeting summary – 21 February 2019

#### MWRRG's recent activities

**Advanced Waste Processing (AWP)** – MWRRG CEO, Rob Millard discussed the need for strategic facilities to increase resource recovery (particularly plastics and organics). The South East Advanced Waste Processing (AWP) Business Case is nearing completion, and preliminary work is underway in the North and West. In the South East, council CEOs are leading work streams and guiding the project. In late 2018, a market sounding exercise was conducted, which demonstrated strong support from industry, and MWRRG has recently commissioned social research into community attitudes towards AWP. In 2018 a capacity building program for local government explored communications and engagement, contracts and procurement and technology options.

**E-waste landfill ban** – takes effect from 1 July 2019. 20 councils have received infrastructure funding and 20 councils applied for education grants.

**Recycled content procurement** – A Forum Tour on 'Purchasing and market development support for recycling products' is scheduled for April 2019. This topic was a priority identified by the Strategies and Policy Advocacy Group (SPAG) and Technical Advisory Group (TARG) as part of the 2018 Sustainability Fund Investment Workshop hosted by MWRRG on Thursday, 27 September 2018.

**Litter and illegal dumping** – MWRRG has recently commissioned social research into understanding the cultural, social and systemic factors contributing to illegal dumping in metropolitan Melbourne. MWRRG is hosting a joint Council Litter Environmental Action Network event with Sustainability Victoria on plastic pollution on 22 February. DumpInData engagement is continuing.

#### Upcoming events

- Transfer Station Network meeting - Management and Storage of Combustible Recyclable and Waste Materials Guideline for councils and site operators' workshop, 4 April at Knox Transfer Station.
- Food Organics Garden Organics training workshops - Behaviour change & community engagement, 10 April.
- Multi-unit Developments - Engaging with residents and tailoring waste and resource recovery services for smarter and cleaner MUDs workshop, 13 March.

#### MWRRG Board Update

The Chair of MWRRG's Board, Cr Colleen Gates (Hobsons Bay City Council) introduced MWRRG Board members and provided an overview of the Board's responsibilities. This includes considering policy and recommendations from the Forum and SPAG, the development of MWRRG's Business Plan, input into the Implementation Plan, annual budgets, oversight of the CEO and advocating to government on key issues and opportunities. The Forum advises the MWRRG Board and acts as a conduit between local government and the Board. Colleen highlighted that the Forum can provide local government with the opportunity to hear from colleagues (e.g. November 2018 FOGO themed Forum). Colleen discussed the importance of partnerships to solve issues (e.g. Collective and/or sustainable procurement) and encouraged delegates to find out more about their own council's waste and recycling contracts including supplier, procurement model, expiry date and opportunities going forward. The MWRRG Board aims to strengthen connections with the Forum into the future, and looks forward to working with Forum, SPAG and TARG members in 2019.

#### Recycling panel

*Panel: Damian Wells, Executive Director, Regulatory Capability, Engagement & Legal, EPA Victoria; Kath Rowley, Executive Director, Climate Change, DELWP Victoria; Greg Mulcahy, Strategic Contracts Manager, MWRRG; Mark Smith, Exec Officer, Victorian Waste Management Association.*

Convenor: **Rob Millard, CEO, MWRRG.**

Rob provided background to the current recycling situation. The SKM Coolaroo fires in 2017 changed the sector dramatically and EPA Victoria implemented new guidelines, minimising the impact and risk to human health. China National Sword Policy in 2018 increased cost for local government, and funding support was provided by the Victorian Government. Funding has also been provided for collective recycling procurement (e.g. contracts with a stronger emphasis on contingency, sustainability, service provision). Currently, SKM processes more than 50% of Victoria's recyclables, but 20-25 metro councils and 19 regional councils will be ready to re-negotiate contracts soon.

Questions to the panel were related to the current situation, market failure, the lack of market development:

- *Natasza Purser (Boroondara): Can you provide and update on EPA Victoria's visit to SKM today?*
- *Cr Tom Melican (Banyule): Could waste be elevated to an essential service – like electricity – to prevent situations like this arising?*
- *Cr Peter Castaldo (Banyule): Will councils be provided with an explanation of what caused these issues, and why the supply chain is failing us? We need real answers to enact change.*
- *Sue Phillips (Darebin): Council contracts must comply with Local Government Act and provide value for money. This binds councils to contractors who provide the best value for money. How useful is it for contracts to include clawback clauses if companies go under?*
- *Cr Jack Medcraft (Hume): Hume has a lot of issues with illegal dumping and dumping near waterways. Councils are often blamed for these issues, and the penalties are too small. How has so much stockpiling (chemicals, waste) been allowed to occur?*
- *Cr Brian Little (Monash): Recycling sorting has been crude for many years. We now need sophisticated sorting to reduce contamination, so we can sell to China. Could the Sustainability Fund be used to assist industry to improve infrastructure.*

**Damian Wells, EPA Victoria**, advised that there had been no material change to the current situation, and SKM's sites are still non-compliant. EPA has been monitoring the sites daily and are ready to inspect them as soon as SKM indicate they can comply. The current situation is not about infrastructure failure, but about material flows that exceed processing capacity. Recycling is a competitive sector, and EPA cannot provide commercial in confidence information to the marketplace. EPA's obligation under the Environment Protection Act is as a regulator, prioritising human health and environment. Since the implementation of the new guidelines on the management and storage of combustible recyclable and waste materials, EPA has done 469 inspections at 169 sites across the state and have been supporting industry to comply with the new requirements. WorkSafe has been supporting EPA in instances with chemical stockpiles, and EPA is expanding capacity to address and prosecute stockpiles of waste which may be related to organised crime. EPA has recently received \$9 million from the Victorian Government to tackle illegal dumping.

**Kath Rowley, Executive Director, Climate Change, DELWP**, agreed that the current situation is complex. The recycling sector has vulnerabilities, especially its lack of reserve capacity. This means there is pressure if anything breaks down. Responses can include: Contractual responses (e.g. upfront due diligence, guarantees in event of issues, improved transparency). MWRRG and LGV have been working on clauses that can assist with this (see MWRRG's website); Regulatory responses (e.g. reinvigorated regulatory framework (from 2020), working groups currently underway, with public consultation to come); Market responses – making the market attractive to new entrants (e.g. collective procurement). All solutions will be needed to effectively fix the current situation and all parties have a role to play.

The Victorian Government has previously provided funding for advanced recycling sorting machinery, for councils, and processors of priority material (paper, plastic). The government would like to see an increase in the local recovery of material, not just international recovery.

Kath noted that waste is a core function of local government, although all levels of government need to be supportive of one another. The National Waste Policy update has had input from Commonwealth, state and territory governments, Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) and public consultation. The policy provides a broad vision for circular economy, and DELWP is working to give practical effect to this vision.

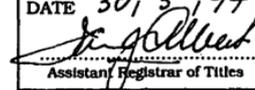
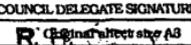
The Victorian Government would like to see more action from the Commonwealth Government (e.g. investment, regulation, market development). At state level, Sustainability Victoria has been working on a market development program to increase the uptake of products made from recycled materials, including product standards and specifications (e.g. roads).

The Victorian Government has provided \$100 million funding over the last term; it is likely more investment will be considered in future budgets.

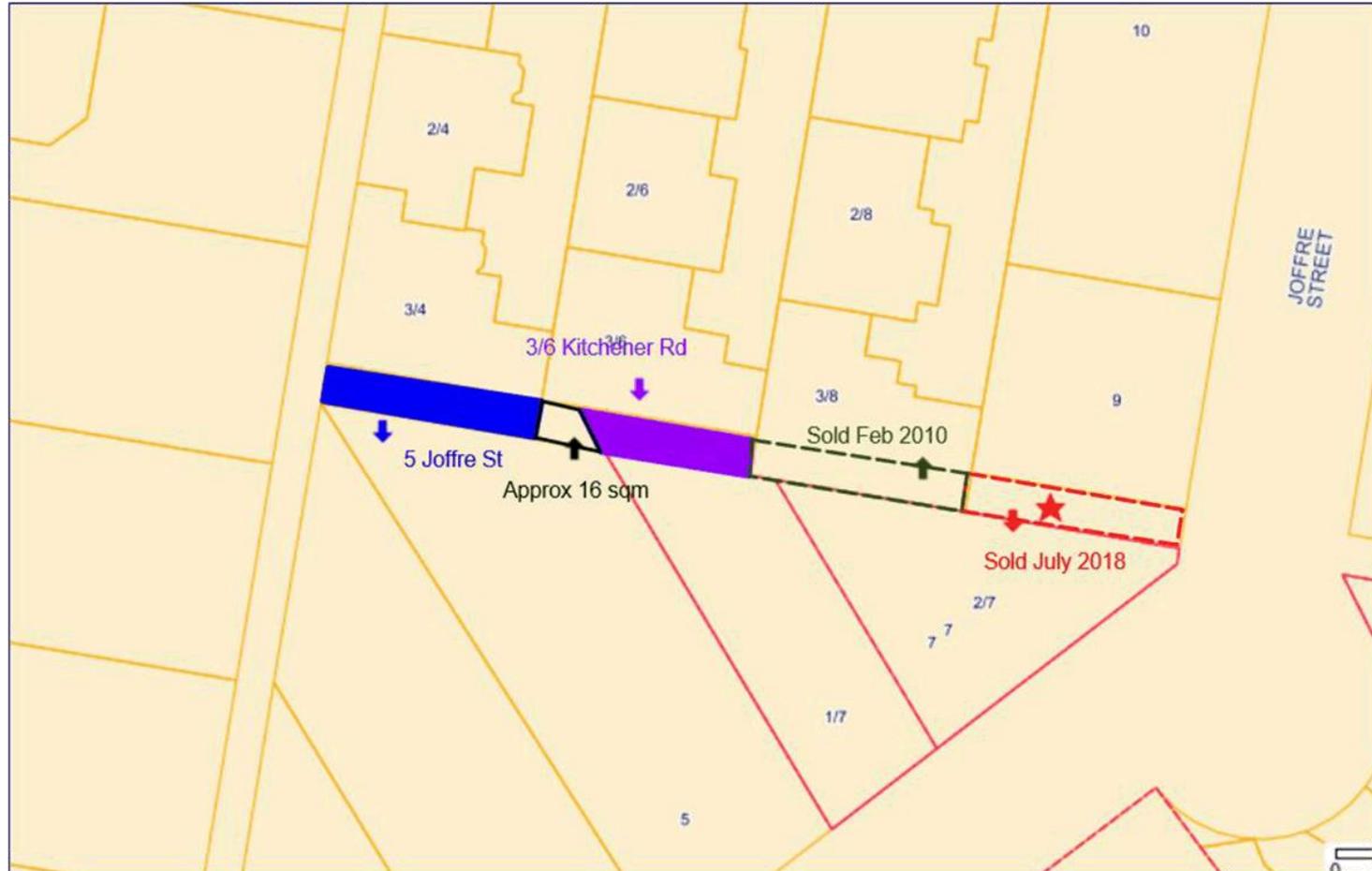
**Mark Smith, Executive Officer, Victorian Waste Management Association** - in response to the question of whether waste should be classified as an essential service - replied that while the waste industry may not want the accompanying price regulation there are advantages of being classified as an essential service like continuation of service. Mark agreed that the current issues facing the recycling sector are complex with many contributing factors (e.g. the throwaway society, a lack of market for recyclables and consumer attitudes towards products made from recycled materials), but previous experience (e.g. drought) suggests that a concerted effort from all involved can make a real difference.

The waste and resource recovery network has a single point of dependency, and more resilience needs to be built into the sector (e.g. AWP, storage facilities, temporary storage options). Currently, a VAGO audit is looking at government investment in waste and resource recovery.

*Addition questions were submitted to the panel, and responses will be provided in a separate document.*

<b>PLAN OF SUBDIVISION</b>		STAGE NO. /	LTO use only <b>EDITION</b>	Plan Number <b>PS 314897W</b>
<b>Location of Land</b> Parish: <b>MOOROOLBARK</b> <del>Township:</del> <del>Section:</del> Crown Allotment: <b>11A (PART)</b> <del>Crown Portion:</del>  LTO Base Record: <b>CHART 4 (3176)</b> Title Reference: <b>VOL 9026 FOL 635</b>  Last Plan Reference: <b>LP86687 LOT 1</b> Postal Address: <b>193 DORSET ROAD</b> (at time of subdivision) <b>CROYDON 3136</b>  AMG Co-ordinates (of approx. centre of land in plan) E 349 600 N 5816 100 Zone: <b>55</b>		<b>Council Certificate and Endorsement</b> Council Name: <b>City of Croydon</b> Ref: <b>60022477</b> 1. This plan is certified under section 6 of the Subdivision Act 1988. 2. <del>This plan is certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988.</del> <del>3. This is a statement of compliance issued under section 21 of the Subdivision Act 1988.</del> <b>OPEN SPACE</b> (i) A requirement for public open space under section 18 of the Subdivision Act 1988 has/had not been made. (ii) <del>The requirement has been satisfied.</del> (iii) <del>The requirement is to be satisfied in Stage.....</del> Council delegate <del>Council seal</del> Date <b>4 / 8 / 93</b> Re-certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988 Council Delegate Council Seal Date / /		
<b>Vesting of Roads and/or Reserves</b>				
Identifier	Council/Body/Person			
RESERVE NO.1 ROAD R1	CITY OF CROYDON CITY OF CROYDON			
<b>Notations</b>				
<b>Staging</b>		This is/ is not a staged subdivision Planning Permit No. <b>91 / 212</b>		
<b>Depth Limitation</b>		DOES NOT APPLY		
<b>Survey</b> This plan is/is not based on survey This survey has been connected to permanent marks no(s) In Proclaimed Survey Area No. _____				
<b>Easement Information</b>				
Legend: A - Appurtenant Easement E - Encumbering Easement R - Encumbering Easement (Road)				
Section 12(2) of the Subdivision Act 1988 applies to lots 1 and 2 on this plan.				
Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (Metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/In Favour Of
				<b>LTO use only</b> Statement of Compliance/ Exemption Statement Received <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date <b>19 / 5 / 94</b>
				<b>LTO use only</b> PLAN REGISTERED TIME <b>12.40pm</b> DATE <b>30 / 5 / 94</b>  Assistant Registrar of Titles Sheet <b>1</b> of 2 Sheets
<b>Millar &amp; Merrigan Pty. Ltd.</b> TOWN PLANNERS LAND SURVEYORS & CONSULTING ENGINEERS 21 COOLSTORE ROAD, CROYDON, 3138. P.O. BOX 247 (FAX 725 2710) PH. 725 8868		LICENSED SURVEYOR (PRINT) <b>Bradley Terjesen</b> SIGNATURE..... DATE <b>/ /</b> REF <b>8505</b> VERSION <b>1: 22/6/93</b>		DATE <b>4 / 8 / 94</b> COUNCIL DELEGATE SIGNATURE 







Delivered by LANDATA®. Land Victoria timestamp 03/12/2014 12:31 Page 1 of 1  
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<b>PLAN OF SUBDIVISION</b> Under Section 35(8) of the Subdivision Act 1988.		STAGE NO.	LRS USE ONLY <b>EDITION 1</b>	Plan Number: <b>PS624858D</b>										
<b>LOCATION OF LAND</b> PARISH: WARRANDYTE TOWNSHIP: _____ SECTION: _____ CROWN ALLOTMENT: _____ CROWN PORTION: 46A (PART)  TITLE REFERENCE: VOL. 11050 FOL. 646  LAST PLAN REFERENCE: LOT 1 ON TP 897759Q  POSTAL ADDRESS: JOFFRE STREET, (at time of subdivision) CROYDON. 3136.  MGA94 Co-ordinates E 348 860 (of approx. centre of land N 5815 920 in plan) ZONE: 55		<b>COUNCIL CERTIFICATION AND ENDORSEMENT</b> COUNCIL NAME: MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL REF: s/2009/21 A. This is a plan under section 35 of the Subdivision Act 1988 which does not create any additional lots. B. This plan is exempt from Part 3 of the Subdivision Act 1988. C. This is a plan under section 35 of the Subdivision Act 1988 which creates (an) additional lot (s). D. It is certified under section 6 of the Subdivision Act 1988. E. It is certified under section 11(7) of the Subdivision Act 1988. F. Date of original certification under section 6 / / G. This is a statement of compliance under section 21 of the Subdivision Act 1988.  Council delegate Council seal Date 7/7/09		<b>LRS USE ONLY</b> STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE/ EXEMPTION STATEMENT Received <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Date: 11/09/2009  <b>LRS USE ONLY</b> PLAN REGISTERED TIME 3.19 DATE 22/9/09 <b>A. Manzella</b> Assistant Registrar of Titles										
<b>EASEMENT INFORMATION</b> LEGEND: E - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT A - APPURTENANT EASEMENT R - ENCUMBERING EASEMENT (ROAD)														
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Easement Reference</th> <th>Purpose</th> <th>Width (Metres)</th> <th>Origin</th> <th>Land Benefited/In Favour Of</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>ALL LAND</td> <td>AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 207(C) OF THE L.G.A 1989</td> <td>3-66</td> <td>SECTION 207(C) OF THE L.G.A 1989</td> <td>MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL &amp; YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (Metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/In Favour Of	ALL LAND	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 207(C) OF THE L.G.A 1989	3-66	SECTION 207(C) OF THE L.G.A 1989	MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL & YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD.	<b>NOTATIONS</b> STAGING This is not a staged subdivision Planning Permit No. M/2009/115 DEPTH LIMITATION: DOES NOT APPLY NO LAND IS TO BE ACQUIRED ON THE BASIS OF THIS PLAN.  <b>SURVEY</b> THIS PLAN IS BASED ON SURVEY THIS SURVEY HAS BEEN CONNECTED TO PERMANENT MARKS No.(s) IN PROCLAIMED SURVEY AREA No.			
Easement Reference	Purpose	Width (Metres)	Origin	Land Benefited/In Favour Of										
ALL LAND	AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 207(C) OF THE L.G.A 1989	3-66	SECTION 207(C) OF THE L.G.A 1989	MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL & YARRA VALLEY WATER LTD.										
KIRKPATRICK & WEBBER PTY. LTD. LAND SURVEYORS PLANNING CONSULTANTS 15 MAROONDAH HIGHWAY, CROYDON, 3136 TELEPHONE 9870 4422 FACSIMILE 9870 5267			SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEETS LICENSED SURVEYOR (PRINT) <b>ANDREW JAMES SMITH</b> SIGNATURE  DATE 26/6/09 REF B210A VERSION 2 ORIGINAL SHEET SIZE A3											



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

CRS-003

### Purpose

To provide guidance on Mayor and Councillor allowances, the reimbursement of expenses, and the provision of facilities and support for Councillors in accordance with Section 74 and 75 of the Local Government Act 1989 Act ("the Act"), which requires Council to review, adopt and maintain a policy in relation to Councillor allowances and the reimbursement of expenses.

### Context

In accordance with Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1989 an allowance is payable to the Mayor and Councillors, as determined by the Minister for Local Government and in consultation with the community.

*The Victorian Government's Policy Statement on Local Government Mayoral and Councillor Allowances and Resources – April 2008*, views Councillor allowances not as a form of salary but as some recognition of the contributions made by those elected to voluntary, part time roles in the community.

In accordance with Section 75B of the Local Government Act 1989 Councils must adopt and maintain a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors.

*The Victorian Government's Information Guide on Mayor and Councillor Entitlements – Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Resources and Facilities Support for Victorian Mayors and Councillors November 2008* states "any provision of other 'general expenses/allowances' unrelated to actual expenses incurred or to annual allowances provided by the Act, and which could be designed to supplement Councillors' annual allowances entitlements under the Local Government Act 1989 is not permitted."

### Scope

The Policy applies to the Mayor and Councillors of Maroondah City Council and identifies the provision of resources and facilities, and the reimbursement of expenses incurred while undertaking the prescribed Duties of Council, as well as clarifying the approval process.

This Policy meets the current legislative framework, acknowledges the current review of the Local Government Act 1989, and will be subject to review to take in to account the anticipated changes to the Local Government Act 1989.

### Objectives

- To outline the resources and facilities provided, and the expenses to be reimbursed or paid by Council for the Mayor and Councillors.
- To outline the approval process for reimbursement of expenses incurred by the Mayor and Councillors while undertaking their duties.



## **Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy**

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### **Policy principles**

**In accordance with section 75B of the Local Government Act 1989:**

- 1) *A Council must adopt and maintain a policy in relation to the reimbursement of expenses for Councillors and members of Council committees*
- 2) *A policy adopted by Council under this section must be consistent with:*
  - a. *the prescribed types of Councillor out-of-pocket expenses that must be reimbursed if the expenses are reasonable and bona fide; and*
  - b. *the prescribed procedures to be followed by Councils in relation to the reimbursement of out-of-pocket expenses.*
- 3) *A Council must keep a copy of the policy adopted and maintained under this section available for inspection at the office of the Council.*

The overriding principle to be addressed in the development of a Council expenses reimbursement policy is that the details and range of benefits provided to Councillors by the Council should be clearly stated and be fully transparent and acceptable to the local community.

**In accordance with Section 75 of the Local Government Act 1989:**

- 1) *A Council must reimburse a Councillor for expenses if the Councillor –*
  - a. *applies in writing to the Council for reimbursement of expenses; and*
  - b. *establishes in the application to Council that the expenses were reasonable bona fide Councillor out-of-pocket expense incurred while performing the duties of a Councillor.*
- 2) *In this section, “duties as a Councillor” means duties performed by a Councillor that are necessary or appropriate for the purposes of achieving the objectives of a Council having regard to any relevant Act, regulations, Ministerial guidelines or Council policies.*

Councillor expenses are those expenses necessarily incurred by Councillors, or on behalf of Councillors, for the purpose of conducting the Duties of a Councillor, as prescribed in this policy.

Expenses incurred by Councillors relevant to their professional, business or private roles will not be reimbursed.

**In accordance with Section 75C of the Local Government Act 1989:**

*A Council must make available for the Mayor and the Councillors the minimum resources and facilities prescribed for the purposes of this section.*



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

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### Policy position

The Policy is intended to identify Councillor allowances, resources and facilities, and to clarify the approval process for reimbursement of expenses incurred by Councillors (and their partners) whilst undertaking their duties.

*The Victorian Government's Policy Statement on Local Government Mayoral and Councillor Allowances and Resources – April 2008 prescribes a "minimum toolkit" for Mayor and Councillor resources/facilities and reimbursement of expenses. Maroondah City Council provides the following:*

#### Resources/Facilities

- Administrative support for the Mayor and Councillors
- Office for the Mayor
- Councillor Lounge for Councillors to conduct business
- Vehicle for Mayor or annualised cash allowance of \$12,000
- Computer for Councillors – Ipad or equivalent
- IPhone or equivalent
- Business Cards and access to Council stationery
- Access to printer/scanner/copier unit

#### Reimbursement

- Travel – including reimbursement of public transport costs
- Phone – reimbursement of relevant call costs
- Internet
- Child care/family care

### Relationship to the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision

In relation to *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*, the operation of this policy is aligned with:

<b>Community Outcome:</b>	A well governed and empowered community
<b>Key Directions:</b>	8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable  8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah's resources, assets, infrastructure and natural environment

### Alignment with Council's Mission and Values

The Policy supports Council's Mission to work in partnership with the community, business and other spheres of government by providing funds for the Mayor and Councillors to meet their civic and community obligations.

The Policy supports Council's Mission to be an effective and dynamic leader by offering the opportunity for the Mayor and Councillors to undertake professional development. In this regard it also supports Council's four core Values of Co-operation, Commitment, Communication and Continuous Improvement and Innovation,

The operation of this Policy is aligned with the Councillor Code of Conduct (February 2017), Item 6 Use of Council Resources – including funds/property.



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

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### Related legislation

- Local Government Act 1989 - Sections 74 and 75 (Version incorporating amendments as at 1 September 2016)
- *Recognition and Support*, the Victorian Government's Policy Statement on Local Government Mayoral and Councillor Allowances and Resources, April 2008
- Victorian Government's *Information Guide on Mayor and Councillor Entitlements – Reimbursement of Expenses and Provision of Resources and Facilities Support for Victorian Mayors and Councillors* November 2008.
- Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2014
- Victorian Local Government Award 2015 – Section 15.2 – Vehicle Allowance

### Related policies, strategies, procedures and guidelines

- Maroondah 2040 – Our future together
- Council Plan 2017 - 2021
- Councillors' Information Manual – November 2016
- Councillor Code of Conduct – February 2017

### Policy implementation

#### 1 Expense Reimbursements

##### 1.1 Child Care/Family Care

Council will reimburse the cost of child care and or family care expenses incurred by Councillors for the care of their immediate family whilst performing the prescribed Duties of a Councillor:

Reimbursement is subject to the following conditions:

- 1.1.1 Each child care and or family care expense claimed shall be substantiated by a receipt from the caregiver showing the dates and times care was provided and accompanied by a written statement from the Councillor explaining why the care was needed on each occasion;
- 1.1.2 Child care/family care costs are not eligible for reimbursement if the paid care was provided by a person who is immediate family (eg: partner, mother/father, sister/brother or sister in law/brother in law) or someone who normally or regularly lives with the Councillor;
- 1.1.3 Claims for reimbursement of child care and or family care expenses must be submitted within 3 months of the date from which they are incurred; and
- 1.1.4 For the purposes of this policy, a child shall be defined as up to, but not including, 16 years of age.



## **Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy**

CRS-003

### **1.2 Travel**

Council offers the following arrangements to assist Councillors when undertaking Council business and performing the prescribed Duties of a Councillor.

Council will reimburse Councillors, upon request, for travel expenses incurred in undertaking prescribed Duties of a Councillor; as follows:

- 1.2.1 For travel by car, an expense allowance be paid, based on the rate set out in the Victorian Local Government Award 2015 – Section 15.2 – Vehicle Allowance (\$0.78 per kilometre).
- 1.2.2 For travel by motorcycle, an expense allowance be paid, based on the rate set out in the Victorian Local Government Award 2015 – Section 15.2 – Vehicle Allowance (\$0.26 per kilometre).
- 1.2.3 Car parking fees will be reimbursed on the basis of original receipts or log book entries and relevant details regarding the purpose, date and time of the meeting or function. The most value for money parking options should be sought.
- 1.2.4 Costs associated with tolls, including the use of day passes or those transactions incurred as part of existing personal e-tag accounts. Copies of relevant supporting documentation must be provided.
- 1.2.5 Public transport fares will be reimbursed upon production of receipt/ticket or a Myki card will be made available for Councillors business use only. Councillors are encouraged to use public transport for meetings and conferences to and within the Melbourne Central Business District.
- 1.2.6 Travel should be undertaken by the shortest route possible.
- 1.2.7 A record of private vehicle use must be maintained by the Councillor and submitted on a 3 monthly basis. This record must contain details of Council business, date, destination, number of kilometres, parking costs and tolls.
- 1.2.8 Claims for reimbursement of travel must be submitted within 3 months of the date from which they are incurred.
- 1.2.9 Councillors undertaking private travel arrangements in conjunction with any travel for the purpose of their Duties as a Councillor must ensure that all costs incurred for private purposes are clearly delineated and that appropriate records including pre-departure itineraries are maintained.
- 1.2.10 Where any private travel and associated costs are included in a package ticket or arrangement, the Councillor must meet, or reimburse Council, the private proportion prior to departure.
- 1.2.11 Fines and Infringements will not be borne by Council. Councillors will be responsible for the payment of their own fines and infringements.



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

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### 2 Professional development

This policy acknowledges the obligation on Councillors to be properly informed on all matters pertaining to Council services and the issues of importance to the Maroondah community.

This policy supports this obligation by offering the opportunity to undertake appropriate professional development (conferences, seminars, workshops and training sessions) and memberships of relevant Professional Associations (e.g. ALGWA, AICD or similar) that may be of benefit to the individual Councillor and Council as a whole.

Councillors undertaking professional development shall have expenses for transport, accommodation, registration fees, meals and refreshments relating to their attendance paid by Council within the parameters of the Council Budget.

- 2.0.1 Each Councillor has an additional budgeted amount of \$9,000 per annum, indexed in line with any adjustments to the Councillor Allowance, to meet professional development expenses.
- 2.0.2 For the 2016/17 financial year this amount has been pro-rated due to the term of a Councillor coinciding with a part of a financial year, eg. date of election to the end of financial year. The pro-rata amount for this period is \$5,335.
- 2.0.3 For the 2020/21 financial year this amount will be pro-rated due to the term of a Councillor coinciding with a part of a financial year, eg: beginning of financial year to date of election in 2020.

#### 2.1 As Of Right Approval

Attendances and memberships are approved as a matter of right for professional development purposes **within Australia**, *subject to* the cost falling within the annual budgeted amount allocated for each Councillor.

#### 2.2 Council Approval

Attendances for **all other professional development events ie outside of Australia**, are subject to Council approval, at an ordinary meeting of Council, based upon the following:

- 2.2.1 The Councillor wishing to attend such an event submitting a business case to Council for attendance – with such to include the benefits to be gained from attendance; total costs and Council funds required.

#### 2.3 Attendance by Partner

The cost of attendance by partners at professional development events is permitted, subject to the following:

- 2.3.1 Within Australia having available budget within the Professional Development Allowance ie comes within the ambit of the annual budgeted amount allocated to the individual Councillor;
- 2.3.2 Beyond Australia *ie overseas* – seeking approval of Council via a separate business case for the attendance of the partner; and
- 2.3.3 Other than Council approval being granted in accordance with clauses 2.3.1 & 2.3.2, as above, the attendance of a partner will be at the total expense of the Councillor.



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

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### 2.4 Accommodation/meals/refreshments

- 2.4.1 Accommodation shall be organised at the Hotel used for the Conference/ Workshop/Training Session OR where a package of Hotels is provided, at any one of those Hotels having regard to cost and standard OR if both of the above are not applicable or available, then at a Hotel/ Motel close to the Conference venue at a similar rate and standard.
- 2.4.2 Councillors wishing to make alternative Hotel/Motel arrangements shall personally incur/bear all costs over and above that of the accommodation referred to in clause 2.4.1
- 2.4.3 Reasonable expenses for meals and refreshments will be reimbursed for attending Conferences/Professional Development Workshops/Training Sessions where overnight accommodation is required, upon production of receipts.

### 2.5 Travel

- 2.5.1 Councillors wishing to make their own travel arrangements shall have the amount equivalent to the cost of the most economic, reasonable form of transport, reimbursed by Council.
- 2.5.2 For travel by car, an expense allowance be paid, based on the rate set out in the Victorian Local Government Award 2015 – Section 15.2 – Vehicle Allowance, up to a maximum level equivalent to the cost of a standard economy class return air fare. Car parking charges and toll road usage fees will be reimbursed as per Clause 1.2.3 and Clause 1.2.4.
- 2.5.3 Councillors travelling on Council business who are required to fly or use any other means of regular public transport, will be eligible only for economy class travel.
- 2.5.4 Taxi, Uber and Hire vehicles
- Councillors are entitled to use a taxi, Uber or Hire vehicle from their home to the airport, and from the airport and hotel at their destination to the Conference/Workshop/Training Session venue and return.
  - Taxi or Uber fares (other than those incurred in travelling to and from the airport) or costs associated with a hire vehicle may be reimbursed. The report to Council as required by Clause 2.7 shall include justification of such use, ie.
    - inspections relevant to the Conference
    - inspections requested by Council
    - economic advantage in hiring a vehicle
- 2.5.5 Claims for reimbursement of travel must be submitted within 3 months of the date from which they are incurred.

### 2.6 Other expenses

All other expenses incurred as a result of attending professional development conferences, workshops, and/or training sessions shall be the responsibility of the Councillor.



## **Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy**

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### **2.7 Councillor reporting requirements**

Attendance at any professional development event held outside of Victoria will be subject of a report to Council. The report is to be written, tabled at a Council meeting within 3 months of the professional development event, and may be a joint report if more than one Councillor attended.

A template Professional Development Report form is available for use by Councillors on the Councillor Hub or on request from the Councillor Support Officer.

Such report should include:-

- 2.7.1 Details of course topic, content, location, date and duration;
- 2.7.2 Relevance of Conference/Workshop/Training Session to Council's business and Councillor's personal development requirements;
- 2.7.3 Total costs covering course, course material, travel, accommodation and any other expenses for the Councillor: and
- 2.7.4 Benefits from attendance.

### **2.8 Quarterly report**

The Director Corporate Services will submit a report to Council on a quarterly basis summarising Councillor attendances under the professional development framework of this policy.

## **3 Attendance at functions and events**

This policy acknowledges that Councillors, in the normal course of their duties, will be invited or required to attend various community functions and events.

The cost of attending these functions or events (including the cost for the partner of a Councillor) will be met from each Councillor's respective Councillor Attendance budget and reported in Council's Annual Report to meet the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2014, which is now consolidated in the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

- 3.0.1 Each Councillor has an additional budgeted amount of \$2,000, per annum, indexed in line with any adjustments to the Councillor Allowance to meet the costs associated with attending functions or events. The Mayor has a budgeted amount of \$4,000 per annum and Deputy Mayor an amount of \$3,000.
- 3.0.2 For the 2016/17 financial year this amount has been pro-rated due to the term of a Councillor coinciding with a part of a financial year, eg. date of election to the end of financial year. The pro-rata amount for this period is \$1,335. The pro-rata amount for this period for the Mayor is \$2,000.
- 3.0.3 For the 2020/21 financial year this amount will be pro-rated due to the term of a Councillor coinciding with a part of a financial year, eg: beginning of financial year to date of election in 2020.



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

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### 3.1 Attendance by Partner

The cost of attendance by partners at community functions and events is permitted, subject to the following:

- 3.3.1 Having available budget ie comes within the ambit of the amount allocated in the Councillor Attendance budget to the individual Councillor;
- 3.3.2 Other than clause 3.3.1 above, the attendance of a partner will be at the total expense of the Councillor.

## 4 Facilities/equipment

This Policy acknowledges that the demands made upon a Councillor's time can be significant and that Council business can therefore be conducted more efficiently if access is provided to necessary facilities. In respect to the facilities/equipment provided (refer 4.1 and 4.2):

- The facilities/equipment provided is for Councillor use and must not be used for electioneering purposes.
- Councillors must ensure the integrity and configuration of equipment provided is maintained at all times.
- Minimal non-Council use of equipment, such as l pads and l phones, that has no direct cost for Council, is allowable.
- Specific items of a personal nature that can be separately costed, eg long distance personal calls from a mobile phone, will be the responsibility of the Councillor.
- Councillors must ensure the protection and safe keeping of all equipment issued.
- All equipment, software and Intellectual Property issued or used shall remain the property of Council.

### 4.1 Communication

Councillors will be provided with a personal computer (l pad or equivalent), printer (incorporating the capability to scan and copy), and mobile phone:

- 4.1.1 All connection fees will be met by Council.
- 4.1.2 Rental Fees and all Council business call charges will be met by Council.
- 4.1.3 The cost of consumables associated with the computer and printer shall be met by Council.

### 4.2 Stationery/Equipment

Councillors will be provided with:

- Business Cards;
- Name badges;
- Jacket;
- Umbrella; and
- Briefcase (if required).
- other stationery as required to perform the duties of a Councillor.



## **Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy**

CRS-003

### **5 Other expenditure**

#### **5.1 Maroondah Leisure facilities and Karralyka**

Councillors will have access to any of the Maroondah Leisure facilities and Karralyka. The actual use by Councillors, their guests and immediate family is to be charged for each instance to their respective Councillor Attendance budget.

The costs of attending Maroondah Leisure facilities and Karralyka (including the cost for the guests and immediate family of a Councillor) will be reported in Council's Annual Report to meet the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2014, which is now consolidated in the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

#### **5.2 Expenditure General**

Any expenditure not specified in the policy as expenditure for which a Councillor is entitled to be reimbursed or paid, shall be the responsibility of the Councillor.

#### **5.3 Allowance – Taxation**

Given that the Councillor Allowance is treated by the Australian Taxation Office as assessable income in the individual's hands, Councillors are encouraged to consider whether this other expenditure is deductible for taxation purposes as an expense necessarily and solely incurred in the carrying out of their Council duties.

Prevailing taxation laws and substantiation requirements should be recognised and considered when maintaining records for deduction purposes.

**Note:** Councillors should seek their own professional advice in respect to financial/taxation matters.

### **6 Indexation**

The additional budgeted amounts to meet the reimbursement of Professional Development and Attendance at functions and events, as described in Items 2 and 3, will be indexed in line with any adjustments to the Councillor Allowance, as determined by the Minister for Local Government, under Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1989.



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

CRS-003

### 7 Reporting requirements

In line with Council's legal obligations, the Director Corporate Services will submit a report to Council on a quarterly basis summarising:

- Travel;
- Car Mileage;
- Child Care;
- Information and Communication expenses
- Professional Development (including conferences and training);
- Civic and Community Attendance.

This report will be available on Council's website and included in the Annual Report to meet the Local Government Amendment (Performance Reporting and Accountability) Act 2014, which is now consolidated in the Local Government Act 1989 as amended.

### 8 Definitions

**Mayor Allowance and Councillor Allowance** – an amount determined by the Minister for Local Government under Section 74 of the Local Government Act 1989

**Professional Development Allowance** – an amount determined by Council for use by each Councillor to undertake professional development

**Attendance Allowance** – an amount determined by Council for use by each Councillor to meet the cost of attending community events and functions, including the cost of attending Maroondah Leisure facilities and Karralyka.

**Duties of a Councillor** - the duties and activities considered under this policy to be necessary or appropriate for the purposes of achieving the Objectives of a Council are prescribed as:

- Attending Ordinary and Special Council meetings, Council Committee meetings, formal briefing sessions (Assemblies of Councillors) and civic or ceremonial functions convened by the Council, the Mayor or the Chief Executive Officer.
- Attending meetings or workshops scheduled by the Council, the Mayor or the Chief Executive Officer.
- Attending a meeting or function as the nominated representative of Council or the Mayor.
- Attending meetings of community groups, organisations and statutory authorities to which the Councillor has been appointed as the Council delegate or the nominated representative of the Council.
- Attending site inspections associated with Planning Consultative Meetings
- Attending conferences as an attendee and/or speaker as Council's nominated representative or delegate and which:
  - Are consistent with the Council's Objectives; and
  - Will cover or present material with application/importance/relevance to current or future issues faced by the Council; and
  - Are within the Councillor's annual budget allocations for Professional Development



## Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy

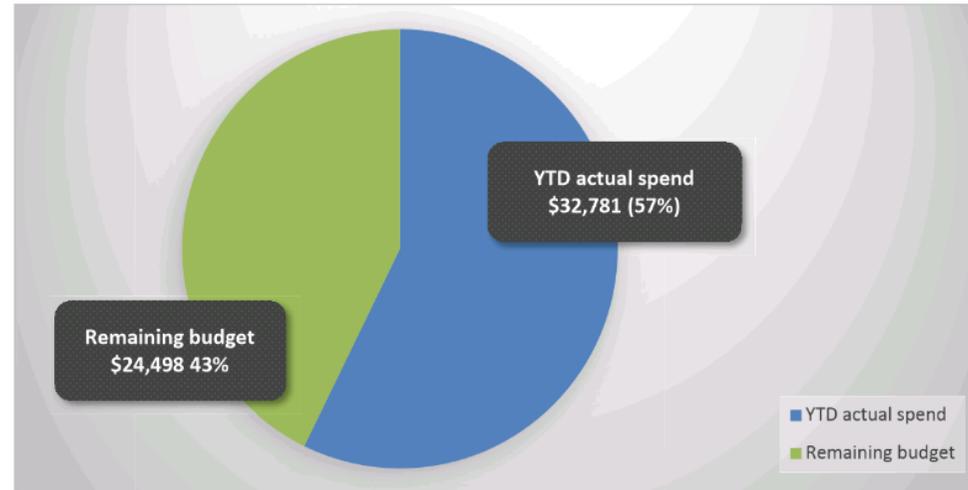
CRS-003

### Policy Control Schedule

<b>Policy Title:</b> Councillor Expenses, Support and Reimbursement Policy		<b>Policy No:</b> CRS-003	<b>Policy type:</b> Councillors
<b>Revised Policy creation date:</b> Draft April, 2019 (V6) eCLIP: 19/74125	<b>Current version approved:</b> Endorsed March 27, 2017	<b>Current version number:</b> V5 March 27, 2017	<b>Policy review date:</b> April 2019
<b>Parent policy:</b>	<b>Child policy/policies:</b>	<b>Policy responsibility:</b> Manager Communications & Engagement	<b>eCLIP record number:</b> 17/59637 (Current version)

All printed copies of this procedure are uncontrolled. Please check the EDMS for the most recent version of this policy.

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# Maroondah Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

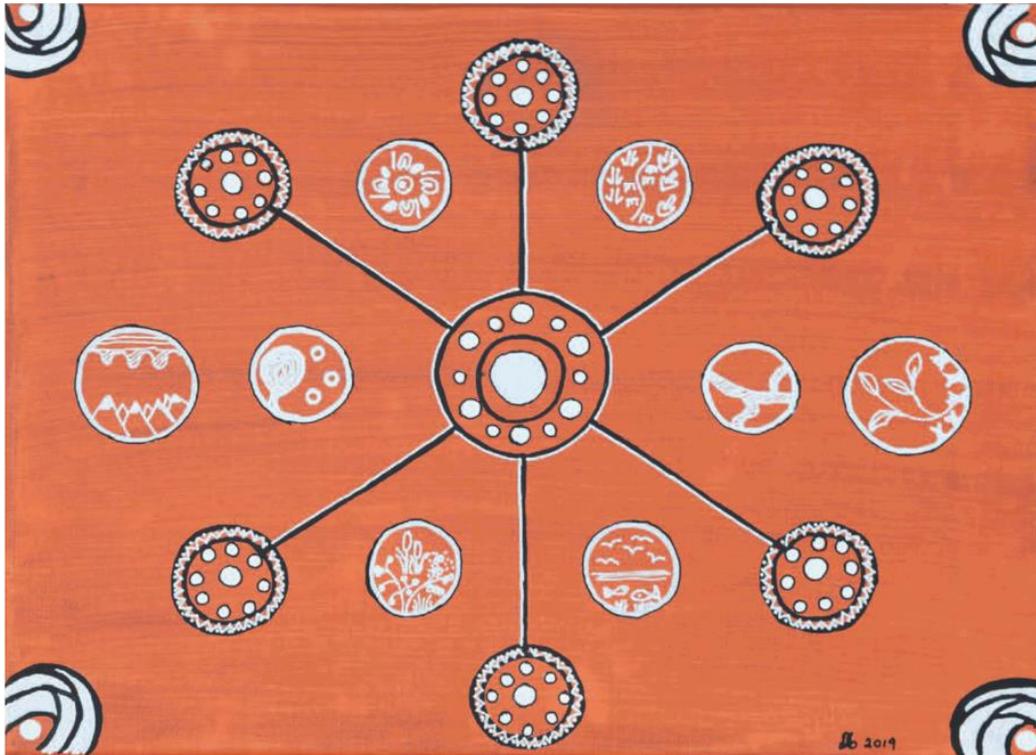
December 2018 to November 2020

Working towards a vibrant and culturally rich community





Working towards a vibrant and culturally rich community



Original artwork for front cover by Aunty Daphne Milward

### Artist biography - Aunty Daphne Milward

Aunty Daphne Milward is a strong Yorta Yorta Woman and a positive role model for all within the local and broader Indigenous community.

Through her role as a community Elder, she supports the Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP) Community Art Space by encouraging young and beginning artists to express themselves through painting.

Aunty Daphne possesses a strong sense of cultural connection and shares her cultural experiences with the community through her support of the MMIGP Culture Group.

Her long list of achievements include Board Member of Native Title Services; Director of Victoria's Women's Trust; Committee Member of Koori Women Mean Business; Member of the Equal Opportunity Commission; and work at the Aborigines Advancement League.

Maroondah City Council is represented at the centre of the artwork, with the offshoots showing the many different cultures that Council works with. The floating circles tell about Bunjill's creation story.



Aunty Daphne Milward



Working towards a vibrant  
and culturally rich community

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## What is Reconciliation?

Reconciliation is unity and respect between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians. It is about respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and valuing justice and equity for all Australians.<sup>(1)</sup>

All Australians are invited to participate in our nation's reconciliation journey.

Reconciliation must live in the hearts, minds and actions of us all as we move forward, creating a nation strengthened by respectful relationships between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous peoples<sup>(2)</sup>.



*Yeng Gali Mullum (Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place)*

1. Australian Government [www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/reconciliation](http://www.australia.gov.au/about-australia/australian-story/reconciliation)  
2. Reconciliation Australia [www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/what-is-nrw/](http://www.reconciliation.org.au/nrw/what-is-nrw/)

# Reconciliation Australia Model

The Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) program, developed by Reconciliation Australia, a not-for-profit organisation, in collaboration with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities and organisations as well as government and corporate Australia, is a framework for organisations to realise their vision for reconciliation.

The RAP program guides organisations in developing a strategic action plan that identifies practical actions and measures for building respectful relationships and creating opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. RAPs create social change and economic opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

There are four different RAP frameworks within the program:

- Reflect
- Innovate
- Stretch
- Elevate

The Maroondah RAP has been developed in accordance with the 'Innovate RAP' framework.

- The Innovate RAP framework is for organisations that have developed relationships with their Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders and are ready to develop or implement programs for cultural learning, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment and supplier diversity.
- An Innovate RAP provides Council with the freedom to develop and test new and innovative approaches and embed the RAP within Maroondah City Council.



## Endorsement from Reconciliation Australia

Maroondah City Council has a strong commitment to promote and work towards greater reconciliation in the City of Maroondah.

This is evidenced in part by Council's decision to undertake the first Reconciliation Action Plan for the municipality and seek endorsement by Reconciliation Australia.

Council has worked closely with a range of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community members in the development of the Reconciliation Action Plan. The consultation process itself has raised the profile of reconciliation in the broader community.



*In picture: Brenda Wise, Coral Green and Ricky Green  
Photo: Heather Cosgriff, MMIGP*

# The journey so far

## In July 2008, Maroondah City Council endorsed the Maroondah Reconciliation Policy Statement 2008.

This document guided the work of Council within the reconciliation space for a number of years. During this time some significant actions were achieved in working towards a reconciled, just and equitable Maroondah and beyond, these include but are not limited to:

- The development and implementation of an Acknowledgement of Traditional Landowners and Welcome to Country Protocol at all Council Meetings and civic events.
- Facilitation of collaborative National Reconciliation Week events.
- Implementation of Cultural Awareness Training with identified Council staff.
- Cultural Heritage Review of the Dandenong Creek Shared Pathway Project.
- Permanently flying the Aboriginal flag.
- Collaborating with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations and individuals on various initiatives, networks and events.

During 2014, Council undertook a research project to identify the most beneficial and advantageous model by which to review, document and progress Council's commitment to reconciliation. In 2015, Maroondah's Councillors and Corporate Management Team endorsed the recommendation to proceed in accordance with Reconciliation Australia, Reconciliation Action Plan Program. Work then commenced on Maroondah Reconciliation Action Plan (MRAP) project planning and the formation of the Maroondah Reconciliation Action Plan (MRAP) Working Group.

In 2016, the Maroondah Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group (MRAP Working Group) was formed in accordance with the Reconciliation Australia model and comprised of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous individuals from both within and external to Maroondah City Council.

The MRAP Working Group is chaired by Council's Chief Executive Officer and consists of key local Elders, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non-Indigenous local organisations and key internal senior decision makers.

The MRAP Working Group has supported and guided the development of the MRAP and will continue to work collaboratively on the implementation and evaluation of the MRAP. Each MRAP Working Group member has brought with them a unique and invaluable set of knowledge, skills and experiences that have not only enriched the MRAP and its expected outcomes but also worked to enhance relationships, respect and opportunities throughout the development process. All internal MRAP Working Group members will champion the MRAP.



Working towards a vibrant and culturally rich community

## MRAP Membership

Agencies represented on the MRAP Working Group include the following:

- Wurundjeri Tribe Land Compensation and Cultural Heritage Council
- Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place
- Boorndawan William Healing Service
- EACH - Consumer, Carer and Community Engagement Planning, Strategy and Development Unit and Aboriginal Mental Health Unit
- Maroondah Movement for Reconciliation
- Maroondah City Council - Chief Executive Officer, Director Strategy and Community, Manager Community Services, Manager Integrated Planning, Manager Workplace, People and Culture
- The Maroondah Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group includes six Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander members.
- Council would like to thank each individual member of the MRAP Working Group. We would like to specifically acknowledge the support and guidance of Aunty Daphne Milward, Aunty Irene Norman, Aunty Doreen Garvey-Wandin, Aunty Gail Smith, Aunty Julianne Axford, Aunty Margaret Gardiner and Les Chessells.

## Consultation

Council, along with members of the MRAP Working Group, has undertaken meaningful engagement and consultation with the whole of community and key stakeholders on the identification of actions that Council can undertake towards reconciliation in Maroondah.

The consultation program included the following:

- Café Consult at Maroondah Festival
- Activity based sessions at Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place
- Stakeholder workshop at Karralyka.

The MRAP Consultation program was highly successful in reaching a diverse range and number of stakeholders and therefore ensuring the voices of many have shaped the document and positioned it for successful implementation.



*Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP) Hip Hop crew at the 2016 Reconciliation Action Plan consultation event.*

# Our City

The City of Maroondah covers a land area of 61.4 square kilometres in Melbourne’s outer east, 22 kilometres from the Central Business District.

The area is a substantially developed peri-urban residential municipality, with an estimated population of 117,498 and 45,621 households with an average of 2.58 people per household. Council employs over 1000 individuals and has three customer service centres along with staff being located at numerous Council owned and operated facilities throughout the municipality.

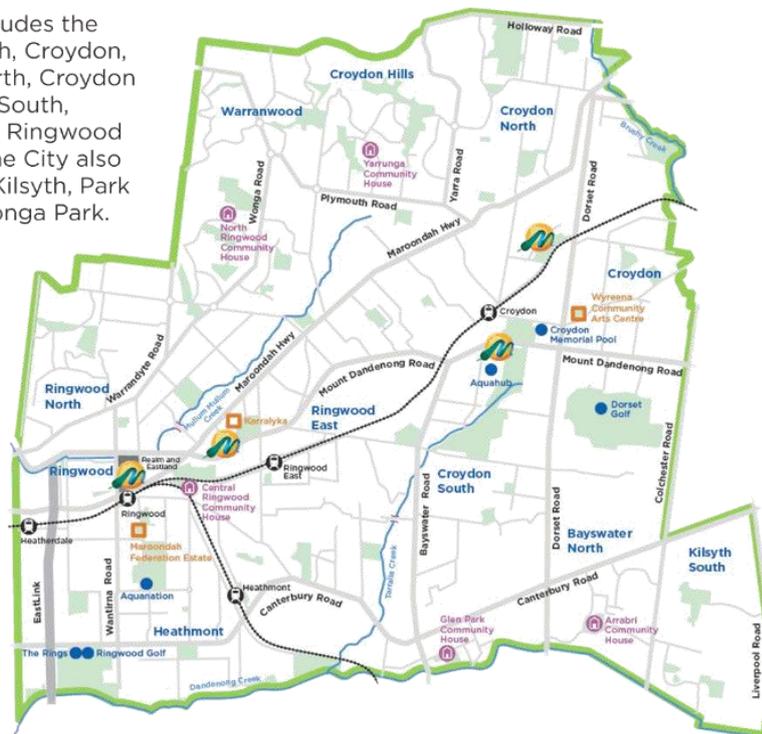
Though we have not yet collected data on the number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff we employ, we have committed to collect this data in the future as part of our Reconciliation Action Plan.

The City of Maroondah includes the suburbs of Bayswater North, Croydon, Croydon Hills, Croydon North, Croydon South, Heathmont, Kilsyth South, Ringwood, Ringwood East, Ringwood North and Warranwood. The City also includes small sections of Kilsyth, Park Orchards, Vermont and Wonga Park. With little remaining land available for greenfield residential development, future population growth will mainly be stimulated by housing consolidation and medium density development.

Maroondah has the strategic advantage of being located at the north-eastern junction of the Eastern Freeway- Eastlink corridor. There are two train lines and a large number of bus routes linking the City with other regions.

Our sustainable transport links continue to expand, with on-road cycling paths and shared paths on major trails, including Mullum Mullum Creek Trail, the Eastlink Trail, Taralla Creek Trail and the Dandenong Creek Trail.

The first settlers to the area were the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation approximately 40,000 years ago. The territory of the Wurundjeri lies within the inner city of Melbourne and extends north to the Great Dividing Ranges, east to Mt Baw Baw, south to Mordialloc Creek and west to the Werribee River.





The 2016 ABS Census reported that there were 566 residents identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander. The number of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander individuals with a significant connection to Maroondah, that is those that live, work or play in the municipality is likely to be significantly higher. Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place is located within Maroondah and plays a key role in fostering connection, promotion, support, celebration and strengthening of the local Aboriginal communities, cultures, knowledge and traditions.

Cultural diversity is increasing within Maroondah with the highest numbers of recent oversea immigrants arriving from Burma, China, Malaysia, India, Thailand and Iran. Maroondah is now home to the largest Burmese community in Melbourne's eastern region.

As a local government authority, Maroondah City Council's core role is to perform the functions and exercise the powers conferred by the Local Government Act 1989. As the closest level of government to the community, Councils work with their communities in setting the overall direction for a municipality through short, medium and long-term planning. The MRAP will sit within the Maroondah Integrated Planning Framework which outlines Council's planning and resourcing to deliver against legislated requirements and community expectations and aspirations.

Maroondah City Council strives to engage with all of community to deliver against the following eight broad outcome areas:

- **A safe, healthy and active community**
- **A prosperous and learning community**
- **A vibrant and culturally rich community**
- **A clean, green and sustainable community**
- **An accessible and connected community**
- **An attractive, thriving and well-built community**
- **An inclusive and diverse community**
- **A well governed and empowered community**

The MRAP documents Councils commitment to and identified actions for working towards reconciliation and enhancing equality across these broad outcome areas.

## **Maroondah Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Statistics**

As identified in the 2016 Census, there are 566 Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples recorded in Maroondah. This is a notable increase from 412 in 2011. The majority of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Maroondah are Aboriginal (94.2%). This is in line with results across Victoria (93.3%). A much smaller proportion identify as Torres Strait Islander (5.7%) or both (1.4%).

There is a relatively even spread of males (48.2%) compared to females (50.7%) and this is similar to Victorian proportions (49.4% compared to 50.6% respectively). Looking across age groups, most Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples in Maroondah are under 50, with over a third (36.0%) being 17 years or younger. However, this proportion is smaller than in Victoria (46.0%). Almost half (44.4%) are between the ages of 18-49 (43.5% in Victoria). Less than one in five (19.6%) are over 50 (10.6% in Victoria).

Almost one in four (23.4%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Maroondah have either an Advanced Diploma, or Diploma, or Bachelor Degree level or higher. This is higher than the proportion in Victoria (16.8%). 41.4% of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples living in Maroondah have finished Year 12 or equivalent. This is again higher than in Victoria (34.2%).

The majority (92.4%) of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples in Maroondah are employed. This is higher than the proportion in Victoria (86.0%). Reflecting this, the unemployment rate amongst Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples is lower in Maroondah (7.6%), compared to 14.0% in Victoria.

## Policy context

The Maroondah Reconciliation Action Plan (MRAP) 2018-2020 sits within the overall Maroondah Integrated Planning Framework which is underpinned by the shared long-term community vision outlined in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*.

From *Maroondah 2040: Our future together* evolves a four-year Council Plan that establishes Council's medium-term key directions (strategies) and resourcing to deliver on the outcomes identified within the vision.

The development of the MRAP is Priority Action within the Council Plan 2017-2021 and works towards the *Maroondah 2040: Our future together* community outcome of an inclusive and diverse community.

The vision for this outcome is that:

*Maroondah is an inclusive community where social connections are strong across generations and diversity is embraced and celebrated.*

The following Council Strategies and Plans have objectives that support the delivery of the MRAP:

- Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- Children's Plan 2015-2019
- Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2014-2018
- Active and Healthy Ageing initiative – towards an age-friendly Maroondah 2015-2020
- Disability Policy and Action Plan 2014-2018
- Business Development Strategy
- Open Space Strategy 2016
- Physical Activity Strategy 2015-2020
- Maroondah Planning Scheme

Externally, the MRAP acknowledges:

- United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP)
- Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006
- Victorian Aboriginal Affairs Framework 2013/18
- Victorian Local Government Aboriginal Employment Framework
- Victorian Aboriginal and Local Government Action Plan
- Victorian Local Aboriginal Networks Five Year Plan 2016/2020



# Reconciliation vision and principles

The Maroondah City Council Reconciliation Action Plan (MRAP) vision and principles have been developed collaboratively by the MRAP Working Group and are designed to guide the work being undertaken by Council and its many external partners in working towards reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and non- Indigenous Australians.

## Vision

Maroondah City Council is committed to working collaboratively on a journey of meaningful and sustainable reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians.

Our vision for Maroondah is that we will be a municipality that

- fosters and promotes equality, openness, trust, mutual respect and opportunities
- strives to enhance health (physically, emotionally and spiritually), social, cultural, economic, education and employment outcomes for Indigenous Australians
- recognises and celebrates traditional and contemporary Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's cultures, knowledge, customary practices and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' deep relationship to land, kinship and country.



Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP) Hip Hop crew. In picture: Kaiya Green. Photo: Heather Cosgriff, MMIGP

## Principles

Council, together with its many MRAP partners, is committed to making a meaningful and measurable contribution to reconciliation within Maroondah. All MRAP activities will be undertaken in a positive and mutually beneficial and respectful manner and in accordance with the following collaboratively developed principles;

### Equality and Equity

Council will work to enhance equality and equity within our community by demonstrating the need for fairness, equal status, rights and outcomes for all.

### Recognition Respect and Celebration

Council will recognise, respect and celebrate the cultural values, customs, knowledge and land of all local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples. We will recognise and respect the sacred significance of the Wurundjeri land upon which the Maroondah community lives, works and gathers.

Council will build and strengthen mutually respectful relationships and understanding.

### Innovation

Council will be open to and seek out new and innovative approaches that work towards reconciliation. We will strive to engage with all generations of the local community to identify new and meaningful responses to address local needs and aspirations.

### Collaboration

Council will develop, strengthen and maintain relationships that work towards achieving our shared vision. We will actively listen to each other and respect the value of communication in all its forms including story-telling and other forms of cultural expression.

Council will value the diversity of our backgrounds and knowledge in developing and implementing a rich and purposeful Reconciliation Action Plan.



# Action Plan



## Focus Area 1: Relationships

We aim to build and strengthen respectful and sustainable relationships and understanding between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians and to collaboratively work towards achieving our shared reconciliation vision.

As the level of government closest to the people, Council sees it as important to be a community leader in delivering on initiatives that promote reconciliation for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous Australians. By doing this, Council will be aiming to strengthen relationships between other community members.

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
1.1	RAP Working Group (MRAP Working Group) actively monitors MRAP development and implementation of actions, tracking progress and reporting	Manager Integrated Planning	Jan 2019	1.1.1	MRAP Working Group will oversee the launch of the MRAP
			Jan 2019	1.1.2	Review Terms of Reference for the MRAP Working Group.
			March and Sept 2019 & 2020	1.1.3	Conduct two working group meetings annually.
			Nov 2019 Nov 2020	1.1.4	Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are represented on the MRAP Working Group.
			Nov 2019 Nov 2020	1.1.5	Maintain a minimum of 8 MRAP Working Group members.

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
1.2	Collaborate with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous organisations to acknowledge and celebrate National Reconciliation Week (NRW)	Manager Community Services	April 2019 April 2020	1.2.1	Organise a minimum of one internally lead National Reconciliation Week initiative per annum, delivered collaboratively with representatives from the MRAP Working Group.
			April 2019 April 2020	1.2.2	Register National Reconciliation Week events via Reconciliation Australia's National Reconciliation Week website.
			May 2019 May 2020	1.2.3	Support an external National Reconciliation Week event.
			April 2019 April 2020	1.2.4	Ensure the MRAP Working Group participates in an external event to recognise and celebrate National Reconciliation Week.
1.3	Develop and maintain mutually beneficial relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, communities, and organisations to support positive outcomes.	Manager Integrated Planning	Feb 2019	1.3.1	Meet with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander organisations to develop guiding principles for future engagement
			Mar 2019	1.3.2	Develop and implement an engagement plan for undertaking relevant MRAP action items with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders
		Manager Assets	Dec 2019	1.3.3	Work collaboratively with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place to secure a permanent facility within Maroondah to enable the continuation and growth of the Gathering Place, its programs and services and role as a cultural hub within the municipality.



Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
1.4	Raise internal and external awareness of the MRAP to promote reconciliation throughout the organisation and municipality	Manager Integrated Planning	Feb 2019	1.4.1	Develop and implement a strategy to communicate the MRAP to all internal and external stakeholders.
			May 2019	1.4.2	Conduct an official MRAP Launch event.
		Manager Communications & Engagement	Aug 2019 Aug 2020	1.4.3	Promote reconciliation inclusive of a minimum of one media release/new article per annum
			Dec 2019 Nov 2020	1.4.4	Maintain a permanent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples section in Council's corporate communications including Council's website.
			July 2019 July 2020	1.4.5	Promote reconciliation through ongoing active engagement with all stakeholders
1.5	Ensure local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples organisations, Elders and individuals are actively involved in reconciliation planning undertaken by MCC.	Manager Integrated Planning	July 2020	1.5.1	Develop and implement the RAP Consultation and Engagement Program 2020 to inform the development of the next RAP.

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
1.6	Maintain participation in the Local Aboriginal Network (LAN) and the Eastern Metropolitan Local Government Indigenous Planners Network meetings (EMRLGIPN)	Manager Integrated Planning	Dec 2018 Nov 2020	1.6.1	Participate as an active member of the Eastern Metropolitan Region Local Government Indigenous Planners Network.
			Dec 2018 Nov 2020	1.6.2	Collaborate on regional initiatives being undertaken as appropriate.



*Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP) has established a social enterprise program run by staff and volunteers from the community*



## Focus Area 2: Respect

Maroondah acknowledges and embraces its responsibility in working collaboratively to enhance understanding, appreciation and celebration of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's heritages and cultures. We aim to enhance organisational and community awareness of and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's, cultures, land, waters and histories.

Council is a leader in the Maroondah community and therefore has a responsibility as an organisation and a level of government to demonstrate respect for which others will follow.

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
2.1	Engage employees in continuous cultural learning opportunities to increase understanding and appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories and achievements.	Manager Workplace People and Culture	July 2019	2.1.1	Work with local Traditional Owners and/or Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consultants to develop a Council's Cultural Awareness Training Program.
			Oct 2019	2.1.2	Develop and implement an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural awareness training strategy for staff which defines cultural learning needs of employees in all areas of business and considers how various cultural learnings can be provided (online, face to face workshops or cultural immersions).
				2.1.3	Provide opportunities for RWG members, RAP champions, HR managers and other key leadership staff to participate in cultural training

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
2.2	Engage employees in understanding the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultural protocols, such as Welcome to Country and Acknowledgement of Country.	Manager Finance & Governance	Sept 2019 Sept 2020	2.2.1	Continue to implement and promote the Council's Acknowledgement of Traditional Landowners and Welcome to Country Protocol at all civic events and Council meetings.
			Jan 2019 Jan 2020	2.2.2	Invite a Traditional Owner to provide a Welcome to Country at significant events, including Australia Day Citizenship Ceremony.
		Manager Integrated Planning	Aug 2019 Aug 2020	2.2.3	Encourage staff to include an Acknowledgement of Country at the commencement of meetings.
		Manager Community Services	July 2019	2.2.4	Arts and Cultural Development will work with Assets to ensure that opportunities for cultural recognition in Council buildings is considered.
		Manager Integrated Planning	April 2019	2.2.5	Develop a list of key contacts for organising a Welcome to Country and maintaining respectful partnerships.
2.3	Provide opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to engage with their culture and communities by celebrating NAIDOC Week	Manager Workplace People and Culture	Feb 2019	2.3.1	Undertake a review of human resources policies and procedures to ensure there are no barriers to staff participating in NAIDOC Week.
			June 2019 June 2020	2.3.2	Provide opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to participate with their cultures and communities during NAIDOC Week.



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Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
2.4.	Seek to enhance and promote internal and external awareness of Maroondah's rich Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage	Manager Integrated Planning	Aug 2019	2.4.1	Seek external funding to work with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and non-Indigenous organisations to document and promote the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander history of the Maroondah municipality.
			Oct 2019	2.4.2	Seek external funding to undertake a project to map and document sites of cultural significance within Maroondah.
		Manager Statutory Planning	Feb 2020	2.4.3	Preserve Aboriginal artefacts and sites of significance via compliance with statutory planning regulations
			May 2020	2.4.4	2.4.4 Adhere with requirements of the Aboriginal Heritage Act 2006 and amendments made in 2016.to ensure all relevant matters are considered in planning applications and development proposals.



*Basket weaving by Aunty Irene Norman, Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place (MMIGP)*

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
2.5	Demonstrate respect for our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage and communities via public expressions of acknowledgement.	Manager Finance & Governance	May 2020	2.5.1	Continue to permanently fly the Aboriginal flag at Council Civic Centre buildings.
			Nov 2018	2.5.2	Arrange to permanently display the Aboriginal flag in the Council Chambers.
		Manager Finance & Governance	Mar 2019	2.5.3	Implement opportunities to introduce components of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and histories into Council's Citizenship Ceremonies and action accordingly.
		Manager Leisure	Jul 2019	2.5.4	Investigate opportunities to play Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander music in the Foyer at Karralyka and action accordingly.
		Manager Leisure	Nov 2019 Nov 2020	2.5.5	Support and foster the involvement of Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place and Maroondah Movement for Reconciliation as part of the annual Maroondah Festival.
		Manager Integrated Planning	Feb 2019	2.5.6	Include an Aboriginal Acknowledgement in all Council key strategic documents.



### Focus Area 3: Opportunities

Council aims to be open to and seek out new and innovative opportunities which strive to enhance health, social, cultural, economic, education and employment outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Council needs to demonstrate that as an organisation it is working towards best practice in the delivery of opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Action	Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable
3.1 Investigate opportunities to improve and increase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employment outcomes within Council.	Manager Workplace People and Culture	July 2019	3.1.1 Implement internal procedures to capture statistical data on Council's staff members self-identifying as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander peoples.
		Feb 2020	3.1.2 Consider the promotion of positions vacant through local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander networks.
		Feb 2019	3.1.3 Review human resources and recruitment procedures and policies to ensure there are no barriers to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander employees and future applicants participating in our workplace.
		July 2020	3.1.4 Engage with existing Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff to determine how best to improve employment outcomes including professional development at Council.
		July 2019	3.1.5 Within the Maroondah Employment and Retention Strategy, include a specific strategy for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's employment and retention.

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
3.2	Investigate opportunities to incorporate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander supplier diversity within Council.	Manager Finance & Governance	Nov 2019	3.2.1	Review and update procurement policies and procedures to identify potential barriers for procuring goods and services from local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses.
			Aug 2019	3.2.2	Investigate Supply Nation membership.
		Manager Finance and Governance	Feb 2020	3.2.3	Develop and communicate to staff a list of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses that can be used to procure goods and services.
		Manager Finance and Governance	Feb 2020	3.2.4	Develop at least one commercial relationship with an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander owned business.
		Manager Communications & Engagement	Oct 2019	3.2.5	Investigate opportunities to purchase Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander made or designed corporate gifts.
3.3	Identify and undertake arts orientated opportunities designed to enhance equity in outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.	Manager Community Services	Feb 2019	3.3.1	Develop and commence implementation of a Maroondah Indigenous Arts Action Plan.
3.4	Seek to improve awareness of and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and contributions within the Early Years settings.	Manager Community Services	May 2019 May 2020	3.4.1	Invite schools and early learning centres to participate in Council run reconciliation events.



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Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
3.5	Seek to enhance the opportunity to strengthen health and developmental factors for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children 0- 6 years of age.	Manager Community Services	May 2020	3.5.1	Continue to develop initiatives to increase local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples maternal and child health participation and immunisation rates and action accordingly.
3.6	Review the inclusivity and accessibility of Council services for young people in respect to certain groups including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander young people.	Manager Community Services	Dec 2019	3.6.1	Undertake investigations and action accordingly.



*Smoking Ceremony. Pictured: Ralph Hume and Chris Hume.*



**Focus Area 4: Reporting**

Action		Responsibility	Timeline	Deliverable	
4.1	Undertake Reconciliation Australia reporting	Manager Integrated Planning	Sept 2019 Sept 2020	4.1.1	Complete and submit the RAP Impact Measurement Questionnaire to Reconciliation Australia annually.
	Report RAP achievements, challenges and learnings to Reconciliation Australia		May 2020	4.1.2	Investigate Council's participation in the RAP Barometer
4.2	Report on RAP achievements annually to Council	Manager Integrated Planning	Dec 2019 Dec 2020	4.2.1	Prepare a public annual implementation Council report that highlights achievements, challenges and learnings.
	Report RAP achievements, challenges and learnings internally and externally		Dec 2019 Dec 2020	4.2.2	Prepare a report that highlights achievements, challenges and learnings and make available via Council's intranet to all staff.
4.3	Review, refresh and update RAP	Manager Integrated Planning	June 2020	4.3.1	Liaise with Reconciliation Australia and the MRAP Working Group to develop a new RAP based on learnings, challenges and achievements. Send draft back to Reconciliation Australia for review and feedback.
			Nov 2020	4.3.2	Submit draft RAP to Reconciliation Australia for formal endorsement.



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*Chris Hume, Men's  
Health and Cultural  
Wellbeing Coordinator,  
Mullum Mullum  
Indigenous Gathering  
Place (MMIGP)*





**Council's response to formal written submissions – Reconciliation Action Plan 2018-2020**

#	Issue	Submitter	Written Submission (key points)	Council Comments	Action
1	Engagement	Stephen Hickman	Engagement with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples in Maroondah to determine local issues.	Engagement undertaken with local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, groups and organisations is outlined in the draft Plan	Noted

# Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 (DRAFT)

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*Working towards an accessible and connected community*



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## Foreword

We are very pleased to present the Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 which outlines Council's commitment and strategic direction in supporting a more inclusive community for everyone who lives, works and plays in Maroondah.

The Disability Policy and Action Plan is underpinned by the community vision outlined in **Maroondah 2040: Our future together** to be a safe, healthy and active community with local opportunities provided for people of all ages and abilities to have high levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

The Disability Policy and Action Plan incorporates a range of initiatives across the breadth of Council operations to remove barriers to discrimination and meet the legislative obligations for people with disabilities, their families and carers.

In recent years, Maroondah City Council has become an innovative leader in the disability sector. Examples include the introduction of Changing Places facilities, the Pathways for Carers program and the Access Focus Group. Council has been the recipient of many awards for its innovative work at both a state and national level.

The commitments and initiatives in this policy and action plan will build on this recent success and work towards a community where all people have the opportunity to have high levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

We commend this Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 to you as we work towards a more inclusive Maroondah community.

### The 2018 Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee



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## Introduction

*"People with disabilities want to bring about a transformation of their lives. They want their human rights recognised and realised. They want the things that everyone else in the community take for granted. They want somewhere to live, a job, better health care, a good education, a chance to enjoy the company of friends and family, to go to the footy and go to the movies. They want the chance to participate meaningfully in the life of the community. And they are hopeful. They desire change and they want others in the community to share their vision. They recognise that governments cannot work in isolation and they want others to see the benefits of building more inclusive communities."* (National People with Disabilities and Carer Council, Shut Out, 2009)

Social inclusion is a key determinant of health and wellbeing. Being socially included means that people experience a sense of belonging, are accepted for who they are within their communities, have valued roles in the community, actively participate in community life, are involved in activities based on their personal preferences, have social relationships and share common interests.

This Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 outlines Council's commitment and strategic direction in supporting a more accessible and socially inclusive community over the next three years. It replaces the Disability Policy and Action Plan 2014-2018 which has guided Council's work to address the aspirations and priorities of people with disabilities in Maroondah.

**Maroondah 2040: Our future together** outlines the community's vision for Maroondah looking ahead to the year 2040 and beyond. The Disability Policy and Action Plan is designed to work towards the outcomes of *a safe, healthy and active community; an accessible and connected community; and an inclusive and diverse community.*

The Plan has been developed through examining and identifying local data, considering relevant government legislation and engaging with the community to determine the issues that matter to them. This process has resulted in the identification of key strategies for people with disabilities and their families.

The Plan is a statutory requirement that is prepared in terms of the requirements set out in the *Disability Act 2006*. This Act reinforces that people with disabilities have equal rights as members of the community to participate in decision making, access information and receive support. Council is required to report annually in its Annual Report on the progress of the Plan.

Council acknowledges the valuable contribution of the Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee (MDAC) in the development of this Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021. The MDAC comprises people with a disability, carers, service providers, Council Officers and is chaired by Deputy Mayor Councillor Kylie Spears.

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## Defining disability

A full definition of disability can be found in section 4 of the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 which describes disability as “an umbrella term, covering impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions”.

The United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN Convention) recognises disability as: *“an evolving concept and that disability results from the interaction between persons with impairments and attitudinal and environmental barriers that hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis as others. People with disabilities include those who have long term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments”* (UN Convention).

The Australian Local Government Association (ALGA) states that it is important in the current Australian context that Council’s should strive to include, involve and accommodate people within all aspects of community life by considering disability on a broad scale.

### Types of disability described in the Disability Discrimination Act 1992 (DDA)

Disability can result from an accident, illness or congenital or generic disorder. There are many disability types, including:

- Physical
- Intellectual
- Psychiatric
- Neurological
- Sensory
- Learning
- Physical Disfigurement
- Disease causing organisms.

The DDA defines “disability” in relation to a person as:

- Total or partial loss of the person’s bodily or mental functions; or
- Total or partial loss of a part of the body; or
- The presence in the body of organisms causing disease or illness; or
- The presence in the body of organisms capable of causing disease or illness; or
- The malfunction, malformation or disfigurement of a part of the person’s body; or
- A disorder or malfunction that results in the person learning differently from a person without the disorder or malfunction; or
- A disorder, illness or disease that affects a person’s thought processes, perception of reality, emotions or judgment or that results in disturbed behaviour; and includes a disability that:
  - Presently exists; or
  - Previously existed but no longer exists; or
  - May exist in the future (including because of a genetic predisposition to that disability); or
  - Is imputed to a person

To avoid doubt, a disability that is otherwise covered by this definition includes behaviour that is a symptom or manifestation of the disability.

With an ageing population in Maroondah, a key issue in planning for inclusion of all within our community is acknowledging that many will be living with disabilities and/or providing care for a person with disabilities at some point in their lives.

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### Highlights from the Disability Policy and Action Plan 2014-2018

Through implementing actions in the previous Plan, Council has assisted in the delivery of multiple services including:

- Providing NDIS transition assistance;
- Improving disability facilities and access points in public places;
- Promoting the use of the mobile restroom Marveloo;
- Providing Mental Health First Aid training for the community;
- Facilitating workshops and activities to support the development of people with disabilities and their carers at multiple levels; and
- Updating Council's website to be WCAG2.OAA compliant and include core pages in easy English and ReadSpeaker.

Some key highlights from the 2014-2018 period include:

#### *Pathways for Carers*

This program was designed to combat issues of mental and physical health for carers. The program invites carers of people with disabilities or mental illness to be part of a twice monthly walk along the Mullum Mullum Creek trail where they can socialise, connect, learn about support services and share their experiences with like-minded carers. A guest walker is invited to each walk to talk and give a presentation to the carers.

The positive response to the Pathways for Carers program has resulted in several other Councils initiating walks in their municipality. The program was also successful in receiving the 2018 LGPro Aged and Disability Award for an outstanding program/project – non-grant based (funded and resourced by a Council).



*Pathways for Carers Walk*

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### *Access Focus Group*

An Access Focus Group was established and facilitated by Council to work closely with Queensland Investment Corporation (QIC) to ensure that the redevelopment of Eastland Shopping Centre, the new Ringwood Town Square and Realm would be accessible for all. The group comprised of five local people with disabilities, a carer, a healthcare practitioner, an access consultant along with a representative from QIC and Council.

Through this partnership, there were many recommendations adopted and implemented including:

- Well designed and accessible parking including parking with extra room for wheelchairs;
- The use of luminance, colour and textual contrasts to assist people with vision impairment;
- Hearing augmentation systems at all customer service desks;
- Exceptional accessibility appropriate toilet facilities to cater for all people including both ambulant and Changing Places toilets;

### *Changing Places campaign*

Changing Places was introduced to Australia in 2012 with the establishment of a consortium led by Maroondah City Council. The project was inspired by the desire to achieve best practice in the area of accessible toilets. In 2015, Maroondah City Council was honoured with the coveted 2015 National Award for Excellence in Local Government for their rigorous advocacy for Changing Places facilities.



*Changing Places Facility*

Originating in the UK in 2005, Changing Places facilities address the needs of people with severe and profound physical disability and their carers that mainstream accessible toilets do not provide. Changing Places facilities are designed with toilet facilities, extra physical space, wheelchair accessibility, a tracking hoist system to lift individuals out of chairs and onto toilets, a height adjustable adult sized changing bench assisting carers to change their loved ones and all provided in a clean and safe environment.

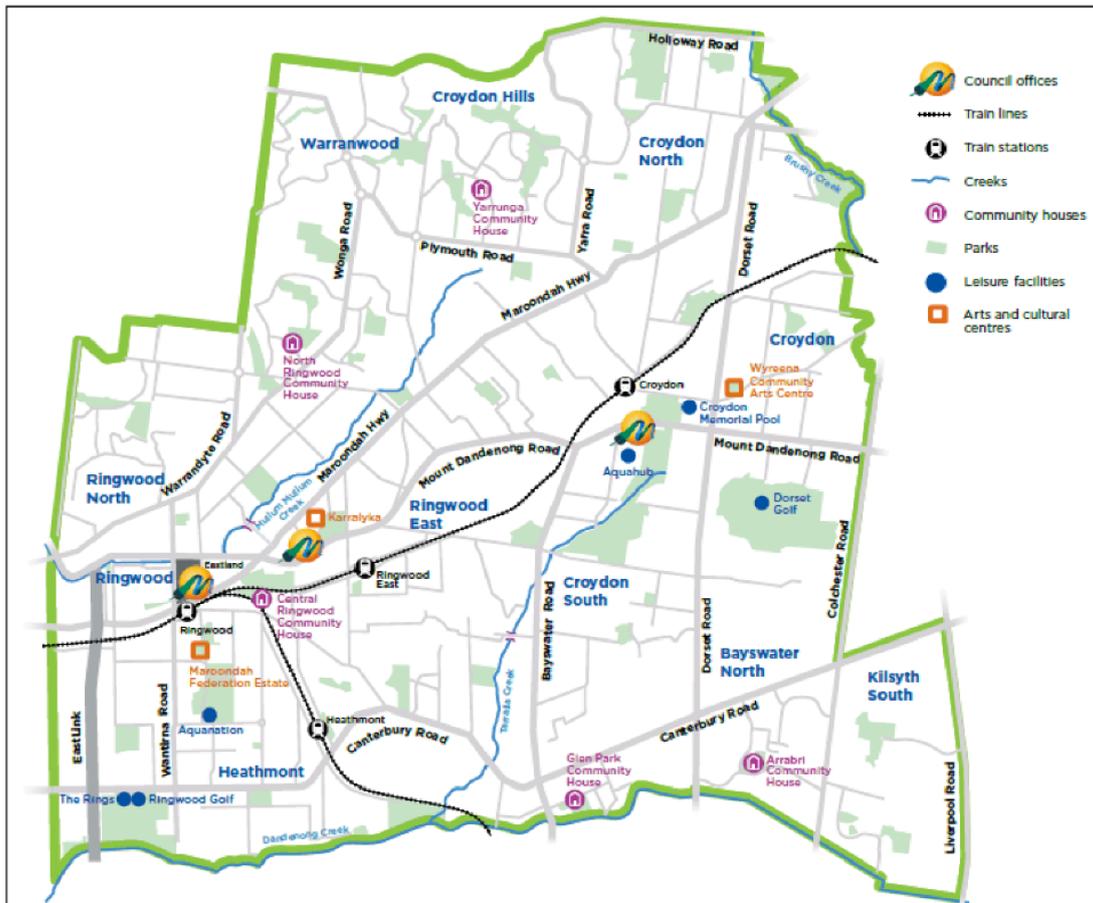
Changing Places facilities provide the basic hygiene needs, inclusion, dignity and comfort for users. Without Changing Places toilets, people with physical disabilities and their carers and families may have to be changed whilst lying on the floor of a public toilet, or avoid public spaces and mainstream services completely, resulting in social isolation.

There are currently four Changing Places facilities installed in Maroondah at Ringwood Lake Park, Realm, and two at Eastland Shopping Centre. Council is planning to install future Changing Places facilities at Karralyka, Croydon Town Square, Jubilee Park, and HE Parker Multi-sport Complex.

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## Maroondah in context

The City of Maroondah covers a land area of 61.4 square kilometres in Melbourne’s outer east, 22 kilometres from the Central Business District. The area is a substantially developed peri-urban municipality with an estimated residential population of 117,396 people. Maroondah has the strategic advantage of being located at the north-eastern junction of the Eastern Freeway – EastLink corridor. There are two train lines and a large number of bus routes linking the City with other regions.



The City hosts a regional health precinct including a major public hospital, a large private hospital, educational facilities that cater from early childhood learning to tertiary level, two libraries, arts and cultural centres, an art gallery and a range of community centres and sporting facilities.

At the time of the 2016 Census of Population and Housing, the City of Maroondah had a total of 5,482 residents living with a profound or severe disability who require assistance with daily activities. This equates to 5.0% of the total Maroondah population.

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## Policy context

### *International policy context*

The *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* is an international human rights treaty adopted in December 2006 and ratified by Australia in July 2008. The treaty is intended to protect the rights and dignity of persons with disabilities. It recognises human rights including those relating to health, adequate living conditions, freedom of movement, equal recognition before the law and access to education and employment. Parties to the Convention, including Australia, are required to promote, protect and ensure the full enjoyment of human rights by persons with disabilities and ensure that they enjoy full equality under the law.

### *National policy context*

The Australian Federal Government has multiple legislation and standards set in place to uphold the equal rights and freedom of people with disabilities and implement the standards of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

*National Disability Strategy 2010 -2020* (NDS) involves a commitment from all federal, state and local levels of government to a united, national approach to improving the lives of people with disabilities, their families and carers, as well as providing leadership for a community-wide shift in attitudes. The six policy areas covered in the NDS are:

1. Inclusive and accessible communities
2. Rights protection, justice and legislation
3. Economic security
4. Personal and community support
5. Learning skills
6. Health and wellbeing

The *National Disability Insurance Scheme* (NDIS) was introduced in July 2013 as a new approach for providing support for Australians with disabilities, their families and carers. The NDIS provides about 460,000 Australians under the age of 65 with a permanent and significant disability with the reasonable and necessary supports they need to live an ordinary life.

As an insurance scheme, the NDIS takes a lifetime approach, investing in people with disabilities early to improve their outcomes later in life. The NDIS supports people with disabilities to build skills and capability so they can participate in the community and find suitable employment. The national policy context includes:

<b>Legislation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Disability Discrimination Act 1992</b></li> <li>• <b>Fair Work Act 2009</b></li> </ul>
<b>Standards</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Disability Education Standards 2005</li> <li>• Building Code of Australia 2015</li> <li>• Disability (Access to Premises - Buildings) Standards 2010</li> <li>• National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) National Standards for Disability Services</li> </ul>
<b>Policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Disability Strategy 2010-2020</li> <li>• National Mental Health and Disability Employment Strategy 2009</li> <li>• National Mental Health Plan 2017-2022</li> </ul>

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*State policy context*

The principles of the *United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities* are reflected in the *Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006*. The Act provides a set of rights, freedoms and responsibilities that governments must observe when creating laws, public policy or delivering services. The 20 fundamental rights outlined in the legislation promote and protect the freedom, respect, equality and dignity of all people in Victoria. The Charter requires that all levels of government and other public authorities comply with these rights and consider the relevant human rights contained in the legislation when developing laws, policies and making decisions.

*Absolutely everybody*, the *Victorian State Disability Plan 2017-2020* seeks to realise the social, economic and civic aspirations of people with disabilities. The four policy areas covered in the Plan are:

1. Inclusive communities
2. Health, housing and wellbeing
3. Fairness and safety
4. Contributing lives

The state policy context includes:

<b>Legislation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Victorian Equal Opportunity Act 2010</b></li> <li>• <b>Victorian Disability Act 2006 and Disability Regulation 2007</b></li> <li>• <b>Victorian Mental Health Act 2014</b></li> <li>• <b>Victorian Charter of Human Rights and Responsibilities Act 2006</b></li> <li>• <b>Victorian Local Government Act 1989</b></li> </ul>
<b>Policies</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Victorian Autism State Plan 2009-2019</li> <li>• Absolutely Everyone - Victorian State Disability Plan 2017-2020</li> </ul>

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) has developed a Strategic Framework for Local Government - Creating a More Inclusive Community for People with a Disability which aligns with the National Disability Strategy and the Victorian State Disability Plan and helps Councils meet legal obligations to remove barriers of discrimination.

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*Local context*

Disability is a key focus for Council across service delivery, advocacy, partnerships, facilitation and development. The Maroondah Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 is a key strategic document that sits beneath the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision and Council Plan.



*Maroondah 2040*

The Maroondah 2040 Community Vision for a safe, healthy and active community; and an inclusive and diverse community are central to this Disability Policy and Action Plan.

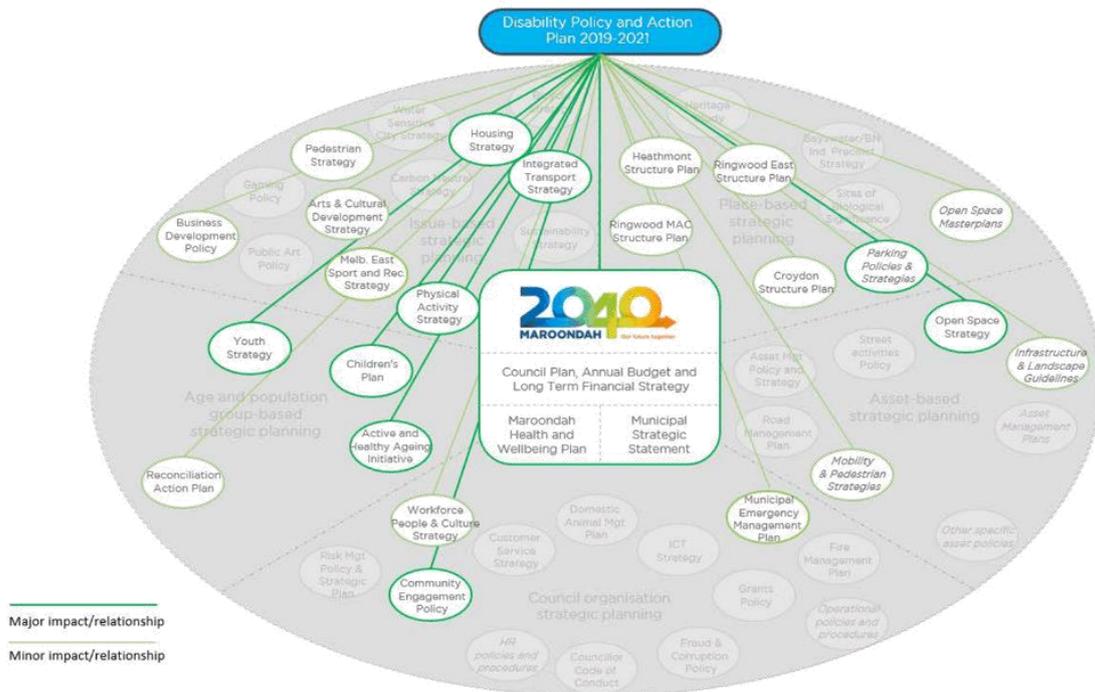
Whilst many Maroondah 2040 key directions extend beyond the scope of this Plan, the current Council Plan 2017-2021 outlines commitments relevant to this three year Disability Policy and Action Plan.

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*Council Plan 2017-2021*

The Council Plan 2017-2021 is Maroondah City Council's key medium-term strategic document that sets key directions and priority actions to work towards the long-term community vision outlined in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*. The Council Plan plays a vital role in shaping Maroondah's future over a four-year period. It identifies both challenges and opportunities for our community at the local and regional level within the context of the community's long term Maroondah 2040 vision. It also forms the basis for Council to make decisions regarding resources and priorities in response to community needs and aspirations. The Council Plan is implemented through a service delivery planning process, and outcomes are measured and reported regularly. Achievements are reported back to Council and the community through the Maroondah City Council Annual Report at the end of each financial year.

In addition to *Maroondah 2040: Our future together* and the Council Plan, there are a wide range of other strategic documents that will contribute to the delivery of outcomes and key directions within this Disability Policy and Action Plan. The figure below shows the inter-relationships between the Disability Policy and Action Plan and many of the other strategic documents adopted by Council.



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## What does the evidence say?

Council has undertaken a review of relevant data on disability to assist in the development of priority actions for the Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021.

A key source of information is the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) Census of Population and Housing 2016, where a member of the population has indicated that they require assistance with one or more daily core activities including body movement, communication and/or self-care.

The following diagram highlights key statistics relating to people with a disability in Maroondah.



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### *Disability trends*

At the time of the 2016 Census of Population and Housing, the City of Maroondah had a total of 5,482 (5.0% of total population) residents living with a profound or severe disability, who require assistance with daily activities. Ringwood, Ringwood East, and Warranwood are identified as having the highest percentage of people living with disabilities.

In Maroondah, 47.6% of the population over 85 are identified as in need of assistance with daily activities or living with disabilities. There are more females living with a profound or severe disability in Maroondah than there are males.

Maroondah has almost double the number of people providing unpaid care as they have people in need of assistance. An unpaid carer is defined as a person who provides care or help to a person with a profound or severe disability, or problem long term illness or old age without receiving payment.

For people who live with a profound or severe disability, education and employment can be difficult to access. The percentage of population in need of assistance who are unemployed and looking for work is greater in Maroondah than both the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) and Greater Melbourne.

The 2016 Personal Safety Survey (PSS), which is led by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) found women and girls with disabilities are twice as likely as women and girls without disabilities to experience violence throughout their lives.

Women with disabilities experience the same kinds of violence experienced by other women but also disability-based violence and is often specific to the nature of their disability.

Examples include:

- Denial of mobility and communication devices
- Withholding of food, water or medication
- Threats of institutionalisation
- Rough handling by care workers

### **Future projections**

Over the coming decades, Maroondah's population demographics are expected to change significantly. Population forecasts enable us to estimate future aged care, disability and support service needs for Maroondah by identifying what services will be required and in what quantity. Projections indicate that demand for Council services and assistance will increase over the coming years as dementia, an ageing population and disability are all forecast to increase considerably.

Between 2016-2031, the population of Maroondah residents living with disabilities is expected to increase by 35%. Of this increase, the age groups between 70-74 and 85+ years are expected to have the most significant increase.

### **Challenges**

The recently introduced National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) is the largest, most complex major national social reform in Australian since the introduction of Medicare. The NDIS provides support for people who are impacted or unable to take part in everyday activities due to a permanent or significant disability. Since its introduction in November 2017, Council has played a key role in supporting local residents to have the knowledge they require to understand how the NDIS relates to them, or to the person that they care for.

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Throughout the lifespan of the previous Disability Policy and Action Plan 2014-2018, Council identified several major challenges of meeting the needs of people with disabilities that will continue to be addressed as part of this new 2019-2021 Plan. Key themes include accessibility, infrastructure, communication, social inclusion, education and employment.

## What you told us...

In developing the Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021, Council undertook direct engagement with community members and stakeholders to identify the challenges faced by people with disabilities in Maroondah. Over a 12-month engagement period, Council sought input from members of the community, people with disabilities, carers of people with disabilities, representatives of local disability organisations, and internal stakeholders. The focus of this engagement was to help identify the issues faced by people living with disabilities in Maroondah and to determine what can be done to deal with those issues. *The Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021: Engagement Report, January 2019* highlights the key findings from this engagement process.

Council sought input from the community and key stakeholders through a range of engagement activities including:

- Café Consult at the 2017 Maroondah Festival;
- A community survey; and
- Interviews with representatives of local disability organisations and internal stakeholders/departments.

### *Café Consult*

Café Consult took place at the Maroondah Festival in November 2017 enabling the community to speak with Council staff and participate in a range of interactive activities to have their say on disability issues and opportunities. During the festival, a total of 571 responses were received.



*Café Consult engagement activity*

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### *Disability Policy and Action Plan Survey*

The Disability Policy and Action Plan Survey was available to the public in a hardcopy format at Council service centres and facilities, local libraries and community centres, and in an electronic format on Council's website. The survey was also sent to local community groups for distribution.

The survey was open from 8 October to 2 November 2018, with Council receiving a total of 91 submissions. Of the surveys received: 37.4% were submitted by individuals who identified as 'a community member', 14.8% as 'a representative of an organisation', 14.8% as 'a carer of a person with a disability', and 13% as 'a person with a disability'. The survey enabled participants to identify three areas they believed needed to be focused on to make Maroondah more inclusive for people with disabilities; the key issues faced by people with disabilities in Maroondah, and what could be done to address these issues.

### *Interviews*

Council undertook a suite of interviews with local organisations and internal stakeholders between September and November 2018 to capture what is currently being done, what areas require more work, and how Council can use the Disability Policy and Action Plan to reduce the issues faced by people with disabilities. The interviews involved organisations such as the Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee, Monkami Centre, Irabina Autism Services, Eastern Disability Action Group, YourDNA, Ringwood Spiders, and Maroondah City Council internal departments/stakeholders.



Main Street, Croydon

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### *Key issues and opportunities*

Through the engagement activities, it was identified that the key issues faced by people with disabilities, community members and local stakeholders, included:

- Access to local infrastructure including safe footpaths, parking near amenities, and public transport.
- A lack of employment opportunities and support services.
- Availability of information.
- Accessing and transitioning into the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS).
- Negative stigma and attitudes towards people with disabilities.

The engagement process indicated that there are several issues that prevent people with disabilities from having equal opportunities to participate in community life. It was identified that Council has a role to play in reducing these issues by advocating for and implementing change within the community, in terms of accessibility and design of local infrastructure, employment opportunities, social inclusion, promoting the value of people with disabilities, and the sharing of information and services.

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## Our strategic response

### Our strategic framework for disability inclusion and access

Vision	<i>Maroondah will be an accessible and inclusive community that provides an equal opportunity for people of all abilities, their families and their carers to actively and fully participate in the life of our community.</i>			
Principles	<i>Autonomy Opportunity Human Rights Diversity Accountability</i>			
Focus Area	<b>Social and economic inclusion</b>	<b>Services and information</b>	<b>Design, infrastructure and transport</b>	<b>Advocacy and leadership</b>
Individual's experience	<i>I live well</i>	<i>I have access to what I need</i>	<i>I feel included</i>	<i>My needs are considered</i>
Policy directions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create a safe, social and recreational environment that is engaging and inclusive.</li> <li>• Increase levels of employment and education for people with disabilities in partnership with local business and community organisations</li> <li>• Ensure arts and cultural activities in Maroondah are inclusive and accessible</li> <li>• Support new and existing Council employees with disabilities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to develop inclusive communication methods in providing customer service to the community.</li> <li>• Ensure Council's online channels are accessible and compliant.</li> <li>• Support people with disabilities and their families navigating disability support services.</li> <li>• Provide and promote wellbeing and educational opportunities inclusive of disability.</li> <li>• Provide appropriate and relevant information and support to people with disabilities, their families and carers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure inclusive design of all major projects in Maroondah.</li> <li>• Implement Council's ongoing capital works program to improve accessibility of Council's infrastructure in response to community needs.</li> <li>• Support environments that are accessible for people with disabilities.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advocate for people with disabilities, their families and carers.</li> <li>• Advocate and promote an increase in affordable housing in Maroondah.</li> <li>• Promote a positive awareness of people with disabilities in our community.</li> <li>• Develop capacity building skills within the Maroondah community, accessible and inclusive community.</li> </ul>

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## Our vision for disability inclusion and access

The aim of the Disability Policy and Action Plan is to reduce key issues faced by people with disabilities in Maroondah, and to create opportunities for people with disabilities to participate equally in the life of the community.

Our vision for disability inclusion and access in Maroondah is:

***'Maroondah will be an accessible and inclusive community that provides equal opportunity for people of all abilities, their families and carers to actively and fully participate in the life of our community.'***

To achieve this vision, Council will provide accessible and equitable local infrastructure, services, and facilities that will effectively meet the needs of people with disabilities, their families and carers. Maroondah will play a leading role in promoting the value and needs of people with disabilities within the community.

## Key principles

There are five principles that underpin the plan:

- autonomy
- opportunity
- human-rights
- diversity
- accountability.

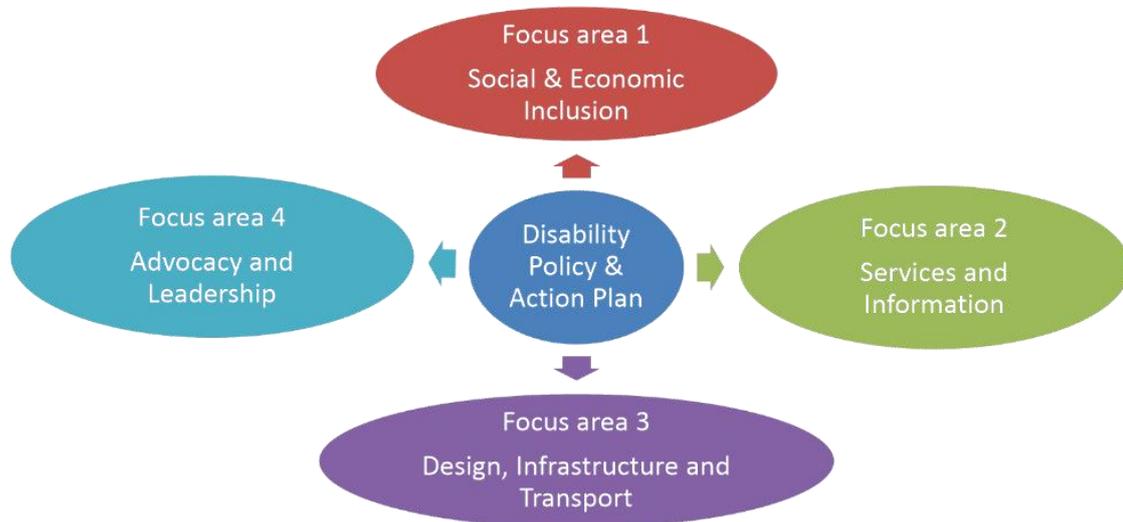
These principles are drawn from the State Disability Plan 2017-2020 and are all considered of equal importance. As foundational considerations, these principles will underpin all of Council's policy directions and activities in working towards our vision for disability access and inclusion within this Plan.



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### Focus areas

In working towards this Vision, four key focus areas have been developed that incorporate a range of key policy directions and priority actions over the next three years. They have been informed by the background research evidence, detailed community feedback and advice from the Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee.



The four focus areas within this framework are considered to be of equal importance and have been derived from the key issues faced by people with disabilities identified from Council's background study into disability in Maroondah and community and stakeholder engagement activities. They provide the framework for policy directions and priority actions to work toward the overall vision for disability access and inclusion in Maroondah.



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## Focus area 1 - Social and Economic Inclusion

### Vision statement

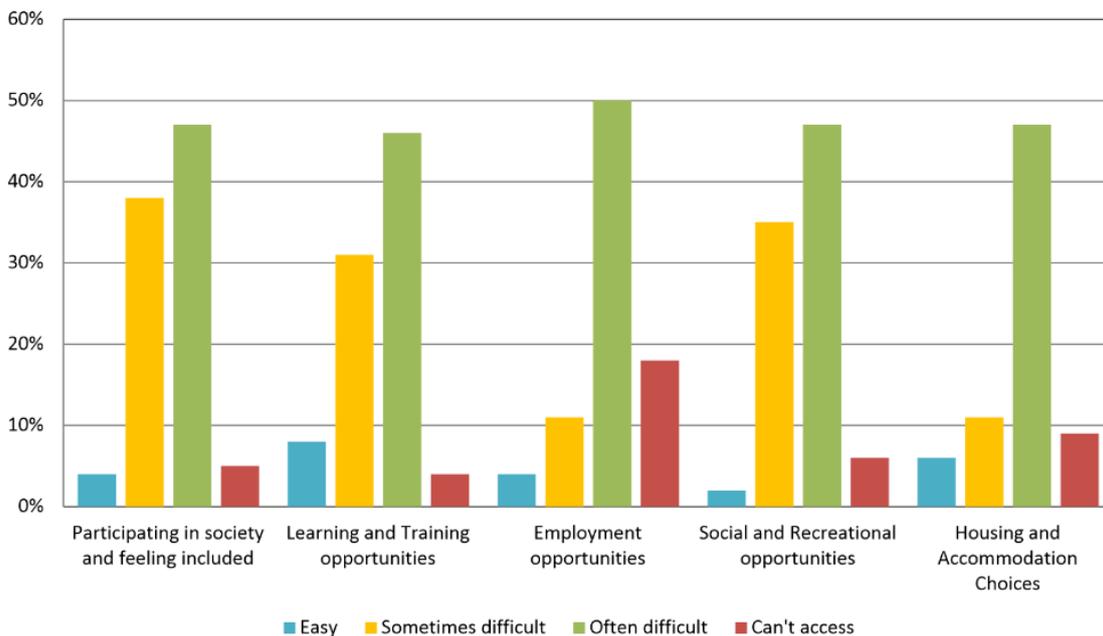
People with disabilities will have improved access to employment, education and volunteer opportunities along with greater opportunities to participate in leisure, recreation, arts and cultural activities.

### What the evidence tells us

People with disabilities often find it difficult to access employment, training and education suited to their capabilities. In Maroondah, there is a significantly lower percentage of people in need of assistance with core activities in the workforce than people who are not in need of assistance. The percentage of people in need of assistance who are unemployed and looking for work is 16.1%, compared to 5.2% of unemployed people looking for work amongst the total population of Maroondah. The percentage of people in need of assistance in Maroondah who are unemployed and looking for work is significantly higher than that of the Eastern Metropolitan Region (EMR) and Greater Melbourne.

For people with disabilities, learning and educational opportunities, and the ability to gain a qualification can be difficult to access. In Maroondah, those in need of assistance are much less likely (8.7%) to have received a bachelors or higher degree compared to those who are not in need of assistance (24.2%). More than half of the Maroondah community that are in need of assistance in Maroondah (58.9%) reportedly have no qualifications.

#### Factors of socio-economic inclusion in Maroondah



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### What the community has told us

In Maroondah, access to employment opportunities, education, training programs and volunteer activities are some of the key issues identified for people with disabilities. Responses from community and local stakeholder engagement have illustrated that social and recreational activities and employment opportunities are just a few of the challenges for people with disabilities. People with disabilities who are unable to participate in the social and economic life of the community can be at higher risk of becoming socially isolated.

Consultation with the community demonstrated the importance for people with disabilities to have access to training and social activities that assist their development towards work and a satisfying social life. Without appropriate learning and employment opportunities, people with disabilities do not receive the education and training they require and are often unable to enter the workforce and contribute to the economy.

### Key directions 2019-2021

- Create a safe, social and recreational environment that is engaging and inclusive
- Increase levels of employment and education for people with disabilities in partnership with local business and community organisations
- Ensure arts and cultural activities in Maroondah are inclusive and accessible
- Support new and existing Council employees with disabilities

### Priority actions 2019-2021

Key Direction	Priority Action	Time Frame			Lead Area
		2019	2020	2021	
1.1 Create a safe, social and recreational environment that is engaging and inclusive	1.1.1 Include disability consideration into risk management plans for Realm and Eastland activation programming.	•	•	•	Business & Activity Centre Development Revenue Property & Customer Service
	1.1.2 Work in partnership to develop innovative options to support vulnerable people, including people with disabilities, to reconnect with the community.	•	•	•	Community Services - Aged & Disability Services
	1.1.3 Review current Council emergency practices in line with the Vulnerable People in Emergencies Policy (DHHS) in relation to vulnerable persons and people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Health, Local Laws, and Emergency Management
	1.1.4 Implement initiatives to help increase the participation of women with disabilities in regular exercise.	•	•	•	Leisure Communications & Engagement
	1.1.5 Consider inclusion and accessibility requirements for people with disabilities who are attending a Council run community event or activity.	•	•	•	Leisure
	1.1.6 Continue to implement inclusive recreational activities to connect people of all abilities and help address social isolation.	•	•	•	Leisure
	1.1.7 Review the Physical Activity Strategy ensuring it continues to encompass the needs of people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Leisure

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1.2 Increase levels of employment and education for people with disabilities in partnership with local business and community organisations	1.2.1 Work in partnership to deliver a Men's Health lunch for local business members to raise awareness of mental health.	•			Business & Activity Centre Development Integrated Planning
	1.2.2 Invest in ways to build capacity of businesses to help make their practice more inclusive and diverse for people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Business & Activity Centre Development
	1.2.3 Highlight local businesses that demonstrate good practice models of employing people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Business & Activity Centre Development
	1.2.4 Highlight the positive outcomes from building relationships with customers who have disabilities.	•	•	•	Business & Activity Centre Development
	1.2.5 Encourage local businesses to consider volunteer positions/work placement for people with disabilities to create a learning employment pathway.	•	•	•	Business & Activity Centre Development Integrated Planning
1.3 Ensure arts and cultural activities in Maroondah are inclusive and accessible	1.3.1 Continue to advise and support local artists with disabilities and local disability organisations to develop and promote their arts and cultural activities/ programs in Maroondah.	•	•	•	Community Services - Arts & Cultural Development
	1.3.2 Continue to provide public artworks and art activations in public spaces that are inclusive of people with disabilities, utilising a wide range of locations and formats.	•	•	•	Community Services - Arts & Cultural Development
	1.3.3 Implement arts programs as a way of connecting people with and without disabilities.	•	•	•	Community Services - Arts & Cultural Development
1.4 Support new and existing Council employees with disabilities	1.4.1 Continue to provide reasonable adjustments for employees with an existing or acquired disability to help cater for individual needs.	•	•	•	Workplace People & Culture
	1.4.2 Develop and implement employment and training pathways within Council for people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Workplace People & Culture

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## Focus area 2 - Services and information

### Vision statement

Services and the sharing of information will be easily available for people with disabilities to help increase access to health, social, and support resources.

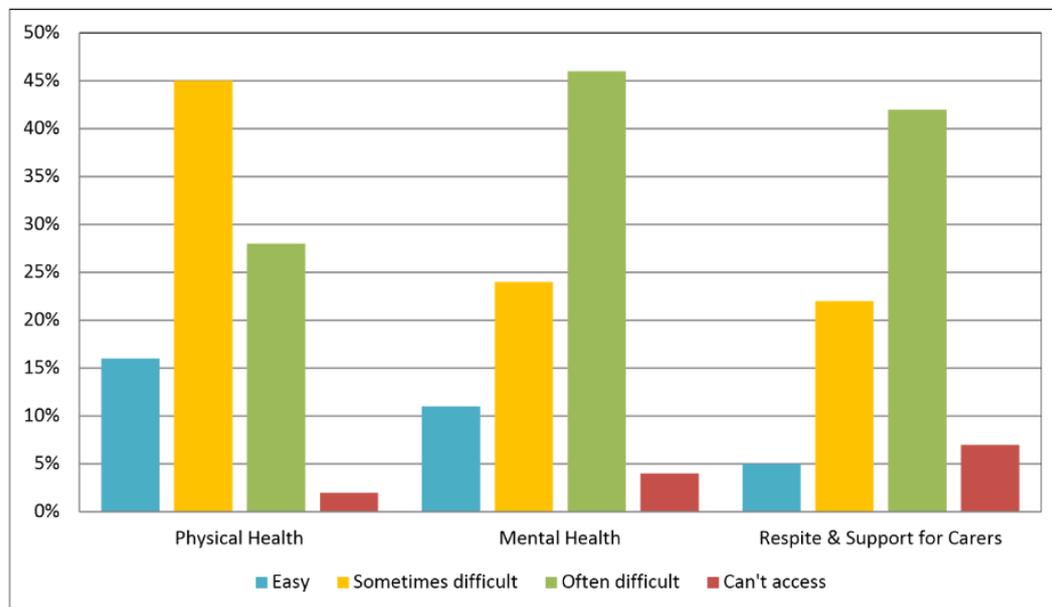
### What the evidence tells us

Access to quality and tailored services are critically important for the health and wellbeing of people with disabilities. Without access to services, people can become socially isolated and be at high risk of suffering poor mental health due to their inability to access employment opportunities, social and support groups, public transport or attend appointments.

Services are also highly important for families and carers of people with disabilities. Carers of people with disabilities are at high risk of poor mental and physical health due to the highly demanding role of providing assistance to someone in need. Council's 'Pathways for Carers' program has shown that carers who participate in the program experience an increase in confidence, self-esteem and overall mental health through the social and supportive connection with other carers.

In Maroondah, 19.6% of people in need of assistance reported that they do not have access to the internet at home. Internet access is an important network for people with disabilities and their families to assist with the access of information and increase knowledge of the supports and opportunities available.

### Access to Services in Maroondah for people with Disabilities



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### What the community has told us

For people with disabilities, their families and carers, accessing information regarding services and social events can help connect them to their community. Council's engagement process informed us that information about support services could be more accessible for people with disabilities and their carers.

With the introduction of the National Disability Scheme (NDIS), many families and carers have experienced a reduction of services they previously accessed, as well as a loss of funding to carer programs. Responses from the engagement highlighted the importance of Council's role in assisting families transition to the NDIS.

Engagement with the community indicated that events and activities that are accessible for people with disabilities can help create social connections and interactive opportunities. The community told us that the supply of local services and therapies needed by many members of the community is limited, resulting in people having to leave Maroondah to receive treatment.

### Key directions 2019-2021

- Continue to develop inclusive communication methods in providing customer service to the community
- Ensure Council's online channels are accessible and compliant
- Support people with disabilities and their families navigating disability support services
- Provide and promote wellbeing and educational opportunities inclusive of disability
- Provide appropriate and relevant information and support to people with disabilities, their families and carers



Ringwood Spiders

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**Priority actions**

Key Direction	Priority Action	Time Frame			Lead Area
		2019	2020	2021	
2.1 Continue to develop inclusive communication methods in providing customer service to the community	2.1.1 Ensure accessibility is considered when reviewing Council's webchat and social media channels.	•	•	•	Revenue, Property & Customer Service Communications & Engagement
	2.1.2 Implement disability and mental health training for Council employees with regards to customer contact.	•	•	•	Workplace People & Culture Revenue, Property & Customer Service
	2.1.3 Attend Maroondah's Disability Advisory Committee for consultation on service interaction.	•	•	•	Revenue, Property & Customer Service
2.2 Ensure Council's online channels are accessible and compliant	2.2.1 Develop and manage an action plan outlined in the ICT Strategy to ensure WCAG 2.0AA accessibility compliance for online communication.	•	•	•	Communications & Engagement
2.3 Support people with disabilities and their families navigating disability support services	2.3.1 Advocate for an ongoing resource to support people with disabilities to navigate and connect to relevant support systems.	•	•	•	Community Services - Aged & Disability
	2.3.2 Investigate Council's future role supporting people with disabilities not covered by My Aged Care or NDIS while continuing to identify and advocate for NDIS gaps.	•	•	•	Community Services - Aged & Disability
2.4 Provide and promote wellbeing and educational opportunities inclusive of disability	2.4.1 Work in partnership with the Department of Education to deliver the Maroondah Positive Education project which aims to increase the wellbeing and educational outcomes of young people in Maroondah.	•	•	•	Community Services - Children & Youth Service
	2.4.2 Review Council services for children and young people living with disabilities and implement strategies to ensure these services are inclusive and accessible.	•	•	•	Community Services - Children & Youth Service
	2.4.3 Develop support systems and referral and transition pathways for parents/children with disabilities and communicate these with relevant stakeholders.	•	•	•	Community Services - Maternal & Child Health
	2.4.4 Investigate the development of a resource for parents of a baby/child with a disability.	•	•	•	Community Services - Maternal & Child Health Children & Youth Services
2.5 Provide appropriate and relevant information and support to people with disabilities, their families and carers	2.5.1 Continue to update, improve and promote Council's online resources for people with disabilities, and their families and carers.	•	•	•	Integrated Planning

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## Focus area 3 - Design, Infrastructure & Transport

### Vision statement

A range of enhanced accessible facilities and environments will help to ensure that all people with disabilities can fully participate in community life.

### What the evidence tells us

A community should be designed appropriately with facilities that ensure that everyone has equal opportunities to access all places, and that all environments have support capabilities for those who require assistance. For everyone to have equal opportunity to participate in the activities that a community has to offer, all public places including shops, parks, buildings, public facilities, car parks, public transport stations and activity centres need to be designed with appropriate infrastructure to cater for people with disabilities.

Studies show that the construction of new public places (i.e. shopping centres) built under the minimum Australian design standards do not always provide the appropriate facilities needed by people with disabilities to be able to experience and enjoy that place in the same manner as another community member. Instead, the construction of new public places requires developers to go above and beyond the minimum Australian design standards, to ensure that new places are designed with facilities to fully cater for the needs of people with disabilities.

Public transport is a major form of transportation and movement for many people with disabilities. In Maroondah, 13.5% of people in need of assistance belong to a household that do not have access to a motor vehicle. As a result, it is vital that public transport vehicles and stations are designed to be accessible and safe for people with disabilities and provide information and assistance that is easily understood and readily available.

### What the community has told us

Accessible design, infrastructure and transport are critical elements for people with disabilities to be able to access, participate, and feel included, in community life. Respondents identified that it is important for people with disabilities to have equal access throughout the community. Engagement indicated that there are many locations throughout Maroondah that remain inaccessible for people with disabilities due to a lack of appropriate parking, unsafe or non-existent footpaths, accessible public transport and facilities, shops and cafes that were not designed to be disability friendly. Responses from engagement emphasised the importance of Council's role in developing and enhancing accessible facilities and environments throughout Maroondah.

### Key directions

- Ensure inclusive design of all major projects in Maroondah
- Implement Council's ongoing capital works program to improve accessibility of Council's infrastructure in response to community needs
- Support environments that are accessible for people with disabilities

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**Priority actions**

Key Direction	Priority Action	Time Frame			Lead Area
		2019	2020	2021	
3.1 Ensure inclusive design of all major projects in Maroondah	3.1.1 Consider and apply universal design elements in all major projects within Maroondah.	•	•	•	Assets
3.2 Implement Council's ongoing capital works program to improve accessibility of Council's infrastructure in response to community needs	3.2.1 Undertake facility audits to assist with and identify enhanced access opportunities for community facilities	•	•	•	Assets
	3.2.2 Consider the installation of fencing or natural barriers to enclose play spaces ensuring the safety of people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Assets
3.3 Support environments that are accessible for people with disabilities	3.3.1 Continue to provide advice and information to the community regarding accessibility requirements for buildings under the building code.	•	•	•	Building Services
	3.3.2 Work towards resolving known infrastructure accessibility issues based on community feedback through the DDA Improvement program.	•	•	•	Engineering Services
	3.3.3 Continue to implement the footpath construction program to ensure footpaths and curbs are safe and accessible	•	•	•	Engineering Services
	3.3.4 Consider the Disability Standards 2010 and Maroondah's Planning Scheme in Council's planning and development processes.	•	•	•	Statutory Planning



*Artist impression of HE Parker multi sports complex*

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## Focus area 4 - Advocacy & Leadership

### Vision statement

Council advocacy and leadership will result in increased community recognition of the value of people with a disability whilst broadening commitments from all levels of government and private enterprise to facilitate accessibility and inclusion for all members of the community.

### What the evidence tells us

Varying attitudes and negative stigma about disability presents a major challenge that prevents people with disabilities from feeling included in our community. There are two types of 'attitudes' towards disability that can make people with disabilities feel excluded:

- Direct - a member of society that does not feel comfortable around a person with disabilities; or
- Indirect - when people with disabilities are not considered in the construction of a building, place or facility, resulting in poorly thought out development that is not accessible for those who require extra assistance.

When negative stigma and attitudes towards disability are present, people with disabilities are prevented from feeling equal and valued within the community and often find it difficult to participate and be included in all aspects of community life. Through advocacy and leadership, positive attitudes towards disability and the value of people with disabilities can become greatly acknowledged and assist in making a community inclusive for all.

### What the community has told us

Advocacy and the promotion of people with disabilities was considered highly important in assisting people with disabilities to feel included as part of the community. Community engagement highlighted the importance of Council's role in promoting the value of people with disabilities in the community, and to assist and promote change towards negative stigma and attitudes that surround disability. Negative attitudes towards people with disabilities result in a barrier that prevents people from feeling included in the life of a community, and can affect employment, and social and recreational participation.

Our engagement highlighted the importance of Council's leadership role of advocating to improve accessibility for people with disabilities throughout Maroondah. Responses from the engagement process underlined the importance of council's role in providing support and encouragement of people with disabilities, and to raise awareness of the value of people with disabilities as part of the community.

### Key directions

- Advocate for people with disabilities, their families and carers
- Advocate and promote an increase in affordable housing in Maroondah
- Promote a positive awareness of people with disabilities in our community
- Develop capacity building skills within the Maroondah community

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**Priority actions**

Key Direction	Priority Action	Time Frame			Lead Area
		2019	2020	2021	
4.1 Advocate for people with disabilities, their families and carers	4.1.1 Advocate to State Government for Arterial Road and other infrastructure upgrades that include the provision of pedestrian infrastructure and support people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Engineering Services
	4.1.2 Work in partnership to assist and strengthen the role of the Eastern Disability Action Group.	•	•		Integrated Planning
	4.1.3 Advocate and increase awareness of the risks associated with online pornography for people with disabilities.	•			Integrated Planning
	4.1.4 Continue to identify and investigate emerging challenges that impact people with disabilities, their carers and families.	•	•	•	Integrated Planning
	4.1.5 Continue to operate the Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee and encourage employees to consult on Council run projects, events, activities and strategies.	•	•	•	Integrated Planning
	4.1.6 Advocate to State & Federal governments and other statutory bodies for improved access and inclusion for people with disabilities including public transport and public safety.	•	•	•	Integrated Planning
	4.1.7 Work in partnership to support carers of people with disabilities through carer education.	•	•	•	Integrated Planning
	4.1.8 Work with Eastern Transport Coalition to advocate to State Government on the future direction of public transport to ensure services are accessible to people with disabilities.	•	•	•	Integrated Planning
	4.2 Advocate and promote an increase in affordable housing in Maroondah	4.2.1 Work towards the implementation of Maroondah's Affordable and Social Housing Policy 2018 and implement actions from the Maroondah Housing Strategy 2016.	•	•	•
4.2.2 Support the delivery of housing market innovations such as Greening the Greyfield initiative.		•	•	•	Integrated Planning
4.3 Promote a positive awareness of people with disabilities in our community	4.3.1 Promote accessibility features of Council's new developments, open spaces, sporting and leisure facilities, main events and major projects.	•	•	•	Communications & Engagement Leisure
	4.3.2 Use positive images and stories of people with disabilities to demonstrate the valuable contribution they make in the community.	•	•	•	Communications & Engagement Leisure
	4.3.3 Undertake a review of Council's Community Engagement Policy ensuring we continue to proactively engage people with disabilities.	•			Communications & Engagement

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	4.3.4 Ensure people with disabilities are considered when developing community engagement plans for strategic policies, capital works, service delivery and advocacy activities.	•	•	•	Communications & Engagement
4.4 Develop capacity building skills within the Maroondah community	4.4.1 Work in partnership to establish an Opening Doors program in the Outer East.	•			Integrated Planning
	4.4.2 Provide a 'Preventing Violence against Women with Disabilities' workshop in Maroondah.	•			Integrated Planning
	4.4.3 Deliver Mental Health First Aid training to carers and community members.	•	•		Integrated Planning
	4.4.4 Provide information and resources to organisations and groups that are addressing the needs of people with disabilities.	•	•		Integrated Planning

## Tracking our progress

Council will monitor the implementation of the Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021 and report on the progress of the Plan through the Annual Report as required by the Victorian Disability Amendment Act 2012. The Plan will be evaluated in relation to outcomes and impacts on the lives of people with disabilities on an ongoing basis.

The Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee will also provide strategic advice and input on the implementation and evaluation of the Plan.

A final review of the Plan will be completed in 2021.

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## Glossary

**Access:** *the opportunity for all people to engage with activities in a manner that is equal and dignifying.*

**Accessible:** An outcome where a person can enter and utilise an area and its facilities without need for support.

**Access Focus Group:** Group comprised of five local people with disability, a carer, a healthcare professional, an Access Consultant from the Institute of Access Training Australia, a representative from QIC and Council's MetroAccess Officer, to ensure that the redevelopment of the Eastland Shopping Centre, new Ringwood Town Square and Realm would be accessible for all.

**Advocacy:** The action of an individual or group who seeks to influence policy decisions, systemic processes or resource allocations within a social system or institution.

**Best practice:** *Applying nationally or internationally renowned procedures that have been proven to deliver effective results.*

**Changing Places:** Public toilets with full-sized change tables and hoists in major public spaces that meet the needs of people with a disability having high support needs.

**Design:** Creating facilities, built environments, products and services that can be used by people of all abilities, to the greatest extent possible.

**Economic inclusion:** *the ability of all people to participate in the economic life of a community including employment, customers and citizens.*

**Facilities:** *a place, amenity, or piece of equipment that has been created to serve a particular purpose.*

**Infrastructure:** *the basic physical and organisational structures, facilities, and systems of an environment that are required to assist the operation of society.*

**Inclusive:** *the process of enabling all people regardless age or ability, equal opportunity to participate in all aspects of a community.*

**Legislation:** *a collection of laws an individual, group or organisation must abide by.*

**Leadership:** *The action of encouraging others to follow the example that one leaves.*

**Marveloo:** *Transportable Accessible Toilet*

**Pathways for Carers:** *A social program that invites carers of people with a severe or profound disability to meet, talk and walk together, provide support to one another, and reduce the risk of low mental and physical health in carers.*

**Social inclusion:** *the ability of all people to feel valued and have equal opportunity to take part in all social aspects of society.*

**Wellbeing:** *A person's health, safety, comfort, and happiness.*

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## **Acronyms**

ABS: Australian Bureau of Statistics.

ALGA: The Australian Local Government Association

DAGER: Disability Action Group Eastern Region

DDA: Disability Discrimination Act

EACH: Community Health Service

EMR: Eastern Metropolitan Region

HACC: Home and Community Care

ICT Strategy: Information Communications Technology Strategy

LGPRO: Local Government Professionals

MAV: The Municipal Association of Victoria

MIND Australia: Mental Health Service

MCC: Maroondah City Council

MDAC: Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee

NDIS: National Disability Insurance Scheme

NDS: National Disability Strategy 2010 -2020

NRS: National Relay Service

PSS: Personal Safety Survey

QIC: Queensland Investment Corporation

SRS: Supported Residential Services

TIS: Translating and Interpreting Service

WCAG 2.0 Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

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**Council’s response to formal written submissions – Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021**

#	Issue	Submitter	Written Submission (key points)	Council Comments	Action
1	Disability inclusion	Sue Dymond	Need for training for clubs, groups and businesses on disability inclusion	There are a number of actions in the Plan that address social and economic inclusion for people with a disability	Noted
2	Service delivery	Marj Munro	Highlighting positive support that Council undertakes with residents of supported residential services (SRS) in Maroondah. Requests that these service be continued.	Ongoing service that is government funded	Noted
3	Disability Inclusion	Helen Rouse	Cater for the needs of people with a disability  Positive impact of pathed walking tracks	Actions in the Plan assist in delivering the desired outcomes	Noted

Claire Scott Planning 

# Maroondah Neighbourhood Character Study Review

## Recommendations Report

Draft Document: April 2019



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## Introduction

The implementation recommendations for the Maroondah Neighbourhood Character Study Review represents the fourth and penultimate stage of the project, and will ultimately form Chapter 4 of the final report.

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### **Stage 1: Inception**

Outputs: Background Review document (appended to final report)

### **Stage 2: Residential Character Assessment**

Outputs: Residential Character Assessment report, including Overview and Neighbourhood Areas Audit (Chapters 1 & 2 of final report)

### **Stage 3: Identification of Community Values**

Output: Community Values report (Chapter 3 of final report)

### **Stage 4: Implementation Recommendations**

Output: Recommendations report (Chapter 4 of final report)

### **Stage 5: Final Report & Road Map**

Output: Maroondah Neighbourhood Character Study 2019

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The focus for the implementation of the study is through the Maroondah Planning Scheme. Successful implementation of the proposed planning scheme policy and controls will legally bind Council, the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal (VCAT) and planning permit applicants to consider the strong residential character of Maroondah that has been identified through this process.

The following documents are appended to this report:

*Appendix A: Recommendations Summary Table*

*Appendix B: Detailed Residential Zoning Maps*

*Appendix C: Draft NCO Schedules*

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Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

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## Executive summary

In Maroondah's residential areas, the findings of the Neighbourhood Character Study Review are proposed to be implemented through the introduction of eleven (11) new schedules to the Neighbourhood Residential Zone, and two (2) new schedules to the General Residential Zone, as follows:

### Neighbourhood Residential Zone

- NRZ1 Croydon Hills Estate, Birt's Hill & Jumping Creek Valley
- NRZ2 Wicklow Hills Ridgeline
- NRZ3 Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes
- NRZ4 Loughnan's Hill
- NRZ5 Jubilee Park
- NRZ6 Ruskin Park
- NRZ7 Warranwood Ridgeline & Slopes
- NRZ8 Croydon Ridge & Southern Hills
- NRZ9 Croydon Golf Links Estate
- NRZ10 Bushland Fringes
- NRZ11 Sites of Biological Significance

### General Residential Zone

- GRZ1 Garden Suburban
- GRZ2 Bush Garden Slopes

In Maroondah's designated Major Activity Centres and Neighbourhood Activity Centres, the following additional residential zones and schedules are recommended:

### Residential Growth Zone

- RGZ1 Ringwood MAC Residential Growth Precinct
- RGZ2 Croydon MAC Residential Growth Precinct
- RGZ3 Ringwood East NAC Residential Growth Precinct
- RGZ4 Ringwood East NAC Strategic Residential Growth Precinct
- RGZ5 Heathmont NAC Residential Growth Precinct

### General Residential Zone

- GRZ3 Ringwood East NAC Neighbourhood Consolidation Precinct
- GRZ4 Ringwood East NAC Residential Regeneration Precinct

- GRZ5 Heathmont NAC Bush Residential Growth Precinct
- GRZ6 Heathmont NAC Special Residential Precinct

*An overview map of the proposed residential zones and schedules follows this executive summary.*

*A set of more detailed residential zoning maps is included as Appendix B.*

The following implementation recommendations are also proposed:

### Rezone from GRZ to NRZ

- The north-eastern extent of the Loughnan-Warranwood Ridgeline, generally between Oban Road, Mullum Mullum Creek, the Jumping Creek Valley and Wonga Road. And the application of SLO3 to this area. It is acknowledged that the replacement of SLO4 with SLO3 may require additional, more detailed landscape assessment work, but it is recommended nonetheless.
- A western section of the hill slope that forms part of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, between Mt Dandenong Road, the northern side of Mirabel Avenue and the eastern side of Velma Grove. As above, the extension of the SLO3 to this area, and the removal of SLO4.

### Rezone from LDRZ to NRZ

- The two 'semi-rural' fringe areas adjacent to the municipal boundary, generally south of Williams Road and south of Gibson Road.

### Rezone from NRZ to GRZ

- A small precinct to the west of Warrandyte Road, generally around Rouseglen Court.
- A small precinct generally around Ellamatta Rise.

### NCO1 Alto Avenue & Wicklow Hills

- Re-write to ensure that the schedule is consistent with the requirements of VC148, and that the statement of neighbourhood character, objectives and decision guidelines capture the essence of the significance of the precinct, and are useful and applicable to any proposed development.

### NCO2 Croydon Hills Estate

- Re-write as above and include permit requirements.

### NCO3 Jubilee Park

- Proceed with implementation.

**SLO3 Wicklow Hills Ridge & Loughnan Warranwood Ridge  
Landscape Protection Area**

- Strengthen schedule, ensuring consistency with VC148. In the absence of a full landscape assessment study, simply retain and revise, without creating implications that require additional justification. Complete revision of schedule as part of the Vegetation Planning Policy Review project.

**SLO4 Landscape Canopy Protection**

- Retain and strengthen schedule, as above. Potentially extend SLO4 to the northernmost part of the proposed GRZ2 Bush Garden Slopes, based on logic and consistency with the proposed Schedule 2 to the GRZ (in the absence of a full landscape assessment study).

**Ringwood East & Heathmont Neighbourhood Activity  
Centres**

- Implement the findings of the structure plans that have been prepared for the centres, through use of the residential zones outlined above.

**Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre**

- Retain the RGZ1 for those areas of the MAC targeted for growth. Implement additional/alternative residential zones (and update DDO3) as part of the masterplanning and UDG process.

**Croydon Major Activity Centre**

- Undertake a review of the current structure plan, including residential areas within the centre. Consider use of the RGZ2 for those areas of the MAC targeted for growth (currently GRZ2), either before, or as part of the new structure planning process.

**(Current) Local Planning Policy Framework**

- In future, the Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) together with local policies in the Planning Policy Framework (PPF) will replace the current Local Planning Policy Framework (LPPF).
- It is recommended that the current MSS be reviewed and updated in relation to residential character, as part of its translation to the new MPS. The MPS should be a succinct expression of the overarching strategic policy directions of a municipality. It should highlight the planning issues that are important to the municipality and provide context for the local policies in the PPF.

- As part of the translation of the LPPF to the PPF, delete existing local policy 22.02, as this will be replaced by detailed schedules to each residential zone.

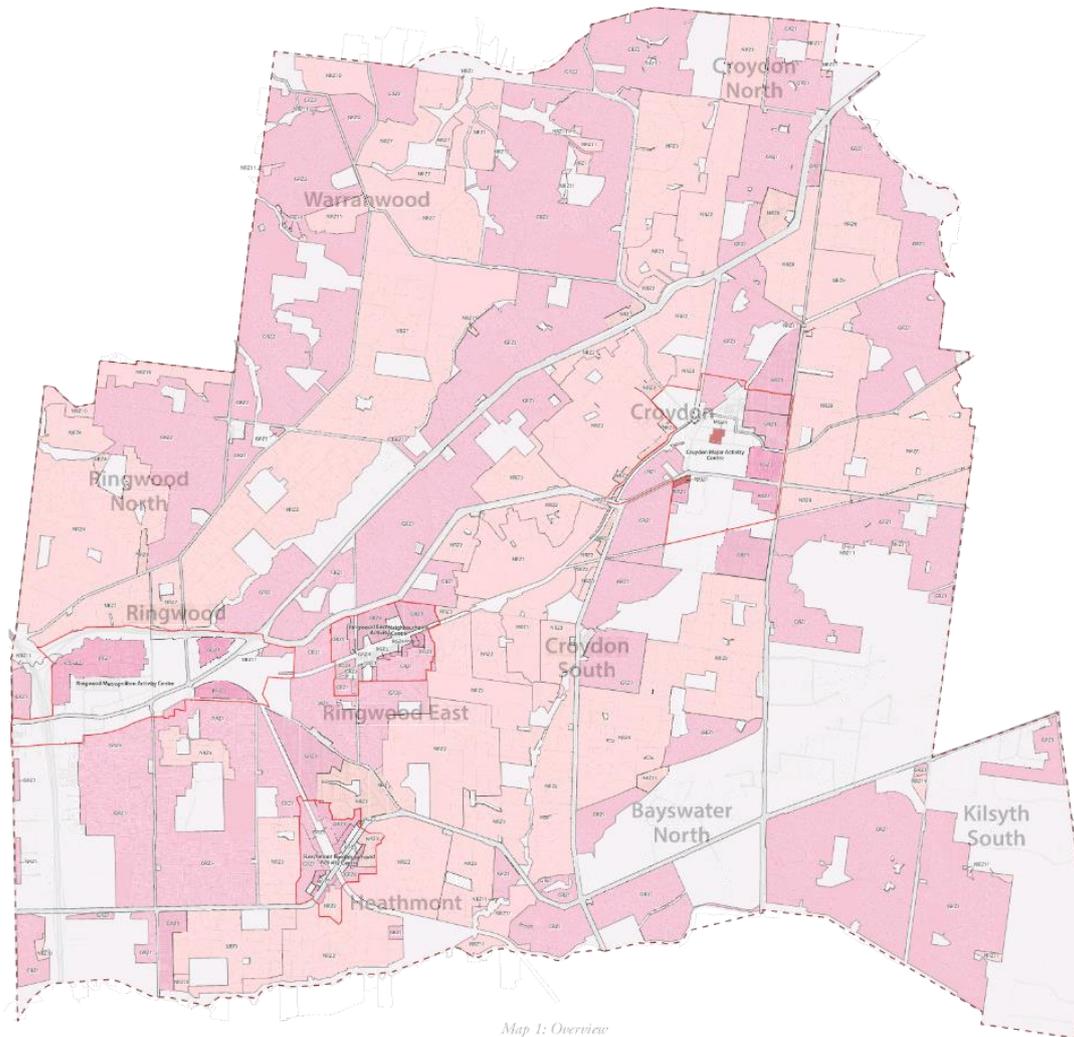
*A summary table of proposed residential zone recommendations is included as Appendix A.*

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# Proposed Residential Zones

Maroondah City Council 2018 Neighbourhood Character Study



Map 1: Overview

- |      |   |       |  |      |                                     |
|------|---|-------|--|------|-------------------------------------|
| ---  | Municipal boundary                        | NRZ7  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 7  | GRZ5 | General Residential Zone Schedule 5 |
| —    | Zone boundary                             | NRZ8  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 8  | GRZ6 | General Residential Zone Schedule 6 |
| —    | Activity Centre boundary                  | NRZ9  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 9  | RGZ1 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1  |
| NRZ1 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1 | NRZ10 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 10 | RGZ2 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 2  |
| NRZ2 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 2 | NRZ11 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 11 | RGZ3 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 3  |
| NRZ3 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 3 | GRZ1  | General Residential Zone Schedule 1        | RGZ4 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 4  |
| NRZ4 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 | GRZ2  | General Residential Zone Schedule 2        | RGZ5 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 5  |
| NRZ5 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5 | GRZ3  | General Residential Zone Schedule 3        | MUZ1 | Mixed Use Zone Schedule 1           |
| NRZ6 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 6 | GRZ4  | General Residential Zone Schedule 4        |      | Other                               |



## Rationale & justification

### Character essence

The character of Maroondah is intrinsically linked to its natural landscape and vegetation cover. These elements are cherished by the local community, provide environmental, aesthetic and health benefits, and unify the otherwise diverse residential neighbourhoods.

The two key landscape features of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline and the Loughnan-Warranwood Ridgeline, including Loughnan's Hill, are covered in a near-continuous tree canopy, and provide a vegetated backdrop to most residential areas in Maroondah, as well as wildlife and visual links to the Dandenong Ranges to the east.

In these elevated and undulating residential neighbourhoods, it is very important that the strong landscape character is protected, and that vegetation and the tree canopy cover remain the dominant visual elements.

A visual balance between built form and vegetation/garden space should be maintained in all other residential areas of the municipality, with the exception of precincts that have been targeted for growth.

Topography and vegetation, together with the siting and design of buildings, are therefore the key considerations in the management of residential character within Maroondah, and depending on the identified characteristics and objectives for a particular area, the emphasis on each of these elements (in the following recommendations) varies across the neighbourhoods.

### Site coverage & permeability

A recent technical study commissioned by Council, *Maroondah Canopy & Landscape Analysis 2011 to 2016* (June 2018), identified significant increases to hard surfacing on private land across the municipality (117 hectares), and a significant decrease in grass/bare earth (a decrease of 104 hectares over five years).

This supports fieldwork observations and community feedback that new development tends to involve site clearing, an increase in hard surfacing in areas of open space i.e. decking, paving, concrete, and minimal garden areas with small, low-maintenance plants e.g. native and non-native grasses etc. This is combined with the observation that the minimum Rescode permeability requirement of 20% is accommodated in 'left-over' space between buildings e.g. adjacent to driveways, where substantial vegetation such as large trees cannot be sustained.

Of particular note is the following conclusion from the aforementioned technical report:

*"One of the most consistent and significant findings in this research was the increase in hard surfaces and the decrease in grass/bare earth and shrubs. This suggests that the intensity of land use in Maroondah is*

*shifting to the provision of constructed environments and tree centered ecosystem services at the expense of lawns, garden areas and open land."*

It is also worth noting that while VC110 introduced a 'minimum garden area' requirement for the residential zones, this requirement relates more to the provision of outdoor space than permeability (and the ability to sustain vegetation). While a 'garden area' does not include driveways, car parking areas or roofed buildings, it does include non-permeable land such as decked and paved areas, swimming pools and tennis courts.

As established in the *Ruskin Park Character Assessment* (February 2018) and recently supported in the Amendment C107 Panel Report, the prevalence of vegetation in Maroondah is important both as a ratio to built form (this relates to site coverage and permeability) and as the dominant element in elevation, when viewed from the street (this relates to building height, which is discussed later in this section).

That is, the ability to retain and require canopy trees relates to the space available to plant and sustain them, which in turn relates to the ratio of building footprint (and hard surfacing) to permeable site. The key planning elements that influence this are site coverage, building setbacks, permeability and landscaping requirements, all of which are standards that can be varied through a schedule to the NRZ or the GRZ.

Therefore, in areas where the protection and sustenance of vegetation and large canopy trees should be prioritised and a large minimum lot size already applies (e.g. Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, Loughnan-Warranwood Ridgeline, Loughnan's Hill, Jumping Creek Valley, Birt's Hill, Croydon Golf Links Estate and Bushland Fringes), a maximum site coverage of 40%, and a minimum permeability of 50% are proposed.

These key changes to the requirements of Clauses 54 and 55 involve formalising what is currently an 'incentive' in SLO3, i.e. the requirement for a planning permit application if the proposed site coverage is over 40%. A site coverage requirement can now be mandated through a schedule to the zone, and 40% is considered an already accepted and justifiable number.

A minimum permeability requirement has been recommended to support the site coverage maximum, as each is integral to the ultimate success of achieving enough space to protect, plant and sustain vegetation. In the case of these significant and highly visible bushland areas, that are also sites of biological significance (and covered by VPO1), a minimum permeability requirement of 50% is considered appropriate and justifiable. This reflects the status quo of many properties in these neighbourhoods, and will ensure the

<sup>1</sup> Kaspar, J., *Maroondah Canopy & Landscape Analysis 2011 to 2016*, June 2018, p. 5

continuity of the visual dominance of vegetation, especially large canopy trees.

For comparative (and future justification) purposes it should be noted that the permeability requirement has been varied in adjacent more 'suburban' municipalities to the west e.g. Monash NRZ1, NRZ2, NRZ3, NRZ4 30%, and Whitehorse NRZ1 and NRZ2 40%.

In other areas of strong landscape character in Maroondah, where vegetation and the tree canopy cover should still visually dominate, but where elevation or visibility are lower, no minimum lot size is in place, and/or where topography is less dramatic (e.g. Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes, Waranwood Ridgeline & Slopes and Croydon Ridge & Southern Hills), a slightly higher maximum site coverage of 50%, and a lower minimum permeability of 40% is proposed.

It should be noted though, that the SLO3 still applies to these areas, triggering a planning permit for buildings with a site coverage over 40%. This scenario encourages a 'preferred' site coverage of 40%, but allows a maximum of 50% with closer scrutiny of the proposed development as a whole.

In other areas of landscape character such as Ruskin Park, where a balance between the provision of vegetation and built form is desired, a maximum site coverage of 50%, and a minimum permeability of 30% is proposed. While these recommendations were not pursued by Council as part of Amendment C107, they were discussed and supported in the Panel Report for future implementation. This also provides a good indication of the likely success of increased permeability in areas of very strong landscape character:

*"While the Panel considers it somewhat optimistic, that without the additional variations proposed to the NRZ schedule by Ms Scott (which she considered would support the development of canopy trees of 9 metres or more), that the proposed NRZ6 would enable canopy vegetation to dominate over two storey buildings. It will however enable existing and replacement vegetation to become stronger visual elements within a neighbourhood comprising one and two storey dwellings.*

*The Panel supports Council's intention to make further changes to the NRZ6 to fine tune it with appropriate variations consistent with Ms Scott's evidence as part of the next phase of implementing the Maroondah Housing Strategy and 2018 Character Study Review."*

In the two GRZ areas of the municipality, permeability is proposed to be increased to 35% in the Bush Garden Slopes, and to 30% in the Garden Suburban areas. These increases in permeability will not affect the ability to accommodate growth in these areas, as the site coverage and building height requirements remain unchanged.

## Landscaping

Genuine, specific and mandated requirements for the provision of landscaping with any new development (in all residential areas) is also recommended. Again, this can be altered through varying the requirements of Clauses 54 and 55 through a schedule to the NRZ or the GRZ.

The requirement for landscaping is a response to fieldwork observations, the findings of recent technical studies associated with the Vegetation Policy Review project, especially the recent *Biodiversity in Maroondah* analysis (draft, October 2018), and community feedback regarding the trend in recent developments to only accommodate small, low maintenance gardens, and no significant or substantial canopy trees.

Very similar (or the same) vegetation requirements are in place in Knox (GRZ2 Neighbourhood Areas), and were discussed in the Panel Report for Monash Amendment C125, where linking the requirement to plant canopy trees to site width was considered a "pragmatic" and appropriate approach.

It is recommended that native vegetation (as defined in the VPPs), and preferably vegetation that is indigenous to the local area, is required in areas of high landscape and biodiversity value (Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, Jumping Creek Valley, Birt's Hill and Loughnan-Warranwood Ridgeline, including Loughnan's Hill). Native vegetation is required elsewhere, with the exception of the Garden Suburban areas, where a mix of species, colour and textures of vegetation contributes to the established garden character.

As well as affirming the residential character 'essence' of Maroondah, these greening initiatives (including the site coverage and permeability requirements) serve multiple objectives that relate to livability, sense of place, environmental outcomes and resilience as the climate changes. They include:

- reducing the visual impact of development and enhancing residential amenity;
- supporting biodiversity and providing habitat for fauna;
- improving water quality and mitigating extreme rainfall events;
- moderating the urban heat island effect;
- improving air quality and environmental outcomes;
- improving health and wellbeing; and,
- increasing property values.

<sup>2</sup> Planning Panels Victoria, Panel Report: Maroondah Planning Scheme Amendment C107 Ruskin Park Neighbourhood Residential Zone, 28 February 2019, p. 28

**Built form**

While the natural landscape and tree canopy cover is considered most important in protecting and managing the neighbourhood character of Maroondah, residential architecture and the composition of streetscapes (i.e. front setbacks, fencing treatments etc.) is strong and consistent in many areas.

Recommendations regarding built form responses are included in the proposed schedules to the residential zones, in the form of variations to Clauses 54 and 55, and the provision of objectives and decision guidelines.

In well established and historic areas, and/or areas of consistent built form character, it is a requirement that new dwellings and extensions to dwellings are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing. While demolition cannot be prevented unless the Heritage Overlay is in place, it is discouraged in areas of homogenous architectural styles, including neighbourhoods that contain many fine examples of Modernist architecture from the 1950s and 1960s. In areas such as this, a decision guideline requiring consideration of the extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area, has been included.

In areas of particularly special neighbourhood character, the NCO is already in place (e.g. Alto Avenue and the Croydon Hills Estate) or is proposed (e.g. Jubilee Park). Existing NCO schedules have been re-written, strengthened and made consistent with VC148 as part of this study.

In elevated and/or undulating areas of high visibility and strong landscape character, guidance is also provided on the siting and design of buildings i.e. minimising cut and fill, and the use of materials that best immerse the dwelling in its landscape context.

The visual dominance of vegetation and canopy trees also relates to the height of buildings. That is, particularly in areas of strong landscape character, such as the ridgelines, it is not only important that buildings are surrounded by vegetation, but that built form sits below the established tree canopy height. This maintains a skyline dominated by leafy, green treetops as opposed to roof tops, and strengthens the visual links to the nearby Dandenong Ranges. This fact reinforces the retention of the NRZ in ridgeline neighbourhoods, and supports its application to the northernmost part of the Loughnan-Warranwood Ridgeline. The default maximum mandatory building height is one of the few differences between the NRZ and the GRZ.

**Local planning policy framework**

The recommendations to tailor the schedules to the residential zones and introduce site coverage, permeability and landscaping requirements, together with objectives and decision guidelines, is consistent with the current Maroondah Planning Scheme LPPF, which states (Clause 21.10):

*“Maroondah has a high quality natural environment which characterises a significant portion of the municipality. Protection and enhancement of the natural environment through the encouragement of sustainable development is a key strategy of Maroondah City Council...”*

*Maroondah is physically dominated by two geographical features locally referred to as the Wicklow Hills Ridge and the Loughnan Warranwood Ridge. In the context of the municipality as a residential suburb, these two natural features are primarily characterised by low-density subdivision, developed with a variety of housing choices and covered by an extensive canopy of native and exotic vegetation.”*

This section of the MSS provides the high-level objectives, strategies and actions relating to the protection and management of vegetation and residential character across Maroondah (other parts of which are discussed in the *Background Review* section of the final report). The gazettal of VC148 and the eventual translation of the current MSS into the new Municipal Planning Strategy (MPS) provide the opportunity for review of the content of these, and other, clauses.

Also described in the *Background Review* is the current local policy 22.02 relating to residential neighbourhood character. This policy was prepared before *Planning Practice Note 8* was released, and prior to the introduction of the new residential zones. As such, it is overly lengthy and provides minimal specific guidance on exercising discretion. The introduction of the proposed new residential zone schedules will make the majority of this local policy redundant, and it is therefore recommended that it be reviewed and cut back to focus on specific neighbourhood character issues that are not covered elsewhere in the planning scheme. These issues include:

- The number of dwellings on a lot not exceeding the number of lots the land could be subdivided into
- Limiting crossovers to one per site and outlining crossover widths
- Discouraging front fences in areas of open front gardens, and encouraging passive surveillance of the street
- Discouraging gates to driveways

Associated with the local policy review should be the strengthening of the new MPS and PPF, as required by VC148, in relation to landscape and neighbourhood character.

### Commercial areas

Residential neighbourhoods within designated commercial areas are most appropriately assessed as part of a masterplanning or structure planning process, which has occurred for the Heathmont NAC and the East Ringwood NAC. It is recommended that the findings of the structure plans and associated urban design analyses in relation to residential precincts within these centres be implemented as part of this study.

A masterplanning process is underway for the Ringwood MAC, and it is recommended that the residential areas within the designated commercial area be assessed in more detail as part of that process.

The existing structure plan for the Croydon MAC requires review and updating, and it is most appropriate that the residential areas within the commercial centre be assessed within that context, and as part of that process. In the interim (or if the structure plan review does not occur in the short term), Council has the option of translating the 'housing opportunity areas' within the Croydon MAC to the RGZ.

**Summarised description: residential zones**

A summarised description of the residential areas (including those in commercial centres), and the key intentions for each of the neighbourhoods, is provided below. More detail is available on each of the residential areas from p. 11 onwards.

**Residential areas**

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 1**

**Croydon Hills Estate, Birt's Hill & Jumping Creek Valley**

Some of the most heavily vegetated, biologically significant (VPO1), and elevated parts of the municipality where the largest lots, least site coverage and highest permeability is recommended to ensure that indigenous vegetation and biodiversity is prioritised.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 2**

**Wicklow Hills Ridgeline**

The highest parts of the significant and centrally located Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, where a dominance of native (preferably indigenous) vegetation and visually recessive built form should prevail.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 3**

**Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes**

Dotted around the base, or between the hills of the ridgeline, these areas should contribute to the visual dominance of native (preferably indigenous) vegetation, and the strong landscape character of the whole ridge.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 4**

**Loughnan's Hill**

A highly visible and locally iconic landscape feature, where dwellings should be tucked into the native (preferably indigenous) bushland landscape, and where large lots and increased permeability support the predominance of vegetation.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 5**

**Jubilee Park**

An older, established part of residential Ringwood with an historic, strong and cohesive neighbourhood character, where low scale homes set in spacious and established gardens are encouraged.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 6**

**Ruskin Park**

An undulating residential neighbourhood located between the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline and the Dandenongs, where a balance

between built form and vegetation (both in elevation and site percentage) is the objective.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 7**

**Warranwood Ridgeline & Slopes**

The high points and south and east facing slopes of the Warranwood Ridgeline terminating at the Mullum Mullum Creek, where vegetation should predominate visually, and built form should be sited and designed to be responsive to the topography.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 8**

**Croydon Ridge & Southern Hills**

The residential areas of the 'secondary' ridgeline to the north-east of Croydon, and the hills to the south, where a balance between vegetation and the architectural mix of built form should be maintained.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 9**

**Croydon Golf Links Estate**

An small area of historically large housing lots and some historic homes, with a 'country town' character, where large canopy trees and established gardens should be protected and where high quality architecture should respond appropriately to its context.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 10**

**Bushland Fringes**

Two semi-rural, previously un-sewered areas on the outskirts of the municipality with large lots and sprawling homes, where an increase in native vegetation coverage is desired.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 10**

**Sites of Biological Significance**

A collection of small sites of environmental significance (currently zoned NRZ4), the future zoning of which will be resolved as part of the Vegetation Planning Policy Review project.

**General Residential 1**

**Garden Suburban**

MaroonDAH's flat to gently undulating, and mostly well established residential areas, with a mix of built form types and styles, where vegetation and canopy trees of mixed species is the unifying character element.

General Residential 2

**Bush Garden Slopes**

The more recently established, undulating to hilly residential areas in the north-western areas of the municipality, where a native bush garden character prevails, and dwellings should be more site responsive due to the steep and visible nature of the landscape.

**Ringwood East Neighbourhood Activity Centre**

General Residential Zone 1

**Garden Suburban**

The areas included in the 'neighbourhood protection precinct' should be incorporated into proposed GRZ1.

General Residential Zone 3

**Ringwood East NAC Neighbourhood Consolidation Precinct**

Areas suitable for a greater intensity of development than the 'garden suburban' areas, with an emphasis on canopy tree protection and two storey development, with a recessive third storey.

General Residential Zone 4

**Ringwood East NAC Residential Regeneration Precinct**

An area of high quality medium density redevelopment and consolidation, including two to three storey townhouse forms, with integrated vegetation and good permeability.

Residential Growth Zone 3

**Ringwood East NAC Residential Growth Precinct**

A precinct of more 'urban' infill development, closer to the commercial core, and up to three storeys.

Residential Growth Zone 4

**Ringwood East NAC Strategic Residential Growth Precinct**

A clearly defined area of urban infill of up to four storeys, to relieve development pressure in other areas.

**Heathmont Neighbourhood Activity Centre**

General Residential Zone 1, Neighbourhood Residential Zone 2 & Neighbourhood Residential Zone 3

**Garden Suburban, Wicklow Hills Ridgeline & Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes**

The 'neighbourhood protection' areas should be incorporated into the appropriate locational area i.e. GRZ1, NRZ2 or NRZ3.

General Residential Zone 5

**Heathmont NAC Bush Residential Precinct**

A greater intensity of development suited to these areas, with an emphasis on the bush residential character.

Residential Growth Zone 5

**Heathmont NAC Residential Growth Precinct**

Transition to a more 'urban' form of infill in these areas, with townhouses, maisonette or duplex type development.

General Residential Zone 6

**Heathmont NAC Special Residential Precinct**

A strategic site suitable for cluster housing or an alternative type of housing, with an emphasis on communal indigenous and productive landscape.

### Neighbourhood Residential Zone 1

#### Croydon Hills Estate, Birt's Hill & Jumping Creek Valley

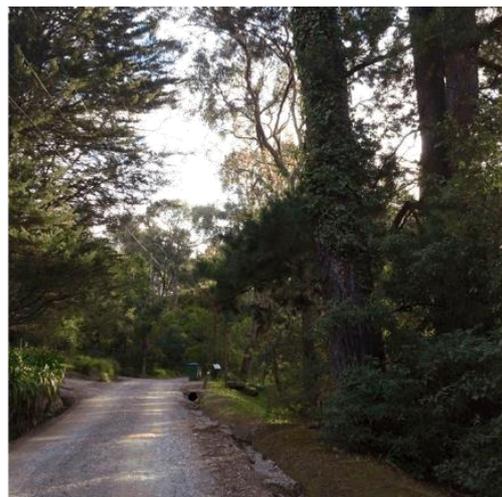
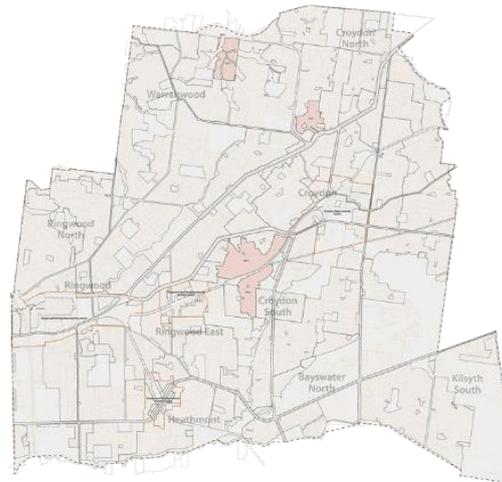
Proposed NRZ1 includes the majority of former NA6 Birt's Hill / Jumping Creek Valley and NA18 Burley Griffin.

Croydon Hills Estate, Birt's Hill and Jumping Creek Valley comprise some of the most heavily vegetated, hilly and most elevated (in the case of Croydon Hills Estate and Birt's Hill) residential areas in the municipality. Very large blocks contain extensive bushland contiguous with native reserves in some locations, and many dwellings are not visible from the street, or from a distance. Both Birt's Hill and the Croydon Hills Estate area form part of the significant landscape feature of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, which provides a canopy covered visual backdrop to surrounding suburbs.

The Croydon Hills Estate area was commissioned by the Rev. Cheok Hong Cheong and was designed by Walter Burley Griffin in 1921, based on the principles of garden city planning. Stage 1 of the estate (south of the railway line) was the only part ever laid out to Griffin's design. This area is covered by NCO2.

These areas have been determined to have undergone minimal change, due largely to the generous lot sizes, and existing planning scheme provisions, including the NRZ1 (with a minimum lot size of 2,000sqm), as well as the DDO1, VPO1 and SLO3 (with 40% site coverage, and other, 'incentives').

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 1**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:**

- To protect the landscape significance and native bushland of some of the most visually and environmentally sensitive residential areas in Maroondah.
- To minimise the visual impact of built form, and ensure that views towards these areas are dominated by vegetation and a continuous canopy of large, primarily native, trees.
- To ensure that development demonstrates a high standard of design and responds to the identified character and significance of the surrounding landscape.
- To encourage low scale and site responsive development that sits unobtrusively within the landscape, and utilises materials and colours that best immerse the building within its context.
- To protect and increase the locally indigenous vegetation cover by requiring permeable land for planting and sustaining indigenous vegetation, particularly large canopy trees.

**Minimum subdivision area**

2,000sqm

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 40%

**Permeability:** 50%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be indigenous to the local area.

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred landscape and neighbourhood character of the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The extent to which the buildings and works are designed and sited to minimise contrast with the surrounds, and reduce distant visibility.
- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.

Neighbourhood Residential Zone 1

Overlays

NCO2: Retain and re-draft (refer to Appendix C)

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

VPO1: Retain and strengthen as part of Maroondah Vegetation Policy Review

DDO1: Ensure consistency

Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

The planning scheme provisions and controls that currently apply to these areas will remain largely unchanged. The zone, minimum subdivision area and maximum building height will remain the same.

The key proposed change involves formalising what is currently an ‘incentive’ in the SLO3, i.e. the requirement for a planning permit application if the proposed site coverage is over 40%. A site coverage requirement can now be mandated through a schedule to the zone, and 40% is considered an already accepted and justifiable number.

The requirement for a certain amount of permeability should work in tandem with the site coverage maximum, and each is integral to the ultimate success of achieving enough space to protect, plant and sustain vegetation. Rescode requires a minimum of 20% permeability in ‘average’ Melbourne neighbourhoods. This has been varied in adjacent more ‘suburban’ municipalities to the west e.g. Monash NRZ1, NRZ2, NRZ3, NRZ4 30%, and Whitehorse NRZ1 and NRZ2 40%.

In the case of these significant and highly visible bushland areas, that are also environmentally sensitive, a minimum permeability requirement of 50% is considered appropriate and justifiable. This reflects the status quo of many properties in these neighbourhoods, and will ensure the continuity of the visual dominance of vegetation, especially large canopy trees.

The use of maximum site coverage and generous permeability provisions together, will assist in maintaining and strengthening the strong landscape character sought for these areas, and the whole municipality. Minimising the extent of hard surfaced areas will also reduce the detrimental visual impact of development, including large single dwellings, on neighbourhood character. Other permeability (and resultant vegetation) benefits include increased biodiversity, improved air and water quality, reduced storm-water runoff and increased property values.

The inclusion of landscaping requirements in the schedule puts into practice the site coverage and permeability percentages. And it is considered appropriate, particularly in these important sites of biodiversity significance, that indigenous species be stipulated.

Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations



Dwelling immersed in bushland, Ruthven Way



High levels of permeability & bushland spilling into the roadway in the Croydon Hills Estate area

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 2

### Wicklow Hills Ridgeline

Proposed NRZ2 takes in the majority of the former neighbourhood areas atop the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, including NA8 Wattien, NA10 Wicklow Ridgeline, NA19 Ringwood Lake (minimal), NA20 Wombolano and NA16 Heathmont Gardens.

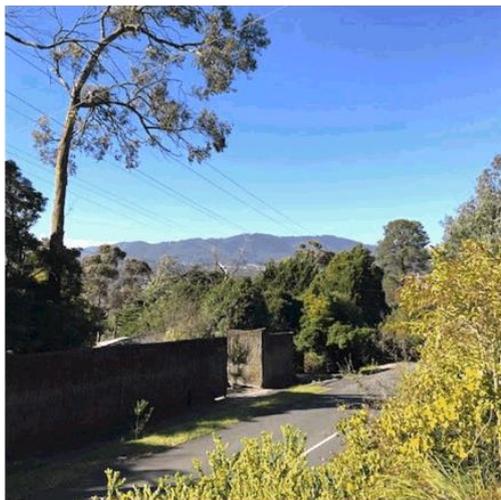
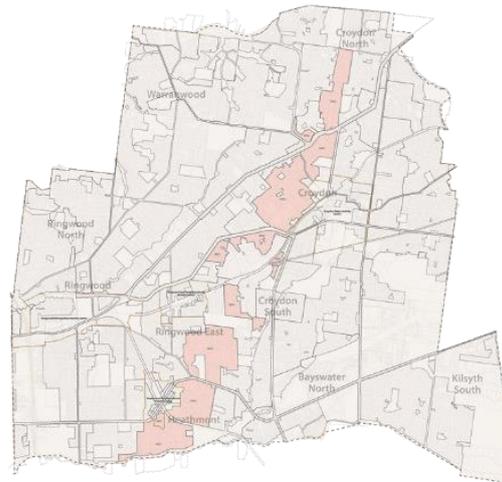
These residential areas form the highest parts of the significant and centrally located Wicklow Hills Ridgeline. While the steep and rolling hills of the ridge are developed for residential use, they remain heavily vegetated and comprise a tree canopy covered, locally significant landscape feature, which is ever present visually.

These neighbourhood areas are highly visible due to their elevation, and are characterised by a near continuous canopy cover, interspersed with dwellings. Rooftops are only visible from the higher slopes, as the large and established canopy trees tower over the majority of the dwellings. Built form varies in architectural style and materials across the ridge, from the historic Alto Avenue, which is covered by NCO1 and was developed in the 1920s, through to the many notable architect designed Modernist homes in the undulating streets and courts of Heathmont.

The neighbourhoods of the ridgeline have undergone minimal change, due largely to the generous lot sizes, and existing planning scheme provisions, including the NRZ1 (with a minimum lot size of 2,000sqm), as well as the DDO2 and SLO3 (with 40% site coverage, and other, 'incentives').

It is of the utmost importance to protect the landscape character of the highest parts of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, and to retain the visual dominance of vegetation on its high points and steep hillsides.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 2**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:**

- To protect the neighbourhood and landscape character of the most elevated and visible parts of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.
- To ensure that a continuous tree canopy cover defines the character of the ridgeline, and that dwellings are not a visually dominant element.
- To ensure that views towards the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline are dominated by a leafy, green cover of mostly native vegetation.
- To ensure that new dwellings and extensions are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing.
- To maintain the visual dominance of the tree canopy cover by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for protecting and planting native, and preferably indigenous, vegetation.

**Minimum subdivision area**

864sqm

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 40%

**Permeability:** 50%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native, preferably indigenous, to the local area.

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood and landscape character objectives of this clause.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred landscape and neighbourhood character of the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 2**

Decision guidelines continued

- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.

Overlays

NCO1: Retain and strengthen (refer to Appendix C)

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

DDO2: Ensure consistency

**Additional / specific justification for proposed controls**

The planning scheme provisions and controls that currently apply to the majority of proposed NRZ2 will remain largely unchanged. The zone, minimum subdivision area and maximum building height will remain the same. As with the proposed NRZ1, the key change involves formalising the 40% site coverage 'incentive', and introducing a 50% minimum permeability requirement, due to the landscape significance of the ridgeline and the elevated nature of these residential areas. As per the NRZ1 areas, a landscaping requirement has also been proposed, with canopy trees required to be native, and preferably indigenous, to the local area.

The proposal to rezone the small area bounded generally by Mirabel Avenue, Mt Dandenong Road and Velma Grove from GRZ1 to NRZ2, and to remove SLO4 from this location and replace it with SLO3, is based on the following:

- The topography of the area forms part of the western side of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, and is elevated and steep in parts.
- Due to its landform, the area is highly visible from the western parts of the municipality, including the Maroondah Highway and Mt Dandenong Road.
- The curvilinear nature of the streets, which follow the topography in the northern section, is further evidence of this landscape character.
- The area exhibits the same landscape and residential characteristics as the residential areas immediately adjacent (to the east).
- The curvilinear nature of the streets and subdivision layout is unique within Maroondah, and forms part of the historic 'Lovely Views Estate'. This area is located just north of the Walter Burley Griffin designed Croydon Hills (Garden Suburb) Estate, and is adjacent to the Cecil Circuit area, all of which were conceived during the 1920s.

The proposed rezoning does not include the Ringwood Hospital, nor the immediately surrounding streets, which are largely used for ancillary uses e.g. consulting suites, accommodation etc.



Well vegetated properties in the proposed rezoning area, near the intersection of Valda Avenue and Evon Avenue



Elevated topography on the western side of Velma Grove, near Valda Avenue

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 3**

**Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes**

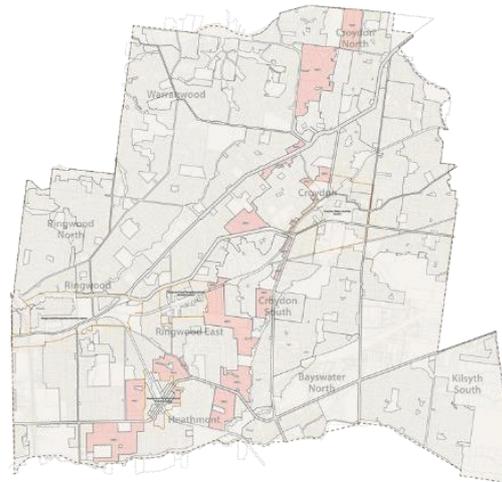
Proposed NRZ3 includes parts (some very small) of the former neighbourhood areas located on the lower reaches of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, including NA5 Croydon Hills, NA8 Warriem, NA3 Nyora, NA10 Wicklow Ridgeline, NA18 Burley Griffin, NA13 Bungalook, NA19 Ringwood Lake, NA20 Wombolano, NA16 Heathmont Gardens and NA17 Jubilee Park.

The Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes neighbourhoods are dotted around the base, or between the hills of the ridgeline. Topographically, they are the lower, undulating areas of the ridgeline, transitioning to the flatter or more gently undulating landscapes either side.

Logically, the lower slopes areas span the full extent of the ridgeline, from the spacious, 1980s 'garden court' areas in the north, to the more established gridded streets and manicured gardens of Ringwood and Heathmont (with architectural styles from the 50s, 60s and 70s), near the Heathmont Railway Station, in the south. Other NRZ3 areas sit at the base of the ridgeline, adjacent to main roads, or adjacent to Bungalook and Tarralla Creeks, where native vegetation spills into the residential neighbourhoods.

While the topography is less dramatic on these lower slopes, they still form an important part of the ridge and its landscape character, and are covered by the SLO3. As such, the natural landscape and tree canopy cover remain important, and built form should not visually dominate. The planting of native, preferably indigenous, vegetation should also be encouraged, to maintain the cohesiveness and strong landscape character of the ridgeline overall.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 3**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:**

- To protect the neighbourhood and landscape character of the lower slopes of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.
- To protect the tree canopy cover that defines the character of the ridgeline as a whole, and to ensure that dwellings are not a visually dominant element.
- To ensure that views towards the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, including the lower slopes, are dominated by a leafy, green canopy cover.
- To ensure that new dwellings and extensions are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing.
- To maintain the visual dominance of the tree canopy cover by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for protecting and planting native, and preferably indigenous, vegetation.

**Minimum subdivision area**

N/A

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 50%

**Permeability:** 40%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native, preferably indigenous, to the local area.

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline overall, including the lower slopes.

### Neighbourhood Residential Zone 3

#### Overlays

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

#### Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

As per the other two NRZ areas that form part of the locally iconic Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, the planning scheme controls and provisions that currently apply will remain largely unchanged. The zone and maximum building height will remain the same (there is currently no minimum lot size or DDO that applies to these areas). Again, the key change involves legislating a maximum site coverage (50% in this case), and introducing a 40% minimum permeability requirement.

These slightly 'lesser' site coverage and permeability requirements reflect the location of the proposed NRZ3 areas, on the lower, less visible slopes of the ridgeline. However, as with the other Wicklow Hills residential areas, a landscaping requirement will be stipulated, again requiring native, and preferably indigenous, local species. This is considered appropriate for all areas covered by the SLO3. It should also be noted that the SLO3 will still provide a permit trigger for development proposals with a site coverage of 40% or more.



Older, low scale dwelling in a more established streetscape, Hume Street

Neighbourhood Residential Zone 4

Loughnan's Hill

Proposed NRZ4 comprises the majority of former NA2 Loughnan's Hill.

Loughnan's Hill is a locally iconic landscape feature and high point located at the south-western end of the Loughnan-Warranwood Ridgeline. With a maximum elevation of approximately 192m, it is the second highest topographical point in the municipality, and is highly visible.

Much like the highest parts of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, the Loughnan's Hill area contains large lots that are able to sustain significant stands of vegetation and canopy trees. It is a spacious residential neighbourhood of mixed architectural character, from 1950s and 1960s dwellings, through to more recent two storey development, with a mix of building materials.

It is the established native trees, however, both on private land and within large bushland reserves, which are the defining character element within Loughnan's Hill. When viewed from a distance, the landscape feature appears as a heavily treed, green and leafy topographic rise, dotted with rooftops.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



Neighbourhood Residential Zone 4

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:

- To protect the landscape significance and native bushland character of Loughnan’s Hill.
- To minimise the visual impact of built form, and ensure that views towards Loughnan’s Hill are dominated by vegetation and a continuous canopy of large, primarily native, trees.
- To ensure that development demonstrates a high standard of design and responds to its topographic context with appropriate siting and size, and minimal cut and fill.
- To encourage low scale and site responsive development that sits unobtrusively within the landscape, and utilises natural materials and muted tones that best immerse the building within its setting.
- To protect and increase the native, and preferably indigenous, vegetation cover by requiring permeable land for planting and sustaining vegetation, particularly large canopy trees.

Minimum subdivision area

864sqm

Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 40%

**Permeability:** 50%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native, preferably indigenous, to the local area.

Maximum building height

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood and landscape character objectives of this clause.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of Loughnan’s Hill.

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 4

### Overlays

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

DDO2: Ensure consistency

### Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

The planning scheme provisions and controls that currently apply to Loughnan's Hill are the same as for the NRZ2 (Wicklow Hills Ridgeline) areas, and will also remain largely unchanged. The zone, minimum subdivision area and maximum building height will be retained. As with the proposed NRZ1 and NRZ2, the key change involves formalising the 40% site coverage 'incentive', and introducing a 50% minimum permeability requirement, due to the landscape significance of Loughnan's Hill and the elevated and highly visible nature of this area. As per the residential area of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, a landscaping requirement has also been proposed, with canopy trees required to be native, and preferably indigenous, to the local area.

While this schedule is similar in many ways to that proposed for NRZ2, it has been separated out as a locally significant landscape feature and unique residential area, with the opportunity to tailor landscape and neighbourhood character objectives and decision guidelines.



Rooftops sitting below the tree canopy on Loughnan's Hill

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 5

### Jubilee Park

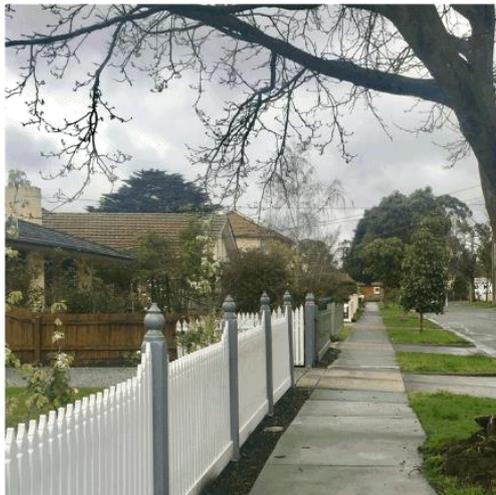
Proposed NRZ5 comprises the 'historic core' of the former very large neighbourhood area NA17 Jubilee Park.

This old and established residential area is in close proximity to the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre, and displays an homogenous neighbourhood character, with consistent building setbacks, low front fences and established gardens. The traditional gridded subdivision layouts are some of the oldest in the municipality, dating from the 1920s, and many of the dwellings in this unique residential pocket are of heritage significance.

The architectural character of the homes includes California Bungalows, Edwardian dwellings, and inter war (including interwar Moderne) and post war homes, many of timber construction with pitched or gabled, tiled roofs. A number of the historic bungalow homes feature decorative front porches with brick piers and rendered columns, and other details such as leadlight bay windows and timber shingles on gable ends.

Due to its 'inner urban' location, the area is experiencing increasing development pressure, and the strong and historic neighbourhood character is at risk of being eroded.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 5**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood character objectives:**

- To ensure that the spacious and modest residential character of Jubilee Park is respected and enhanced.
- To ensure low scale building forms, consistent with the neighbourhood character of the area.
- To ensure that all dwellings, their settings and front fences make a positive contribution to the public domain and pedestrian environment.
- To maintain a sense of spaciousness around dwellings, when viewed from the street.
- To ensure that front setbacks are not dominated by garages, carports or vehicular access.

**Minimum subdivision area**

N/A

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Permeability:** 30%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

**Maximum building height**

None specified

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

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A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood character objectives of this clause.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.

**Overlays**

NCO3 / HO (various): proposed as part of Amendment C116 for properties of neighbourhood character or heritage significance.

SLO4: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

**Additional / specific justification for proposed controls**

Detailed justification for the rezoning of this precinct to NRZ, and the discreet application of the NCO to a small number of properties is provided in the report *Jubilee Park Heritage and Neighbourhood Character Study* (March, 2017), Context in collaboration with Claire Scott Planning.

Neighbourhood Residential Zone 6

Ruskin Park

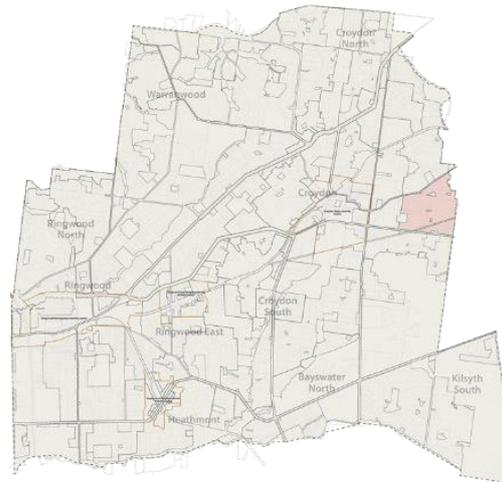
Proposed NRZ6 includes the northern, hillier parts of former NA12, also called Ruskin Park.

This neighbourhood is located within an undulating landscape, and is characterised by the widespread presence of vegetation, particularly large canopy trees (both native and exotic), and a sense of proximity to the Dandenongs. Views to the Ranges are available from the higher points in Ruskin Park.

The subdivision pattern is a modified grid, with some through streets, as well as cul de sacs. Lot sizes are large and unencumbered, ranging from approximately 700 square metres to 1,200 square metres. This partly accounts for the occurrence of infill and other residential redevelopment, with many examples of four to five units being constructed on single sites, and 8 or more units on larger or amalgamated sites.

The streets throughout Ruskin Park have a spacious and informal feel due to the wide grassy nature strips, and a mixture of front boundary treatments, including low and open fencing, or no fencing. Large, established street trees of mixed species are prevalent, and front gardens are generally grassy and/or well vegetated.

The area contains a mix of dwelling styles, including many simple Post War timber houses, brick veneer homes from later periods, and contemporary infill development. There are also a limited number of Pre War and bungalow style timber dwellings. Historically, houses have had generous front, side and rear boundary setbacks, allowing ample space for gardens and large trees. More recent development has tended to be constructed closer to the property boundaries, with side driveways often providing access to rear units.



Older dwellings in the precinct tend to be single storey, but there are now many examples of two storey homes. The majority of houses have tiled, low-pitched roofs. Overall, built form is low scale and sits well below the established tree canopy height, which provides a textured, green backdrop to the rooftops and dominates skyline views. Throughout Ruskin Park there is a balance between vegetation and built form, and in some areas, vegetation remains the most visually dominant feature of the landscape.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



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Neighbourhood Residential Zone 6

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:

- To protect and increase the vegetation cover, particularly the existence of large canopy trees.
- To enhance visual links from Ruskin Park to the heavily vegetated Dandenong Ranges.
- To ensure that vegetation and canopy trees remain the dominant visual feature of the landscape.
- To ensure that there is a balance between the provision of vegetation and built form, by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for planting and sustaining vegetation.
- To ensure that the skyline is dominated by tree canopies as opposed to rooftops and built form.

Minimum subdivision area

N/A

Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 50%

**Permeability:** 30%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

Maximum building height

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys)

Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an

Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood and landscape character objectives of this clause.

*Note that two additional guidelines are proposed, differing from the original Ruskin Park character assessment report.*

Overlays

SLO4: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

Detailed justification for the rezoning of this residential area to NRZ is provided in the report *Ruskin Park Character Assessment & Advice* (February, 2018), Claire Scott Planning.

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 7

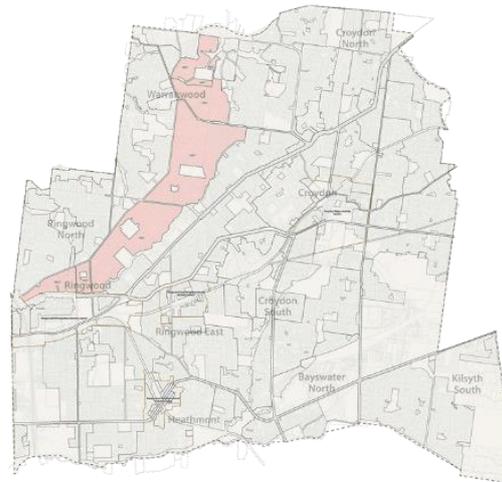
### Warranwood Ridgeline & Slopes

Proposed NRZ7 takes in the majority of former NA1 Mullum Mullum Creek, together with the east facing slopes of former NA4 Quambee Gardens. The southern and eastern parts of the former NA6 Jumping Creek Valley are also included.

This residential area comprises the east facing and highly visible hilly slopes between the Mullum Mullum Creek, and the locally iconic Warranwood Ridgeline. The natural landscape and tree canopy cover is the defining character element of this area, and despite some redevelopment, renovation and canopy tree removal, overall there remains a visual balance between the provision of vegetation and built form. An exception to this is the south facing, southernmost part of this neighbourhood, located above the Ringwood Bypass. This area is highly visible from the centre of Ringwood, and has experienced some site consolidation, multi-unit development and associated clearing of vegetation.

The architectural character of this area is mixed, and includes housing from the 1950s and 1960s in the southern parts, closer to the Ringwood Activity Centre. North of Oban Road, the street layout is exclusively curvilinear cul-de-sacs, reflective of the areas development from the 1980s onwards. Here streets and lots are spacious and support established gardens and canopy trees in the public domain. The northernmost part of this neighbourhood, adjacent to Jumping Creek, is more undulating and informal, with indigenous bushland reserves contiguous with private native gardens.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 7**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:**

- To protect the neighbourhood and landscape character of the highly visible Waranwood Ridgeline and adjacent slopes.
- To ensure that a continuous, predominantly native, tree canopy cover defines the character of the ridgeline and slopes, including views towards them, and that dwellings are not a visually dominant element in the landscape.
- To ensure that development demonstrates a high standard of design and responds to its topographic context with appropriate siting and size, and minimal cut and fill.
- To encourage low scale and site responsive development that sits unobtrusively within the landscape, and utilises natural materials and muted tones that best immerse the building within its setting.
- To maintain the visual dominance of the tree canopy cover by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for protecting and planting native, preferably indigenous, vegetation.

**Minimum subdivision area**

N/A

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 50%

**Permeability:** 40%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native, preferably indigenous, to the local area.

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 7

### Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred landscape and neighbourhood character of the area.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of the Warranwood Ridgeline and slopes, and the Jumping Creek Valley environs.



Looking across the northernmost section of the Warranwood Ridgeline, from Towerhill Drive

### Overlays

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency. Also extend application of SLO3 to the whole landscape area i.e. north of Oban Road.

### Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

The side slopes of this ridgeline have been treated in much the same way as proposed NRZ3, which also currently has the same applicable planning scheme controls and provisions. For the current NRZ/SLO3 areas within this neighbourhood, the existing planning controls will remain largely unchanged.

The zone and maximum building height will remain the same (there is currently no minimum lot size or DDO that applies to these areas), and again, the key change involves legislating a maximum site coverage (50% in this case), and introducing a 40% minimum permeability requirement.

A landscaping requirement will also be stipulated, again requiring native, and preferably indigenous, local species. This is considered appropriate for all areas covered by the SLO3. It should also be noted that the SLO3 will still provide a permit trigger for development proposals with a site coverage of 40% or more.



View of the heavily treed ridgeline, looking north-westerly from Strathfield Parade

Neighbourhood Residential Zone 7

Additional / specific justification for proposed controls continued

The proposed rezoning of the northern part of the Warranwood Ridge and its east-facing slopes (north of Oban Road, and generally between the Jumping Creek Valley, Mullum Mullum Creek, and Wonga Road), and the application of the SLO3 to this area, is based on the following:

- Visually and topographically, this area is an important part of the Warranwood Ridge landform, with elevations up to 175m above sea level.
- The highest points of the ridgeline and its eastern slopes are visible from across Maroondah, including from almost the full extent of the Maroondah Highway within the municipality, and from much of the landscape up to and including the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.
- Due to its visibility and steep landform, and the objective to maintain a visual dominance of vegetation, it is most appropriate that the maximum building height in this area be capped at 9m and 2 storeys, as opposed to 11m and 3 storeys.
- It is also important that any proposed development responds to the topography, steps down the slope and minimises cut and fill, as stipulated in the provisions of SLO3.
- It is important that the locally significant Warranwood Ridgeline reads as a whole landscape unit, and that development north of Oban Road is not subject to different planning controls that may detract from its significance, or result in a change of character, particularly in relation to vegetation coverage when viewed from a distance.

Fieldwork in order to confirm the above assertions has been undertaken, and the proposed area to be rezoned has been assessed from many vantage points including, but not limited to, the Maroondah Highway; Wonga Road; east of Mullum Mullum creek for its entire length in this area; numerous roads that run perpendicular to the Maroondah Highway and terminate generally at the Mullum Mullum creek; and, many elevated streets within the neighbourhood such as Towerhill Drive and Wyndarra Court (refer to accompanying photos).



North-easterly view across the ridgeline from Wyndarra Court



Long range view, looking north westerly towards the ridgeline from Stathfield Parade

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 8**

**Croydon Ridge & Southern Hills**

Proposed NRZ8 includes NA24 The Range, and parts of former NA8 Warrilen, NA9 Croydon Parks, NA12 Ruskin Park, NA11 Eastfields and NA13 Bungalook.

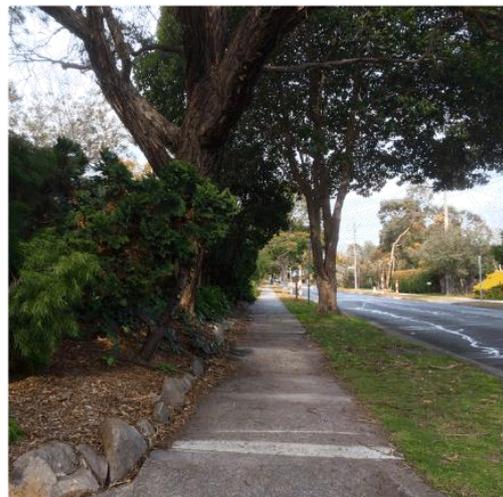
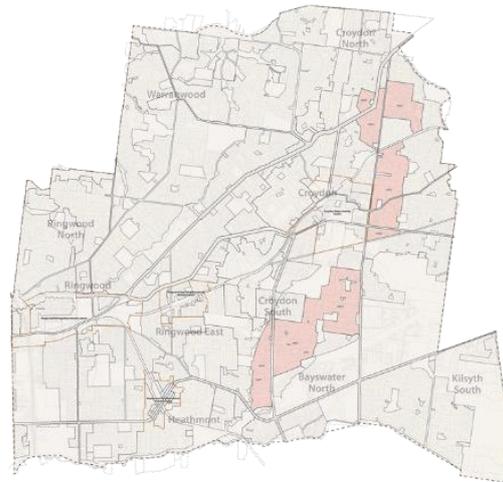
The Croydon Ridge and Southern Hills neighbourhoods are located on a series of hills and rises to the east and south of the Croydon Activity Centre. The elevated nature of this 'secondary ridge' and hills means that there are views available from these areas eastwards to the Dandenong Ranges. These neighbourhoods are also in the foreground and middle ground of views towards the ranges from the more elevated Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.

A mix of housing occurs throughout proposed NRZ8, ranging from 1950s, 1960s, 1970s and 1980s architecture, through to more contemporary townhouse developments, including the former Croydon District Golf Course in the north (The Range), a major residential redevelopment, with a buildings and works exemption included in SLO3 (provided site coverage does not exceed 60%).

A number of traditional gridded streets close to the centre of Croydon have a strong and homogenous neighbourhood character, with older low-scale timber homes, and some examples of bungalows, set in established gardens e.g. Alwyn Street.

Overall, whether exotic trees in formal gardens, or native vegetation adjacent to creeks and in bushland reserves, the greenery and tree canopy cover again define the neighbourhood and landscape character of these areas. Across the Croydon Ridge and Southern Hills, there is a balance between built form and vegetation, with the exception of The Range, where dwellings and hard surfacing dominate.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



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**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 8**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:**

- To protect the landscape and neighbourhood character of the Croydon Ridge and Southern Hills.
- To ensure that there is a visual balance between built form and vegetation across the Croydon Ridge and Southern Hills neighbourhoods, particularly when viewed from a distance.
- To ensure that new dwellings and extensions are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing of built form.
- To maintain a sense of spaciousness around dwellings, and to ensure that front setbacks are not dominated by garages, carports or vehicular access.
- To protect and increase the native (preferably indigenous) vegetation cover by requiring permeable land for planting and sustaining vegetation, particularly large canopy trees.

**Minimum subdivision area**

N/A

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 50%

**Permeability:** 40%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native to the local area.

**Front fence height:** Streets in a Road Zone, Category 1 – 1.5m

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred landscape and neighbourhood character of the area.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The extent to which the development maintains the balance between built form and vegetation within the Croydon Ridge and Secondary Hills neighbourhoods.

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 8

### Overlays

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency. Review the buildings and works exemption that currently applies to The Range.

VPO1 (to The Range): Assess the purpose and applicability as part of the Maroondah Vegetation Policy Review.

### Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

The planning scheme provisions and controls that currently apply to this NRZ/SLO3 area will remain largely unchanged. The zone, minimum subdivision area and maximum building height will be retained. Again, the key change involves legislating a maximum site coverage (50% in this case), and introducing a 40% minimum permeability requirement.

These slightly 'lesser' site coverage and permeability requirements reflect the 'secondary' nature of these landscape features, and lower elevation and prominence. The same principle and numerical standards have been applied to the lower, less visible slopes of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, and the east facing slopes of the Warranwood Ridge.

As with other residential areas with a strong landscape character (and subject to the SLO3), a landscaping requirement will be stipulated, again requiring native, and preferably indigenous, local species. The SLO3 will also still provide a permit trigger for development proposals with a site coverage of 40% or more.

Feedback from Council's statutory planners has revealed that the variation to Clauses 54 and 55 in relation to front fence height in some areas requires tailoring to avoid numerous (reasonable) dispensation requests. It is considered appropriate, and consistent with neighbourhood character, that the height of front fences abutting a Road Zone Category 1 in this neighbourhood be increased to 1.5m.



Simple, timber, Post-war dwelling in Newell Street



Older, historic home in Frederick Street, illustrating the diversity of architectural styles

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 9

### Croydon Golf Links Estate

Proposed NRZ9 is the former NA21 of the same name, with no boundary changes.

Croydon Golf Links Estate is a small, well-established residential neighbourhood, which is located at the northern end of the Croydon Ridge. It has been separated out from the adjacent residential areas due to its large block sizes (min. lot size 864sqm), and homogenous 'country road ambience', a result of the retention of informal road verges with no kerb and channeling, and the strong and established landscape character of the area. The minimum lot size and other planning scheme provisions are currently as per proposed NRZ2 (Wicklow Hills Ridgeline), providing further justification for its separation from adjacent neighbourhoods.

Contrary to the 2005 *Neighbourhood Character Study*, the dwelling materiality of the precinct has always been mixed, including older historic homes (covered by the HO), include Tudor style dwellings and 'Edna Walling inspired' vertical timber homes, and the use of brick, concrete block, and weatherboard throughout. Replacement dwellings and infill housing also represents a broad spectrum of architectural styles, including some excellent 1970s and 1980s architect designed houses.

As described, a strong landscape character exists in the public but also the private domain, with large lots providing permeable space for the planting and retention of canopy trees. Some recent re-development has resulted in the clearing of lots and the loss of vegetation, however. This is perhaps more visually obvious than elsewhere due to the consistency and homogenous nature of this established residential pocket.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



Neighbourhood Residential Zone 9

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:

- To protect the strong landscape and ‘country road’ character of the Croydon Golf Links Estate.
- To ensure that a continuous tree canopy cover defines the character of the landscape and views towards the neighbourhood, and that dwellings are set in spacious gardens.
- To maintain generous setbacks around dwellings, and to ensure that front setbacks are not dominated by garages, carports or vehicular access.
- To ensure that new dwellings and extensions are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing.
- To maintain the visual dominance of the tree canopy cover by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for protecting and planting native, and preferably indigenous, vegetation.

Minimum subdivision area

864sqm

Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** 40%

**Permeability:** 50%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should preferably be native to the local area.

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Maximum building height

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

Application requirements

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

Decision guidelines

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood and landscape character objectives of this clause.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.
- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the preferred landscape and neighbourhood character of the area.

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 9

Decision guidelines continued

- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of the Croydon Golf Links Estate.

Overlays

SLO3: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

DDO2: Ensure consistency

Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

Again, the strongest and well-established planning scheme controls that currently apply to proposed NRZ9 (i.e. zone, minimum subdivision area and maximum building height) will remain largely unchanged. As with similar areas, such as proposed NRZ1 and NRZ2, the key change involves formalising the 40% site coverage 'incentive', and introducing a 50% minimum permeability requirement. This is considered well-justified due to the strong landscape character of the estate, and the elevated and sloping nature of the area. As per the aforementioned NRZ1 and NRZ2 areas, a landscaping requirement has also been proposed, with canopy trees required to be native to the local area.

The Croydon Golf Links Estate is also home to some excellent examples of architecture through the eras, and some fine heritage properties. Consideration of the built form qualities throughout the precinct has therefore also been reflected in the proposed objectives and decision guidelines.



Well vegetated and informal road verges within the neighbourhood



An historic home within the precinct, one example of the diversity of architectural styles in the area

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 10

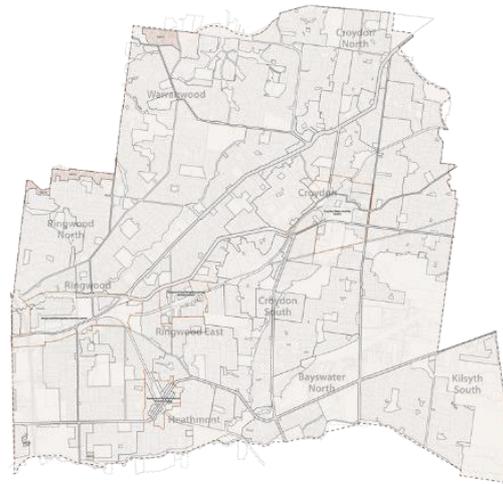
### Bushland Fringes

Proposed NRZ10 comprises the two former NA7 Maroondah Fringes areas, which since the original *Neighbourhood Character Study* was prepared in 2005 have been connected to reticulated sewerage, and further developed.

These small residential areas have a distinctly semi-rural feel, being located on the northern edge of the municipality, close to the Yarra Valley. The current minimum lot size is 0.2 hectares (2,000sqm) which results in a low-density character, with sprawling ranch-style or period reproduction homes, set within gated land holdings.

Many of the housing blocks have been cleared, but remnant stands of native vegetation exist throughout the area. The large lot sizes have the potential to support additional native vegetation, preferably indigenous species, to link to corridors of bushland further north.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 10**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:**

- To retain the spacious character of the Bushland Fringes residential areas, and to strengthen the indigenous vegetation cover.
- To minimise the visual impact of built form, and ensure that views within and to the Bushland Fringes areas are dominated by vegetation and a continuous canopy of large, preferably indigenous, trees.
- To ensure that development demonstrates a high standard of design and responds to its topographic context with appropriate siting and size, and minimal cut and fill.
- To encourage low scale and site responsive development that sits unobtrusively within the landscape, and utilises natural materials and muted tones that best immerse the building within its bushland setting.
- To maintain the visual dominance of the tree canopy cover by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for protecting and planting native, and preferably indigenous, vegetation.

**Minimum subdivision area**

2,000sqm

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As per other NRZ areas, plus:

**Site coverage:** 40%

**Permeability:** 50%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native, preferably indigenous, to the local area.

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood and landscape character objectives of this clause.
- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to an increased coverage of indigenous bushland across the area.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.

## Neighbourhood Residential Zone 10

Decision guidelines continued

- The extent to which the buildings and works are designed and sited to minimise contrast with the surrounds, and reduce distant visibility.

Overlays

SLO3: Retain (and apply to whole NR10) and strengthen, ensuring consistency

SLO4: Remove

VPO1: Retain and strengthen as part of Maroondah Vegetation Policy Review

Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

The current LDRZ zoning of these residential areas is no longer appropriate, given the key objective of the zone:

- *To provide for low-density residential development on lots which, in the absence of reticulated sewerage, can treat and retain all wastewater.*

In addition, the schedule to the LDRZ only allows subdivision requirements and outbuilding permit requirements to be included, as opposed to the level of detail and tailoring that can be included in a schedule to the NRZ.

Given the semi-rural bushland character of the areas, and the objective to increase native (and preferably indigenous) vegetation cover, retention of the 2,000sqm minimum lot size is considered appropriate. Together with this, the introduction of site coverage (40%), permeability (50%) and landscaping requirements are also considered justifiable.

The maximum building height requirements of the NRZ are also considered more appropriate than those of the GRZ, and the retention and extension of the SLO3 is also consistent with the objectives of the proposed schedule.

It should be noted that the key difference under the proposed NRZ, is that animal boarding, animal training and horse stables are prohibited uses (whereas under the LDRZ, they are Section 2 uses).



A key objective in these semi-rural areas is an increase in native vegetation and permeability

**Neighbourhood Residential Zone 11**

**Site of Biological Significance**

This collection of approximately 18 small sites is scattered across the municipality, within numerous former neighbourhood areas.

The properties are currently zoned NRZ4 Sites of Biological Significance, and they operate in the same way as NRZ3 zoned land in Maroondah, with the same provisions and controls, and no minimum lot size.

A number of the sites accommodate schools or community centres such as the Melbourne Rudolph Steiner School, the Village School and the Yarra Community Centre. All the sites are associated with significant remnant vegetation and/or a waterway or other natural feature.

The VPO1 also applies to the properties.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

Neighbourhood and landscape character objectives:

- To be considered as part of the Vegetation Planning Policy Review project.

Minimum subdivision area

N/A

Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55

As existing, plus the following:

**Site coverage:** To be determined.

**Permeability:** To be determined.

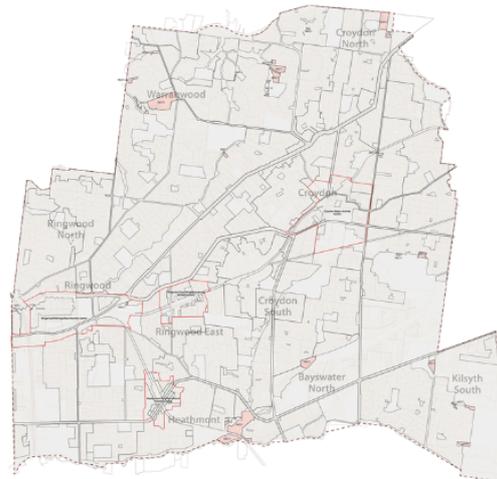
**Landscaping:**

To be determined.

The species of canopy trees should be indigenous to the local area.

Maximum building height

None specified (i.e. 9m and 2 storeys, but SLO3 provides a permit trigger for buildings over 8m)



**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

- To be determined.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- To be considered as part of the Vegetation Planning Policy Review project.

**Overlays**

SLO3 or SLO4: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

VPO1: Review as part of the Vegetation Planning Policy Review project.

**Additional / specific justification for proposed controls**

The NRZ is consistently applied across Maroondah to areas or sites of landscape, vegetation or biological significance, hence the application of the NRZ4 to these sites, regardless of use.

For ease of administration, they have been kept together, and given a separate schedule.

Their future zoning and/or the contents of any schedule(s) will be considered as part of the Vegetation Planning Policy Review project.

**General Residential Zone 1**

**Garden Suburban**

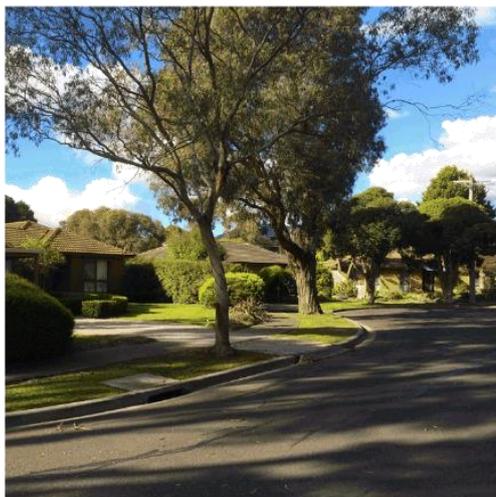
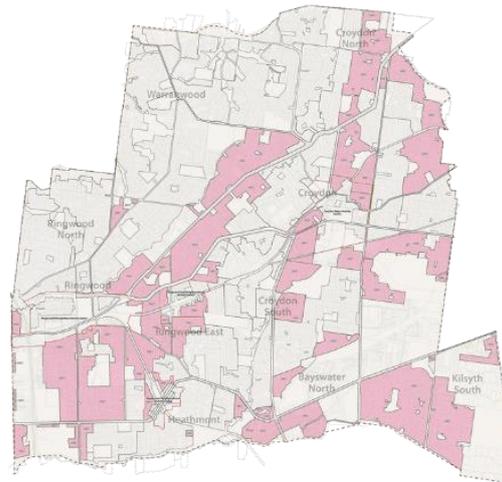
Proposed GRZ1 comprises many of the existing GRZ1 zoned areas, with the exception of the Waranwood Hills in the north-western area of the municipality. GRZ1 includes the established suburban areas of Ringwood, Ringwood East and Croydon, together with the more recently developed residential areas of Kilsyth South.

These 'garden suburban' neighbourhoods are located on the flat to gently undulating land of the municipality, around the two key activity centres of Ringwood and Croydon, and between or adjacent to the prominent ridgelines that cleave Maroondah.

Street layout in most of these areas is a traditional grid or modified grid, reflecting the established nature of these residential neighbourhoods. Architectural styles are mixed, and include dwellings representing all eras from the 1950s onwards. As described, the GRZ1 neighbourhoods on the outskirts of Maroondah are more recently developed, with curvilinear streets, and cul-de-sacs, and predominantly brick and tile homes from the 1980s and 1990s. Infill, redevelopment and renovation have occurred across the city, and are often associated with a loss of vegetation.

Again, the unifying element across the Garden Suburban areas of Maroondah is vegetation, including large, established trees. This canopy of greenery includes public bushland reserves and street trees of mixed species, as well as private gardens of both formal and informal character. Vegetation is the key element to a strong and unified neighbourhood character across Maroondah, hence the focus on site coverage, permeability and landscaping requirements in the recommendations of this study.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

**General Residential Zone 1**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood character objectives:**

- To ensure that established gardens of all varieties, and a continuous tree canopy cover, defines the overall character of Maroondah's Garden Suburban areas.
- To maintain generous setbacks around dwellings, and to ensure that front setbacks are not dominated by garages, carports or vehicular access.
- To ensure that all dwellings, their settings and front fences make a positive contribution to the public domain and pedestrian environment.
- To ensure that new dwellings and extensions are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing.
- To protect and increase the tree canopy cover by requiring an adequate amount of permeable land for protecting and planting vegetation.

**Minimum subdivision area**

N/A

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Permeability:** 30%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

**Front fence height:** Streets in a Road Zone, Category 1 – 1.5m

**Maximum building height**

None specified (i.e. 11m & 3 storeys)

Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood character objectives of this clause.
- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the garden suburban character.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.

**Overlays**

SLO4: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency

### General Residential Zone 1

#### Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

The majority of the planning scheme controls and provisions that apply to the existing GRZ1 areas in Maroondah will remain in place for the proposed GRZ1 Garden Suburban areas.

The Recode default standards will still apply to most elements of built form, and the Clauses 54 and 55 variations that are existing in Maroondah relating to side and rear boundary setbacks, front fences and open space will remain in the planning scheme.

These are supported by the minimum garden area requirement (in the GRZ head clause), plus the introduction of additional variations to Clauses 54 and 55 relating to permeability (30%) and landscaping.

Given the strong landscape character throughout Maroondah, and the fact that all residential areas are defined by their vegetation and canopy tree cover, these additional requirements are considered reasonable and justifiable. Site coverage has not been altered from the requirement of the zone, and therefore development and housing growth can continue at the same rate and density, while permeability and vegetation is retained, and increased.

Feedback from Council's statutory planners has revealed that the variation to Clauses 54 and 55 in relation to front fence height in some areas requires tailoring to avoid numerous (reasonable) dispensation requests. It is considered appropriate, and consistent with neighbourhood character, that the height of front fences abutting a Road Zone Category 1 in this neighbourhood be increased to 1.5m.



A significant canopy tree within the front setback of an older 1960s dwelling



Substantial native trees contribute to a strong landscape and neighbourhood character in this streetscape



A diversity of architectural styles and garden types exists across the established residential areas of Maroondah

**General Residential Zone 2**

**Bush Garden Slopes**

Proposed GRZ2 comprises the hilly and undulating suburban areas in the north-western area of the municipality, generally around the Warranwood Hills, to the west and north of the Warranwood Ridgeline, and either side of Jumping Creek Valley. It includes parts of former NA2 Loughnan’s Hill, NA1 Mullum Mullum Creek, NA4 Quambee Gardens, NA5 Croydon Hills and NA6 Jumping Creek Valley.

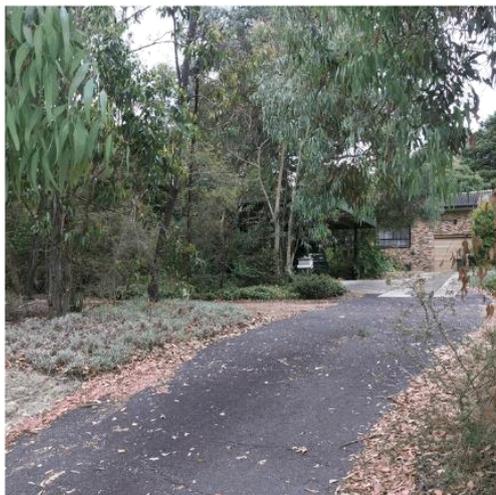
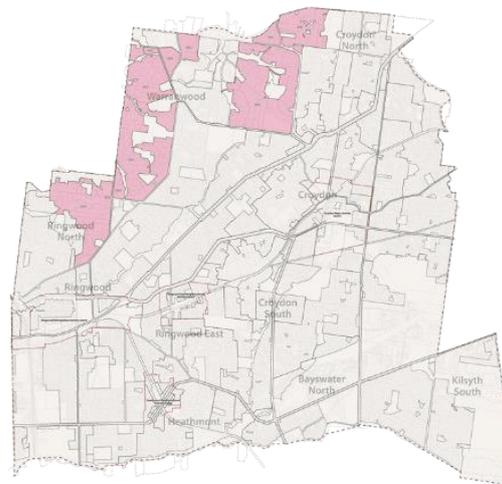
The landscape of these areas ranges from hilly and undulating, to quite steep in parts. It is elevated, and therefore able to be seen from other areas of the municipality. It also supports large areas of remnant bushland in public reserves, and has a strong visual and landscape connection to the Yarra Valley to the north.

The Bush Garden Slopes neighbourhoods are sited some distance from the historic cores (Ringwood and Croydon) of Maroondah, and were therefore developed later, from the 1980s onwards. Some examples of older housing exist however, closer to Loughnan’s Hill. The curvilinear streets and cul-de-sacs are reflective of both the era of subdivision and the topography.

Gardens vary in character, but the majority are bushy and informal, a style that is well suited to the predominantly native street trees and bushland reserves.

These residential areas vary from the proposed GRZ1 ‘garden suburban’ neighbourhoods in their outer location, hilly topography, elevation, architectural era (and materiality) and informal, ‘bush garden’ character. The current balance between vegetation and built form should be maintained, and the native garden / native canopy tree coverage, increased.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

**General Residential Zone 2**

**Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls**

**Neighbourhood character objectives:**

- To ensure that there is a visual balance between built form and vegetation across the Bush Garden Slopes neighbourhoods, particularly when viewed from a distance.
- To ensure that development demonstrates a high standard of design and responds to its topographic context (particularly on sloping sites) with appropriate siting and size, and minimal cut and fill.
- To ensure that new dwellings and extensions are sited and designed to respect the prevailing architectural character and landscape setting, including size, materiality and detailing of built form.
- To maintain a sense of spaciousness around dwellings, and to ensure that front setbacks are not dominated by garages, carports or vehicular access.
- To protect and increase the native vegetation cover by requiring permeable land for planting and sustaining vegetation, particularly large canopy trees.

**Minimum subdivision area**

N/A

**Requirements of Clause 54 & Clause 55**

As existing, plus the following:

**Permeability:** 35%

**Landscaping:** Provision of a minimum of one canopy tree per 175 square metres of the site area, that will reach a minimum mature height that equals the height of the proposed development, including:

- a minimum of one canopy tree within each area of secluded private open space; and
- a minimum of one canopy tree within the front setback per 5 metres of width of the site (excluding the width of one driveway).

Each tree should be surrounded by 20 square metres permeable surface with a minimum radius of 3 metres. Up to 50% of the permeable surface may be shared with another tree.

The species of canopy trees should be native to the local area.

**Maximum building height**

Maroondah NCS Review Draft Recommendations

None specified (i.e. 11m & 3 storeys)

**Application requirements**

The following application requirements apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme and must accompany an application, as appropriate, to the satisfaction of the responsible authority:

A landscape plan drawn to scale that clearly demonstrates the requirements of Clause 55.03-8 Standard B13, as outlined in this Schedule, including:

- Site boundaries, road frontage(s) and proposed and retained buildings.
- The location of existing trees and vegetation to be retained, and those to be removed.
- Details of any tree protection methods required.
- The location of proposed additional canopy trees and other vegetation.
- Notes regarding proposed mulch and soil types and quantities, subsoil preparation and any specific maintenance required.
- A schedule to the landscape plan listing plants by their botanical names, common names, quantities proposed, and height and width at maturity.

**Decision guidelines**

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 32.09, in addition to those specified in Clause 32.09 and elsewhere in the scheme, which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which the proposed buildings or works meet the neighbourhood character objectives of this clause.
- The extent to which the management and/or integration of vegetation and canopy trees on the development site contributes to the predominantly native bush garden character.
- The extent to which any building to be partially demolished, extended or otherwise modified, contributes to the preferred neighbourhood character of the area.

**Overlays**

SLO4: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency. Extend SLO4 to cover all of GRZ2, including northern area to the north and south of Yarra Road.

## General Residential Zone 2

### Additional / specific justification for proposed controls

As per proposed GRZ1, the majority of the planning scheme provisions that apply to the proposed GRZ2 will remain in place. Again, the Recode default standards will still apply, and the Clauses 54 and 55 variations existing in Maroondah relating to side and rear boundary setbacks, front fences and open space will be retained.

The above standards are already supported by the minimum garden area requirement (in the GRZ head clause), plus the proposed introduction of additional variations to Clauses 54 and 55 relating to permeability (35%) and landscaping. The permeability requirement for these areas is proposed to be slightly higher than the proposed GRZ1 Garden Suburban areas, due to the hilly, elevated and visible nature of the 'bush garden slopes' neighbourhoods. And native vegetation is specified in the landscaping requirements to strengthen and support the existing 'bush garden slopes' character.

As with other residential areas in Maroondah, the strong landscape character of these neighbourhoods, and the objectives to maintain the balance between vegetation and built form, and to increase the native vegetation cover, justify the additional permeability and landscaping requirements. Site coverage has not been altered from the requirement of the zone, and therefore development and housing growth can continue at the same rate and density, while permeability and native vegetation is retained, and increased.



Informal gardens with a greater number of native trees are a characteristic of the area



Undulating topography provides views to other canopy covered and elevated neighbourhoods nearby

**Ringwood East Neighbourhood Activity Centre (NAC) residential areas**

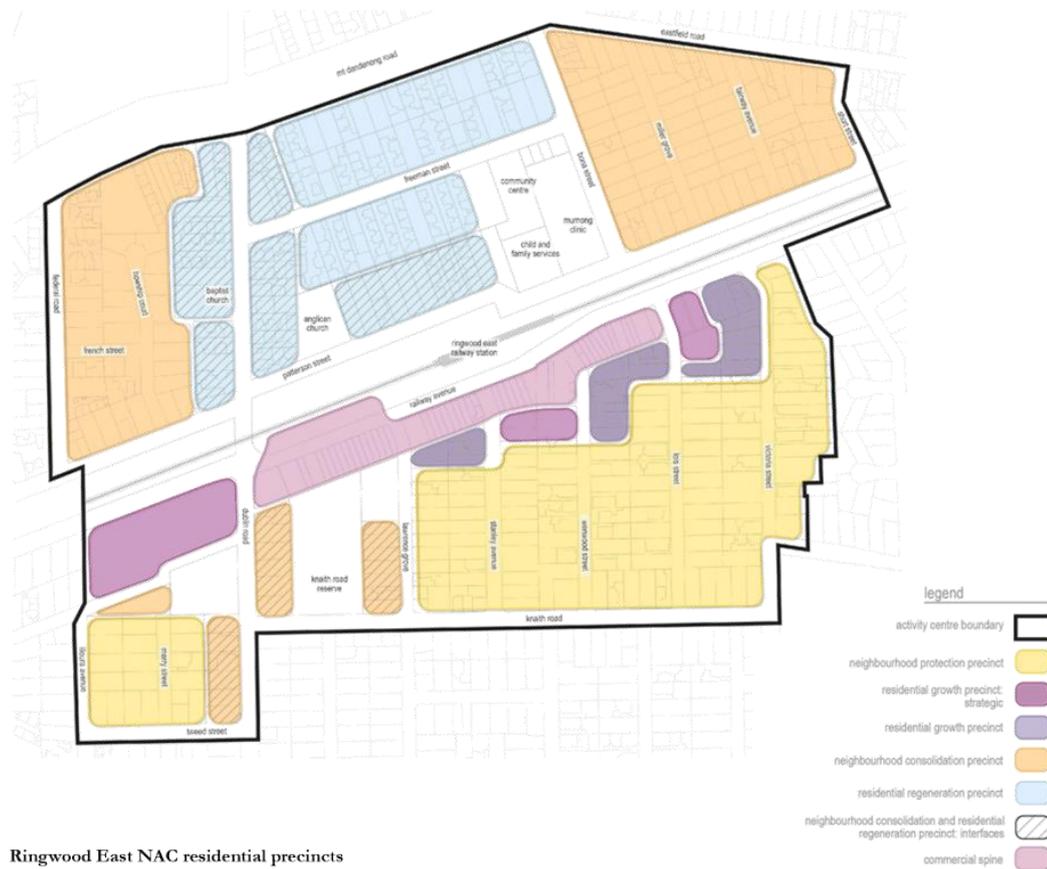
The *Ringwood East Neighbourhood Activity Centre Structure Plan* was prepared by Hansen for the Maroondah City Council in 2013.

In mid 2016, Council proceeded with Amendment C96 to implement the structure plan findings by amending the Local Planning Policy Framework Clauses 21 and 22, applying DDO6 to the NAC, and correcting several mapping anomalies.

Unfortunately the amendment process coincided with the deliberation and approval of VC110, implementing the reformed residential zones, and the residential areas within the Ringwood East NAC were removed from DDO6. Amendment C96 as it applied to the commercial areas of the Ringwood East NAC was approved and gazetted in October 2018, without the need for a Panel hearing.

This Neighbourhood Character Study Review provides the opportunity to re-visit this work and implement alternative residential zones and/or new schedules to existing residential zones within the Ringwood East NAC.

The various residential precincts that were identified in the structure planning process are shown on the map below. They are described in more detail on the following pages.



**Ringwood East NAC residential precincts**

Source: Maroondah City Council

Ringwood East NAC residential areas

Neighbourhood Protection Precinct

Proposed: GRZ1

The preferred outcomes for the 'neighbourhood protection' areas, which are located to the south of the commercial core, are articulated in the structure plan as:

- *Protection and enhancement of the existing strong landscape character*
- *Low rise built forms set within a generous landscape setting*
- *Consistent front setbacks*
- *Generous rear setbacks and retention of rear yard canopy vegetation*
- *Redevelopment only in keeping with existing identified character elements of the area*

With the following anticipated controls:

- *Buildings should be traditional detached forms*
- *Maximum building height allowance under Rescode not exceeded, with heights of 1-2 storeys preferred*
- *Minimum setbacks from street frontage to avoid overly dominant forms and allow for front landscaping*
- *Maintenance of existing side and rear setback control modifications to Clause 54 & 55 within Maroondah's Planning Scheme*
- *Maintenance of existing private open space control modifications to Clause 54 & 55 within Maroondah's Planning Scheme*
- *Introduction of increased requirements for site permeability to reduce areas of hard surface*
- *New requirements for the planting of canopy trees, provision of additional landscaping and recognition of the tree protection zones of trees on adjoining lots*
- *Preference for materials and finishes which are harmonious with the landscape*



Existing dwelling, Howship Court, within the Ringwood East NAC

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Neighbourhood Protection Precinct be included in proposed GRZ1. This recommendation is entirely consistent with the analysis and anticipated controls outlined in the structure plan, including increased requirements for site permeability and landscaping, and retaining the current maximum building height and variations to Clauses 54 and 55.

The detailed planning scheme provisions and controls associated with GRZ1 are outlined on the preceding pages of this report.

Ringwood East NAC residential areas  
Neighbourhood Consolidation Precinct

Proposed: GRZ3

The preferred outcomes for these areas, which are located to the north of the railway line, are articulated in the structure plan as:

- *Areas suitable for a greater intensity of development than 'protection' areas*
- *Emphasis on the 'neighbourhood' elements, in particular the provision of canopy vegetation within the private realm*
- *Modest building heights with additional height above 2 storeys balanced by a reduction in building footprint*
- *Building form to be townhouse style, not apartment forms, with significant breaks in the forms to reduce bulk*

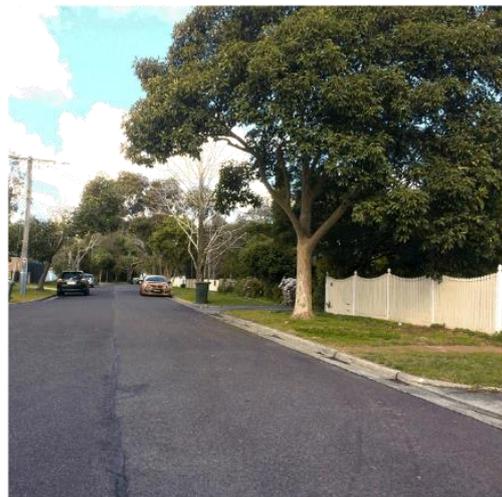
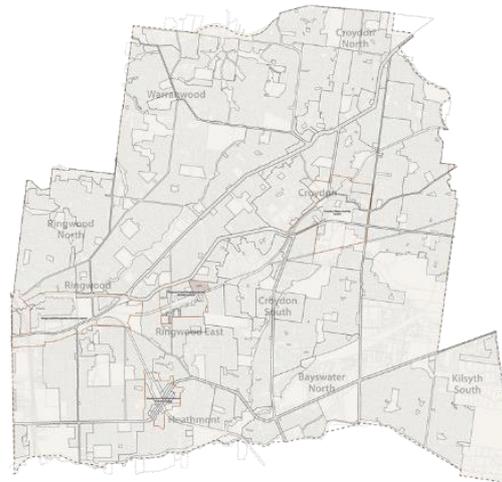
And the following anticipated controls are also included in the structure plan:

- *No policy support for apartment forms*
- *Support for 2 storey building height with third storeys only supported if they are highly recessive or accommodated in roof forms*
- *Reduced front setback requirements allowable if offset by meaningful landscaping within front setback*
- *Reduction in side setback requirements to allow taller forms and support townhouse style development*
- *Requirements for significant breaks in building form along side elevations to offset reduced setback requirements*
- *New requirements for the planting of canopy trees, provision of additional landscaping and recognition of the tree protection zones of trees on adjoining lots*

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Neighbourhood Consolidation Precinct be zoned GRZ3. The objectives and decision guidelines to be included in schedule 3 to the GRZ should be based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 11m & 3 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations - retain POS & rear setback variations; remove other variations
- Reduced front & side setback requirements
- Landscaping requirements
- Retain SLO4



Howship Court, in the 'neighbourhood consolidation' precinct

Ringwood East NAC residential areas

Residential Regeneration Precinct

Proposed: GRZ4

The preferred outcomes for the Residential Regeneration Precinct areas are articulated in the structure plan as:

- *Delivery of a carefully managed model of residential regeneration which maintains the medium density character of this area while not promoting overdevelopment*
- *Support redevelopment and consolidation of sites within these areas where this improves the housing stock and permeability and provides better integration with its surroundings*
- *Using new development to set benchmarks for built form outcomes in preference to reference to existing development*
- *New development forms which address existing issues in relation to 'gun barrel' driveways and presentation to the street frontage*

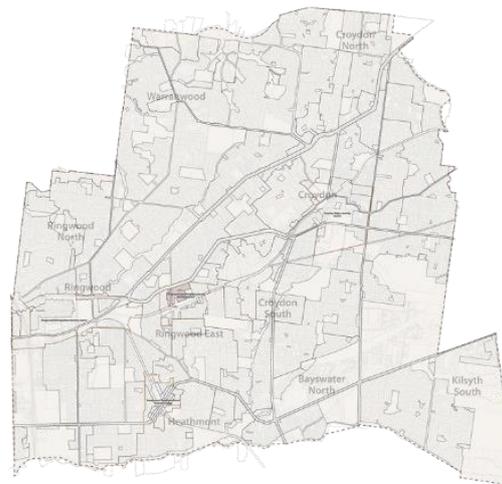
And the anticipated controls:

- *Support for 2-3 storey townhouse forms*
- *A relaxation of the side and rear setbacks, in recognition of the existing footprints of dwellings in the precinct*
- *Smaller requirements for public (sic. private?) open space allowable if other approaches in design provide improvements to the public realm*
- *Requirements for significant breaks in building form along side elevations*
- *Support for development which consolidate lots and/or opens up new north/south public pedestrian connections*

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Residential Regeneration Precinct be zoned GRZ4. Again, the objectives and decision guidelines to be included in schedule 4 to the GRZ should be based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 11m & 3 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations - remove all existing variations
- Reduced front & side setback requirements
- Landscaping requirements
- Retain SLO4



Freeman Street, within the 'residential regeneration' precinct

Ringwood East NAC residential areas

Residential Growth Precinct

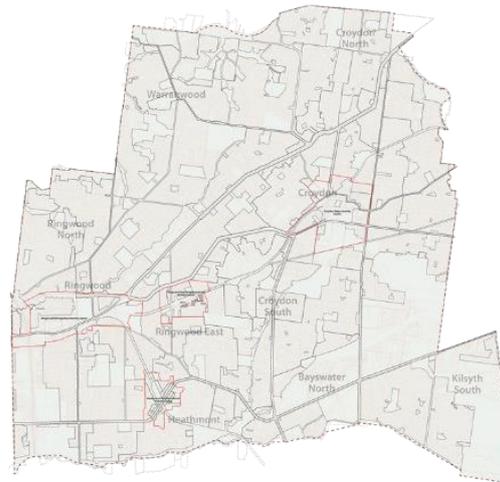
Proposed: RGZ3

The preferred outcomes for the Residential Growth Precinct are articulated in the structure plan as:

- *A transition to a more 'urban' form of infill development in recognition of the proximity to the commercial strip*
- *No further apartment style buildings but medium density development in the form of townhouses*
- *Less of an emphasis on canopy vegetation but will still maintain a 'green' 'village' feel*
- *An improved pedestrian realm*

And the anticipated controls for these areas, which are located between the commercial core and the established residential areas to the south, are:

- *Support building heights of up to 3 storeys with a preference for 3rd storeys to be recessed*
- *Reduced front setbacks allowed provided low- medium level indigenous vegetation is provided within the setback*
- *Reduction of side and rear setback control modifications to Clause 54 and 55 of the Maroondah Planning Scheme*
- *Reduction of private open space control modifications to Clause 54 and 55 of the Maroondah Planning Scheme*
- *Requirements to integrate basement, undercroft or other forms of integrated parking where possible to reduce the visual dominance*
- *Encourage street activation at the ground floor level through integration of home offices and no (or low level) fencing*
- *Ensure sufficient setbacks are provided where adjoining 'neighbourhood protection' areas to introduce screening vegetation*



Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Residential Growth Precinct be zoned RGZ3, and that the objectives and decision guidelines to be included in schedule 3 to the RGZ are based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 11m & 3 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations – remove all
- Reduced front setback requirements
- Reduced side & rear setback requirements
- Landscaping requirements

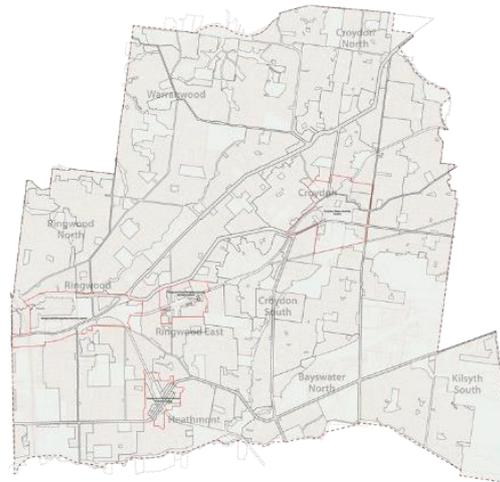
Ringwood East NAC residential areas

Strategic Residential Growth Precinct

Proposed: RGZ4

The preferred outcomes for the Strategic Residential Growth Precinct are articulated as:

- *A transition to a more 'urban' form of infill development in recognition of the proximity to the commercial strip*
- *A clearly defined area suitable for this style of development to direct pressure away from other areas*
- *Sites which can achieve additional height without significant adverse impacts are recognised to maximise their benefit.*
- *Sites identified as capable of carrying additional height still respond to the landscape character of their surrounds*



And the anticipated controls for these areas are outlined in the structure plan as follows:

- *These sites can support buildings heights of up to 4 storeys*
- *Buildings must be modulated and include significant articulation to avoid overly bulky forms*
- *Buildings must achieve a high level of design quality in accordance with their strategic designation*
- *Materials and landscaping elements should be fully integrated with the design and strongly encourage finishes to respond to any colour palette developed for the centre*
- *On the ADF site, development must comprise a number of separate building forms within a campus style landscape setting*

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Strategic Residential Growth Precinct be zoned RGZ4. The objectives and decision guidelines in schedule 4 to the RGZ should be based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 13.5m & 4 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations - remove all existing variations
- Reduced front setback requirements
- Reduced side & rear setback requirements
- Landscaping requirements

**Heathmont Neighbourhood Activity Centre (NAC) residential areas**

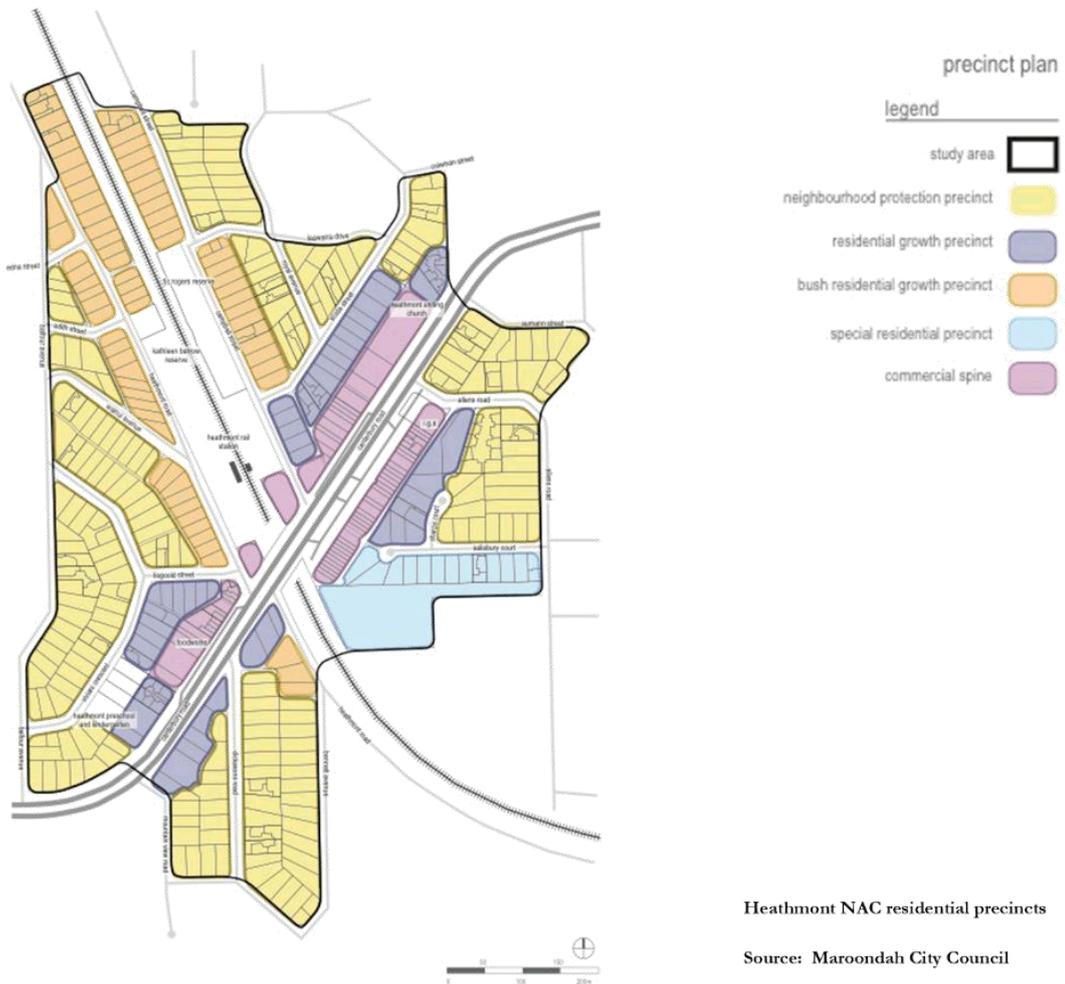
The *Heathmont Neighbourhood Activity Centre Structure Plan* was also prepared by Hansen for the Maroondah City Council in 2013.

Subsequently, Council proceeded with Amendment C97 to implement the structure plan findings by amending the Local Planning Policy Framework Clauses 21 and 22, applying DDOS to the NAC, rezoning three properties and correcting several mapping anomalies.

Unfortunately (as with Amendment C96), the amendment process coincided with the deliberation and approval of VC110, implementing the reformed residential zones, and the residential areas within the Heathmont NAC were removed from DDOS. Amendment C97 as it applied to the commercial areas of the Heathmont NAC were approved and gazetted in October 2018.

This Neighbourhood Character Study Review provides the opportunity to re-visit this work and implement alternative residential zones and/or new schedules to existing residential zones within the Heathmont NAC.

The various residential precincts that were identified in the structure planning process are shown on the map below. They are discussed in more detail on the following pages.



## Heathmont NAC residential areas

### Neighbourhood Protection Precinct

Proposed: GRZ1, NRZ2 & NRZ3

The preferred outcomes for these areas are articulated in the structure plan as:

- *Protection and enhancement of the existing valued bush character and canopy tree cover*
- *Low rise, detached buildings nestled into the topography*
- *Site buildings on the basis of landscape preservation and topography constraints over specific requirements for consistent setbacks*
- *Generous rear setbacks and retention of rear yard canopy vegetation*
- *Use of carports or undercover parking where possible to reduce the visual dominance of parking and allow visual connections to the landscaped backdrop*
- *Support contemporary architecture with simplified roof forms*
- *Avoidance of boxy, heavy, overly suburban or heritage replica villa unit or single dwelling development*

With the following anticipated controls:

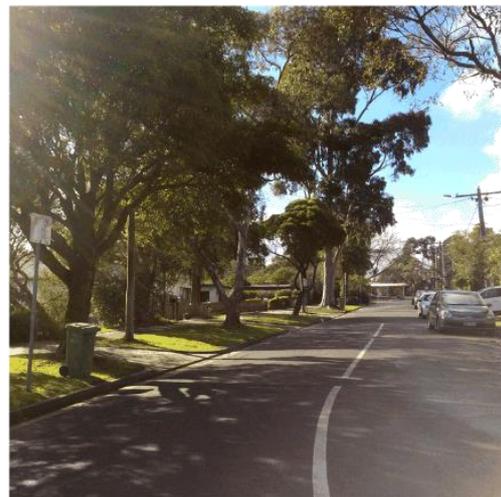
- *Retain existing Design and Development Overlay (DDO3) and Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO3 and SLO4) controls*
- *Buildings should be traditional detached forms. Limit policy support for attached row or villa unit development*
- *No policy support for apartment forms*
- *Maximum building height allowed under Recode and SLO3 not exceeded, with heights of 1-2 storeys supported*
- *Generous setbacks from street frontage to avoid overly dominant forms and allow landscaping within the front setback*
- *Maintenance of existing side and rear setback control modifications to Clause 54 and 55 within Maroondah's Planning Scheme. Consider allowing reduced building setbacks only where this results in an improved tree protection or future landscape outcome*
- *Maintenance of existing private open space control modifications to Clause 54 and 55 within Maroondah's Planning Scheme*
- *Introduction of increased requirements for site permeability to reduce areas of hard surface*
- *New requirements for the protection of existing trees (in areas other than SLO4), planting of native canopy trees, provision of additional landscaping and recognition of tree protection zones of trees on adjoining lots*
- *Maintenance of single vehicle crossovers to each lot*

- *Preference for materials and finishes which are harmonious with the bush setting (e.g. muted colours, natural materials and finishes)*

#### Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Neighbourhood Protection Precinct areas be included as part of proposed GRZ1 (north of Canterbury Road); proposed NRZ2 (south of Canterbury Road and the railway line); and proposed NRZ3 (south of Canterbury Road and north of the railway line). These recommendations are entirely consistent with the analysis and anticipated controls outlined in the structure plan, including increased requirements for site permeability and landscaping, and retaining the current maximum building height and variations to Clauses 54 and 55.

The detailed planning scheme provisions and controls associated with GRZ1, NRZ2 and NRZ3 are outlined on the preceding pages of this report.



Lisgoold Street, on the western side of the NAC

Heathmont NAC residential areas

Bush Residential

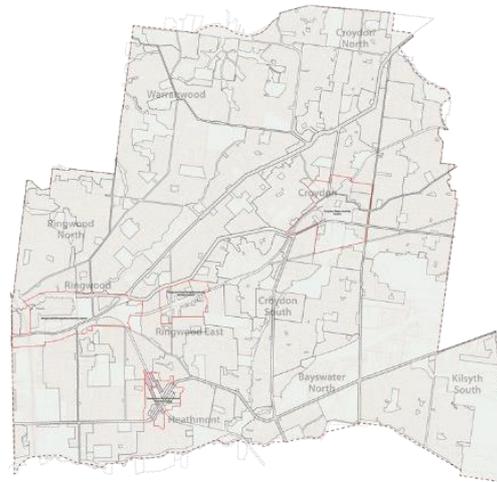
Proposed: GRZ5

The preferred outcomes for these residential areas located adjacent to the railway corridor are:

- *A greater intensity of development than 'neighbourhood protection precincts'*
- *Emphasis on the 'bush residential character' elements, in particular the protection and enhancement of native canopy tree cover from a habitat and visual perspective (as opposed to major centres such as Ringwood and Croydon)*
- *Modest medium density infill development*
- *Building form to be townhouse style, maisonette or duplex type development, with significant landscape breaks between buildings provided to reduce visual bulk*
- *Development to harmonise with the native bush setting of the 'green axis'*
- *Moderate front setbacks in conjunction with an increased density of informal native landscape treatment*
- *Avoidance of boxy, heavy, overly suburban or heritage replica villa unit development*

And the following anticipated controls:

- *Retain existing Significant Landscape Overlay (SLO3 and SLO4) controls*
- *Review existing Design and Development Overlay (DDO3) (sic.)*
- *No policy support for apartment forms*
- *Support for 2 storey forms with 3rd storeys only considered on sloping sites where they can be accommodated into the fall of the land or roof forms and are highly recessive*
- *Reduced front setback requirements allowable if offset by meaningful landscaping (e.g. at least 2 medium or large native or canopy trees) within front setback*
- *Maintenance of rear and side setback requirements to maximise landscape potential*
- *Requirements for significant breaks in building form along side elevations*
- *New requirements for the protection of existing trees (in areas other than SLO4), planting of native canopy trees, provision of additional landscaping and recognition of tree protection zones of trees on adjoining lots*



- *Preference for materials and finishes which are harmonious with the bush setting (e.g. muted colours, natural materials)*
- *Require any basement car parks to be well set back from the boundaries to allow deep root planting in the front and rear of properties*
- *Encourage use of lightweight roof forms, balconies, pergolas and use of external or open circulation where possible to lighten the appearance of built form*

Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Bush Residential Growth areas be zoned GRZ5. While it is referred to as a 'residential growth' area in the structure plan, the proposed controls are entirely consistent with the GRZ, not the RGZ. As such it may be appropriate to re-name the zone schedule to 'Bush Residential'. The objectives and decision guidelines to be included in schedule 5 to the GRZ should be based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 11m & 3 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations - retain
- Reduced front setback requirement (associated with meaningful landscaping)
- Additional landscaping requirements
- Retain SLO3 & SLO4
- Remove DDO2 (incorrectly referred to as DDO3 in structure plan)

Heathmont NAC residential areas

Residential Growth Precinct

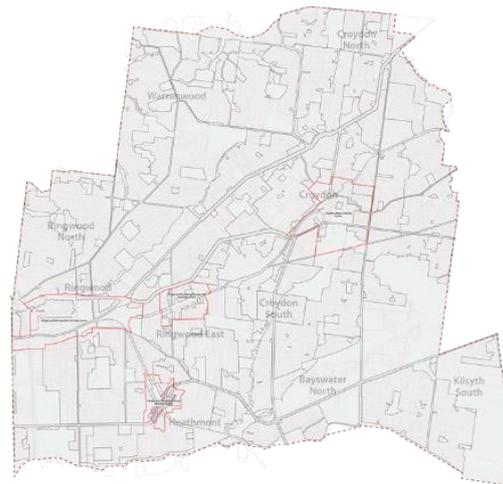
Proposed: RGZ5

The preferred outcomes for the Residential Growth Precinct, which directly abuts the commercially zoned areas in the centre, are:

- *A transition to a more 'urban' form of infill development in recognition of the proximity to the commercial spine*
- *Modest medium density infill development*
- *No apartment style buildings but a more intensive form of townhouse, maisonette or duplex type development*
- *A form of development anticipated that is different to the 'bush residential growth' precinct*
- *Less of an emphasis on native canopy vegetation but will still maintain a bush feel through the provision of additional canopy vegetation at interfaces with 'neighbourhood protection precincts'*
- *An improved streetscape character and pedestrian realm*

And the following anticipated controls are outlined:

- *Retain existing Significant Landscape Overlay 4 (SLO4) controls*
- *Remove existing Design and Development Overlay (DDO3) and Significant Landscape Overlay 3 (SLO3) controls*
- *No policy support for apartment forms*
- *Support building heights of 2 to 3 storeys with a preference for 3rd storeys to be recessed and / or integrated into roof forms*
- *3rd storey elements should use lighter weight materials with a muted materials and colours palette in order to distinguish from a 2 storey base*
- *Reduced front setbacks allowed provided low- medium level indigenous vegetation is provided within the setback*
- *Reduction of existing side and rear setback control modifications to Clause 54 and 55 of the Maroondah Planning Scheme*
- *Requirements to integrate basement or undercroft parking where possible to reduce the visual dominance*
- *Encourage street activation at the ground floor level through integration of home offices or living areas fronting the street, with emphasis on soft landscape and boundary treatments to encourage animation of the front setback rather than barriers which limit public realm interaction.*
- *Ensure sufficient setbacks are provided where adjoining 'neighbourhood protection precinct' areas to introduce screening vegetation and provide for canopy trees*



Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Residential Growth Precinct areas be zoned RGZ5. The objectives and decision guidelines to be included in schedule 5 to the RGZ should be based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 11m & 3 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations - remove all
- Reduced front setback requirements
- Reduced side & rear setback requirements
- Landscaping requirements
- Remove SLO3 & DDO2

Heathmont NAC residential areas

Special Residential Precinct

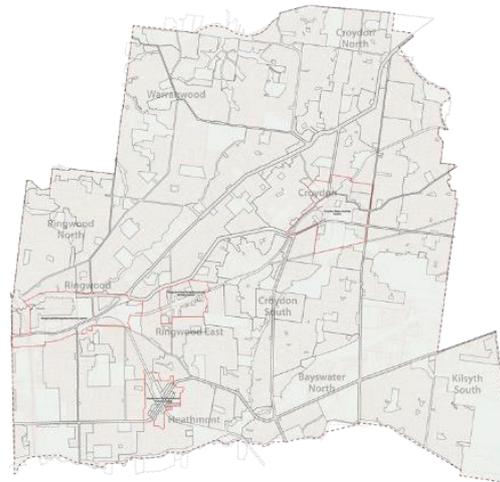
Proposed: GRZ6

The preferred outcomes for the Special Residential Precinct are:

- *Investigation of potential staged redevelopment opportunities employing a cluster housing or alternative housing typology model, with an emphasis on communal indigenous and productive landscape, preservation of existing environmental assets and a strong emphasis on ecologically sustainable development*
- *Establishment of affiliated uses which would support the community including space for local community halls, markets, gallery space and home offices*
- *Dwellings with a smaller footprint and higher building heights to maximise preservation of trees and provide for planting of new vegetation*
- *Emphasis on high quality contemporary architecture in a communal landscape setting*
- *Increased pedestrian permeability*

And the following anticipated controls are outlined in the structure plan:

- *Retain existing Significant Landscape Overlay 4 (SLO4) controls*
- *Review the DDO3 minimum allotment control to allow more flexible site development which emphasises tree protection*
- *Consider application of a DPO type control, requiring a masterplan for the precinct in order to encourage co-ordinated development outcome between Uambi and properties to the north fronting Salisbury Court*
- *No policy support for typical suburban subdivision and housing types*
- *Strongly discourage vacant lot subdivision unless a masterplan for total site development has been prepared*
- *Preferred allotment sizes and building heights should be kept loose, with an emphasis on creative urban design responses to the landscape setting*
- *Ensure any fencing does not impact on the landscape character of Uambi and adjoining bushland and movement of fauna*



Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the Special Residential Precinct be zoned GRZ6. The objectives and decision guidelines to be included in schedule 6 to the GRZ should be based on the preferred outcomes and rationale (summarised) in the structure plan. In addition, the following should apply:

- Max. height 11m & 3 storeys
- Clauses 54 & 55 variations – retain all prior to DPO being prepared for the site
- Landscaping requirements
- Remove DDO2

An alternative solution to the above more proactive/strategic solution is to simply retain the existing zoning and include the precinct in proposed NRZ2.

**Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre**

The *Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre (MAC) Masterplan (2018)* was adopted by Council in November 2018, and Council will be proceeding with an amendment to implement its findings in the near future.

The vision outlined in the 2018 masterplan document is as follows:

*Ringwood is the major urban destination in Melbourne's outer east. It will contain a vibrant city centre, with an active local economy and contemporary lifestyle options. The vibrant centre boasts integrated and sustainable retail, commercial, leisure, civic and residential activities set in a natural landscape connected through an advanced road and rail network.*

There are three residential precincts within the MAC boundary zoned RGZ1, as well as two GRZ1 residential areas (south of Ringwood Station, and on the eastern edge, near Ringwood Lake).

As part of the recent masterplanning process, urban design guidelines were also prepared for the centre. The *Ringwood MAC Urban Design Guidelines (2018)* document provides a framework for each precinct identified within the MAC (including the residential areas), and includes guidance on building height, typology and interface treatments. The designated precincts are illustrated on the map below, and a summary of the vision and key development guidelines for each, is provided below.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in the Residential Character Assessment report.*



Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre  
 Study Boundary

## Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre

### North Western Precinct

Current (residential) zoning: RGZ1 + DDO3, SLO4

The North Western Precinct is located between Mullum Mullum Creek / the Ringwood Bypass and the commercial core of the MAC. The vision for this area as outlined in the guidelines document as:

- *Moderate residential infill in an established landscape setting.*

And the key development guidelines are to:

- *Ensure high quality infill apartment development to complement and enhance the role of the Ringwood MAC.*
- *Ensure the consolidation and development of sites occurs in a progressive manner and does not result in creation of small, isolated holdings of land of limited development potential.*
- *Encourage consistent built form response and ensure visual dominance of upper levels are minimised when viewed from the street.*
- *Ensure a high standard of residential amenity for future residents and neighbouring properties.*
- *Ensure retention of front setback for landscaping opportunity, contributing to the streetscape character and amenity within the public realm.*
- *Limit the number of vehicle crossovers to maintain the integrity and continuity of residential streetscapes.*
- *Ensure new developments provide an outlook towards Mullum Mullum Creek, and provide passive surveillance to the adjacent parkland.*
- *Ensure the front setback of a residential building provides for visual and physical transition between the streetscape and the development.*
- *Ensure all setbacks be planted with substantial tree cover to 'soften' the impact of new buildings on the streetscape.*

### Eastern Precinct

Current (residential) zoning: GRZ1 or RGZ1 + SLO4

The Eastern Precinct is located near Ringwood Lake on the eastern side of the MAC, and includes the GRZ1 pockets to the east of the lake, as well as the RGZ1 area, closer to the commercial centre. It is envisaged as an institutional mixed use area, with the following vision:

- *A consolidated mid rise precinct contributing to the boulevard character of Maroondah Highway with integrated community and*

*institutional opportunities between Warrandyte Road and Bardia Street.*

The key development guidelines (relevant to residential use) for the Eastern Precinct are to:

- *Ensure high quality infill apartment development on residential land to complement and enhance the role of the Ringwood MAC.*
- *Ensure a high standard of residential amenity for future residents and neighbouring properties.*
- *Encourage consistent built form response and ensure visual dominance of upper levels are minimised when viewed from the street along residential streets.*
- *Ensure retention of front setback for landscaping opportunity, contributing to the streetscape character and amenity along residential streets.*

## Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre

### Pitt Street Precinct

Current (residential) zoning: RGZ1 (with two small parcels of GRZ1) + SLO4

The Pitt Street Precinct is located on the south-eastern side of the MAC and is separated from the 'garden suburban' areas of Ringwood by Bedford Road. The vision for this area is:

- *Moderate residential infill in an established suburban landscape setting.*

And the key development guidelines include to:

- *Ensure high quality infill medium density housing development to complement and enhance the role of the Ringwood MAC.*
- *Encourage consistent built form response and ensure visual dominance of upper levels are minimised when viewed from the street.*
- *Ensure a high standard of residential amenity for future residents and neighbouring properties.*
- *Reduce the presence of car parking and ramps in residential areas through encouraging basement design.*
- *Ensure retention of front setbacks for landscaping opportunities, contributing to the streetscape character and amenity within the public realm.*
- *Encourage the repurposing of existing heritage buildings and integration with new development.*
- *Ensure the tree character of the area is retained and discourage the loss of existing canopy trees.*
- *Ensure the front setback of a residential building provides for visual and physical transition between the streetscape and the development.*
- *Ensure front setbacks be planted with substantial tree cover to 'soften' the impact of new buildings on the streetscape.*
- *Ensure new developments provide an outlook and provide passive surveillance to adjacent open space.*

### Ringwood Station Precinct

Current (residential) zoning: GRZ1 + SLO4

The Ringwood Station Precinct includes a residentially zoned area to the south of Station Street, with residential use noted as a 'secondary role' to the primary transport/civic focus. The vision for this whole precinct, as outlined in the guidelines document, is:

- *Future transit oriented development opportunities around Ringwood Station and a key entry into the Ringwood MAC.*

The key development guidelines that relate to residential use are to:

- *Encourage a range of transit, retail, commercial, civic and residential land uses, including higher density housing, that maximise the existing public transport infrastructure and provide for activity in the Ringwood Station Precinct across a range of hours.*
- *Ensure future development fronting Station Street contribute to improving pedestrian amenity and activation at street level.*

The Ringwood MAC Urban Design Guidelines document also includes information and guidance on 'interface' areas, such as this, that exist between the commercial centre and the more established and historic residential areas to the south. In relation to housing development along Station Street, the southern interface of this area is noted as 'residential transition'.

The objectives for this scenario are outlined as follows:

- *To support increased development opportunity within a MAC context with regards to amenity requirement for existing and future occupants (residents/ workers).*
- *To ensure a legible transition is provided between residential and commercial precincts.*
- *To provide transition from feature form sites to surrounds, particularly residential areas.*
- *To encourage street level activation along commercial streets with servicing and car parking located away from the primary frontage.*
- *To avoid repetitive stepped forms.*
- *To minimise amenity impact on adjoining dwellings.*

And the proposed interface design response:

- *4 storey (14.5m) building base/podium.*
- *3m setback at ground level.*
- *Setback behind street wall/podium:*
- *5m setback above 4 storey (14.5m).*
- *Greater than 5m above 4 storey (14.5m) on Feature Form sites to minimise visual bulk impact.*

### Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre

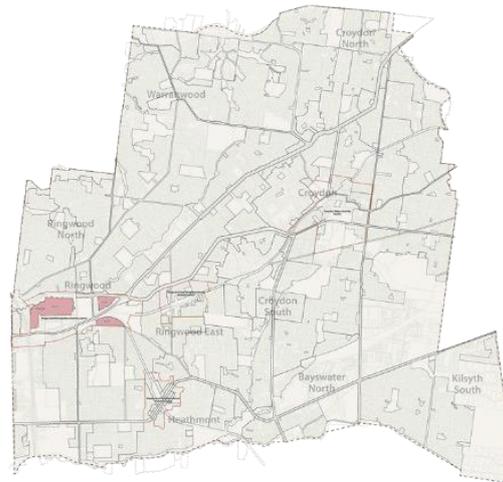
#### Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

It is recommended that the contents of the *Ringwood MAC Masterplan*, together with the *Ringwood MAC Urban Design Guidelines* are implemented in Maroondah Planning Scheme via a separate amendment process, including the residential areas within the MAC.

The fieldwork and assessments undertaken as part of this study support the recommendations in the masterplan and design guidelines documents.

It is considered that the RGZ is the most appropriate residential zone for strategic residential growth areas within the MAC. Separate, more detailed schedules may be required, however.

Consideration should also be given to the rezoning of the current GRZ1 areas that are located within the MAC to RGZ (or MUZ), again with separate, tailored schedules based on the contents of the urban design guidelines document and masterplanning work.



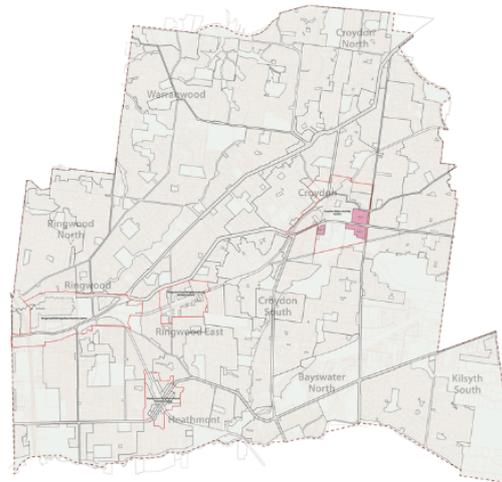
### Croydon Major Activity Centre

The *Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan* was prepared some time ago in 2006, and is pending review.

The structure plan identified three residential precincts within the MAC as 'housing opportunity areas' and these are currently zoned GRZ2, with an increased maximum building height of 13.5m and 4 storeys. The remaining residential areas are noted in the structure plan as 'incremental change residential' and are zoned GRZ1, with the same provisions that apply elsewhere in Maroondah.

The Croydon town centre has undergone a high level of change since its designation as a MAC, and includes a mix of residential built form, including older single dwellings and units, and contemporary apartment buildings of up to 4 storeys. The centre still exhibits a treed character in some areas, due in part to the retention of the SLO4, however the more recent higher-density development has resulted in tree loss and an increase in hard surfacing generally.

*A further description of neighbourhood character elements, landscape character, views and changes observed since 2005 is available in Section 2 of this report.*



#### Proposed planning scheme provisions & controls

Given that a review of the *Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan* is a high priority for Council Officers and is likely to occur in the near future, it is recommended that a detailed analysis of the Croydon MAC residential areas occur as part of that process.

In the event that the review of the current structure plan is deferred, it is recommended that the current GRZ2 areas be rezoned to RGZ2, and that the existing GRZ1 areas remain, but incorporate the proposed new Schedule 1.

#### RGZ2 Croydon MAC Residential Growth Precinct

A rezoning to RGZ2 would involve transfer of the current contents of Schedule 2 to the GRZ into the more appropriate RGZ, with the addition of design objectives, for example:

Design objectives:

- To facilitate quality medium density housing, including apartment buildings, of a high architectural standard to support and enhance the role of the Croydon MAC.
- To ensure that the front setback of residential buildings provides for a visual and physical connection to the streetscape, and that the dominance of upper levels is minimised when viewed from the street.

- To reduce the presence and visual impact of car parking and vehicular access in residential areas by encouraging basement design.
- To ensure that the front setback is utilised for landscaping opportunities, including substantial canopy trees, and contributes to the streetscape character and amenity of the public realm.
- To ensure that new development provides an outlook and passive surveillance opportunities to the street and other public areas.

*As outlined, ideally, design objectives for the higher density areas of the Croydon MAC would be developed as part of the structure plan review process. However, the above objectives and considered appropriate and justifiable, if the proves was delayed.*

In addition, the following could apply:

- Maximum building height 13.5m & 4 storeys
- Reduced front setback requirements
- Reduced side & rear setback requirements
- Landscaping requirements
- SLO4: Retain and strengthen, ensuring consistency
- Front fence height 1.5m (streets in a Road Zone, Category 1)

## Appendix A

# Recommendations Summary Table



Recommendations summary table

Proposed zone & schedule	Proposed name	Current zone & overlays	Current controls	Proposed controls
NRZ1	Croydon Hills Estate, Birt's Hill & Jumping Creek Valley	NRZ1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 2,000sqm</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• NCO2 buildings and works (with exemptions)</li> <li>• VPO1 native vegetation removal</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 2,000sqm</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 40%</li> <li>➤ Penneability 50%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (indigenous)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• NCO2 re-write, including permit triggers for outbuildings and demolition</li> <li>• SLO3 strengthen</li> </ul>
		NCO2 (Croydon Hills Estate)		
		SLO3		
		DDO1		
		VPO1		
NRZ2	Wicklow Hills Ridgeline	NRZ2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys*</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm*</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 40%</li> <li>➤ Penneability 50%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (native, preferably indigenous)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• NCO1 strengthen objectives &amp; decision guidelines</li> <li>• SLO3 strengthen</li> </ul>
		NCO1 (Alto Avenue & Wicklow Hills)		
		SLO3		
		DDO2		
		Inclusion of area bounded generally by Mirabel Avenue, Mt Dandenong Road and Velma Grove currently GRZ1 & SLO4		

NRZ3	Wicklow Hills Lower Slopes	NRZ3 SLO3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 50%</li> <li>➤ Penneability 40%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (native, preferably indigenous)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• SLO3 strengthen</li> </ul>
NRZ4	Loughnan's Hill	NRZ2 SLO3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 40%</li> <li>➤ Penneability 50%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (native, preferably indigenous)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• SLO3 strengthen</li> </ul>
NRZ5	Jubilee Park	GRZ1 SLO4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Penneability 30%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>➤ NCO3 / HO (various)</li> <li>• SLO4 review &amp; strengthen</li> </ul>

NRZ6	Ruskin Park	GRZ1  SLO4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 50%</li> <li>➤ Permeability 30%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• SLO4 strengthen</li> </ul>
NRZ7	Warrenwood Ridgeline & Slopes	NRZ3  SLO3  Northern part of Warrenwood Ridgeline, extending from Oban Road to the Jumping Creek Valley, and sloping down to Mullum Mullum Creek, currently GRZ1 & SLO4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys*</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations*</li> </ul> <p>*Except current GRZ1 area, with max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys, and SLO4 5m+ tree removal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 50%</li> <li>➤ Permeability 40%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (native, preferably indigenous)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>➤ SLO3 (strengthened) to whole landscape area</li> </ul>
NRZ8	Croydon Ridge & Southern Hills	NRZ3  SLO3  VPO1 (former Croydon District Golf Course)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 50%</li> <li>➤ Permeability 40%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (preferably native)</li> <li>➤ Front fence 1.5m fronting RDZ1</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> </ul>

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SLO3 strengthen, review VPO1</li> </ul>
NRZ9	Croydon Golf Links Estate	NRZ2  SLO3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 40%</li> <li>➤ Permeability 50%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (preferably native)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• SLO3 strengthen</li> </ul>
NRZ10	Bushland Fringes	LDRZ  SLO3 or SLO4  VPO1 (part)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Min. lot size 0.2 hectare</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> <li>• VPO1 (part) native vegetation removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood and landscape character objectives</li> <li>➤ Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 2,000sqm</li> <li>➤ Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>➤ Open space variations</li> <li>➤ Front fence variations</li> <li>➤ Site coverage 40%</li> <li>➤ Permeability 50%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (preferably native)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>➤ Note animal boarding, animal training and horse stables now prohibited uses</li> <li>• SLO3 strengthen</li> <li>• SLO4 strengthen</li> </ul>

NRZ11	Sites of Biological Significance	NRZ4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives')</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> <li>• VPO1 (part) native vegetation removal</li> </ul>	<i>To be fully resolved through the Vegetation Planning Policy Review</i>
		SLO3 or SLO4		
		VPO1		
GRZ1	Garden Suburban	GRZ1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Permeability 30%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ Front fence 1.5m fronting RDZ1</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• SLO4 strengthen</li> </ul>
		SLO4		
GRZ2	Bush Garden Slopes	GRZ1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Permeability 35%</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements (preferably native)</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>➤ SLO4 strengthen &amp; apply to whole area</li> </ul>
		SLO4		
		DDO7 Northern Gateway Area		

GRZ3	Ringwood East NAC Neighbourhood Consolidation Precinct	GRZ1 SLO4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Retain POS &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>➤ Remove other variations</li> <li>➤ Reduced front &amp; side setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Retain SLO4</li> </ul>
GRZ4	Ringwood East NAC Residential Regeneration Precinct	GRZ1 SLO4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>➤ Remove all existing variations</li> <li>➤ Reduced front &amp; side setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Retain SLO4</li> </ul>
GRZ5	Heathmont NAC Bush Residential Precinct	GRZ1 or NRZ2 (three sites south of Canterbury Road) SLO4 or SLO3 (three sites) DDO2 (three sites)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm (three sites)</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives' – three sites)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Retain POS &amp; side and rear setbacks variations</li> <li>➤ Reduced front setback</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>➤ Retain SLO4 (whole precinct)</li> <li>➤ Remove DDO2</li> </ul>

GRZ6	Heathmont NAC Uambi Special Residential Precinct	NRZ2 or NRZ3 SLO3 or SLO4 DDO2 VPO1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm (part)</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal (part)</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives' – part)</li> <li>• VPO1 (part) native vegetation removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New neighbourhood character objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Retain existing variations (all) prior to DPO being prepared for the site</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Retain SLO4 (whole site)</li> <li>➤ Remove DDO2</li> </ul>
RGZ1	Ringwood MAC Residential Growth Precinct  * Note GRZ1 areas within the MAC (Station Precinct & part of Eastern Precinct) should be revised/updated as part of MAC masterplan (& UDGs) implementation.	RGZ1 DDO3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 13.5m (with variations possible)</li> <li>• Min. street setback 3m</li> <li>• Front fence height (1.2m or 0.9m)</li> <li>• DDO3 (various built form requirements)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New design objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 13.5m (no change)</li> <li>• Retain existing variations</li> <li>➤ Opportunity for creative landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Update DDO3</li> </ul>
RGZ2	Croydon MAC Residential Growth Precinct  * Note <i>Croydon Town Centre Structure Plan</i> requires review and residential areas within the MAC boundaries should be assessed in detail as part of that process. The proposal to rezone to RGZ may occur as part of this process, or at a later time as part of the MAC structure planning process. Regardless, it is considered the most appropriate zone for the central residential growth areas of the MAC.	GRZ2 SLO4 DDO10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 13.5m &amp; 4 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> <li>• DDO10 (various built form requirements)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New design objectives</li> <li>• Max. height 13.5m &amp; 4 storeys</li> <li>➤ Clauses 54 &amp; 55 variations should be determined by the MAC structure planning process</li> <li>➤ Opportunity for creative landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ Front fence 1.5m fronting RDZ1</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Retain SLO4</li> </ul>

RGZ3	Ringwood East NAC Residential Growth Precinct	GRZ1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	➤ New design objectives
		SLO4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>➤ Remove all existing variations</li> <li>➤ Reduced front setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Reduced side &amp; rear setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Retain SLO4</li> </ul>
RGZ4	Ringwood East NAC Strategic Residential Growth Precinct	GRZ1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal</li> </ul>	➤ New design objectives
		SLO4		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Max. height 13.5m &amp; 4 storeys</li> <li>➤ Remove all existing variations</li> <li>➤ Reduced front setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Reduced side &amp; rear setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>• Retain SLO4</li> </ul>

RGZ5	Heathmont NAC Residential Growth Precinct	GRZ1 or NRZ2 or NRZ3 SLO4 or SLO3 DDO2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Max. height 9m &amp; 2 storeys (south of Canterbury Road)</li> <li>• 11m &amp; 3 storeys elsewhere</li> <li>• Min. lot size 864sqm (south of Canterbury &amp; Heathmont Roads)</li> <li>• Side &amp; rear setback variations</li> <li>• Private open space variations</li> <li>• Front fence variations</li> <li>• SLO3 5+m tree removal (and other 'incentives' – south of Canterbury Road)</li> <li>• SLO4 5m+ tree removal elsewhere</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ New design objectives</li> <li>➤ Max. height 11m &amp; 3 storeys</li> <li>➤ Remove all existing variations</li> <li>➤ Reduced front setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Reduced side &amp; rear setback requirements</li> <li>➤ Landscaping requirements</li> <li>➤ New application requirements</li> <li>➤ New decision guidelines</li> <li>➤ Remove SLO3 &amp; DDO2</li> <li>• Retain SLO4</li> </ul>
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**Legend**

NRZ = Neighbourhood Residential Zone  
 GRZ = General Residential Zone  
 RGZ = Residential Growth Zone  
 SLO = Significant Landscape Overlay  
 DDO = Design and Development Overlay  
 VPO = Vegetation Protection Overlay

- Existing provision or control
- New provision or control

## Appendix B:

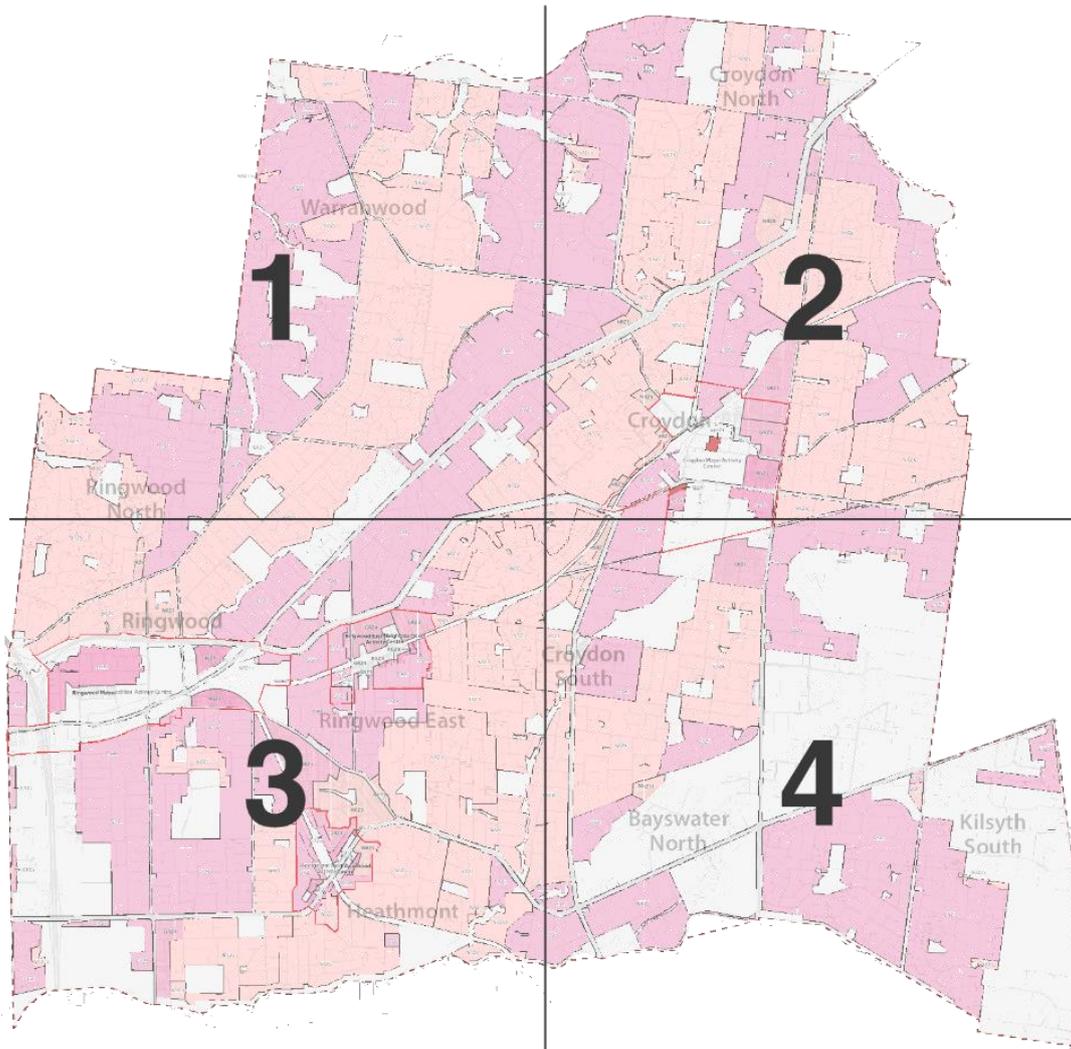
# Residential Zoning Maps



Claire Scott Planning 

# Proposed Residential Zones

Maroondah City Council 2018 Neighbourhood Character Study



- |       |   |       |  |      |                                     |
|-------|---|-------|--|------|-------------------------------------|
| ----- | Municipal boundary                        | NRZ7  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 7  | GRZ5 | General Residential Zone Schedule 5 |
| ---   | Zone boundary                             | NRZ8  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 8  | GRZ6 | General Residential Zone Schedule 6 |
| ---   | Activity Centre boundary                  | NRZ9  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 9  | RGZ1 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1  |
| NRZ1  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1 | NRZ10 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 10 | RGZ2 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 2  |
| NRZ2  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 2 | NRZ11 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 11 | RGZ3 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 3  |
| NRZ3  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 3 | GRZ1  | General Residential Zone Schedule 1        | RGZ4 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 4  |
| NRZ4  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 | GRZ2  | General Residential Zone Schedule 2        | RGZ5 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 5  |
| NRZ5  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5 | GRZ3  | General Residential Zone Schedule 3        | MUZ1 | Mixed Use Zone Schedule 1           |
| NRZ6  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 6 | GRZ4  | General Residential Zone Schedule 4        |      | Other                               |

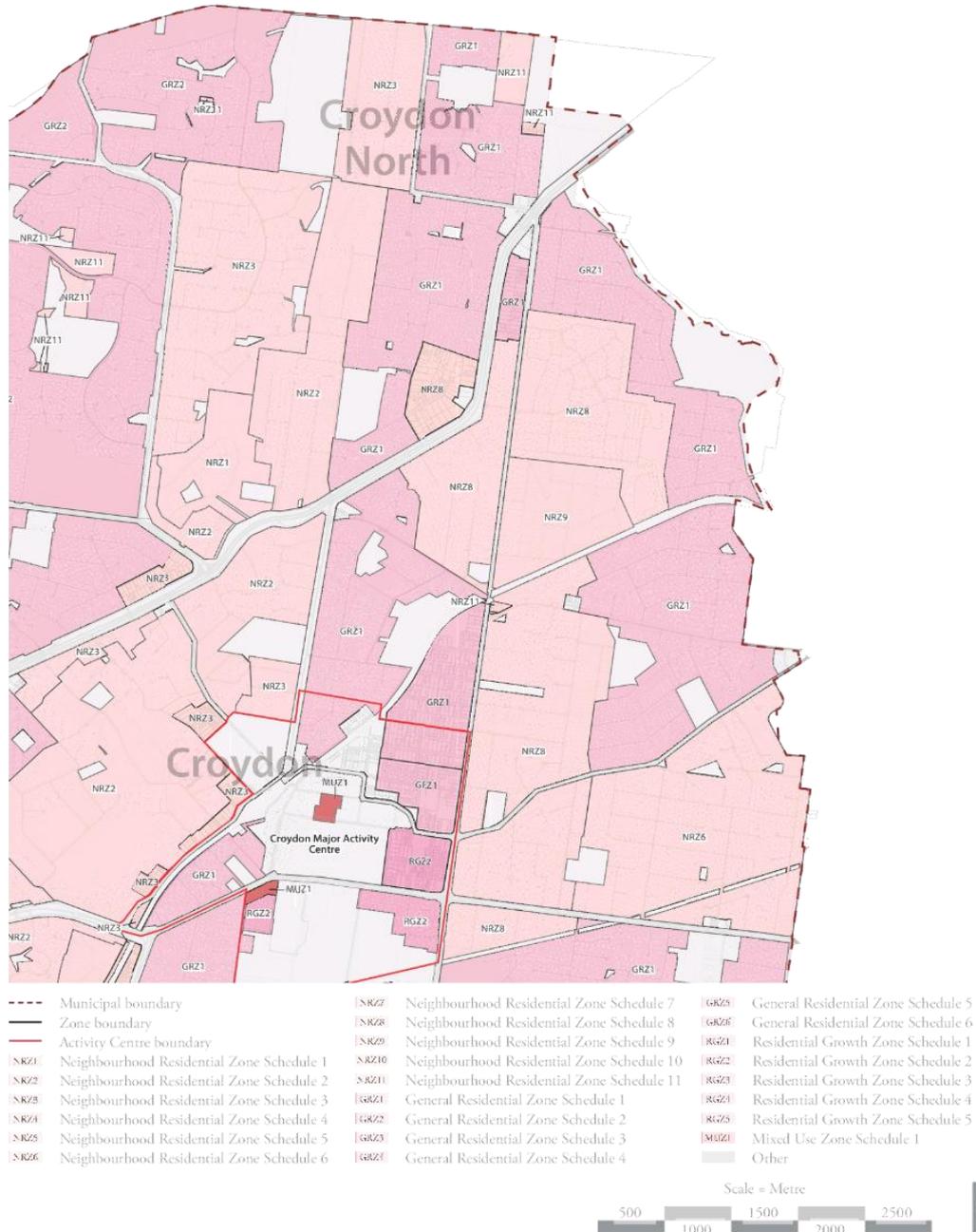




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# Proposed Residential Zones

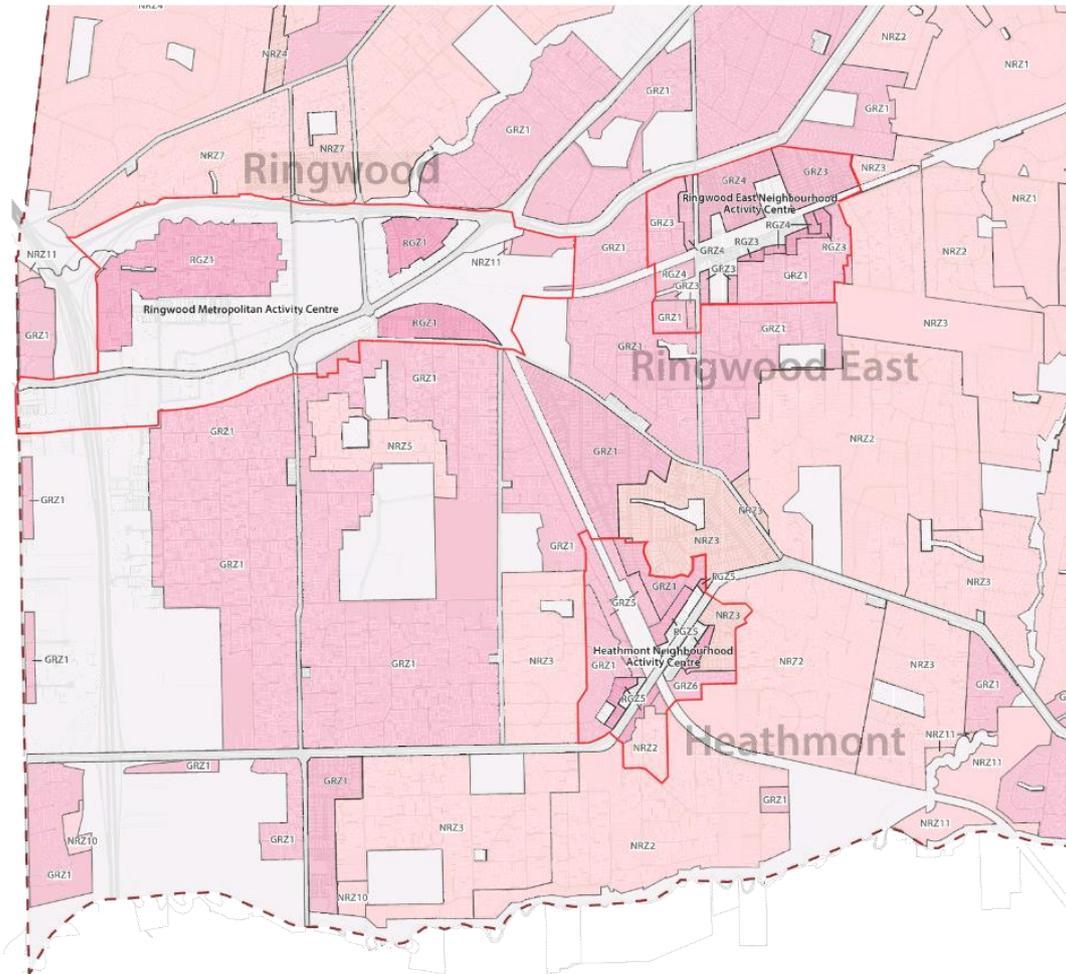
Maroondah City Council 2018 Neighbourhood Character Study



Claire Scott Planning 

# Proposed Residential Zones

Maroondah City Council 2018 Neighbourhood Character Study



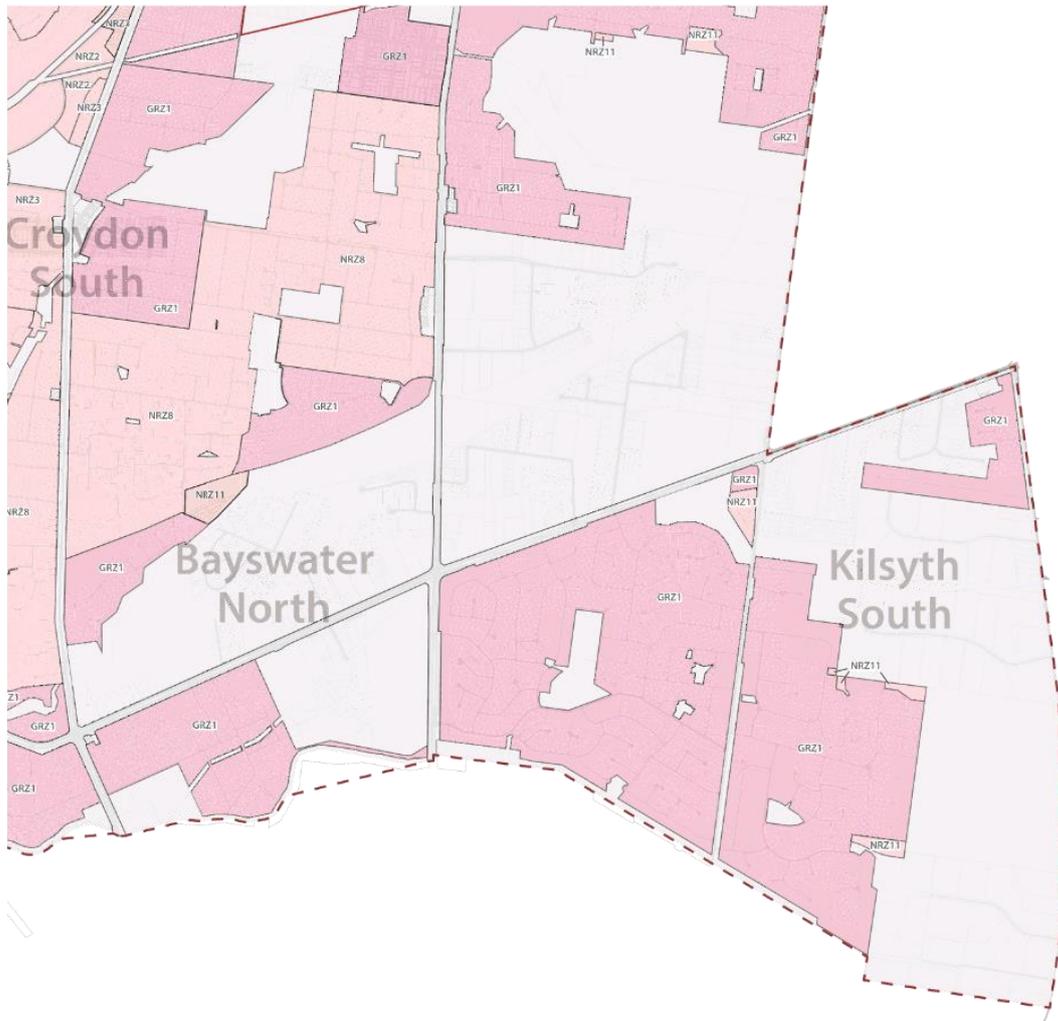
- |      |   |       |  |      |                                     |
|------|---|-------|--|------|-------------------------------------|
| ---  | Municipal boundary                        | NRZ7  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 7  | GRZ5 | General Residential Zone Schedule 5 |
| —    | Zone boundary                             | NRZ8  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 8  | GRZ6 | General Residential Zone Schedule 6 |
| —    | Activity Centre boundary                  | NRZ9  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 9  | RGZ1 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1  |
| NRZ1 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 1 | NRZ10 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 10 | RGZ2 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 2  |
| NRZ2 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 2 | NRZ11 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 11 | RGZ3 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 3  |
| NRZ3 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 3 | GRZ1  | General Residential Zone Schedule 1        | RGZ4 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 4  |
| NRZ4 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 | GRZ2  | General Residential Zone Schedule 2        | RGZ5 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 5  |
| NRZ5 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5 | GRZ3  | General Residential Zone Schedule 3        | MUZ1 | Mixed Use Zone Schedule 1           |
| NRZ6 | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 6 | GRZ4  | General Residential Zone Schedule 4        |      | Other                               |



Claire Scott Planning 

# Proposed Residential Zones

Maroondah City Council 2018 Neighbourhood Character Study



- |       |   |       |  |      |                                     |
|-------|---|-------|--|------|-------------------------------------|
| ---   | Municipal boundary                        | NRZ7  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 7  | GRZ5 | General Residential Zone Schedule 5 |
| —     | Zone boundary                             | NRZ8  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 8  | GRZ6 | General Residential Zone Schedule 6 |
| - - - | Activity Centre boundary                  | NRZ9  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 9  | RGZ1 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 1  |
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| NRZ3  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 3 | GRZ1  | General Residential Zone Schedule 1        | RGZ4 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 4  |
| NRZ4  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 4 | GRZ2  | General Residential Zone Schedule 2        | RGZ5 | Residential Growth Zone Schedule 5  |
| NRZ5  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 5 | GRZ3  | General Residential Zone Schedule 3        | MUZ1 | Mixed Use Zone Schedule 1           |
| NRZ6  | Neighbourhood Residential Zone Schedule 6 | GRZ4  | General Residential Zone Schedule 4        |      | Other                               |



## Appendix C:

# Draft NCO Schedules



MAROONDAH PLANNING SCHEME

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**SCHEDULE 1 TO CLAUSE 43.05 NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **NC01**.

**ALTO AVENUE, WICKLOW HILLS ESTATE**

**1.0 Statement of neighbourhood character**

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Alto Avenue, Croydon, is a significant residential precinct situated in the heavily vegetated hills, vales and ridgelines of the Wicklow Hills Estate. The apex of the ridgeline is the highest point between Melbourne and the Dandenongs, and 'Alto' derives its name from the Estate's altitude of 207 metres above sea level. The area was subdivided as R.F. Kelly's 'Wicklow Hills Estate' in 1920.

Alto Avenue displays a strong neighbourhood character, comprising 1920's bungalows set in established gardens, highlighting family life between the world wars. It is representative of a housing estate built in Croydon before the electrification of the Melbourne to Lilydale railway line in 1925. Typically, the dwellings are timber bungalows with pitched, gable ended roofs of terra-cotta Marseilles tiles. Many have chimneys and partially enclosed verandahs, consistent with the architectural era, and are set within mature gardens of large canopy trees, with hedging or low fences at the front boundaries.

The consistency of the built form, large blocks and spacious garden settings creates a sense of cohesion and uniformity within the historic streetscape. The hilly topography plays an important role in this area being part of a significant and well vegetated landscape feature that is visible from across Maroondah. Outviews from the high points of Alto Avenue are also significant and expansive, with the silhouette of Mount Dandenong visible above the rooftops and tree canopies.

**2.0 Neighbourhood character objective**

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- To ensure that the consistent neighbourhood and landscape character of Alto Avenue and the Wicklow Hills Estate is retained and enhanced, without promoting replication.
- To encourage the retention of the historic bungalow dwellings.
- To ensure that alterations and extensions to existing dwellings are an appropriate scale relative to the scale of surrounding homes, and complement the predominant use of timber throughout the area.
- To maintain generous setbacks that allow for mature, dense gardens with large canopy trees, and the retention of panoramic outviews.
- To encourage low front boundary treatments so that existing dwellings and their gardens remain visible from the street.

**3.0 Permit requirement**

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A permit is required to:

- Construct an outdoor swimming pool associated with a dwelling.
- Construct or extend an outbuilding normal to a dwelling.
- Demolish or remove a building.
- Remove, destroy or lop trees.

**4.0 Modification to Clause 54 and Clause 55 standards**

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Standard	Modified requirement
None specified	None specified

MAROONDAH PLANNING SCHEME

**5.0 Decision guidelines**

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The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 43.05 in addition to those specified in Clause 43.05 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which any buildings and works contribute to the landscape and neighbourhood character of Alto Avenue and the Wicklow Hills Estate.
- The extent to which any demolition and replacement development meets the objectives of this clause in relation to siting, height, form and materiality, without historical mimicry.
- In the case of partial demolition, the extent to which the three dimensional form of the existing dwelling is maintained to avoid facadism.
- The extent to which any new dwelling or dwelling extension reflects the roof form of adjacent properties, or the existing dwelling.
- The visual impact of the dwelling on the streetscape, including its maintenance of generous setbacks from all boundaries, and the extent to which upper level dwelling extensions are recessed and articulated.
- The selection of building materials and the contribution the materials will make to the preferred neighbourhood character of the precinct.
- Whether any new dwelling or outbuilding is sited to maintain a spacious garden setting, capable of supporting mature canopy trees.
- The extent to which any buildings or works are sited so as to protect internal views to existing dwellings, and outviews to the Dandenongs.
- To extent to which any buildings or works, including front fences, make a positive contribution to the public domain and pedestrian environment.
- Whether car parking structures are recessive, located behind the front façade of the dwelling and do not dominate the site or streetscape.

MAROONDAH PLANNING SCHEME

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**SCHEDULE 2 TO CLAUSE 43.05 NEIGHBOURHOOD CHARACTER  
OVERLAY**

Shown on the planning scheme map as **NCO2**.

**CROYDON HILLS ESTATE (STAGE 1)**

**1.0**

**Statement of neighbourhood character**

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The Croydon Hills Estate area was commissioned by the Rev. Cheok Hong Cheong and was designed by Walter Burley Griffin in 1921, based on the principles of garden city planning. Stage 1 of the estate (south of the railway line) was the only part ever laid out to Griffin's design, and the lot layout has remained substantially unchanged since its development.

The Burley Griffin subdivision pattern is particularly unique due to its high level of planning around the O'Shannassy pipeline easement, where a park boulevard was intended to be built. Other neighbourhood character attributes include the large lot sizes (some of the largest in the municipality), the elevation of the area atop the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, and the low scale homes nestled into established bushland gardens. The estate is strongly defined by its natural landscape character, where generous lots support a substantial amount of dense vegetation and large canopy trees. This contributes to the near continuous vegetation coverage of the ridgeline, and its status as a locally significant and highly visible landscape feature.

The area is also important because it is one of four commissions in Melbourne by the Rev. Cheok Hong Cheong. Born in Canton, China, Rev. Cheok Hong Cheong played an active role in the welfare of Chinese in Australia. Cheong Park was formed in 1948 when 50% of the triangular land in the Croydon Hills Estate was donated by the Cheong family to the Shire.

The development of this estate was highly regarded as a fine example of garden city planning and embraced the idea of a neighbourhood as a physical and social planning unit. Griffin took into account the topography of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline and its native vegetation, and also provided public open space within the estate to cater for community needs.

**2.0**

**Neighbourhood character objective**

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- To ensure that the neighbourhood and landscape character of Croydon Hills Estate (Stage 1) and its historic subdivision pattern is protected and enhanced.
- To encourage low scale and site responsive development that sits unobtrusively within the landscape, and utilises materials and colours that best immerse the building within its bushland garden context.
- To maintain generous setbacks from all boundaries that allow for mature, predominantly native gardens with large canopy trees, and the retention of panoramic outviews.
- To ensure that development demonstrates a high standard of design, and is sited and well landscaped so that it does not visually dominate streetscape views.
- To minimise the visual impact of built form, and ensure that views within the estate, and towards the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline, are of a continuous cover of predominantly native vegetation.

**3.0**

**Permit requirement**

--/20--  
C--

A permit is required to:

- Construct an outdoor swimming pool associated with a dwelling.
- Construct or extend an outbuilding normal to a dwelling.

MAROONDAH PLANNING SCHEME

- Demolish or remove a building.
- Remove, destroy or lop trees.

**4.0 Modification to Clause 54 and Clause 55 standards**

--/20--  
C--

Standard	Modified requirement
None specified	None specified

**5.0 Decision guidelines**

--/20--  
C--

The following decision guidelines apply to an application for a permit under Clause 43.05 in addition to those specified in Clause 43.05 and elsewhere in the scheme which must be considered, as appropriate, by the responsible authority:

- The extent to which any buildings and works contribute to the landscape and neighbourhood character of Croydon Hills Estate (Stage 1) and the design intentions of Walter Burley Griffin.
- The scale of the buildings or works and the visual impact on the surrounding environment, including its relationship to the existing tree canopy height.
- The extent to which the buildings and works are designed and sited to minimise contrast with the surrounds, and reduce distant visibility.
- The visual impact of the building or works on the landscape significance of the Wicklow Hills Ridgeline.
- The visual impact of the buildings or works on the streetscape, including the maintenance of generous setbacks from all boundaries, and the extent to which upper level dwelling extensions are recessed and articulated.
- The extent to which any demolition and replacement development meets the objectives of this clause in relation to siting, height, form and external finishes.
- Whether any new dwelling or outbuilding is sited to maintain a spacious bushland garden setting, capable of supporting mature canopy trees.
- To extent to which any buildings or works, including front fences, make a positive contribution to the public domain and pedestrian environment.
- Whether car parking structures are recessive, located behind the front façade of the dwelling and do not dominate the site or streetscape.



# MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT PLAN 2019 - 2022

November 2018  
Draft Version 1.1  
EClip 18/224550

**ACRONYMS**

<b>Abbreviation</b>	<b>Definition</b>
<b>BMO</b>	Bushfire Management Overlay
<b>BPA</b>	Bushfire Prone Area
<b>CERA</b>	Community Engagement Risk Assessment
<b>CFA</b>	Country Fire Authority
<b>DHHS</b>	Department of Health & Human Services
<b>DELWP</b>	Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning
<b>EMMV</b>	Emergency Management Manual Victoria
<b>EMV</b>	Emergency Management Victoria
<b>FFMV</b>	Forest Fire Management Victoria
<b>HAZMAT</b>	Hazardous Material
<b>HBRA</b>	Hazardous Bushfire Risk Area
<b>IAP2</b>	International Association of Public Participation 2
<b>MAV</b>	Municipal Association of Victoria
<b>MCC</b>	Maroondah City Council
<b>MEMP</b>	Municipal Emergency Management Plan
<b>MEMPC</b>	Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee
<b>MFB</b>	Metropolitan Fire Brigade
<b>MFPP</b>	Municipal Fire Prevention Plan
<b>MFMP</b>	Municipal Fire Management Plan
<b>MFMPSC</b>	Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee
<b>MFPO</b>	Municipal Fire Prevention Officer
<b>ParksVic</b>	Parks Victoria
<b>RSFMP</b>	Regional Strategic Fire Management Plan
<b>RSFMPSC</b>	Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Sub Committee
<b>TFB</b>	Total Fire Ban
<b>V-BERAP</b>	Victorian Built Environment Risk Assessment process
<b>VicPol</b>	Victoria Police
<b>VICSES</b>	Victorian State Emergency Service
<b>VFRR</b>	Victorian Fire Risk Register
<b>YVW</b>	Yarra Valley Water

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**VERSION CONTROL**

<b>Version</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Section Changes</b>
Version 1.0	August 2018	Executive Officer	New Version Created
Version 1.1	November 2018	Executive Officer	Removed Audit Certificate
			Added Action Item 2.5 building compliance
			Added Action item 2.4 for hoarding and squalor
			Added line item to Action item 3.3
			Remove 1.1 and 2.8 in Action Plan
			Remove "identify" from Objective 2.
			Add FFMV to 2.8 and update B-VERAP information

**1. COMMITTEE ENDORSEMENT**

The Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) for Maroondah municipal area has been prepared with, and is in agreement with the advice and recommendations of the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP).

This Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP) has been endorsed by the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee, the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) and Maroondah City Council.

Signed: SIGNATURE ON FILE \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**Tim Holland**  
Chair of the Municipal Emergency Fire Management Planning Committee

Signed: SIGNATURE ON FILE \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**Kirsten Jenkins**  
Chair of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee

Signed: SIGNATURE ON FILE \_\_\_\_\_ Date

**Steve Kozlowski**  
Chief Executive Officer Maroondah City Council

**1.1 Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee members**

<b>Title</b>	<b>Agency</b>
Operations Officer	Country Fire Authority (Chair)
Commander Community Resilience	Metropolitan Fire Brigade
Manager Business Resilience	Metro Trains
Senior Sergeant	Victoria Police
Network Operations Manager	SP Ausnet
Risk Officer	Yarra Valley Water
Regional Emergency Management Officer	VicRoads
Team Leader Tree Maintenance	Maroondah Council
Manager Planning Health & Local Laws	Maroondah Council
Municipal Fire Prevention Officer	Maroondah Council
Deputy Municipal Fire Prevention Officer	Maroondah Council
Team Leader Bushland Management	Maroondah Council
Municipal Emergency Resource Officer	Maroondah Council
Coordinator Risk, Information and Integrity	Maroondah Council
Executive Officer	Maroondah Council
Brigade Representatives	Bayswater CFA
Brigade Representatives	Warrandyte CFA

## **2. INTRODUCTION**

### **2.1 Introduction to Fire Management**

The Municipal Fire Management Plan (MFMP), is a sub plan of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMP). The plan was prepared by the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMP) which is a sub-committee of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC) and reflects the shared responsibilities of government, fire agencies and committees. It demonstrates a collaborative approach between responsible agencies and covers both public and private land. The purpose of the MFMP is to chart the planned and coordinated implementation of measures designed to minimise the occurrence and mitigate the effect of bushfires and the planned use of fire for a variety of purposes.

The Maroondah municipal area of the Eastern Metropolitan region and is located in the State of Victoria. Maroondah is on the urban fringe and has a relatively low bushfire risk but shares its border with 3 high risk areas. Maroondah is a shared Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB) and Country Fire Authority (CFA) municipal area and has a predominately higher urban risk.

### **2.2 Municipal Fire Management Plan**

The MFMP has been produced by and with the authority of Maroondah City Council pursuant to Section 20 of the Emergency Management Act 1986 & 2013, and will be deemed to fulfil Section 55A of the CFA Act 1958. Legislative arrangements for operation for fire management planning are detailed in Part 6a of the EMMV (<http://www.emv.vic.gov.au/policies/emmv>).

### **2.3 Audit**

For Councils wholly or partly within the country area of Victoria, the MFMP will also be audited under S55B of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958. In the country area of Victoria, the MFMP must incorporate the provisions of S55A (2) of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958 relating to fire risks and their treatment and will be deemed to meet the requirement under S55A (1) of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958.

### **2.4 Plan Amendment, Monitoring and Review**

This MFMP has a three year lifespan based on current audit requirements contained within Section 55B of the Country Fire Authority Act 1958. Additional measures for evaluation such as training, exercises and real event briefings will be used in the monitoring and evaluation of this plan and contribute to recommendations in the future.

This MFMP will be reviewed and amended:

- Annually in association with the MEMP
- Following significant incidents if required
- As directed by the State or Regional Fire Management Planning Committees
- As required by legislation
- As further works are completed by the MFMP.

**2.5 Reporting**

Objectives, actions and measures included in this plan will be reported to the MFMPC at each quarterly meeting and will be minuted. Reports will be provided to relevant agencies and the Eastern Metropolitan Regional Strategic Fire Management Planning Sub Committee (RSFMPSC) as required.

**2.6 Planning**

Municipal Fire Management Planning is managed and supported with the technical expertise of the relevant fire services. The Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee (MFMPC) is responsible for writing the MFMP ensuring implementation of the actions detailed in the plan and monitoring the effectiveness of those actions.

**2.7 Planning Process**

The MFMP documents the process undertaken and presents the outcomes of this collaborative process. Requirements in accordance with the CFA Act for municipal fire prevention planning will continue to be met through this process.

The planning process can be seen as a series of steps that result in the development, maintenance and refinement of the MFMP. Each of the stages guides the planning process. The community and organisational engagement process follows the planning cycle (Figure 1).

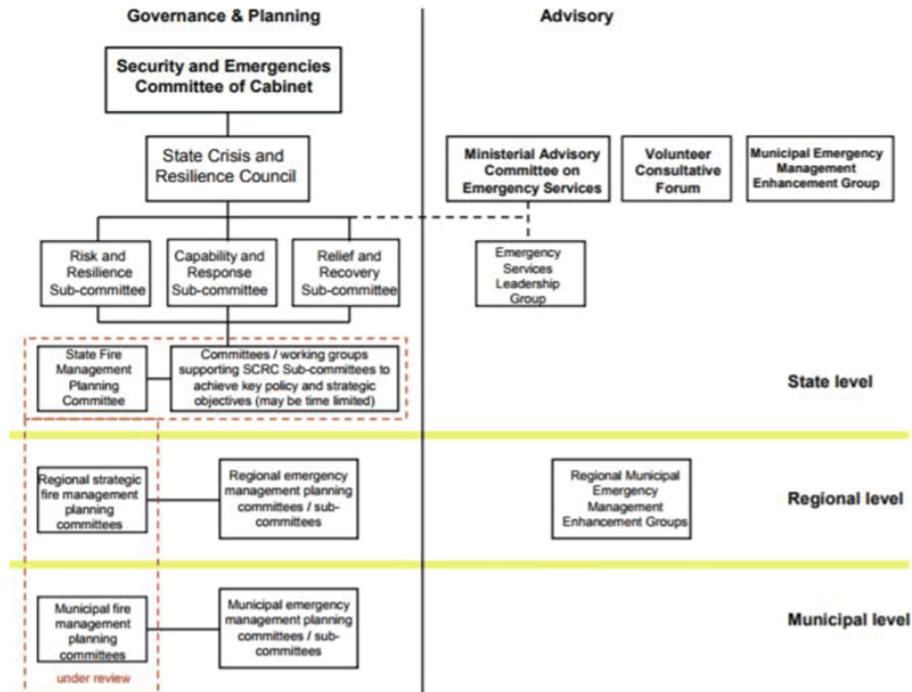
*Figure 1 - Emergency management planning process (EMMV January 2011)*



Development of this plan has been undertaken by representatives of the various agencies that comprise MFMPC. This plan is not intended to duplicate existing agency plans but to consolidate and coordinate the range of plans that exist within Maroondah City Council's municipal area regarding fire.

An overview of the State's emergency management and planning committee structure is presented in *Figure 2* with the relevant position of this plan within this framework highlighted.

Figure 2 – Principal Emergency Management Governance, Planning and Advisory Committees (adapted from Emergency Management Manual Victoria p.6-3)



### 3. ENGAGEMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS

#### 3.1 Engagement Process

Community participation is an integral part of risk management. The engagement plan used identifies key stakeholders and the level, method and timing of the stakeholder engagement for this plan and has been developed using International Association for Public Participation Australasia (IAP2) principles. These principles are as follows:

**Inform**

Provide appropriate detailed and accurate information to assist stakeholders develop a shared understanding of the complexity of issues, alternatives and possible solutions.

**Consult**

Utilise stakeholder expertise and diversity to obtain input into analysis, alternatives and develop key decisions.

**Involve**

Work directly with the suite of key stakeholders throughout the various processes to ensure key issues and intent are understood and considered.

### **Collaborate**

Partner with key stakeholders in each aspect of decision making. This includes the development of alternatives and the identification of contributions and priority actions with a clear understanding of the responsibilities of each stakeholder.

### **Empower**

Foster and promote transparent and accountable processes that allow each stakeholder organisation to empower themselves through key actions and the implementation of responsibilities.

## **3.2 Stakeholder Analysis**

Stakeholders for this Plan have been grouped into three categories according to their chosen level of participation in fire management planning and their information requirements. The three engagement categories are:

- Primary (permanent FMFPC members);
- Secondary (attend FMFPC by request); and
- Other stakeholders/interested groups that could benefit from an awareness of this plan

## **3.3 Community Engagement Principles**

The FMFPC recognises the value of local knowledge and the unique contribution the community can make to local fire management planning.

Effective community engagement in fire management planning is required to:

- Promote acceptance, understanding and joint problem solving
- Raise knowledge and skills of fire management through participation
- Produce plans that support community and organisational expectations; and
- Incorporate community and organisational needs into the development of fire management plans.

## **3.4 Community and Organisational Engagement Process**

The ability of a community to respond to a fire situation and in turn recover from the effects of a fire will depend on the attitude of the people affected. Obtaining the preferred response from people during fire incidents will require community and organisational engagement, education, and awareness programs to be implemented for this purpose.

This MFMP aims to collate and integrate the fire agencies and Council prevention and awareness programs within Maroondah. This plan details the process to be undertaken in relation to stakeholder engagement and communications including the implementation of the MFMP.

## **3.5 Outcomes**

The desired outcomes from the community and organisational engagement process are:

- Relevant stakeholders are engaged at the appropriate stage of plan development and actively participate in shaping and implementing this plan
- The roles and responsibilities of individuals, agencies and government in preparing for fire and improving people's safety are well understood
- Agency fire management activities are better integrated and coordinated with Maroondah City Council activities
- Community knowledge and understanding of fire risks and fire management in Maroondah is significantly increased; and
- This plan supports, or is revised to support community and organisational needs.

#### 4. SUMMARY OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL SCAN

##### 4.1 Summary

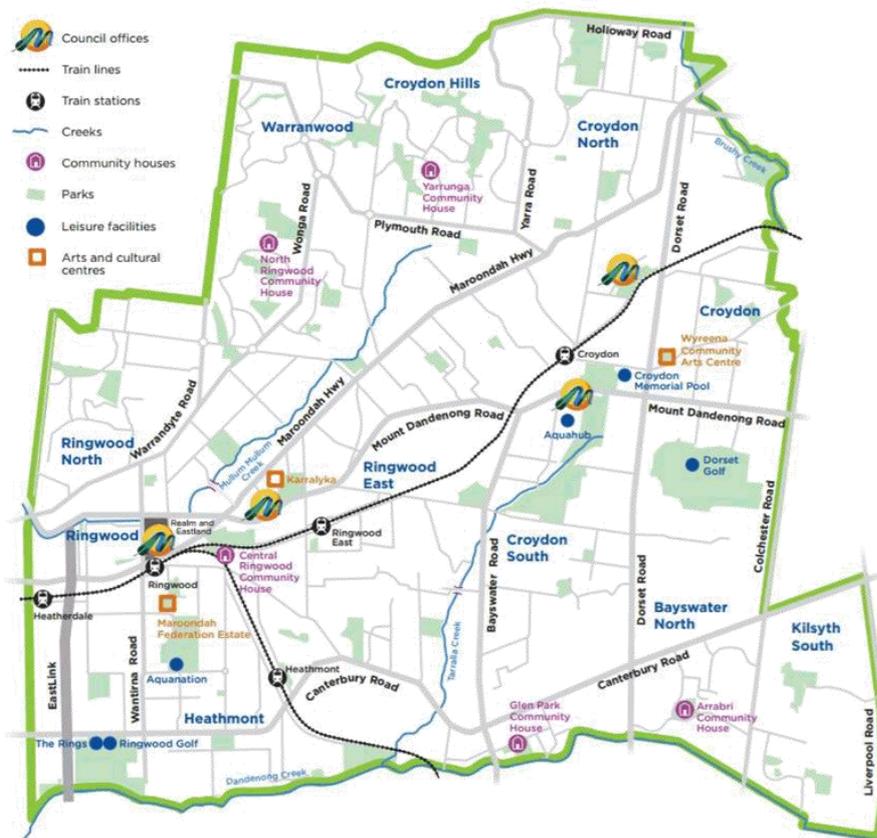
Maroondah is located in Melbourne's eastern suburbs, about 25 kilometres from the Melbourne CBD. Maroondah is bounded by Manningham in the north, Yarra Ranges in the east, Knox in the south, and Whitehorse in the west.

Maroondah includes the suburbs of Bayswater North, Croydon, Croydon Hills, Croydon North, Croydon South, Heathmont, Kilsyth South, Ringwood, Ringwood East, Ringwood North, Warranwood and Wonga Park.

Maroondah is a predominantly residential area with some commercial, industrial and semi-rural areas and substantial parklands. The city encompasses a total land area of about 61 square kilometres. Established residential areas are located along the major transport routes and railway lines, while newer residential areas are located in the northern and south-eastern peripheries.

Maroondah is an Aboriginal word meaning "leaf".

##### Municipal Location Map



Further information can be found on [Maroondah's website](#).

**4.2 Population and Demographic Information**

The population for the City of Maroondah is 117,498 as at 30 June 2018 an increase of 1,177 persons compared with previous year. The average household size (person per dwelling) is 2.57. The total number of households is 41,361. From 2011 to 2016, City of Maroondah's population increased by 7,656 people.

**Age and gender**

In Maroondah 22.2% of the population aged between 0 and 17. 21.5% were aged 60 years and over. 48.4% are male and 51.6% are female.

Area: City of Maroondah | Benchmark area: Eastern Metropolitan | Comparison year: 2011 | Gender: Persons | reset

**Age structure - Service age groups** | export | reset

City of Maroondah - Total persons (Usual residence)	2016			2011			Change
Service age group (years)	Number	%	Eastern Metropolitan Region %	Number	%	Eastern Metropolitan Region %	2011 to 2016
Babies and pre-schoolers (0 to 4)	7,334	6.6	5.5	6,748	6.5	5.7	+586
Primary schoolers (5 to 11)	9,492	8.6	8.3	8,847	8.5	8.2	+645
Secondary schoolers (12 to 17)	7,717	7.0	7.3	7,945	7.7	7.7	-228
Tertiary education and independence (18 to 24)	9,353	8.5	10.2	9,355	9.0	10.4	-2
Young workforce (25 to 34)	15,284	13.8	13.3	14,019	13.5	12.6	+1,265
Parents and homebuilders (35 to 49)	23,322	21.1	20.2	22,742	21.9	21.3	+580
Older workers and pre-retirees (50 to 59)	14,162	12.8	12.9	13,061	12.6	13.0	+1,101
Empty nesters and retirees (60 to 69)	11,369	10.3	10.4	10,273	9.9	10.2	+1,096
Seniors (70 to 84)	9,695	8.8	9.4	8,477	8.2	8.7	+1,218
Elderly aged (85 and over)	2,647	2.4	2.6	2,370	2.3	2.2	+277
<b>Total</b>	<b>110,375</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>103,837</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>+6,538</b>

The Eastern Metro Region is made up of the following Local Government areas: Boroondara (C), Knox (C), Manningham (C), Maroondah (C), Monash (C), Whitehorse (C) and Yarra Ranges (S).

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Census of Population and Housing 2011 and 2016. Compiled and presented by id., the population experts.

**4.3 Vulnerable Groups**

**Lower social economic groups:** There are 16,455 people living in 7,568 low income households in Maroondah (those that fall into the bottom 20% of incomes across Australia).

**Culturally diverse communities:** In 2016, Myanmar had the highest proportion of recent overseas arrivals making up 22.4% of the total recent overseas arrivals in Maroondah. The dominant language spoken at home other than English in Maroondah was Mandarin, with 21.9% of the population speaking this language at home. The largest ethnic groups from non-English speaking countries for Maroondah are identified as China, Myanmar and India.

**Indigenous community:** Maroondah as an Aboriginal and Torre Strait Islander population of 566 people.

**Proficiency in English:** In 2016, the number of people born overseas and reported difficulty with speaking English is 3,155. The most common languages other than English are Mandarin, Cantonese and Chin Haka;

**People with disability:** In Maroondah there are 5,482 people who reported needing help in the day-to-day lives due to a disability. The age breakdown is shown below.

Area: City of Maroondah | Benchmark area: Eastern Metropolitan | Comparison year: 2011 | Gender: Persons | reset

**Need for assistance with core activities** | export | reset

City of Maroondah - Persons (Usual residence)	NEW 2016			2011			Change
	Number	% of total age group	Eastern Metropolitan Region %	Number	% of total age group	Eastern Metropolitan Region %	
Assistance needed by age group (years)							
0 to 4	97	1.3	1.1	78	1.2	1.0	+19
5 to 9	281	4.1	2.9	169	2.7	2.4	+112
10 to 19	453	3.5	2.5	338	2.6	2.0	+115
20 to 59	1,441	2.4	1.9	1,236	2.2	1.7	+205
60 to 64	309	5.1	4.3	267	4.6	4.0	+42
65 to 69	303	5.7	5.7	233	5.1	5.4	+70
70 to 74	325	7.6	8.5	249	7.5	8.3	+76
75 to 79	421	13.9	14.3	382	13.6	15.0	+39
80 to 84	583	24.4	25.4	565	23.8	24.5	+18
85 and over	1,260	47.9	46.8	1,172	49.1	47.0	+88
<b>Total persons needing assistance</b>	<b>5,482</b>	<b>5.0</b>	<b>4.7</b>	<b>4,689</b>	<b>4.5</b>	<b>4.2</b>	<b>+793</b>

The Eastern Metro Region is made up of the following Local Government areas: Boroondara (C), Knox (C), Manningham (C), Maroondah (C), Monash (C), Whitehorse (C) and Yarra Ranges (S).

Further information can be found on [Maroondah's website](#).

#### 4.4 History of fires in the municipal area

##### Bushfires

Over the years there have been many threats of bushfire to the municipality. A bushfire in January 1913 burnt between Warrandyte and Ringwood and several houses were damaged. In 1927 bushfires threatened properties in the northern area and crossed Maroondah Highway and threatened homes on the southern side of the highway down to the railway line, Croydon.

In 1962 there were fires that circled around Croydon and Ringwood townships. To our knowledge there was no reported damage to buildings during this fire. Again in November 1967 to March 1968 there were major fires through the state. Croydon and Ringwood were again encircled by the bushfires.

Bushfires in February 2009 impacted many areas of Victoria resulting in many lives lost. Maroondah, though not affected directly by the fires did provide resources to Councils affected.

## **5. MUNICIPAL FIRE MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES**

Approaches to emergency management are framed by the assessment of risk. This includes an analysis of the risks and identification of options for positive change. It places greater emphasis on addressing underlying causes and seeking long-term, sustainable solutions that incorporate the essential elements of emergency management and to minimize the occurrence and mitigate the impacts of bushfire, grass fire, structural and chemical incidents in the community. The objectives of this plan are:

- To lead fire management planning across municipal area.
- To manage and reduce the risk of fire.
- Working with those who live, work and play in the municipality to strengthen resilience, enhance on risk and assist recovery.

For each of the above objectives there is a goal set and an action defined to achieve these goals. This information is presented in Appendix C of this Plan.

### **5.1 Alignment with Eastern Metropolitan Regional Objectives**

The development of the vision and mission for this municipal Plan were guided by the Eastern Metropolitan Regional vision and mission. The Regional vision aligns with the State vision:

Fire management in the Eastern Metropolitan region that delivers:

- Active participation in community, the sector and government working together with fire management planning to reduce the destructive impact on fire on communities and the environment
- Communities that are resilient to the effects of fire
- Greater understanding of the fire sector within the community and
- Natural, social, built and economic environments.

Eastern Metropolitan Region Strategic Fire Management Plan mission:

*Agencies of the Eastern Metropolitan region working together with communities to reduce the impact of unplanned fire.*

The Region will achieve this by the following key themes:

- Committee becomes the driver (lead body) for fire management planning across the region.
- Building and using knowledge.
- Working with the community to manage fire.
- Delivering cross tenure outcomes that address fire risk at a landscape and regional level.
- Effective communications and engagement
- Continuous improvement, and
- Identifying and treating significant natural, social, built and economic environments at risk.

## **6. RISK ASSESSMENT**

### **6.1 Risk Assessment Methodologies**

To determine the bushfire risk within Maroondah municipal area, four main risk assessment methods were used:

- Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR-B)
- Community Engagement Risk Assessment (CERA)
- Bushfire Management Overlay mapping
- Bushfire Prone Area Mapping
- V-BERAP (Victorian Built Environment Risk Assessment Process - this process is due to be undertaken in 2019/2020)

### **6.2 Victoria Fire Risk Register - Bushfire**

The Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR-B) application is a systematic process that identifies assets at risk of bushfire on a consistent state wide basis using the Australian/New Zealand Risk Management Standard ISO:31000 2009.

The aim of the VFRR-B is to minimise the risk of adverse impact of bushfires on assets and values in human settlement, cultural heritage, economic and environmental contexts.

The objective of the VFRR-B is to:

- Identify and rate bushfire risks to assets
- Identify current mitigation treatments to manage the risk
- Identify the agencies responsible for implementing mitigation treatments and strategies
- Produce an integrated document and risk register across responsible agencies; and
- Support and inform planning at a local level.

The primary outputs of the VFRR-B process are a series of maps displaying assets at risk, plus a municipal bushfire risk register, listing the risk rating for each asset and current risk mitigation treatments.

### **6.3 Community Emergency Risk Assessment (CERA)**

The CERA process is designed to systematically identify hazards, determine risks and prioritise actions to reduce the likelihood and effects of an emergency. A working group of the MEMPC including Council staff and key stakeholders from the major emergency service/support organisations have identified the top eight risks in the municipal area including bushfire large and small and Fire residential – multi occupancy.

The group considered emergency risk within the following context using the International Standard ISO 31000:

- Whole of community perspective
- Responsibility for the whole municipality
- Consideration of events which require multi-agency responses
- Consideration and acknowledgement of existing controls
- Mitigation activities and their effectiveness, and
- Subsequent level of risk.

#### **6.4 Bushfire Management Overlay and Bushfire Prone Area**

The following two planning controls are used to inform risk identification and prioritisation of delivery of treatment programs for bushfire in Maroondah.

##### **Bushfire Management Overlay**

The Bushfire Management Overlay (BMO) is established under the Victorian Planning Provisions, mapping developed by the State government and administered by local government identifies land in Victoria that may be at risk from bushfire. Land identified in the local planning scheme may require a planning permit to develop or subdivide.

##### **Bushfire Prone Area**

Bushfire prone areas (BPA) are designated under Regulation 810 (Building Regulations 2006) as areas that are subject to or likely to be subject to bushfires. This building control aims to regulate the constructions standards of residential buildings depending on the level of risk posed to the planned dwelling. Properties in designated BPAs will require Bushfire Attack Level assessment and minimum constructions standards apply.

#### **6.5 Victorian Built Environment Risk Assessment**

The V-BERAP provides a sound platform for conducting a structure fire risk assessment which is clearly defined by a robust 10 step process. The V-BERAP Guideline uses the methodology recognised in the National Emergency Risk Assessment Guidelines (NERAG) which is underpinned by ISO31000, the International Standard for Risk Management.

#### **6.6 Responsible Agencies**

This Plan brings together all agencies with legislative responsibility for fire management to collectively work together with the community to effectively and efficiently prepare for, respond to and recover from fire. Whilst the emphasis is currently on bushfire within the Maroondah area, it is envisaged that chemical and structural fire elements will be added as the risk assessment tools for these areas are developed.

##### Key Agencies

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
Country Fire Authority (CFA)	Emergency service agency that prevents and responds to bushfires, structural and chemical fires, road accidents, rescues and other emergencies
Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP)	Responsible for fire suppression and preparedness on public land in coordination with Parks Victoria
Metropolitan Fire Brigade (MFB)	Responsible for fire management and response in the metropolitan area as well as conducting broader activities with communities such as education and fire investigation
Metro Trains	Metro trains operates Melbourne train network. The train network has 15 lines and 212 train stations servicing more than 200 million customer journeys per year.
Parks Victoria (Parks Vic)	Responsible for managing and expanding Victoria's parks network
VicRoads	Manages the Victorian arterial road network and its use as part of the overall transport system
Victoria Police (VICPOL)	Provide 24 hour police service to the Victorian community. VICPOL is also responsible for the effective coordination of resources or services in emergencies and for the relocation/evacuation, and registration of evacuees in conjunction with Red Cross

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Responsibilities</b>
SP AusNet	Manages electricity transmission and electricity and gas distribution.
VicTrack	VicTrack is the owner of Victoria railway land and infrastructure which is leased to public transport operators.
Yarra Valley Water	Is the largest of Melbourne's three retail water businesses providing water supply and sewerage services over 1.6 million people and over 50,000 businesses in the northern and eastern suburbs of Melbourne

### **6.7 Treatment of Risk**

The State fire management priorities are underpinned by the primacy of life and the protection of property, the economy and the environment. These priorities inform and are integrated into the primary fire risk management strategies used in this plan, which are:

- Community education and engagement
- Hazard reduction
- Preparedness; and
- Regulatory controls.

In addition to these recommended municipal strategies, there are a number of state-wide and municipal treatments that have been identified for each fire risk management strategy, which can be used by agencies to reduce the risk and effect of fire on the community. The generic state and municipal treatments include:

- Community education and engagement activities such as community forums, festival, website and other agency events and media releases
- Public awareness – multimedia communications
- Fire hazard inspection program and issue of fire prevention notices
- Legislative compliance and enforcement
- Bushland assessments with CFA/MFB
- Bushland Management Plan
- Electric Line Clearance Plan
- Building code of Australia
- Permits to burn; and
- Local laws.

To effectively reduce community vulnerability to fire will require more than inter-agency effort alone. It will require more self-reliant and self-aware communities that have the knowledge, motivation and capacity to manage risks to reduce the threat of fire and that work as active partners with fire management agencies.

### **6.8 Electric Line Clearance Plan**

Under the Electric Safety Act 1998, Section 84, in regard to public land a council is responsible for the management of public land in an area declared under Section 81 for keeping the whole or any part of a tree situated on the land clear of an elect line that is not a private electric line.

## **6.9 Community Information Guide**

Community Information Guides are a key source of information for the community and an important tool to emphasise the shared responsibility between the community, fire services and local government. Guides have been developed for a number of communities state-wide that are deemed to be at risk of bushfire or grassfire (CFA, 2012).

Maroondah has areas which fall into the Community Information Guide covering the greater Warrandyte area (namely South Warrandyte and Wonga Park Township Protection Plans). Maroondah City Council is one of the agencies that work with CFA (lead agency) in the development of these plans.

## **6.10 Neighbourhood Safer Places (NSPs)**

Maroondah municipal area does not have any designated Neighbourhood Safer Places.

Following recommendation from the MFMP, Maroondah municipal area has no nominated Neighbourhood Safer Places. An assessment of likely need indicated the following:

- Maroondah municipal area is at relatively low risk of bushfire.
- No suitable sites were available in areas most likely to be impacted by fire (eg. on Northern boundary).
- Neighbourhood Safer Places located in the MFB Districts were not deemed as appropriate.
- More appropriate and accessible facilities such as shopping centres, libraries and other community facilities would be available in preference to a Neighbourhood Safer Place.
- In the event that fire impacted significantly on Maroondah or neighbouring municipalities, Maroondah City Council would likely activate relief centres.

## **6.11 Individual Bushfire Risk Treatments**

### **Vegetation Management Rights**

Native vegetation is important to many Victorians and its removal is carefully regulated by both State Planning controls and Local Planning Schemes. Local schemes include Significant Landscape Overlays (SLO) and Vegetation Protection Overlays (VPO).

### **Local Laws and Permit to Burn**

Under Maroondah City Council's Local Laws, a fire may not be lit or remain alight in the open air without a permit, and the requirements of the Fire Danger Period and Total Fire Bans must be complied with.

During the declared Fire Danger Period, limited permits may be obtained by individuals to conduct a fuel reduction or stubble burn within the municipal area. These permits are issued by Maroondah City Council under authority of the CFA Act. These permits contain stringent conditions that must be complied with.

Further information about local laws and permits may be obtained from the Maroondah City Council website [www.maroondah.vic.gov.au](http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au).

### **Inspection of Private Properties and Issue of Notices**

Maroondah City Council will conduct fire hazard inspections within the municipality, concentrating on high risk areas. Fire prevention notices will be issued on land considered to be a fire risk as soon as practicable upon declaration of Fire Danger Period.

**Planning Permits**

When applications are lodged with Maroondah City Council for permits under the Planning and Environment Act for the subdivision of land or the construction of buildings in areas of fire risk, the Council may give consideration to the Planning Guidelines for Subdivisions in bushfire-prone areas in determining any such application, and also refer the application to the relevant fire agencies for comment.

**APPENDIX A: RISK MANAGEMENT ACTION PLAN**

**1. To lead fire management planning across the municipal area**

No	Objective	Actions	When	Who	Measures
1.1	Integrate fire management planning with broader emergency management planning	Maintain cross membership of the MFMP and MEMPC in the Eastern Metropolitan region	Ongoing	MFMP	Chair and MCC representative attends RSFMPSC and cross border meetings
		MFMP members to be represented on MEMPC	As required	MFMP	Representation recorded in minutes of meetings
		Carry out administrative duties for the MFMP including hosting meetings and associated correspondence	As required	MCC	Meetings held as per terms of reference with associated correspondence distributed
1.3	Establish processes to ensure committee and agency staff volunteers at the local level stay abreast of changes in policy, legislation and industry sector direction	Quarterly meetings of MFMP	Quarterly	MFMP	Engagement of local representatives on committee. Committee functional (minutes, attendance, feedback)

**2. Manage and reduce the risk of fire**

No.	Objective	Actions	When	Who	Measures
2.1	Regulate fire use and other ignition sources.	Regulate burning off during Fire Danger Period using Schedule 12, 13 & 14 MCC permits as required	As Required	MCC CFA	Report received including details of permits issued, compliance/infringement notices and burning offs attended
2.2	Coordinate fuel modification activities around power lines in line with current legislation and guidelines.	Manage vegetation in proximity to electricity and distribution lines including hazard trees in accordance with MCC Electric Line Clearance Management Plan	Ongoing	SP Ausnet MCC ESV MetroTrains	Updated Electric Line Clearance Management Plan and compliance with the plan. MetroTrains Electric Line Clearance Plan
2.3	Ensure vacant land is maintained to minimise fire risk.	Undertake vacant land inspections and provide educational advice	Dec-Mar	MCC	Report received regarding vacant land inspections completed. Compliance/infringement notices issued and contractors engaged

No.	Objective	Actions	When	Who	Measures
2.4	Development and maintenance of operation pre-plans for high life risk accommodation buildings	Inspection program for high life risk accommodation buildings to ensure relevant fire safety regulations are complied	Ongoing	MCC (MBS) MFB CFA	Pre-plans established and number of inspections completed.
2.5	Support initiatives and actions to ensure building regulatory compliance is maintained	Ensure government strategic initiatives are supported to provide adequate building practices	As Required	MFMP MCC (MBS)	Engagement with MBS to assist with initiatives for community safety
2.6	Support initiatives and actions that prevent deliberate and accidental ignition of fires.	Suspicious Fire Program Juvenile Fire Awareness Intervention Program In Flame Program	Ongoing	MFB VicPol CFA MCC	Problem areas identified Offenders identified Community information delivered
2.7	Support regional initiatives to better improve fire management	Engage with and contribute to regional emergency management committees	Quarterly	MFPO & MFMP	RSFMPSC and regional response and recovery attendance recorded in minutes and reported to MFMP
2.8	Identify and undertake appropriate fuel management	Link to VFRR and V-BERAP profile. Engage with neighbouring councils	Ongoing	CFA MFB MCC DELWP FFMV	Fuel reduction activities Maintenance of fire access tracks conducted Engagement with neighbouring councils
2.9	Identify potential hazardous trees and undertake appropriate management.	Hazardous Trees Identification	Ongoing	MCC	Proactive tree inspection completed in accordance with the program

### 3. Working with those who live, work and play in the municipality to strengthen resilience, engage on risk and assist recovery

No.	Objective	Actions	When	Who	Measures
3.1	Publicise the introduction and meaning of the Fire Danger Period	CFA/MFB Media Campaigns including targeted areas.	Annually	CFA MFB MCC	Articles and activities published. Calendar for fire season ie. Focus, website, local papers, street meetings, letter drops in high risk areas
3.2	Regulate fire use and other ignition sources and promote safe practices	Publicise the introduction and meaning of the Fire Danger Period  Educate residents of fire safety using Fire Ready Victoria strategy based on the VFRR data	Annually	CFA, MFB, MCC	Each agency has provided a report regarding the works completed at conclusion of Fire Danger Period  Each agency has provided a report on initiatives implemented eg. brochures distributed
3.3	Improve community awareness around fire risk	Inform and receive input from the community for the MFMP	Ongoing	MCC	Plan is available to the public at customer services centres and Maroondah Council website Seek direct feedback from community
		Build relationships across agencies	Ongoing	MFMPCC	Collaborate activities that benefit all stakeholders undertaken (ie participation in multi-agency exercises, engagement activities)
3.4	To identify and manage risk to Community regarding matters associated with hoarding and squalor	Continue to support hoarding and squalor intervention programs by working with engaged stakeholders to provide the best possible outcomes	Ongoing	MFMPCC MCC MFB	Feedback on notification programs for hoarding properties and at risk register and update from the Maroondah Hoarding and Squalor network committee representative

Maroondah Council has a comprehensive Recovery Plan which is linked at Appendix C to this plan

**APPENDIX B      TERMINOLOGY**

<b>Agencies</b>	Refers to the agencies of the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee.
<b>Bushfire</b>	A general term used to describe fire in vegetation, including grass fire.
<b>Fire Management</b>	All activities associated with the management of fire (bushfire, structural, chemical) including the use of fire to meet land management goals and objectives. In simple terms, 'fire management' is Prevention, Preparedness, Response and Recovery as well as use of fire for ecological, agricultural and cultural purposes.
<b>Preparedness</b>	All activities undertaken in advance of the occurrence of the incident to decrease the impact, extent and severity of the incident and to ensure more effective response activities.
<b>Prevention</b>	All activities concerned with minimizing the occurrence of incidents, particularly those of human origin.
<b>Recovery</b>	The coordinated process of supporting emergency affected communities in reconstruction of the physical infrastructure and restoration of emotional, social, economic and physical wellbeing.
<b>Response</b>	Actions taken in anticipation of, during and immediately after an incident to ensure that its effects are minimized and that people affected are given immediate relief and support.
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	The overall process of risk identification, risk analysis and risk evaluation.
<b>Risk Environments</b>	There are four types of risk environments based on the VFRRs risk tool which are human settlement, economic, environment and cultural heritage.
<b>Risk Identification</b>	The process of determining what, when, why and how something could happen.
<b>Victorian Fire Risk Register (VFRR)</b>	The Victorian Fire Risk Register is a systematic map based process that identifies assets, assesses assets and provides a range of treatments which contribute to the wellbeing of communities and the environment, which suffer the adverse effects of bushfire.
<b>Vulnerability</b>	The susceptibility of an asset or community to the impacts of fire.

**APPENDIX C: ATTACHMENTS**

- Victorian Fire Risk Register
  - Information available via [www.vfr.vic.gov.au](http://www.vfr.vic.gov.au) or EClip SF11/660
- MEMP CERA Risk Matrix
  - EClip 18/229347
- Maroondah Electric Line Plan
  - EClip 17/250342
- Maroondah Recovery Plan
  - EClip 16/181427
- Wombolano Fire Management Plan
  - EClip S12/32783
- CFA - [Community Information Guide](#) - [CFA Website](#)