



Ordinary Meeting of Council Attachments

Monday 16 December 2019

Council Chamber, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood

ATTACHMENTS

DIRECTOR CORPORATE SERVICES

2. Reports of Assembly of Councillors

Attachment 1: 2019 November 18 - Assembly of Councillors Public Record 3

Attachment 2: 2019 December 02 - Assembly of Councillors Public Record 4

3. Councillor Representation Reports

Attachment 1: Maroondah Community Safety Committee Minutes - 28 October 2019 6

Attachment 2: Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee Minutes - 7 November 2019 17

Attachment 3: Local Government Safe Cities Network Meeting Minutes - 14 November 2019 20

Attachment 4: Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee Minutes - 19 November 2019 24

6. Draft Council Meeting Policy 2019

Attachment 1: Draft - Council Meeting Policy 2019..... 27

DIRECTOR OPERATIONS, ASSETS & LEISURE

2. Wyreena Heritage Masterplan

Attachment 1: Wyreena Melways Map 36

Attachment 2: Wyreena Master Plan..... 37

Attachment 3: Wyreena Landscape Plan 38

DIRECTOR STRATEGY & COMMUNITY

1. Local Government Performance Reporting Framework - Service Indicator Progress Report - Quarter 1, 2019/20

Attachment 1: 2019-20 LGPRF Quarter 1 Progress Report 39

2. Victorian Government Inquiry Into Homelessness - Council submission

Attachment 1: Council submission - Victorian Government Inquiry into Homelessness 50

3. Draft Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025

Attachment 1: DRAFT Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025 57



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – PUBLIC RECORD

Assembly Details:

Date: Monday 18 November 2019 Time: 6:00pm

Location: Meeting Room 4,
Braeside Avenue,
Ringwood

Attendees:

Councillors

Cr Mike Symon (Mayor)	Cr Tasa Damante	Cr Kylie Spears
Cr Marijke Graham (Deputy Mayor)	Cr Paul Macdonald	
Cr Tony Dib OAM, JP	Cr Rob Steane	

Council Officers:

Steve Kozlowski	Chief Executive Officer	
Marianne Di Giallonardo	Director Corporate Services	
Phil Turner	Director Strategy & Community	
Adam Todorov	Director Operations, Assets & Leisure	
Andrew Fuaux	Director Development & Amenities	
Chloe Messerle	Governance Officer	
Steve McIntosh	Manager Assets	Item 3
John Richardson	Coordinator Assets Projects & Facilities	Item 3
Angela Kechich	Manager Statutory Planning	Item 4
Deb Styles	Manager Community Services	Item 5
Heather Burns	Program Manager Aged & Disability	Item 5

Apologies:

Councillors:	Cr Samantha Mazzuchelli, Cr Nora Lamont
Council Officers:	Nil

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

Councillors:	Nil
Council Officers:	Nil

Items Discussed:

Confidential

1	Council Meeting Agenda
2	Proposed Council Representation 2019/2020
3	Major Projects Update
4	Statutory Planning Updates
5	Update - Aged Care Reforms - Regional Assessment Service (RAS)

Record completed by:

Council Officer	Chloe Messerle
Title	Governance Officer



ASSEMBLY OF COUNCILLORS – PUBLIC RECORD

Assembly Details:

Date: Monday 2 December 2019

Time: 6:00pm

Location: Meeting Room 4,
Braeside Avenue,
Ringwood

Attendees:

Councillors

Cr Mike Symon (Mayor)

Cr Marijke Graham (Deputy Mayor)

Cr Tony Dib OAM, JP

Cr Samantha Mazzuchelli

Cr Tasa Damante

Cr Kylie Spears

Cr Nora Lamont

Cr Rob Steane

Council Officers:

Steve Kozlowski

Marianne Di Giallonardo

Phil Turner

Adam Todorov

Andrew Fuaux

Chloe Messerle

Tony Rocca

Grant Meyer

Chief Executive Officer

Director Corporate Services

Director Strategy & Community

Director Operations, Assets & Leisure

Director Development & Amenity

Governance Officer

Manager Finance & Governance

Manager Integrated Planning

Item 1

Items 2 &
3

Item 2

Item 4

Item 4

Doug Evans

Debra Styles

Rosalie Hastwell

Strategic Environment Planner

Manager Community Services

Team Leader Arts & Cultural Development

Apologies:

Councillors:

Cr Paul Macdonald

Council Officers:

Nil

Conflict of Interest Disclosure:

Councillors:

Nil

Council Officers:

Nil

Items Discussed:**## Confidential**

1	Revised Long Term Financial Strategy (LTFS) 2020/2021
2	Community feedback on the draft Maroondah Vegetation Strategy
3	Victorian Government Inquiry into Homelessness Council submission
4	Draft Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025
5	Wyreena Heritage Masterplan
6	2019 Councillor Conference Outcomes Update
7	Draft 2020 Councillor Conference Agenda
8	Councillor Delegates' Meeting Report
9	Late Item - Draft Council Meeting Policy 2019 - Council Chamber Protocols
10	Items of a General Nature Raised by Councillors

Record completed by:

Council Officer	Chloe Messerle
Title	Governance Officer

Maroondah Community Safety Committee (MCSC)

These minutes will be formally accepted at the MCSC meeting on 28 October 2019

Minutes of Meeting

Monday 28 October 2019

9:30am to 11:30am

Meeting Room 4, Realm

Chair Cr Nora Lamont

Minutes Robyn Williams

Attendees

Cr Nora Lamont	MCC	Inspector Gerard de Vries	Victoria Police
Adam Cooper	MCC	Warren Turner	EACH
Nicole Daws	MCC/Realm	Tim Malloch	Eastland/QIC
Grant Meyer	MCC	Jodi Long	Eastland/QIC
Adam Warry	Wellways	Jodie Murphy	Eastland/QIC
Gisella Weiss	Wellways	Robyn Williams	MCC
Phil Medley	Maroondah City Council		

Presenters

Jeanette Ingram	Maroondah City Council
Brian Tu	Maroondah City Council

Apologies

Cr Rob Steane	MCC	Cr Paul Macdonald	MCC
Kate Gibson	Eastern Community Legal Centre	John Shepherd	Metro Trains
Geoff Marsh	Elishacare	Maggie Palmer	EACH
Jamie Robertson	Metro Trains		

Meeting Opened

9:30 am

Attendees were welcomed to the meeting.

Apologies were noted.

Welcome to Country

Introductions

Members introduced themselves and the organisation they represent.

Conflict of Interest

No conflicts of interest were advised.

Previous minutes

Minutes for the meeting held on 22 July 2019 were passed by Gerard de Vries, seconded by Adam Cooper.

Business Arising from Previous Minutes

Eastland - Alcohol Accord and Ask for Angela

- To be discussed with the Eastland Retail Manager and reported back to the next meeting.

Presentation – Gender Equity in Victorian Sport & Recreation

Jeanette Ingram, Sports and Recreation Planning & Policy Officer

Key points:

- Council received \$48,000 in funding from the Victorian Government to work with the three tenant clubs of the Jubilee Park Pavilion, Ringwood - Ringwood Cricket Club, Ringwood Football Club and Ringwood Spiders All Abilities Sports Club.
- Jubilee Park is known as the “home of female cricket” however prior to the project women were not getting equitable use of the ground/pavilion.

The project:

- Each club undertook a self-assessment audit, member survey, participated in workshops and nominated two representatives as part of a Reference Group for the project.

Each of the clubs is quite different:

- Ringwood Cricket Club - elite cricket club, players from all over Melbourne, community involvement not a major emphasis.
- Ringwood Football Club - very much linked to the local community, socially connected and currently undergoing a transition embracing a vision for the future.
- Ringwood Spiders - Focus on providing sporting opportunities to community members with disabilities. They were very excited to participate in the project.

Some positive outcomes:

- The three clubs are communicating voluntarily between themselves, far more than previously.
- Ringwood Football Club is establishing a women’s team in 2020.
- Each of the clubs has developed a Gender Equity Policy and an Action Plan.
- Ringwood Cricket Club has documented policies and processes that will guide it into the future.
- Ringwood Spiders now feel much more of an equal tenant.

A copy of Jeanette’s presentation has been sent to members.

Police Update – Inspector Gerard de Vries

Ringwood Railway Station

- Last meeting Inspector de Vries provided some insights on a recent article in the Maroondah Leader which reported that Ringwood Railway Station was the “third most dangerous” metropolitan station in terms of crime, outside of Flinders Street and Southern Cross stations.

2

- 163 offences were reported at Ringwood from April 2018 to March 2019.
- Reported crime is currently down 50%.
- Inspector de Vries noted that the 'solve rate' for offences is always higher when Police and PSO's are actively detecting crime. Inspector de Vries' stressed that Police efforts are helping to ensure that Ringwood Railway Station remains a safe environment for the public to use.
- He also noted that he has been in contact with the Maroondah Leader to discuss crime reporting and how to improve perceptions of safety in Maroondah.
- Maroondah, when compared to other municipalities, is a generally safe area.

Theft from Motor Vehicles

- Remains a common crime in Maroondah.
- Thefts usually occur in home driveways and residential streets - not train station or shopping centre car parks.
- Offenders tend to be 'networked' across Melbourne, drive expensive (stolen) cars and swap vehicles before/after crimes.

Family Violence

- Maroondah Police reported 1,300 family violence incidents in the past year.
- Maroondah has a dedicated Family Violence Unit based at Croydon Police Station.
- A considerable amount of time is spent by officers liaising with recidivist victims who have suffered abuse from multiple partners and recidivist offenders.
- Types of incidents range from verbal/social/financial abuse to sinister/life-threatening offences.

Drink/Drug Driving

- Over Grand Final weekend a drink driving operation was conducted in Maroondah.
- Of 2,800 PBT (preliminary breath tests) - eight were recorded with high blood alcohol.
- Drug driving results on the other hand, recorded a one in three detection rate.
- There is no particular demographic associated with the results. Drugs tend to involve ice or cannabis and age use can be anywhere from 20 to 60 years old.

Ask for Angela

- Inspector de Vries noted it is pleasing to see the Maroondah Liquor Accord deliver training for the **Ask for Angela** campaign.
- Ask for Angela is an international campaign to promote safety in licensed venues. If a patron feels unsafe, they can discretely ask the staff for 'Angela'. This simple code word alerts venue staff that the person requires assistance.
- Ask for Angela originated in Lincolnshire County Council in the UK in 2016 and has since been adopted by licensed venues across the United Kingdom, United States, Canada and Australia.

Maroondah Liquor Accord

- The Accord members have developed a set of values to headline the new Accord document which is awaiting approval by the VCGLR.

- The biggest member gaps are restaurants, cafes and sporting clubs. Inspector de Vries is keen to run an evening event for sporting clubs and is happy to speak to Eastland about the opportunity for their venues to have an Accord meeting and potentially an Accord of their own, specific to the Eastland precinct.

Other Maroondah Police issues:

- Maroondah has a Frontline Tasking Unit which is based at Ringwood Station. This Unit provides additional support when needed and increases Maroondah Police capacity to deploy officers in the event of a potential or real incident e.g. a recent Facebook event indicating 2,500 people attending an event at Ringwood Station.

Crimes against the person

- There has been a recent spike in the Maroondah assault rate which appears to be happening on the street. There is no pattern associated with these crimes e.g. in terms of location, time, offenders etc making it difficult to pro-actively task this issue.

Massage Parlour locations

- Cr Lamont asked Inspector de Vries about the prevalence of massage parlours in Maroondah and stated that she regularly receives enquiries from residents who are concerned about possible unregulated / illegal activities.
- Inspector de Vries indicated these matters can be difficult to investigate due to the transient and pop-up nature of some venues. He encouraged committee members to let him know if there are any locations they are concerned about.

Mental Health Unit

- Police and a clinician from Maroondah Hospital work evening shifts together. This is a far more effective model working in tandem, than arresting a person and taking them to the Police Station and later engaging allied health support.
- Poly drug use is attributable to 70-80% of Victoria Police involvement in mental health issues.
- Violence is common due to use of ice.

2040 Interim Review - Mini Workshop

Phil Medley and Brian Tu, Council and Community Planning, Maroondah City Council

- Council is currently undertaking an interim review of the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision
- The review seeks to identify emerging trends and check-in with the Maroondah community regarding current issues and future aspirations
- A mini workshop was conducted with Committee members to seek input on policy directions relating to 'A safe community' and 'An accessible community'.
- A stakeholder workshop will be held on Wednesday 27 November, 9am to 12 noon at Karralyka. An invitation to this workshop will be forwarded to Committee members.

A copy of Brian/Phil's presentation has been sent to members.

Information share

Tim Malloch, Operations Manager, QIC/Eastland

- Eastland is still experiencing issues with a group of 5-10 young people. They are currently liaising with Ringwood Police on how best to manage this situation.
- An area of Melbourne Street reported as being unsafe is also being observed. Since the introduction of a smoke-free Town Square some loitering in this area has been reported, however the issue has existed for some time. PSO's have been of great assistance in helping to police this area.
- Christmas decorations are going up this week at Eastland.

Adam Warry, Wellways

- Wellways staff are continuing to provide assertive outreach and support to people sleeping rough in Maroondah. Staff continue to find new and ongoing people sleeping mainly in reserves and bushland.
- Tim from Eastland mentioned an area on their property where they believe people may be sleeping rough.

Gerard de Vries, Victoria Police

- Gerard spoke about an alcohol test purchasing ('secret shopper') program recently conducted in Maroondah sporting clubs by Communities that Care. The program was also run in the City of Knox.
- The program engages young people who are over 18, but look younger, to attempt to purchase alcohol at a club.
- Best practice in the responsible serving of alcohol states that any person who looks under the age of 25 should be asked for ID.
- 85% of clubs tested failed to ask for ID. Each club was written to and encouraged to review their club policies and processes and advised that a retest would occur. On the second round of testing the program achieved the same result, with two clubs suggesting to the young person that they get someone else to purchase for them.

Warren Turner, Acting Team Leader, Youth & Family Victoria, EACH

- The service provides free counselling and group work for children, young people and their families.
- The Youth Health Clinic at 48 Warrandyte Road, Ringwood provides a free, confidential and caring GP clinic for young people.
- The Family Relationship Service is moving from Charter Street to 48 Warrandyte Road.
- A broad range of programs is available. Please see <http://www.each.com.au/service/each-whitehorse-child-youth-and-family-services/>

Adam Cooper, Team Leader, Youth and Children's Services, Maroondah City Council

- Youth and Children's Services has recently completed a consultation for the new Children and Family Strategy.
- 23 focus groups were held and over 5,000 people were consulted.

Nicole Daws, Place Manager Activity Centres, Maroondah City Council

- Nicole thanked Eastland for their cooperation with the removal of graffiti in the Ringwood Activity Centre.
- Nicole has been working successfully with private landowners along Maroondah Highway where graffiti has been evident, particularly on vacant buildings.

Robyn Williams, Community Safety Officer, Maroondah City Council

A Community Safety Update is attached. Highlights include:

- 16 Days of Activism Against Violence - 7 billboards will be placed around Maroondah from 25 November 2019 to 10 December 2019.
- The Maroondah Liquor Accord members have come up with their own set of values to headline the new Accord document. The Accord document is currently with the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation for their approval.
- 'Stories Beyond Stereotypes', a new booklist for children aged 7-12 years was launched during Children's Week.
- Tim Costello was the keynote speaker at a Gambling Awareness Week event held at Karralyka on Wednesday 23 October 2019 in partnership with Eastern Regional Libraries.

Next meeting

Monday 23 March 2020, 9.30am to 11.30am, Realm

Meeting closed 11:30am



Maroondah Community Safety Committee
Community Safety Update
28 October 2019

The Australian Safe Communities Foundation defines a safe community as 'one in which all sectors of the community work together in a coordinated and collaborative way, forming partnerships to promote safety, manage risk, increase the overall safety of all its members and reduce the fear of harm.'

Along with partnerships such as the Maroondah Community Safety Committee, Council's community safety activities are largely driven from two strategic documents:

- Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together
- Council Plan 2017-2021

Key directions within these documents that relate to community safety include:

1. Seek to enhance awareness and understanding of **preventing violence against women** and elder abuse through primary prevention initiatives.
2. Promote and facilitate **safer cultures** relating to issues of **alcohol, drugs, tobacco, gambling, child abuse and family violence**.
3. Work in partnership to **address community safety issues**, with a focus on activity centres, public spaces, roads and public transport.
4. Encourage and support the implementation of initiatives and programs aimed at **improving the actual and perceived safety** of the community.
5. Work with partners of **Together for Equality and Respect (TFER): A Strategy to Prevent Violence Against Women in Melbourne East** to prevent violence against women in Maroondah
6. Plan and advocate for the application of **community safety principles** that facilitate a safe built environment



1. *Seek to enhance awareness and understanding of the prevention of violence against women and elder abuse through primary prevention initiatives.*

Maroondah experiences the third highest rate of family violence in the EMR, behind Knox and Yarra Ranges. The following initiatives are being undertaken by Council and/or in partnership with others and focus on gender equity, which is a key driver of violence against women.

Gender Equity in Victorian Sport & Recreation

- Council secured \$48,000 in funding from the Victorian Government to work with tenant clubs of Jubilee Park Pavilion (Ringwood). The 12-month project, funded through the Department of Health and Human Services *Gender Equity in Victorian Sport and Recreation Pilot Program*, will test draft design principles for the delivery of primary prevention initiatives in sports settings.
- Stakeholders include Eastern Football League, Cricket Victoria, Ringwood Football Club, Ringwood Cricket Club and Ringwood Spiders All Abilities Sports Club who have all recently completed a gender self-assessment and club workshops which will assist them to identify how they can improve club culture to be more gender inclusive, strengthen club governance and contribute to female-friendly aspects of their new facility, including design, usage arrangements and training schedules.
- The project has recently concluded. Council is seeking funding to extend this work.

Stories Beyond Stereotypes - a booklist for children 7-12 years

- Eastern Regional Libraries, Women's Health East, EACH Health Promotion, EDVOS/Level Playground, Inspiro, Department of Education & Training, in partnership with Knox, Maroondah and Yarra Ranges Councils have developed a booklist for children aged 7-12 years which was launched last week, during Children's Week. The booklist, which is called 'Stories Beyond Stereotypes' features real and imaginary characters who follow their own path, unconstrained by gender stereotypes. This booklist fits well with the Respectful Relationships school curriculum.
- 10,000 copies of the "Beyond Sparkles and Superheroes" bookmark launched last year for children 0-6 years have been reproduced and the [EURL webpage](#) updates with new books as they become available. A similar webpage has been developed for Stories Beyond Stereotypes.

16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence – 25 November to 10 December

- Council will be displaying seven billboards in strategic locations across Maroondah this year with two messages - one in relation to preventing violence against women and the other in regard to equality and respect.

Gender Equality Clothesline Project

- Council joined the EACH Health Promotion team and other TFER (Together for Equality & Respect) partners to implement the Gender Equality Clothesline Project in Maroondah community houses.
- Workshops have taken place in the five Maroondah community houses during August. Messages created on t-shirts as part of that project will be displayed and promoted on social media during the 16 Days of Activism in November/December 2019.

2. *Promote and facilitate safer cultures relating to issues of alcohol, drugs, tobacco, gambling, child abuse and family violence.*

Alcohol-related harm remains a key priority within the Community Safety portfolio.

- It is estimated that alcohol is involved in up to 65 per cent of family violence incidences reported to the police and up to 47 per cent of child abuse cases each year across Australia. (ADF, 2016).
- Maroondah has the 3rd highest rate of definite alcohol-related family violence incidents in the EMR (15.1 per 10,000 population in 2016/17) behind Knox (16.3) and Yarra Ranges (16.6). The EMR average is 5.6 per 10,000 population. This data is collected by residential location.
- The vast majority (80%) of alcohol sold in Australia is through packaged liquor outlets
- Maroondah has 256 liquor licences (as at September 2018), 27 of which are packaged liquor outlets
- Maroondah has the highest rate of alcohol assault during HAH in the EMR, at 8.6 per 10,000 population. This data is collected by residential location.
- The alcohol assault rate for young people in Maroondah aged 18-24 years is 29.9 per 10,000 population.

Smart Generation Supply Monitoring project

- The Smart Generation supply monitoring ('mystery shopper') project was conducted in Maroondah and Knox sporting clubs this year by EACH/Communities that Care in conjunction with Deakin University Smart Generation Program. Sporting clubs were tested for their compliance in relation to checking for ID and/or serving young people alcohol.
- The Smart Generation Supply Monitoring intervention is a national evidence-based community program supported by Deakin University that collects data on the sale/supply of alcohol to people who appear to be under the age of 18. 'Confederates' who are over the age of 18 but look younger are recruited by Communities that Care to undertake this research. The primary aim of the program is to reduce underage alcohol use by preventing alcohol sales or supply to minors.
- The test purchasing exercise revealed that some sporting clubs are failing to check for ID. Each club received a letter advising them of their results and encouraging them to review club policies and practices in relation to the responsible service of alcohol. A second round of testing revealed similar results.
- Council has an action identified in the Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 to investigate opportunities for the development of an alcohol policy to be implemented at Council owned sporting facilities. This work will commence in 2020.

Maroondah Liquor Accord - new Accord document

- The Maroondah Liquor Accord is a joint initiative between licensees, Victoria Police, Council and the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation. The Accord has 50 member-venues, including late night licenses, hotels, packaged liquor outlets, sporting clubs, cinemas, etc. The Accord encourages and promotes best practice and high standards of behaviour in and around licensed premises within Maroondah that contribute to patron, staff and community safety. Last year an Executive group was formed, which has added a renewed sense of vibrancy and purpose to the Accord, making it much more member-driven.

9

- A set of 7 new value statements was recently developed in collaboration with Accord members which will 'headline' the new Accord document which has been approved by the Maroondah Police Inspector and is currently awaiting approval from the Victorian Commission for Gambling and Liquor Regulation.

EMR Action on Alcohol Flagship

- Council continues to participate in the EMR Action on Alcohol Flagship - a consortia of agencies including local governments, community health and others - that work on primary prevention initiatives to prevent alcohol-related harm.
- The Flagship successfully applied for Local Drug Action Team funding from the Australian Drug Foundation. This funding will support work with the Eastern Football League and partner Councils on initiatives in relation to alcohol in sporting club settings and developing positive communication messages on healthy club environments. Messages promoting positive sporting environments will be implemented (and evaluated) by EMR Councils during the 2020 football season.

South East Melbourne Councils Packaged Liquor Proposed Planning Amendment update

- On 16 June 2019, the Planning Minister, Hon Richard Wynne, advised that a request from seven Councils (including Maroondah) to take social and health impact issues into consideration when assessing applications for liquor licenses, had been denied.
- Representatives of the consortium are consulting with their respective Councils. Pending a formal position from each Council, it is likely that the group of Councils will accept the Minister's decision.
- In the interim, all seven Councils are currently exploring avenues for advocacy to increase community awareness on the availability, social harms and impact of packaged liquor sales and the limited ability of Victorian Councils to influence decisions under existing planning mechanisms.

VicHealth Funding Opportunity - Men's Risky Drinking

- Knox and Maroondah Councils successfully applied to VicHealth to work with senior and junior sporting clubs to explore the shared norms and behaviour that contribute to risky levels of drinking. The project is one of three initiatives announced by VicHealth.
- The Grant Program aims to change the social pressure on men to drink when they get together.
- The Knox/Maroondah project will involve working with sporting clubs to understand men's risky drinking behaviour and exploring opportunities to set good foundations for a healthier club culture. Through an analysis of current club practices, the project aims to positively influence organisational and cultural change through a range of co-designed interventions. Engagement with sporting clubs will commence in 2020.

3. *Work in partnership to address community safety issues, with a focus on activity centres, public spaces, roads and public transport.*

Graffiti Database

- The Municipal Association of Victoria has been working with Victoria Police and the Department of Justice, to develop a statewide graffiti management and database system for use by all Councils in Victoria. A trial and evaluation of the new system will commence in August.

- Council will review the outcome of the trial prior to 2020 and determine the most appropriate system for Maroondah. Council is currently using VandalTrak to record and store information on graffiti and vandalism incidents.

4. *Encourage and support the implementation of initiatives and programs aimed at improving the actual and perceived safety of the community.*

Gambling Awareness Week

- A Gambling Awareness Week event was held last week in partnership with Eastern Regional Libraries, EACH and Council. Tim Costello was the keynote speaker at this event, which also involved a panel discussion on issues relating to gambling harm. The event attracted more than 80 people.

Safety Audit Walk

- Women's Health East, Monash and Maroondah Councils will be trialing a 'gender equity safety walk' to look at the safety aspects of urban spaces (such as lighting, vegetation) as well as other factors that might contribute to how women and children use that space.
- The gender walk data will help inform Women's Health East work in developing some Urban Design Gender Equity Guidelines and/or an audit tool that can be used by other Councils when planning/activating urban spaces or undertaking infrastructure developments.
- The first walk will take place in early November in conjunction with tenant clubs involved in the Jubilee Gender Equity in Sport Program.

Ask for Angela

- 'Ask for Angela' was recently introduced to the Maroondah Liquor Accord, supported by Victoria Police, EDVOS and ECASA. Given the increasing popularity of online dating apps, many people are meeting for dates at bars, clubs and pubs having never met beyond the screens of their phone or computer. Ask for Angela was originally created by Lincolnshire County Council and has since spread worldwide, and only recently in Australia. The campaign encourages anyone who feels unsafe in hotels, pubs, clubs or restaurants to ask a staff member if they can 'speak with Angela'. The staff member ensures that the person can leave the venue safely, by escorting them to a safe area away from their date and either calling a cab or calling a friend who can get them home safely. To date, five venues have implemented the initiative in their venue.

Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 7 November 2019

Minutes – Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 7 November 2019

Meeting held at Wyreena Community Arts Centre 6pm -7.30pm

1) Attendees: Cr Marijke Graham (Acting Chair), Deputy Mayor Cr Kylie Spears, David Billimoria, Kali Michailidis, Sharyn Mullens Taylor, Janet Turpie-Johnstone, Kiron Robinson, Phil Turner (Director Strategy and Community), Debra Styles (Manager Community Services), Rosalie Hastwell (Team Leader Arts and Cultural Development), Richard Holt (Public Art Officer), Clare Keating (Effective Change).

2) Apologies: Cr Mike Symon (Chair), Roger Archbold, Jo Herbig.

3) Welcome and Introductions

Cr Marijke Graham welcomed all and acknowledged the traditional owners of the land.

4) Conflict of Interest

None

5) Confirmation of Minutes of previous Meeting

Move: That the Minutes of the Meeting held on 25 September 2019 be accepted

First: Cr Kylie Spears

Second: Kali Michailidis

6) Business arising from previous Meeting

Team Leader Arts and Cultural Development, Rosalie Hastwell reported on the Maroondah 2040 Review and The Backyard site in Ringwood arts precinct:

Maroondah 2040 Review

Following the 2040 Review Workshop which was held as part of the last meeting on 25 September, several MAAC members responded to the invitation to provide further advice. This advice has been forwarded to Council's Integrated Planning team, and will be considered along with other stakeholder responses to the Key Directions for Outcome Area Three: A vibrant and culturally rich community.

ACTION: Rosalie to re-send information to all MAAC members about the 2040 Stakeholder Workshop to be held at Karralyka on 27 November

The Backyard

An agreement has been reached between Eastland, Gill Property Melbourne and Urban Life for Urban Life to curate programming by not-for-profit groups in line with agreed community values for the Backyard site, adjacent to Ringwood Town Square. An exciting program of arts activations will be presented by Fresh Theatre, Urban Life and Council in the Backyard during March 2020. This will be promoted as part of the Ringwood arts precinct annual program.

Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 7 November 2019

7) Public Art update

Public Art Officer Richard Holt provided an update on:

Spotted Marsh Frog sculpture

The successful launch of the Croydon Town Park commission 'Spotted Marsh Frog' by Ian Bracegirdle. The new sculpture was officially launched on 1 November by Cr Spears and was attended by Councillors, arts, community and environment stakeholders.

Signal Box public art project.

The series of six commissioned signal box art works is being presented as 'The Anthropocene Art Trail', in conjunction with the 2019 R&M McGivern Prize. Installation of the digital artworks will take place in the next two weeks, prior to the opening of the McGivern exhibition on 28 November.

Action: Rosalie to send images of the Signal Box art works to members as an FYI.

Maroondah Highway hoarding artwork.

Arts and Cultural Development staff are working with Business and Activity Centre Development staff to commission and install a mural by Minna Leunig on the hoarding of the development site at 125 Maroondah Highway. It is hoped that there will be further opportunities to work in partnership with developers to install temporary artworks on hoardings along Maroondah Highway.

Ringwood Urban Art Tour

The Art Tour pilot has been developed in partnership with Eastland. The first tour booked out quickly but was rescheduled due to poor weather. The two dates are now reconfirmed as 17 and 22 November. Pending evaluation of the pilot tours, it is anticipated that further tours will be offered in 2020.

8) Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025

Consultant Clare Keating from Effective Change provided an overview of the results of community consultation.

Proposed Guiding Principles, Key Directions and Vision for the Strategy were also presented and workshopped by MAAC members. Agreed changes and additions will be incorporated into the Draft Strategy prior to its presentation to Council in December. The Draft Strategy is to be placed on public exhibition during January - February and further feedback from community and stakeholders will be considered prior to finalization. The final Strategy will be presented to Council for endorsement in March and it is anticipated this will be launched in April.

Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee

Wednesday 7 November 2019

Action: The approach to design and production of the Strategy is to be considered in line with communication and promotion aims as well as Council's corporate publication guidelines.

9) Other Business
None

10) Next Meeting
Next meeting 17 November. Venue to be advised.

DRAFT

MINUTES OF MEETING



COUNCIL OF CAPITAL CITY LORD MAYORS

Meeting of: Local Government Safe Cities Network
Date: Thursday 14 November, 2019
Venue: Western Sydney University, Parramatta
(Hosted by City of Parramatta)

1. Welcome

The Lord Mayor of Parramatta, Bob Dwyer joined the meeting and provided a welcome to the City of Parramatta.

In welcoming participants to the City, the Lord Mayor gave attendees an overview of developments taking place in Parramatta, noting that:

- Parramatta is
 - home to 39 suburbs and villages, with a population of 250,000 which is expected to grow to 300,000 by 2035
 - diverse in culture, more than half of residents were born overseas from 100 countries
 - made up of a demographic that is modern, young and educated
 - a safe city, rich in culture with a focus on transformative local economy
- The State Government is investing in infrastructure, as highlighted by the light rail
- Work is underway by the City to improve perceptions of safety and deliver enhanced night time offering.

The Lord Mayor wished members a successful meeting and hoped they enjoyed their visit to Parramatta.

2. Attendees and apologies

In attendance:

▪ Nick Heath	Hobart City Council (Chair)
▪ Amy Pokoney	Adelaide City Council
▪ Lisa Lennon	Brisbane City Council
▪ Kelly Rose	City of Gold Coast
▪ Kimbra Parker	Hobart City Council
▪ Rob Steane	Maroondah City Council
▪ Grant Meyer	Maroondah City Council
▪ Anne Malloch	City of Melbourne
▪ Leanne Martin	Northern Beaches Council
▪ Beau Reid	City of Parramatta
▪ Robert Williams	City of Parramatta
▪ Robert Jarrett	City of Parramatta
▪ Jane Hannaford	City of Perth
▪ Narelle Algie	City of Port Phillip
▪ Trina Jones	City of Sydney
▪ Deborah Wilkinson	Council of Capital City Lord Mayors

Guests:

▪ Leni Schwendinger	NightSeeing
▪ Susan Skuodas	Sydney Olympic Park
▪ Wellington City Council (NZ)	
▪ Elizabeth Robertson	LGA NSW
▪ Leigh Osterhus	Cities Leadership Institute
▪ Anna Edwards	Ingenium Research (by video conference)
▪ Andrew License	Ingenium Research (by video conference)

Apologies:

▪ Steve Allsop	
▪ Shenagh Gamble	City of Darwin
▪ Steven Edgington	LGANT
▪ Lisa Davis	Newcastle City Council

3. Minutes of last meeting and actions arising (not covered by a separate agenda item)

The Minutes of the previous meeting, held 9-10 May in Maroondah were accepted as a true and accurate record of that meeting.

4. Night time economy research update

It was noted that the 2018 research update had been released in September, and the profiler tool has been updated online. As reported at the meeting, the release had generated a good level of media attention and support from the Federal Shadow Minister for Cities, Andrew Giles MP.

A copy of the draft report on the second project, exploring enhancements to the NTE research, distributed with the meeting papers.

Ingenium Research joined the meeting and presented the findings and recommendations.

Recommendations include:

- Members were surveyed seeking suggested improvements to the current outputs, all of the suggested revisions should be actioned (section 4.1 page 15 of the draft report)
- Opening hours data to be incorporated (via Google Places API) into current methodology to provide a more accurate view of activity occurring between 6pm and 6am throughout the week.
- Expand the focus of entertainment to capture key data on live music to provide a greater understanding of the impact of entertainment on the NTE.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

The meeting discussed:

- The lack of available crime data in SA, NT and WA. Cities in those states would assess availability of the data in those states with their contacts.
- The cost of data was discussed, it was noted that the cost of the data needed to be assessed against the value of obtaining data sets to include in future iterations of the research.
- Testing of the opening hours data against Council's own information should be explored (eg CLUE in Melbourne and Sydney's FES).
- Providing analysis at postcode level in LGAs was discussed, it was felt that this would benefit only larger cities of Brisbane, Melbourne and Sydney, and potentially Gold Coast, as smaller LGAs only have one postcode.
- An exploration into night worker demographics would be interesting, age, travel times and destinations etc.
- Costs of the inclusion of some data may prove prohibitive.

ACTIONS ARISING:

- City of Darwin, Adelaide and Perth to seek further advice from contacts in their states in obtaining crime data.
- The report to be provided to the CCCLM's Research and Data working group seeking their views.
- Members to provide feedback to the Secretariat prior to FRIDAY 28 NOVEMBER – including if postcode level data is required for their LGA, additional information / data sets required and any other comment on the recommendations contained in the draft report.
- The project team would meet before year end to discuss feedback from members and next steps.

5. Defining safe cities update

The previous meeting had agreed that a small working group would work with the Secretariat to assess the survey results and investigate the connections between city safety definitions, social inclusion and exclusion, and urban design. It was agreed that a set of measurement indicators would be established.

The City of Melbourne developed a workbook which extrapolates the information provided in the members survey to provide a comprehensive guide to council resources and a set of indicators.

A number of questions had been posed to the LGSCN members within the workbook, on the sections of:

- Community Safety Plans
- Definition of Community Safety
- Engagement and strengthening communities
- Indicators

The meeting thanked the City of Melbourne for the comprehensive and informative work provided.

Actions arising:

- Members to provide updates to the listed resources and any other comment in response to the points above prior to 28 November 2019
[Secretary's note: please provide feedback on the workbook using **red font** to highlight changes /comments]
- The workbook will be updated and included in the secure section of the CCCLM website along with the NTE work as an additional resource for members.
- To be updated every second year.

6. Parramatta night city framework

Beau Reid presented the City of Parramatta's night city framework draft.

Parramatta's night time economy has consistently achieved 13% annual growth since 2009. With the population set to double, and work population growing, there is opportunity for the City to shape its night time offering and create diversity.

A copy of the presentation is attached.

7. International night time design

Leni Schwendinger joined the meeting and presented her work on night time design practice, based on the pillars of augmenting economic vitality; enhancing public health and increasing safety and welcome.

Night time design has the capacity to bring together interdisciplinary teams made up of Engineers, Lighting and digital media designers, Urban Planners and Designers, Economists, Architects and Social Researchers.

Leni provided the meeting with the benefits of light planning, outlining that:

- Night is a condition often overlooked during urban design and planning stages
- Holistic after dark strategies are critical for cities, districts and streetscapes to attract and retain locals and visitors
- A methodology has been developed to identify night's goals and objectives through master planning, design options and implementation.

Examples of work in Double Bay, Queens NY, Unna Germany and Alingsas Sweden, St Petersburg and Las Vegas were presented – including the transformation of a parking lot into an active light children's playground.

Leni provided the attached information,

1. A selection of International Nighttime Design Initiative (**NTD**) programs and offerings
2. More in-depth information on developing a **lighting strategy**
3. An illustrated qualifications packet on **NightSeeing™** the tour and workshop

As well as the following media links that expands upon the vision, which is founded on three principles: safe use of public spaces at night, improving public health, and enhancing local economies.

- **Principles:** Interview – Prague (6-min Audio) <http://ow.ly/4c9830itjVW>

- **Process:** Envisioning workshop method - Sydney (8-min Video) <http://ow.ly/XVhJ30eQE5A>
- **Pilot:** Localization – Cartagena (6-min Video-scroll to 2nd image):
<https://www.citylab.com/solutions/2017/10/cartagena-colombia-street-lights-design/541959/>

8. Parramatta Crime Prevention Plan

Robert Jarrett presented the Parramatta Crime Prevention Plan 2019-2023. The objectives of the Crime Prevention Plan are to work towards a safer environment by reducing local crime:

- To foster community involvement in the development of local crime prevention plans;
- Form safer community compact (with the Attorney-General); and
- To assist in the funding through grants

A copy of the presentation is attached.

9. Public safety in and around major event venues

Susan Skuodas, Sydney Olympic Park presented to the meeting the intricacies of providing safe places at Australia's largest event precinct.

Sydney Olympic Park is not only home to 7 major sports venues, but also 6,670 residents and 230 businesses employing 17,500 workers. Sydney Olympic Park works with government stakeholders, park venues and local community to manage traffic and transport, security and technology during major event coordination. A copy of the presentation is attached.

10. Member updates

Member updates received from members were distributed for information prior to the meeting. Members discussed and shared information on:

- Melbourne's Project Nightlight (copy attached)
- Northern Beaches Suicide response action plan
- Outdoor alcohol restrictions
- Use of private security guards to protect council assets

11. Other business

There was no other business discussed.

12. Next meeting

It had been suggested that the next meeting be held in Alice Springs in late May 2020. Deborah would follow up with the Mayor of Alice Springs to discuss agenda topics.

The Chair thanked all the presenters for the participation and Beau Reid, Parramatta for hosting the meeting.



MAROONDAH ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Tuesday 19th November 2019

Meeting Room 4, Council Offices, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood

7:00 - 8:30 pm

1. *Attendance:*

Cr Paul Macdonald (Chair)
John Senior, Community Representative
Sonia Nuttman, Community Representative
Howard Elston, Community Representative
Elspeth De Fanti, Community Representative
Ken Whitney, Community Representative
Liz Sanzaro, Community Representative
Grant Meyer, Manager Integrated Planning (MCC)
Dale Bristow, Team Leader Strategic Planning & Sustainability (MCC)

Guests: Tess Hayes, Community Engagement Officer (Tarralla Creek) (MCC)

Apologies: Cr Marijke Graham
Cr Samantha Mazzuchelli
Michelle Mailbaum, Community Representative
Lisa Keedle, Community Representative

2. *Conflict of Interest:*
None

3. *Minutes and Matters Arising from Previous Meeting*
Moved by Howard Elston and Seconded by Liz Sanzaro

4. *Citizen Science at Tarralla Creek*

Tess Hayes

Tess introduced the project, The Changing Nature of Tarralla Creek, that she is leading. The project will work with communities in undertaking monitoring of the nature and biodiversity changes that will occur during the implementation of the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project.

Tess showed the Committee an artist's impression flyover video of what the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project is setting out to deliver.

Ken asked about what surface materials will be used on the proposed pathways alongside the Creek (ie pervious or impervious surfaces). Tess responded that a combination of the two are anticipated.

Liz stressed the value of existing Tarralla Creek users being told about the flyover so as to generate interest and support etc.

Tess encouraged MEAC members to attend and promote the following events amongst their networks:

- Frog Walk on 10 Dec 2019
- Litter Action Group on 11 Jan 2019

Further events will follow which will be promoted via Council's media channels.

17/163540



Liz advised she has posted the events on the Croydon Conservation Society Facebook page.

Howard noted that it would be good for schools to be invited to participate in the project. Tess confirmed schools in the locality were amongst her identified stakeholders and Council would be seeking their involvement.

Liz enquired about the plant species selection for the Reimaging Tarralla Creek and highlighted the 'I grew up in Croydon' Facebook page as a source of historical images that could inform the two projects.

Sonia stressed the health and wellbeing benefits of the project alongside the anticipated conservation value improvements. Officers agreed that this would merit a follow up discussion with Sonia given her expertise to discuss how this could be pursued further.

John highlighted the opportunity for the Tarralla Creek project to be a focus for health rehabilitation and nature-based therapy.

Tess confirmed that greater engagement and enjoyment of the creek corridor is the goal of the project - both for humans and nature.

Ken encouraged communications to the community with an emphasis on the 'anticipated better open space' that would arise through the project. He suggested that this would be an even more compelling message to people than the biodiversity benefits.

The Chair thanked Tess for her presentation to the Committee and for steering the Citizen Science element of the project.

The presentation by Tess is attached.

5. Each MEAC community member provided a report back on their activities and thoughts in advancing sustainability within Maroondah with a view to informing Council's review of the Sustainability Strategy. Presentations are attached.

Points that arose in discussions included:

Clarity on when/how to convey subject matter discussed at MEAC meetings to a broader audience

Suggestion that MEAC members have a dinner / informal catch up

MEAC members to have a visit to Howards house

MEAC have strong support for ESD in future housing but note there is also a corresponding need in people's lifestyle expectations of housing (eg size, footprint, energy requirements)

Support to further conversations between Council and Deakin University on food security and environmental impacts associated with the food cycle

Value in putting together a repository of information on 'how to do sustainability' and activities and contacts within the community

Consideration be given to Council's Waste Management job titles being renamed to 'Resource Recovery'.

17/163540



Increasing need to have the urban fabric contribute towards a Water Sensitive City.

Promotion and raising awareness of the existence and role of the Committee and its members would be welcomed

The Chair thanked the Committee for a stimulating, though provoking and uplifting series of presentations.

6. Information only item

A workshop to inform the Maroondah 2040 review is taking place on Wednesday 27th Nov 2019. MEAC members are invited to participate.

Ken enquired about a planning permit and the monitoring of its conditions for a property at Birts Hill.

7. Next Meeting

Tuesday 11th February 2020.

Councils Assets team have offered to host the meeting and provide a pre-meeting tour of the Rings Stadium at HE Parker Reserve to showcase the ESD measures that have been included in the building.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm

17/163540



Council Meeting Policy 2019

Responsible Service Area: Governance

Adoption Date:

Policy Control Schedule

Policy Title: <i>Council Meeting Policy 2019</i>		Policy No:	Policy type: Council Policy
Policy creation date: .../.../2019	Current version approved: .../.../2019	Current version no.	Policy review date: 01/09/2020
Policy authority dates: Adopted by Council .../.../2019 (e-Clip 19/280926)		Policy responsibility: Governance Coordinator	eCLIP record no. (e-Clip 19/280926)

Council Meeting Policy 2019



Contents

1. Purpose.....	2
2. Background / Context.....	2
3. Objectives	2
4. Scope.....	3
5. Relationship to the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision.....	3
6. Alignment with Council's mission and values.....	3
7. Statement of Practice	3
7.1 General Information about Council Meetings / Debate Procedure	3
7.2 Requirements for Councillors whilst Speaking	4
7.3 Live Streaming Council Meetings	4
7.4 Behaviour Expectations for Visitors attending Council Meetings	4
7.5 Petitions	5
7.6 Written Submissions.....	7
7.7 Public Question Time	7
7.8 Privacy	7
7.9 Definitions	8
8. Policy Distribution.....	8
9. Related Policies and Documents	8

Council Meeting Policy 2019



1. Purpose

To provide members of the community with the most commonly requested information about Ordinary Meetings and Special Meetings of Council (also known as Council Meetings).

The Mayor and Councillors of Maroondah City Council welcomes all members of the community to attend Council Meetings. Seating for visitors is provided in the public gallery at the rear of the Council Chamber.

2. Background / Context

Maroondah City Council has adopted a number of procedural matters to be followed through its Meeting Procedure Local Law - (*Local Law No. 12 Meetings Procedure and Use of Common Seal*). This Local Law governs the proceedings of all Council Meetings by prescribing the rules and protocols for proper meeting conduct and debate. It is typical of meeting procedures used by local governing authorities and is based on the Westminster Parliamentary system.

Development or reviews of Local Laws can be onerous and costly.

By developing this policy, Maroondah City Council aims to provide timelier, cost effective and flexible reviews of certain provisions in Council Meetings; in particular those that relate to the community engagement in Council Meetings.

3. Objectives

In the spirit of being collaborative, accessible and transparent, Maroondah City Council intends, through this Policy, to provide for various opportunities for the community to participate or be acknowledged and recognise improvements in technology and engagement practices at Council Meetings.

Council sets out the principles and general procedures that will be followed. This policy also addresses the aspect of privacy in the provision of personal details at the point of collection and outlines Council's responsibility to be open and transparent in making material (including submissions, questions and petitions) available to the public.

As Council engages with its community and conducts its operations and service delivery requirements it remains committed to complying with applicable Occupational Health and Safety legislation, particularly as it relates to providing a physically and psychologically safe workplace for employees, and all persons in the workplace.

4. Scope

This Policy supports Local Law No. 12 (*Meetings Procedure and Use of Common Seal*), to facilitate community participation in meetings with Council and to regulate and control the procedures that relate to this and applies to both Ordinary and Special Meetings of Council.

2.

Council Meeting Policy 2019



5. Relationship to the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision

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

Community Outcome:	A well governed and empowered community
Key Directions:	8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable

6. Alignment with Council's mission and values

This policy supports Council's Mission and Values through ensuring the resilience of functions which support the provision of accessible and sustainable lifestyles for the community.

7. Statement of Practice

7.1 General Information about Council Meetings

Decisions made at formal Council Meetings provide the direction and authority for the ongoing operation of the Council. It is at these meetings that the Chair and Councillors decide the policy direction of the Council and make decisions on other statutory matters.

The decisions give direction to the Chief Executive Officer and are implemented by Council employees.

Council is a corporate body and as such, it can only make decisions by resolution, i.e. a motion must be put to the vote at a properly convened meeting and adopted by the required majority of Councillors present.

A Council can only make decisions and adopt resolutions about matters falling within its jurisdiction, otherwise it will be deemed to be acting '*ultra vires*', i.e. acting beyond its powers.

Council's Local Law No. 12 (*Meetings Procedure and Use of Common Seal*) was developed to provide procedures for the conduct of Council meetings.

The Chair of the meeting has a casting vote if there is an equality of votes.

The method of voting is carried out by a show of hands.

Debate Procedure

The Chair will introduce each item of business by reading out the item number and the title of the item, following which the item will be introduced by the relevant Director.

Councillors, after being afforded the opportunity of asking questions on the item, will then be invited to move a motion. Generally, the motion will be to Move:

- the Officer's Recommendation in the Council Meeting Agenda for that item, or
- an alternative Motion, or
- a Procedural Motion.

The Chair will indicate who has Seconded the Motion.

If there is no Secunder the Motion Lapses, and another motion can be moved.

Upon the motion being seconded, the Chair will invite the mover of the motion and then the secunder to speak. They may speak or decline the opportunity to speak.

3.

Council Meeting Policy 2019



The Chair will then invite speakers For and Against the motion. During this process any Councillor can move an amendment (or give notice of their intention to move an alternative motion, if the motion being considered is not adopted).

If an amendment is moved, the Chair will call for a seconder.

If there is no seconder, the amendment lapses, and the original motion is debated.

If the amendment is seconded, the mover and seconder of the amendment are invited to speak, followed by other Councillors speaking For and Against the amendment.

When there are no more speakers the Chair puts the amendment to the vote.

If the amendment is adopted, it becomes the substantive motion.

If the amendment is defeated it is finished with.

The Chair will then proceed to deal with the original motion, inviting Councillors to speak to the motion.

When there are no more speakers the mover of the motion is invited by the Chair to close debate - *(also known as the right of reply)*.

The Chair then puts the motion to the vote.

The Chairperson will then declare the motion either CARRIED or LOST.

In-Camera

Meetings are closed to the public when items of a confidential nature are discussed, such as an individual's financial circumstances, a personnel matter, proposed development, contractual arrangements or legal matters. These are defined in more detail within Section 89 of the Local Government Act 1989.

7.2 Requirements for Councillors whilst speaking

Councillor stands whilst speaking and ensures they utilise the desk microphone in front of them, so that all visitors in attendance (including hearing loop or live streaming services) may hear the debate and decision making of the Council.

7.3 Streaming Council Meetings

In the spirit of open, accessible and transparent governance, Maroondah City Council live streams all Council Meetings.

Live streaming allows you to view proceedings via the internet without the need to attend Council meetings. This gives greater access to Council debate and decisions and eliminates geographic barriers that may prevent the community from attending meetings. Previously streamed meetings are also available in Council's video archive - <http://webcast.maroondah.vic.gov.au/video.php>

By attending a Council Meeting those present may be recorded or image captured, although all care is to be taken to maintain a person's privacy as an attendee in the gallery. Notices to this effect are on display at the meeting.

Council's Policy 'Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Meetings' provides information and procedures in relation to the recording and live streaming of Council Meetings and can be accessed on the Maroondah web-site:

<http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-organisation/Policies/Live-Streaming-and-Publishing-Recordings-of-Meetings-Policy>

4.

7.4 Behaviour Expectations for Visitors attending Council Meetings

All visitors at a meeting are required to behave in accordance with the Meeting Procedure Local Law to allow the meeting to proceed without disruption.

In keeping with State & Federal Parliament guidelines, appropriate behaviour includes:

- Being quiet during proceedings
- Not creating a nuisance within the meeting
- Being respectful of the protocols of the meeting
- Not harassing those attending the meeting, including Councillors, Council employees and other visitors
- Not bringing in any placards, posters or materials other than personal effects
- Not displaying any physical violence or verbal abuse to anyone or anything within the meeting
- Not wilfully or recklessly endanger the physical and/or psychological safety of Council employees, workers, contractors or other persons in the workplace
- Not recording meeting proceedings without the consent of the Chair/Chairperson via photography filming or audio, unless consent has been given
- Having mobile devices switched off or on silent
- Not engaging in unlawful conduct

The Chair has the discretion to cause the removal of any person, including a Councillors, who disrupts any meeting or fails to comply with a direction in accordance with clause 83 of Local Law No.12 (*Meetings Procedure and Use of Common Seal*) or conducts themselves in a manner that may constitute an immediate risk to the physical and/or psychological safety of other persons attending the meeting.

7.5 Petitions

The community has the right to lobby Council and can do so through petitioning.

Upon receipt of a petition, the matter is then listed as an item of business on the next Ordinary Council Meeting Agenda under the appropriate Directorate. If there is insufficient time to prepare a full report on the subject matter, the report will simply note the contents of the petition and direct that a further report on the matter be prepared.

Council has no specific format requirement for petitions, provided that the Prayer of the petition is contained on each page.

Requirements for a Valid Petition

For a petition from the community to be accepted and presented to a Council meeting on its own merits, the following requirements must be met:

Petition must:

- be addressed to Maroondah City Council
- refer to a matter on which Maroondah City Council has the power to act
- contain a Prayer requesting action by Maroondah City Council
- be signed by at least ten people (*must not be in pencil*) who reside within the municipality
- not relate to a matter under consideration through a current submission/objection process (*e.g. through the Planning and Environment Act 1987 or the Local Government Act 1989*)

5.

Council Meeting Policy 2019



Prayer of the Petition must:

- be placed at the top of every page
- not contain any alterations
- not be illegal and must not promote illegal acts
- not use language of an objectionable or inflammatory nature

Note: Only paper-based petitions that meet the above criteria will be accepted.

Submitting Petitions

Petitions should be forwarded by mail with the details of the head petitioner, or other nominated person for follow up, to:

Maroondah City Council
PO Box 156
Ringwood VIC 3134

OR delivered in person to any Maroondah City Council Customer Service Centre during business hours.

Assessment of Petition

Once received, Council employees will provide written acknowledgement of receipt, and undertake an initial assessment against the criteria specified in this policy to ensure that it complies prior to being presented to the next available Council meeting.

If the subject matter relates to a current submission process (e.g. through the *Planning and Environment Act 1987* or the *Local Government Act 1989*), the petition will be considered as a submission/objection to that process, and the lead petitioner or other nominated person notified accordingly.

Any other matter will be considered as general correspondence and not presented to Council, and the lead submitter or other nominated person notified accordingly.

Follow up of Petition

Once tabled, the petition is forwarded to the appropriate Director for action. A report is then presented to a subsequent Ordinary Council Meeting, which will include a recommendation from Council employees for Council consideration.

Council employees may contact the lead petitioner or other nominated person as appropriate to clarify any of the issues raised in the petition.

The lead petitioner will be advised in writing of the outcome of the request contained in the petition within a reasonable timeframe.

It is the responsibility of the lead petitioner to advise other signatories of the outcome.

Council Meeting Policy 2019**7.6 Written Submissions**

Council will invite submissions in accordance with its Community Engagement Policy from time to time. Written submissions can form part of a Director's report being presented to Council; however, there are no other opportunities for written submissions or correspondence to be listed as an agenda item.

This policy does not override the provisions of the Local Government Act 1989 or change the opportunities or obligations in relation to people wishing to lodge submissions/objections to planning applications or proposed planning scheme amendments.

Where the submission does relate to a statutory submission process under the Local Government Act 1989 or the Planning and Environment Act 1987, Council will ensure that those procedures are followed, including any notifications required to those who have made a submission as specified in the applicable statutory processes.

7.7 Public Question Time

Local Law No. 12 (Meetings Procedure and Use of Common Seal) provides an opportunity in the Agenda of an Ordinary Council Meeting for the public to submit questions to Councillors or Council Officers.

This is not designed to take the place of contacting a Councillor or Councillors directly to discuss an issue, or to replace contacting Council's Customer Services for assistance. Rather, it is designed to allow for clarification of issues of public interest.

Requirements for a valid question

For a question to be considered at an Ordinary Council Meeting, the following requirements must be met:

- Questions will only be accepted in the format of the prescribed form as detailed in Appendix 1. Public Question Time Forms are available from the City Offices and Customer Service Centres and may be downloaded from Council's website <http://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/content-migration/Forms-and-Permits/Public-Question-Time-form>
- Questions are to be submitted to the Chief Executive Officer no later than 12 noon on the day of the Council Meeting
- A person must not submit more than two questions to a Council Meeting
- Where questions are divided into parts, each part will be considered a separate question

However:

- The Chair may disallow any question on the grounds that it is repetitive of a question already asked, either at the current Council Meeting or previous Council Meeting, objectionable, irrelevant, raises an issue of a confidential nature, or is asked to embarrass either a Councillor or Council Officer
- Council will not deal with a question if the person who submitted the question is not present during question time, in which case he or she will be provided an answer by letter

7.8 Privacy

To comply with the Victorian Privacy and Data Protection Act 2014, personal information provided as part of any provision detailed in this policy will only be used for the primary purpose for which it was provided – (e.g. to consider the petition, question or submission).

7.

Council Meeting Policy 2019

**7.9 Definitions**

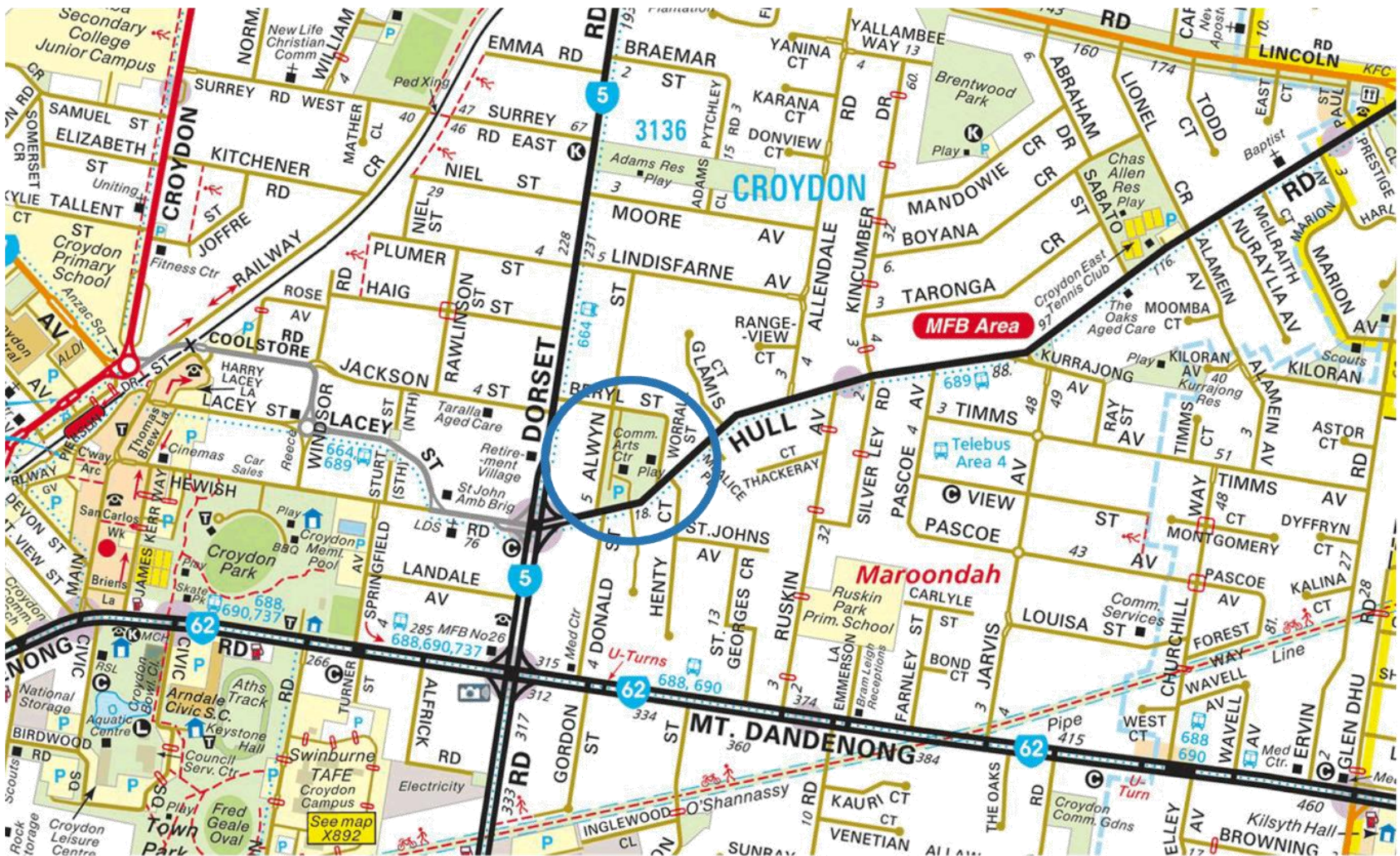
Chief Executive Officer	means the Chief Executive Officer of Maroondah City Council
Council	means the Maroondah City Council
Council Meeting	means an Ordinary Meeting or Special Meeting of the Council, as defined in Sections 83 & 84 of the Local Government Act 1989
Councillor	means a person who holds the office of Councillor of Maroondah City Council
Council Employee	Means a person employed by Maroondah City Council
Chair	means a person who Chairs the Council Meeting
Director	Means a Director of Maroondah City Council
Visitor	Means any person other than a Councillor or Council Officer, who attends a Council Meeting

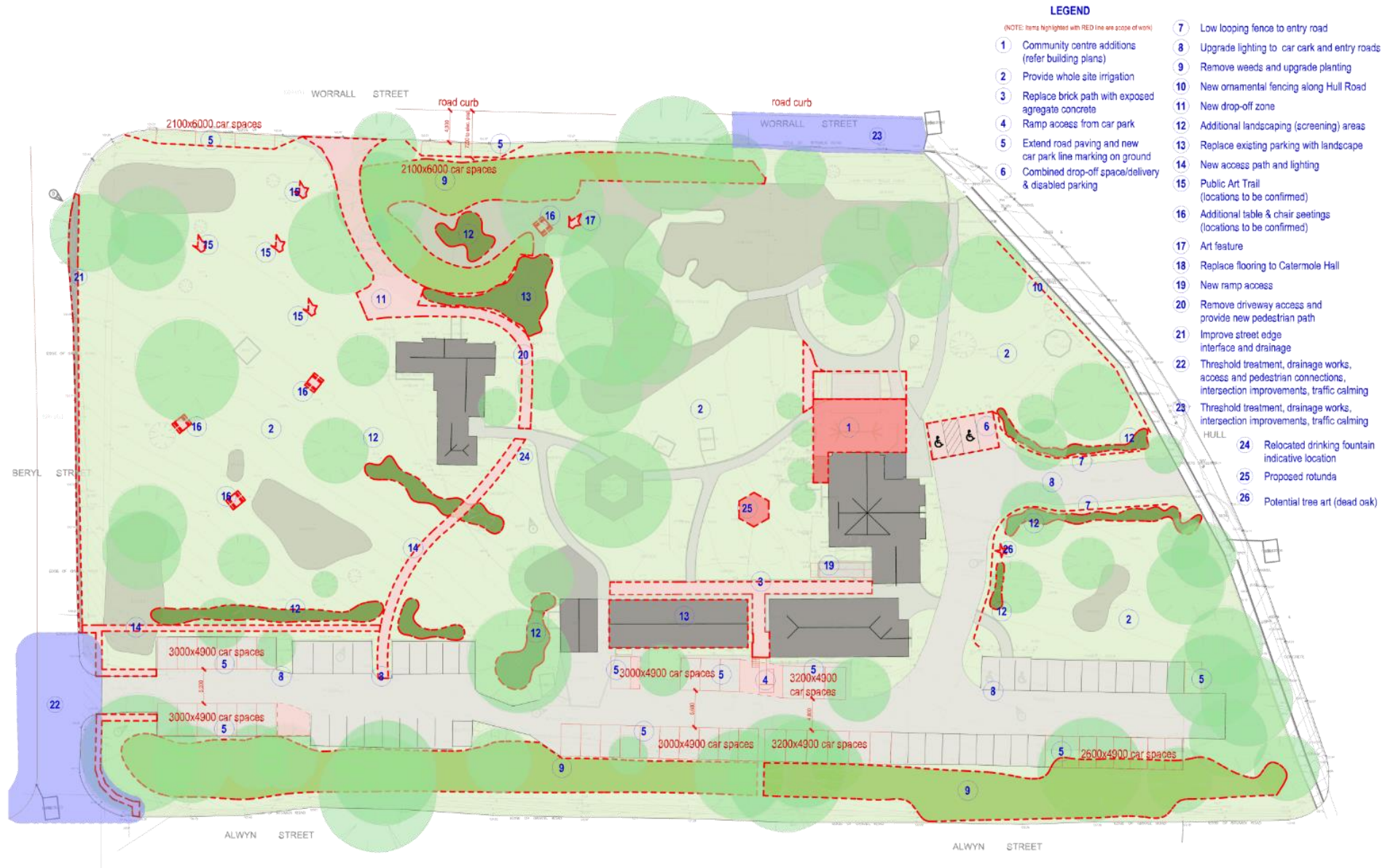
8. Policy Distribution

This policy will be accessible on the Maroondah web, Smartnet and distributed to Service Area Managers.

9. Related Policies and Documents

Local Law No. 12 (Meetings Procedure and Use of Common Seal)	e-CLIP ref:16/172971
Live Streaming and Publishing Recordings of Meetings Policy	e-CLIP ref: 17/9610
Privacy Policy	e-CLIP ref: 19/158433





Wyreena Community Centre Croydon

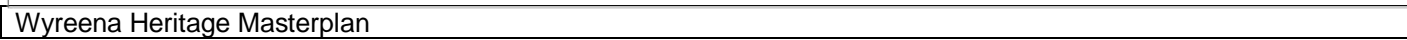
MASTER PLAN

10/17/2019

2016064SK101Q

WYREENA COMMUNITY CENTRE CROYDON
 10/17/2019
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Local Government Performance Reporting Framework 2019/20 Reporting Year







SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR RESULTS - YTD Quarter 1
(1 July 2019 – 30 September 2019)

Introduction

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) is a key initiative to improve the transparency and accountability of council performance to ratepayers and to provide a more meaningful set of information to the public. The framework is made up of a range of performance measures and a governance and management checklist items which together build a comprehensive picture of council performance.

The following report provides the prescribed Local Government Performance Reporting Framework service performance indicator results for end Q1 2019/20.

The following status icons may assist in interpreting these service performance results

	Result is currently on track / progressing as expected / within expected range for the reporting period
	Result is neutral / yet to be finalised / being monitored
	Result is currently not on track / not progressing as expected / outside expected range for the reporting period
	Result not available / New measure with no comparison available



Animal Management

Provision of animal management and responsible pet ownership services to the community including monitoring, registration, enforcement and education

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Timeliness							
Time taken to action animal requests	Number of days taken to action animal requests <i>Expected range: 1 to 10 days</i>	1.41 days	1.31 days	1.02 days	1.08 days		
Service standard							
Animals reclaimed	% of collected animals reclaimed <i>Expected range: 30% to 90%</i>	73.17%	66.40%	76.87%	67.74%		
Service cost							
Cost of animal management service	\$ direct cost of the animal management service per registered animal <i>Expected range: \$10 to \$70</i>	\$0.52	\$6.84	\$35.27	\$31.58	As per Victorian Government reporting changes, this measure now calculates the 'municipal population' instead of 'number of registered animals'. The YTD decreased cost in animal management services is attributed to this methodological change along with a reallocation of salaries in 2019/20 and the receipt of more animal related legal fees.	
Health and safety							
Animal management prosecutions	Number of prosecutions <i>Expected range: 0 to 50 prosecutions</i>	1 prosecution	3 prosecutions	5 prosecutions	3 prosecutions		
Service standards							
Animals rehomed	% of animals rehomed <i>Expected range: 30% to 90%</i>	18.70%	N/A	N/A	N/A	New measure for 2019/20	

Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- the "percentage of animals rehomed" being reported as a new indicator
- the computation for animal management prosecutions now includes "total number of animal management prosecutions"
- feral animals are not excluded from "% of animals reclaimed"
- the "cost of animal management services" now includes municipal population instead of "number of registered animals".



Aquatic Facilities

Provision of indoor and outdoor aquatic facilities to the community and visitors for wellbeing, water safety, sport and recreation

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Service standard							
User satisfaction with aquatic facilities	User satisfaction with how Council has performed on the provision of aquatic facilities <i>Expected range: N/A</i>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Optional measure only. Not being measured in 2019/20	
Service standard							
Health inspections of aquatic facilities	Number of health inspections per Council aquatic facility <i>Expected range: 1 to 4 inspections</i>	0 inspections	1 inspection	3 inspections	2 inspections	Council normally conducts pool samplings twice per year, the next scheduled inspection in November 2019.	
Utilisation							
Utilisation of aquatic facilities	Number of visits to aquatic facilities per head of municipal population <i>Expected range: 1 to 10 visits</i>	2.59 visits	2.21 visits	10.11 visits	8.75 visits		
Service cost							
Cost of aquatic facilities	\$ direct cost less any income received of providing aquatic facilities per visit <i>Expected range: \$3 to \$20</i>	\$0.12	\$-0.02	\$0.39	\$-0.94	New measure for 2019/20. As per Victorian Government reporting changes, aquatic facility costs are now shown as a combined indicator.	

Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- aquatic facility costs now shown in external reporting as a combined indicator.
- reportable safety incidents indicator no longer being included in external reports



Food Safety

Provision of food safety services to the community including registrations, education, monitoring, inspections and compliance

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	YTD 2019	YTD 2018	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Timeliness							
Time taken to action food complaints	Number of days taken to action food complaints <i>Expected range: 1 to 10 days</i>	2.12 (calendar year)	1.56 days <i>(calendar year)</i>	1.88 days	1.90 days	This measure follows a calendar year basis to align with reporting to DHHS	
Service standard							
Food safety assessments	% of registered class 1 food premises and class 2 food premises that receive an annual food safety assessment <i>Expected range: 50% to 100%</i>	83.79% (calendar year)	82.45% <i>(calendar year)</i>	98.00%	98.53%	This measure follows a calendar year basis to align with reporting to DHHS	
Service cost							
Cost of food safety service	\$ direct cost of the food safety service per registered food premises <i>Expected range: \$300 to \$1,200</i>	\$157.60 (financial year)	\$183.44 <i>(financial year)</i>	\$738.76	\$639.70		
Health and safety							
Critical and major non-compliance notifications	% of critical and major non-compliance outcome notifications that are followed up by council <i>Expected range: 60% to 100%</i>	101.96% (calendar year)	98.09% <i>(calendar year)</i>	100.0%	95.06%	This measure follows a calendar year basis to align with reporting to DHHS	



Governance

Provision of good governance to the community including making and implementing decisions with reference to community engagement, policy frameworks and agreed practice

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Transparency							
Council resolutions at meetings closed to the public	% of Council resolutions made at meetings closed to the public <i>Expected range: 0% to 30%</i>	6.00%	14.60%	8.52%	13.74%	The increase in transparency is attributed to the reduction in confidential 'in-camera' decisions made at Council meetings this quarter.	
Consultation and engagement							
Satisfaction with community consultation and engagement	Satisfaction rating out of 100 <i>Expected range: 40 to 70</i>	Not available	58	58	56	Satisfaction is measured as part of the annual Community Satisfaction Survey, with results to be made available in May/June 2020.	
Attendance							
Council attendance at Council meetings	% of Council attendance at ordinary and special Council meetings <i>Expected range: 80% to 100%</i>	85.19%	85.19%	88.89%	86.32%		
Service cost							
Cost of elected representation	\$ direct cost of the governance service per councillor <i>Expected range: \$30,000 to \$80,000</i>	\$11,882	\$10,582	\$48,960	\$45,744		
Decision making							
Satisfaction with Council decisions	Satisfaction rating out of 100 <i>Expected range: 40 to 70</i>	Not available	62	62	59	Satisfaction is measured as part of the annual Community Satisfaction Survey, with results to be made available in May/June 2020.	

Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- The indicator name 'cost of governance' has changed to 'cost of elected representation' to better reflect what is measured by the indicator.



Libraries

Provision of print and digital based resources to the community in a variety of formats including collection services, e-services, research tools and interactive learning programs

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Utilisation							
Physical library collection usage	Number of physical library collection item loans per library collection item <i>Expected range: 1 to 9 items</i>	2.79 loans	2.73 loans	10.47 loans	10.58 loans		
Resource standard							
Recently purchased library collection	% of recently purchased library collection that has been purchased in the last 5 years <i>Expected range: 40% to 90%</i>	75.74%	74.40%	72.39%	75.47%		
Service cost							
Cost of library service	\$ direct cost of the library service per visit <i>Expected range: \$3 to \$15</i>	\$4.63	\$2.47	\$2.78	\$2.58	This measure now calculates the municipal population instead of number of visits.	
Participation							
Active library members	% of the municipal population that are active library members <i>Expected range: 10% to 40%</i>	14.60%	16.19%	16.26%	16.18%		

Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- The 'cost of library service' measure now calculates the 'municipal population' instead of 'number of library visits'.
- The indicator name 'standard of library collection' has changed to 'recently purchased library collection' to better reflect the actual measure.



Maternal and Child Health

Provision of universal access to health services for children from birth to school age and their families
including early detection, referral, monitoring and recording child health and development

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Satisfaction							
Participation in first MCH home visit	% of infants enrolled in the MCH service who receive the first MCH home visit <i>Expected range: 90% to 110%</i>	91.29%	95.68%	98.80%	101.20%		
Service standard							
Infant enrolments in the MCH service	% of infants enrolled in the MCH service <i>Expected range: 90% to 110%</i>	101.85%	100.68%	101.06%	101.06%		
Service cost							
Cost of the MCH service	\$ cost of the MCH service per hour of service delivered <i>Expected range: \$50 to \$200</i>	71.84%	\$79.39	\$87.20	\$71.22		
Participation							
Participation in MCH service	% of children enrolled who participate in the MCH services <i>Expected range: 70% to 100%</i>	48.89%	47.24%	78.11%	73.88%		
Participation							
Participation in MCH service by Aboriginal children	% of Aboriginal children enrolled who participate in the MCH service <i>Expected range: 60% to 100%</i>	51.25%	47.56%	72.63%	69.90%		






Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- The indicator name 'participation in first MCH home visit' has changed to 'participation in 4-week key age and stage visit'



Roads

Provision of a network of sealed local roads under the control of the municipal council to all road users

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Satisfaction of use							
Sealed local road requests	Number of sealed local road requests per 100 kilometres of sealed local road <i>Expected range: 10 to 120 requests</i>	32.22 Requests	25.74 Requests	108.04 requests	98.35 requests		
Condition							
Sealed local roads below the intervention level	% of sealed local roads that are below the renewal intervention level <i>Expected range: 80% to 100%</i>	99.27%	97.25%	97.31%	97.25%		
Service cost							
Cost of sealed local road reconstruction	\$ direct reconstruction cost per square metre of sealed local roads reconstructed <i>Expected range: \$20 to \$200</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$221.08	\$87.98	Some works have commenced in the first quarter; however, costs have not yet been fully released. This measure will be updated in coming quarters.	
Cost of sealed local road resealing	\$ direct resealing cost per square metre of sealed local roads resealed <i>Expected range: \$4 to \$30</i>	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$19.99	\$26.60		
Satisfaction							
Satisfaction with sealed local roads	Satisfaction rating out of 100 <i>Expected range: 50 to 100</i>	N/A	70	70	68	Satisfaction is measured as part of the annual Community Satisfaction Survey, with results to be made available in May 2020.	



Statutory Planning

Provision of land use and development assessment services to applicants and the community
including advice and determination of applications

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Timeliness							
Time taken to decide planning applications	Days between receipt of a planning application and a decision on the application <i>Expected range: 30 to 110 days</i>	36 days	33 days	34 days	35 days		
Service standard							
Planning applications decided within 60 days	% of planning application decisions made within required timeframe days <i>Expected range: 40% to 100%</i>	89.12%	84.80%	81.63%	82.45%		
Service cost							
Cost of statutory planning service	\$ direct cost of the statutory planning service per planning application <i>Expected range: \$500 to \$4,000</i>	\$1,900	\$1,450	\$1,870	\$1,861		
Decision making							
Planning decisions upheld at VCAT	% of decisions subject to review by VCAT that were not set aside <i>Expected range: 30% to 100%</i>	100.00%	91.70%	90.24%	90.41%		

Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- The computation for 'cost of statutory planning services' now measures 'total applications' instead of 'new permit applications' from the Planning Permit Activity Reporting System report (PPARS).



Waste Collection

Provision of kerbside waste collection service to the community including garbage and recyclables

Service indicator/measure	Measure expressed as:	Q1 YTD 2019/20	Q1 YTD 2018/19	EoY 2018/19	EoY 2017/18	Comment	Status
Satisfaction							
Kerbside bin collection requests	Number of kerbside bin collection requests per 1000 kerbside bin collection households <i>Expected range: 10 to 300 requests</i>	15.3 requests	17 requests	71.9 Requests	72.1 requests		
Service standard							
Kerbside collection bins missed	Number of kerbside collection bins missed per 10,000 scheduled kerbside collection bin lifts <i>Expected range: 1 to 20 bins</i>	3.2 bins	3.4 bins	3.5 bins	3.4 bins		
Service cost							
Cost of kerbside garbage collection service	\$ direct cost of the kerbside garbage bin collection service per kerbside garbage collection bin <i>Expected range: \$40 to \$150</i>	\$26.92	\$26.82	\$106.11	\$103.19		
Service cost							
Cost of kerbside recyclables collection service	\$ direct cost of the kerbside recyclables collection service per kerbside recyclables collection bin <i>Expected range: \$10 to \$80</i>	\$14.59	\$15.54	\$62.59	\$43.36		
Waste diversion							
Kerbside collection waste diverted from landfill	% of garbage, recyclables and green organics collected from kerbside bins that is diverted from landfill <i>Expected range: 20% to 60%</i>	52.95%	55.26%	54.56%	54.19%		

Please note that Victorian Government LGPRF changes for 2019/20 financial year have resulted in:

- The definition for 'cost of kerbside recyclables bin collection service' has changed to recognise the contract cost to the council of kerbside recyclables collection service.

Victorian Government Inquiry into Homelessness

Maroondah City Council Submission
December 2019

Introduction

Maroondah City Council welcomes the Victorian Government's Inquiry into Homelessness and appreciates the opportunity to make a submission.

Historically, local government has had limited involvement in this area but over time this has changed for many Councils. The increasing emphasis on effective social policy, social inclusion, health and wellbeing and best practice community engagement has seen a shift in emphasis along with the unique relationship that local government has with its local community compared to other levels of government. It is the view of Council that local government has a key role to play in responding to and addressing homelessness in its local community.

Current assessment of homelessness in Maroondah

Local government authorities are an initial point of contact for many individuals and organisations in the community. This includes people experiencing or at risk of homelessness along with homelessness and other support agencies. Councils play a key role in responding to enquiries including providing direct services and where required, providing initial assessment and referral functions. This variety of functions provide local government authorities with a unique opportunity to respond to homelessness needs in the community.

In recent years, Maroondah City Council has been aware of an increasing trend in the prevalence of homelessness in the municipality, particularly in primary homelessness or people sleeping rough. There has been a shift from people who historically may have slept rough in the Melbourne CBD to seeking shelter in the outer eastern suburbs. This may in part be due to the ability to sleep in secluded locations where they will not draw attention to themselves.

Maroondah City Council has responded to the increased demand through the implementation of a broad range of strategic and operational responses which will be outlined further in this submission.

The Victorian Government's Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Plan was launched in January 2018. The Plan included funding to deliver assertive outreach in locations with a high incidence of rough sleeping that had little or no outreach capacity. Eight new assertive outreach teams with dedicated brokerage funds were recently established in the areas of highest incidence of rough sleeping throughout the state. Three outer suburban and five regional/rural locations were funded. Maroondah was one of the areas identified. The Pathways to Home program delivered by Wellways has the capacity to provide assertive outreach to up to 120 people and beyond, sleeping rough each year, including rapid access to emergency accommodation, health services, ongoing case management and housing support.

Census Data

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics people experiencing homelessness are unevenly distributed through the Maroondah municipality.

The 2016 Census found that Ringwood, Ringwood East and Croydon have the highest numbers of people experiencing homelessness.

Suburb	Numbers	% of population
Bayswater North	29	2.5% (11,650)
Croydon East	58	3.9% (15,006)
Croydon West	49	3.7% (13,217)
Croydon Hills – Waranwood	13	0.7% (17,639)
Croydon South	21	4.5% (4,660)
Ringwood	94	5.5% (17,179)
Ringwood East	62	3.0% (20,340)
Ringwood North	4	0.4% (9,357)
Vermont	18	1.7% (10,370)
Maroondah	425	0.3% (114,979)

The ability of local government to highlight and assist in addressing homelessness and related issues is evident in the range of strategies and policies that it produces.

Maroondah City Council has a strong commitment to providing a range of responses to address homelessness and improving the health and wellbeing of people experiencing homelessness.

Council has a range of strategies and policies that include a focus on and links to housing, homelessness, prevention of violence against women, socio-economic disadvantage and health and wellbeing. Included are:

- Maroondah 2040: Our future together
- Council Plan 2017-2021
- Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021 (Municipal Public Health Plan)
- Maroondah Disability Policy and Action Plan 2019-2021
- Maroondah Affordable and Social Housing Policy 2018
- Maroondah Gambling Policy 2018
- Gender Equity Policy 2018
- Maroondah Housing Strategy 2016
- Active and Health Ageing Initiative 2015-2020

Such strategies and policies ensure that the needs of people experiencing homelessness are considered and responded to during different phases of strategy development including community engagement, strategy development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

As highlighted in Council's Affordable and Social Housing Policy 2018, Maroondah has traditionally been a suburban area where people could afford to live. This situation is changing as access to affordable and social housing becomes more difficult. At the 2016 ABS Census, nearly 4500 low income households (or 10%) of all households were experiencing housing stress with more than half of these defined as being in severe housing stress (paying more than 50% of their income to rent)

Consultation feedback for the Maroondah Affordable and Social Housing Policy 2016 indicated that low income households with children and young single people are finding it increasing difficult to access appropriate and affordable housing. This contributes to a range of issues including homelessness.

Council initiatives

Maroondah City Council has undertaken a range of initiatives over many years that address the issue of homelessness both directly and/or indirectly. The following is an overview of key activities.

Protocol for Assisting People Sleeping Rough in Public Places

In 2015, Council developed the Maroondah Protocol for Assisting People Sleeping Rough in Public Places. The Protocol is designed to:

- Help ensure people experiencing primary homelessness are treated respectfully and appropriately and are not discriminated against on the basis of their situation;
- Assist people sleeping rough to receive services if they need or request them;
- Provide Council and Council employees with a framework for responding to instances of people sleeping within the municipality;
- Protocol was developed with the support of housing and social support agencies.

The Protocol applies to public places such as parks, open spaces and community facilities which are accessible to the public which are Council owned, controlled or managed.

The Protocol ensures that Local Laws staff are notified of people sleeping rough who appear to be distressed, are requesting services, are contravening Local Laws, or their health and safety is at risk.

Local Laws Officers are trained in responding to people sensitively and to provide information on available services. They work closely with outreach support agencies who can offer additional support and make a welfare assessment.

When the Protocol was developed, it was not common practice within local government. The benefits of the development of the Protocol have been substantial. It provides a streamlined approach to how Council employees respond to the issue of homelessness, particularly primary homelessness. Prior to the introduction of the Protocol, responses would vary depending on the level of experience an employee had. A key component of the Protocol has been training with key Council officers who are likely to be in contact with people sleeping rough. Primary service areas have included Customer Service Centre and Operations employees who oversee the maintenance of bushland, sportsfields, trees and parks. The training increases employees understanding of the causes of homelessness and the most appropriate and respectful responses when dealing with people who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

The Protocol has had a substantial impact on how Council supports people experiencing primary homelessness. It has ensured a consistent response across Council which includes providing a range of information and referrals to local support agencies.

Maroondah Emergency Relief Network

The Maroondah Emergency Relief Network (MERN), consists of community-based agencies located in and servicing the Maroondah community. Council has a long history of supporting the MERN and has facilitated the Network directly since 2008.

Members of the network include, amongst others, St Vincent de Paul, Wesley Mission Victoria, Maroondah Community Assist, Hope City Mission, Heathmont Interchurch Help, Vive Café and North Ringwood Care.

Council facilitates a quarterly meeting which brings together agencies to share information, hear guest speakers and identify gaps in service delivery.

Agencies that are part of the MERN provide a broad range of services including emergency relief and support services, food, community meals, vouchers, budget support and referral, accommodation and support and court support.

The majority of clients that access the services of the MERN agencies have been and continue to experience homelessness or are at risk of homelessness and are amongst the most vulnerable in the Maroondah community. There has been a growing trend in the number of people accessing food relief including community meals. Some providers have 80-100 attendees per week. There is either lunch or dinner available seven days each week in Maroondah.

Council's direct involvement in the MERN has been highly beneficial in establishing and strengthening strong partnerships with community agencies who are working with people experiencing homelessness. It is a mechanism for Council to hear first-hand the issues experienced by agencies and assists Council to identify the role it can play in working in partnership to address issues.

Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA)

The Eastern Affordable Housing Alliance (EAHA) is a group of six Councils in the Eastern Metropolitan Region of Melbourne (Knox, Whitehorse, Maroondah, Yarra Ranges, Manningham, Monash), that undertakes a broad range of activities related to affordable housing including research and advocacy for increased affordable and social housing to meet current and future needs for the region's most disadvantaged people.

The EAHA was established in 2010 in response to the diminishing investment in social housing in the eastern region. The EAHA has been instrumental in directly advocating to both the Victorian and Australian Governments to raise the profile of the shortage of affordable and social housing in the region.

Winter Shelter Program

The Winter Shelter program is facilitated by Croydon Hills Baptist Church and was delivered for the first time in Maroondah during the winter months of 2018. The program is modelled on a similar service in Yarra Ranges municipality. The program involved seven churches within Maroondah which provided overnight accommodation, a meal and access to shower facilities one night a week to men over the age of 24 who are sleeping rough. The service operates from the beginning of June through to the end of August. In 2019, there were 29 guests accessing 846 visits, an increase of 225% in visits from the previous year.

Council has a key role in supporting the Winter Shelter program. It has the expertise across a broad range of functions such as community development, local laws, statutory planning and building which is required to operate such a service. No other organisation has this unique mix of functions.

This year, Council's Building and Planning departments developed an innovative partnership with the churches to ensure that compliance standards were met. The portable shower that is moved from site to site each night was the result of this partnership and adherence to building standards. It has been an essential component for the long term viability of the program.

Maroondah Partners in Community Health and Wellbeing

Council convenes the Maroondah Partners in Community Health and Wellbeing Committee. The Committee's role is to oversee the development and implementation of the Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan (Municipal Public Health Plan) which address the health and wellbeing of the community using the social model of health. Representation on the committee includes key agencies either located in or servicing the Maroondah municipality, Council employees and two Councillors.

Wesley Mission have been a key representative on the Committee for the past 10 years. They are one of the five organisations identified as a Homelessness Entry Point within the Eastern Metropolitan Region and are located within Maroondah. They also offer crisis accommodation and information to people who are experiencing or are at risk of homelessness and family violence along with tenancy support, youth accommodation and emergency relief services.

The inclusion of a key homelessness agency on the Committee is extremely beneficial to Council. It assists in ensuring that homelessness is an issue that is well represented in key discussions in the development of the Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan.

Council Community Grants Program

Council offers an annual community grant program that is open to organisations either based in or servicing the Maroondah community.

Each year the program is heavily oversubscribed in relation to the amount of funding available. Many emergency relief providers and agencies delivering homelessness services apply for funding. Many of the applications have received significant support from Council over many years. Council also provides financial assistance to Maroondah Community Assist, one of the largest emergency relief providers in the municipality with a four-year funding agreement.

Other Council Initiatives

Mental Health - Many people who experience homelessness also experience mental health issues. Council has undertaken a range of key initiatives on mental health. Mental Health First Aid training has been offered to the community over the last four years. Each year there has been approximately 25 participants from community based groups/organisations, many who are volunteers, who undertake the two day training which has provided them with skills to recognise the early warning signs and appropriate interventions across a range of mental health issues. In 2019 the training was also offered to Council staff.

In October 2019, *StressLess and look after your mental wellbeing*, Council's mental health awareness event for the Maroondah community, was held in partnership with EACH, Eastern Regional Libraries and mental health service Neami National. The evening featured a presentation by author, illustrator and public speaker Matthew Johnstone who spoke about mental health, prevention strategies and the benefits of mindfulness. There were over 250 attendees.

The Maroondah Communities of Wellbeing Initiative brings world class expertise in positive psychology into Maroondah. The initiative involves a range of key stakeholders including education, community health, community support and both local and state government working in partnership to improve the wellbeing of the Maroondah community. Preventative work is key to building community resilience, enhancing mental health and supporting early interventions to social issues such as homelessness. Positive psychology provides evidence-based interventions that equip community members with effective tools and resources to manage adversity. Investment in strong communities helps to build the protective factors needed to have people be connected, feel supported, and access resources when required.

MABELS Project (Mothers and Babies Engaging and Living Safely) - The MABELS Project is a health justice partnership in the eastern metropolitan region of Melbourne. Project partners include local government, legal and community organisations. Mables enables women to receive advice and assistance at a much earlier point in their experience of family violence than they may have otherwise. Typically, women's first contact with family violence services, police, lawyers and courts occurs at a point of significant crisis. Mabels is able provide help to women before that crisis point is reached.

Enhanced Maternal Child Health Service encompasses a partnership with CHYMS (Child and Youth Mental Health Services). The enhanced MCH nurse and the CHYMS clinician attend appointments with families who have experienced severe mental health issues/episodes and the trauma that has impacted significantly on the mental health of the infant/child including family violence.

Prevention of Violence Against Women - Family violence is the single biggest cause of homelessness in Victoria. Maroondah City Council is committed to preventing violence against women and preventing violence before it occurs, by focusing on gender equality. Council is committed to working towards a community where everyone is valued and enjoys equity of opportunity and outcomes. Council is involved in many initiatives. Some of these include:

- Partnering with Women's Health East, other Councils and community based organisations in the development and implementation of the regional Together For Equality and Respect Regional Strategy;
- Gender equity training for employees and early childhood educators,
- One Million Stars to End Violence project where more than 5000 community members and 50 community groups and schools were engaged in weaving stars that culminated in a display of one million stars at the 2018 Gold Coast Commonwealth Games
- Our Codes Our Clubs promoting gender equality in sporting clubs to help change the story of violence against women;
- Development of Council's Gender Equity Policy 2018

Recommendations

1. The Victorian Government more actively promote the range of initiatives and key roles that local government authorities can play in responding to the needs of people experiencing homelessness.
2. The Victorian Government should provide resources and guidance to assist Councils in effectively responding to municipal homelessness issues.
3. The Victorian Government promotes the development of a Protocol Sleeping Rough in Public Places to local government authorities, including a better practice guide.

Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025

Draft for Public Exhibition

DRAFT

Maroondah City Council, in the spirit of reconciliation, acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the Wurundjeri.

We accept, respect and have shared with the Wurundjeri people in their customs of welcome.

The Wurundjeri people support the coming together of all people, respecting their individuality, to focus on a unified and cohesive nation.

Welcome to the Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025

Welcome to the Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025.

The Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy sets out the key directions for arts and cultural development in Maroondah over the next five years. It represents a significant commitment by Council to lead, partner and support the arts and culture. It is for everyone who lives, works or plays in Maroondah, particularly those interested in the creative and cultural life of our city. The Strategy will be of special interest to the wide range of partners we will work with over the next five years – the many artists, practitioners and groups, businesses, community organisations and creative industries who share the vision for Maroondah as a vibrant and culturally rich community.

Arts and cultural activity is a key ingredient in the liveability of Maroondah, a city which has a proud history of participation and celebration of the arts. A wide range of artists and creative practitioners call Maroondah home and there are many active arts and cultural groups, a range of established and successful programs, well-loved facilities and some outstanding achievements within the region.

Five years ago, Council consulted extensively with the community and other stakeholders to develop a Vision for the future of Maroondah that would reflect the aspirations and hopes of our community. Maroondah's Community Vision 2040 identified that 'A vibrant and culturally rich community' was a key priority area for Maroondah. At that time Council also developed Maroondah's first Arts and Cultural Development Strategy, responding to the aspirations of our community and key stakeholders who told us they wanted to be part of a culturally rich and vibrant community with 'art everywhere, everyday'.

Since Council launched the first Arts and Cultural Development Strategy in 2014, we have seen unprecedented growth in participation, attendance, profile and support for arts and culture in Maroondah.

Together we have been building arts and culture as part of everyday life for residents and visitors to Maroondah - from public art projects across Maroondah to the introduction of new arts spaces and programs particularly at Realm and within the Ringwood arts precinct. Highlights of arts and culture programming over the past five years have been achieved through extensive engagement with a wide range of artists and local communities, the development of many outstanding events and exhibitions, as well as participatory activities promoting wellbeing, and creative ways of celebrating and valuing Maroondah's natural environment.

Our sense of place is linked to our understanding of our environment and where we have come from. For more than 60,000 years the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin nation have been the traditional owners of the area. Today, Maroondah is also home to Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place, which brings together community members from across the eastern region who have diverse Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories.

There are many other histories and stories associated with Maroondah, and cultural diversity is increasing with newly arriving communities including the largest Burmese community in Melbourne's eastern region. Arts and culture can provide inspiring and transformative ways of raising awareness and building appreciation of all of our peoples.

In developing the Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025, community members and residents, artists and people involved in the creative industries, key groups and organisations, as well as Council service areas and other key stakeholders:

- endorsed the key achievements of the past five years
- confirmed on-going support for the directions established in the first Strategy
- suggested areas to improve and strengthen arts and cultural sustainability
- identified new opportunities to extend the reach of successful activities and to increase profile across the municipality.

The next five years will be another exciting and productive period for arts and cultural development in Maroondah as we continue to implement the community's vision and strengthen our position as an arts and cultural leader in the eastern region.

We will continue to implement our key directions, develop Maroondah's public spaces so that they are inclusive and culturally vibrant, and develop new and strengthened partnerships. We will build on and celebrate the strengths and quality of our cultural heritage and our existing creative spaces, programs and cultural assets including the Public Art collection and the Maroondah City Council Art Collection.

Together with our community, we look forward to being challenged, educated, delighted, amazed and connected to our heritage and to each other through the arts. With this Strategy, Council re-affirms our commitment to supporting and promoting excellence in our arts and cultural offerings and to leading the realisation of the community's vision for a culturally rich and vibrant Maroondah.

Community Vision

Maroondah is a vibrant and connected community recognised for its creativity and innovation, and for its celebration and promotion of arts and cultural excellence. Participation and engagement in contemporary and traditional forms of creative and cultural expression and the experience of the arts as a part of everyday life contributes to individual and community wellbeing, knowledge and quality of life.

Executive Summary

The story and identity of Maroondah owes much to its many cultural strengths, its active and creative community and its popular and successful arts facilities, programs and events.

In the past five years, a new chapter in Maroondah's cultural story has been emerging with exciting new developments in:

- creating new spaces and places for the arts
- experiencing the arts as part of everyday life
- connecting communities, culture, and the environment
- presenting innovative and contemporary practice across all art forms
- strengthening the links between arts and wellbeing.

The growth of Ringwood as a Metropolitan Activity Centre has provided transformative opportunities for the creation of vibrant and creative spaces, where the arts can be experienced by all. The new arts spaces within Realm and Ringwood Town Square have introduced contemporary and highly successful arts experiences to hundreds of thousands of visitors. The developing Ringwood arts precinct extends beyond Realm to include a walkable network of indoor and outdoor spaces linking Ringwood Town Square, the Backyard, Ringwood Station and the Maroondah Federation Estate, so that the arts and creativity connect with people as they work, go about their business, visit the library, commute, shop, or simply have a coffee or a wander. New infrastructure and improvements in the Croydon Activity Centre have also begun to pave the way for greater arts activation as part of a more culturally vibrant precinct.

During this time Council's established facilities - the Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery, the Wyreena Community Arts Centre and the Karralyka Centre - have continued to evolve and flourish. Visitation rates to all of these key facilities have increased dramatically. Visitation and participation to exhibitions, installations, events and activities programmed as part of the Ringwood arts precinct alone have attracted over 130,000 visitors in the past year.

The Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025 will build on the development and achievements of the past five years, further establishing Maroondah's position as an arts and cultural leader within the eastern region. Council's dedicated and experienced Arts and Cultural Development team together with other areas of Council, will work in partnership with the community, artists and industry to support, engage, connect, create and enable the arts and culture to be experienced as an intrinsic and valued part of everyday life in Maroondah.

Welcome to the Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025 which:

- presents the key directions for the next five years and guiding principles to underpin this work
- provides an outline of how the arts will be integrated across key functions of Council
- explains how the strategy was developed
- outlines the role of Council and key stakeholders in arts and cultural development, facilities and assets
- includes Council's commitment to support, monitor and evaluate the strategy.

We outline what the Maroondah of the future will look like, including exciting developments such as the Croydon Community Precinct and further development of the Ringwood arts precinct, as well as the important work of developing the arts and creative participation across Maroondah.

Vision and Key Directions

The vision is that *'Maroondah is a vibrant and connected community recognised for its creativity and innovation, and for its celebration and promotion of arts and cultural excellence. Participation and engagement in contemporary and traditional forms of creative and cultural expression and the experience of*

the arts as a part of everyday life contributes to individual and community wellbeing, knowledge and quality of life.'

Through the consultations and research undertaken for the strategy, three outcome areas have emerged focus the work of Council and its partners over the next five years to achieve the community's vision. These are:

- A Culturally Active, Engaged and Connected Community
- Vibrant Places and Spaces
- A City which is Creative, Flourishing and Values the Arts

About the Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025

The Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025 sets out the roadmap for the next five years, building on our established strengths, achievements and directions and guiding new priorities for a culturally rich and vibrant Maroondah.

Over the next five years, we will explore, develop and build on three outcome areas:

- A Culturally Active, Engaged and Connected Community
- Vibrant Places and Spaces
- A City which is Creative, Flourishing and Values the Arts

The Strategy enables Council to transparently direct its investment and efforts towards goals that have been developed in consultation with a wide range of community members, artists and creative industry stakeholders and internal and external partners. It sets out clear and achievable outcomes for the next five years and will continue to involve the Maroondah community in shaping and realising this vision for the future.

Who is the Strategy for?

In addition to guiding Council's directions and priorities for the arts and cultural development in Maroondah, the strategy is for:

- everyone who lives in, works in or visits in Maroondah, particularly those interested in the creative and cultural life of our city
- the wide range of existing and new partners that Council will work with over the next five years – artists and creative practitioners, arts, cultural and community groups, businesses and creative industries who share in the vision for Maroondah as a vibrant and culturally rich community.

Guiding principles

The strategy is underpinned by the following guiding principles and our commitment to:

- Honouring and promoting Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts and culture
- Supporting and presenting excellence and quality in the arts
- Promoting inclusion and diversity
- Facilitating creative and cultural participation
- Supporting the community benefits of the arts
- Supporting artists and creative industries
- Building on foundations and strengths
- Working with internal and external partners
- Promoting the sharing of expertise and experience
- Ensuring that the strategy is achievable

Maroondah's Integrated Planning Framework -

Council's strategic documents, such as the Arts and Cultural Development Strategy, are linked through an Integrated Planning Framework which seeks to ensure Council's activities and resources are aligned in order to meet the aspirations, needs and expectations of the Maroondah community, as shown in the following diagram.

This framework is underpinned by the long-term strategic vision presented in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*:

In 2040, Maroondah will be a vibrant and diverse city with a healthy and active community, living in green leafy neighbourhoods which are connected to thriving and accessible activity centres contributing to a prosperous economy within a safe, inclusive and sustainable environment.

Maroondah 2040 identifies eight key outcome areas which align with the community's aspirations, desires, dreams, and priorities looking ahead to the year 2040 and beyond:

- 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 Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025 reflects and contributes to all of these key outcome areas and has a particular focus on *A vibrant and culturally rich community*. It will lead an integrated approach to arts and cultural development activity across Council and the whole of Maroondah over the next five years.



How was the Arts and Cultural Development Strategy developed?

Our starting point: Reflecting on the achievements of the past five years

Developing the Maroondah's Arts and Cultural Development Strategy for the next five years has provided the opportunity to pause and reflect on the implementation and achievements of the past strategy.

Important developments over the past five years include:

- the opening of ArtSpace at Realm as an integrated facility within Maroondah City Council's library, learning and cultural centre
- the creation of the Ringwood arts precinct, linking Ringwood Town Square and Realm, Ringwood Station and Maroondah Federation Estate. The precinct includes unique and surprising spaces for arts experiences such as The Backyard and an outstanding series of urban art
- highly successful contemporary arts programming as part of the Ringwood arts precinct bringing together arts, culture, and creativity as part of everyday life
- a new direction for the Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery as a space for exhibitions by emerging artists, community and works from the Maroondah City Council Art Collection
- development of a Public Art policy
- unprecedented levels of external funding and partnerships
- links and partnerships built across all areas of Council to promote the integration of arts and cultural priorities within indoor and outdoor spaces and precinct developments
- development of the Croydon Town Square
- increased networks, connections and collaborations between locally based artists and groups including the Maroondah Arts Collective with 255 members

Council has worked closely with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place over the past five years and the work of many Indigenous artists and cultural groups has been celebrated through highly successful exhibitions, projects, programs, and events.

The previous strategy's emphasis on growing partnerships and creative collaborations has included local businesses and community organisations, artists and creative professionals. Maroondah now has a flourishing local arts network, the Maroondah Arts Collective, connecting and supporting artists to develop their practice and businesses.

The Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee (MAAC) was established in 2018 to assist with informing and advising Council on ways to realise the community's vision for a creative and culturally vibrant Maroondah. The Committee advocates for the arts in Maroondah, advises on approvals such as public art commissions and promotes partnerships for the arts and integration across other committees of Council. The Committee includes three Councillors and seven community and industry representatives who live, work or who have expertise relevant to the arts in Maroondah including:

- Indigenous arts, culture and community
- creative industries
- contemporary and traditional arts practices including music, theatre, visual and public arts
- socially engaged and inclusive practice across a wide range of age groups and interests
- marketing and partnerships.

Some of the key achievements of the previous strategy include:

- significant growth in the profile and participation in the arts
- increased awareness and recognition by Council, business and community partners of the contribution of arts and creativity across social, economic, environmental, and cultural domains

- an unprecedented increase in arts audiences, visitors and participants to key facilities and precincts: between 2013-2014 and 2018-2019 visitation and participation within the Ringwood arts precinct increased from 6200 to 130,600 while Wyreena Community Arts Centre experienced an increase from 52,000 to 88,570.
- a wide range of highly successful and engaging indoor and outdoor public art commissions across Maroondah
- establishment of the Maroondah Art Trail of cafés promoting local artists
- outstanding collaborations between a wide range of artists and local communities including the Ringwood arts precinct projects of 2017-18 funded by Creative Victoria, where leading artists and companies - Rawcus, Snuff Puppets, Kutcha Edwards, Westside Circus and Playable Streets - worked with local and marginalised communities
- innovative arts and wellbeing initiatives developed in partnership with mental health and suicide prevention agencies
- increased support for artists of all abilities and creative participation of community members across all age groups and backgrounds.

Reflecting on Maroondah's key cultural facilities and assets

The City of Maroondah has a range of key cultural facilities which are an important consideration for effective arts and cultural development planning. These include:

ArtSpace at Realm:	Realm is a state-of-the-art facility that leads the creative, education and prosperous development of Maroondah and Melbourne's eastern region. The curated ArtSpace at Realm features dynamic contemporary exhibitions as well as interactive Arts Incubators. ArtWall features temporary murals and installations and public art is integrated across the facility. Varied programs at Realm include live music, theatre performances, workshops, installations and curated displays within the Collectors Cabinets.
Ringwood Arts Precinct:	The Ringwood arts precinct is a walkable network of exciting and diverse indoor and outdoor spaces within the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre. It includes Realm, Ringwood Town Square, the Ringwood Station, and the Backyard as well as the nearby Maroondah Federation Estate. High quality, exciting and often surprising experiences range from contemporary and traditional exhibitions, to indoor and outdoor music and theatre performances, to a guided walk visiting an outstanding and growing collection of street art. Over the past five years, visitation and audiences for arts activities, exhibitions, installations and events within the precinct have grown from approximately 6,200 to around 130,000 annually.
Maroondah City Council Art Collection:	The Maroondah City Council Art Collection holds a wide range of paintings, prints, photography, ceramics and sculpture by Australian artists from colonial times to the present. It includes works by leading contemporary and historic Australian artists with a focus on Indigenous artists from across Australia and works that explore Maroondah's cultural heritage. The Collection continues to grow through the triennial R & M McGivern Art Prize, Council's annual acquisition fund, and donations received through the Federal Government's Cultural Gifts Program.
Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery:	Located within Ringwood's community and cultural facility Maroondah Federation Estate, exhibitions and associated activities present a broad range of contemporary and traditional visual arts practices. The Gallery's annual exhibition program includes a focus on supporting emerging artists and presenting established artists and groups from Maroondah and the local region as well as presenting works from the Maroondah City Council Art Collection.

Public Art:

Guided by Maroondah's Public Art Policy and responding to the community's desire for traditional and contemporary art forms in public places, Maroondah's collection of indoor and outdoor public art continues to grow. Some of the significant commissions include:

- Spotted Marsh Frog (Artist: Ian Bracegirdle), Croydon
- Maroondah Nets Mural (Ash Keating), Heathmont
- A Weight of Albatross (Louise Jennison and Gracia Haby), Realm, Ringwood
- Mullum Mullum the Owl (William Eicholtz), Mullum Trail, Ringwood
- Yellow Tailed Black Cockatoos (Rob Bast), Longview Road, Croydon South
- Aquanation public art (Anna Minardo), Aquanation, Ringwood

Wyreena Community Arts Centre:

Set in one of Croydon's historic buildings and located on four acres of gardens, Wyreena is a highly valued creative centre for the whole community. It provides courses and workshops for children and adults, an adventure playground, and an Arts Lounge featuring works by local makers and artists.

Karralyka Centre:

The premier theatre and function centre in Maroondah within an architecturally award-winning building (designed by Harry Seidler (with modifications by other architects). Karralyka presents a popular theatre program while also providing outstanding facilities available for hire.

Development of the Strategy for 2020-2025

Informed by reflections on the achievements of the past five years and by an understanding of Council's key cultural facilities and assets, the Strategy has been developed through a combination of research, review and consultation.

1. Policy context

A review of key national, state and local government policies relating to arts and cultural development has helped to set the context for the Strategy. Within Maroondah's Integrated Planning Framework, the 2040 Community Vision is a key guiding document with its vision for a community that is vibrant and culturally rich, as well as:

- safe, healthy and active
- prosperous and learning
- clean, green and sustainable
- attractive, thriving and well built

A range of other internal strategies and plans were also reviewed to ensure alignment of goals and activities, across Council including:

- Children's Plan
- Disability Policy and Action Plan
- Health and Wellbeing Plan
- Open Space Strategy
- Maroondah Youth Strategy
- Maroondah Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2018 – 2020.

2. Consultation with the Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee and Community

The MAAC has provided invaluable advice and guidance during the twelve-month period of planning and development for the Strategy. The Maroondah community also contributed through a range of consultation opportunities. Relevant service areas across Council have also contributed their knowledge and expertise.

What is Council's role in arts and cultural development?

Council has a vital leadership role in arts and cultural development, setting the vision and policy direction for Maroondah and liaising and consulting across local government and other levels of government. Council's role includes a focus on working together with our community and a wide range of partners and stakeholders. Within Council, the Arts and Cultural Development team provide leadership in arts and cultural development planning, providing advice, developing partnerships and encouraging leading practice across other internal service areas.

Council will:

Advocate	Advocate at the state government level on behalf of the people of Maroondah about arts policy and practice which impacts on the cultural vitality of Maroondah.
Plan and facilitate	Ensure that planning and resourcing of our arts and cultural infrastructure, programming and opportunities respond to changing community demographics, needs and aspirations. This includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - integrating cultural values and opportunities within major precinct developments, ensuring that our Activity Centres are creative places which celebrate and promote the heritage and values of our people. - facilitating opportunities for our community, artists and other stakeholders to work together in realising a shared vision for a culturally rich and vibrant Maroondah. - evaluating and reporting on the work that we do
Present and program	Develop and present contemporary and traditional arts and cultural experiences, exhibitions, events and activities. This includes arts and cultural programming in community and cultural facilities, outdoor and open spaces and community festivals as well as projects developed with arts, business and industry partners. Public art commissions are aligned with the directions of the Public Art Policy and invite artists to develop proposals for indoor and outdoor spaces across Maroondah.
Provide and manage facilities and spaces	Manage key facilities including the ArtSpace at Realm, the Maroondah Federation Estate Gallery, Wyreena Community Arts Centre and the Karralyka Centre. Review, plan, provide and develop new and existing spaces and facilities in response to needs and opportunities.
Support and develop	Develop, broker and support participation and networks aligned with the directions of the Strategy including ongoing support for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Maroondah Arts Collective - the annual Arts and Cultural Grants Program which supports a range of diverse and local community-driven projects, initiatives and events - the R & M McGivern Prize which is held every three years and attracts artists from across Australia. The winning artwork is acquired for the Maroondah City Council Art Collection - the Maroondah City Council Art Collection
Promote and inform	Promote and inform the community and its partners about the role and value of the arts and culture and about its support for arts and cultural development. Promote arts and creative

opportunities through effective marketing strategies tailored to arts audiences as well as strategies for the wider community. This will include further development of the *Arts in Maroondah* arts marketing strategy and also general marketing and communications through Council publications and channels.

How will the arts and cultural development vision be realised?

Council will work together with the community and key partners to realise the vision for a creative and culturally vibrant Maroondah. This includes partners from:

Artists and creative industries	Leading and recognised artists and creative leaders across all art forms and arts, cultural and community organisations at the local and state level are key partners. The Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee includes members with knowledge, expertise and networks in Indigenous arts and culture and a range of contemporary and traditional arts practices including music, theatre, visual and public arts. In addition to Council's networks across the creative sector, the Committee is also a key conduit for connecting with local and regional creative practitioners and creative industries.
Community	<p>Partners from within the Maroondah community include artists, arts groups and organisations.</p> <p>Council has a strong relationship with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place as well as a wide range of community organisations and diverse cultural communities. Council partners with schools, community organisations and agencies who use the arts in their work to promote access and inclusion, participation and wellbeing.</p>
Business	Council supports and promotes local business networks, groups and individual businesses and recognises the value of culturally vibrant places to shop and visit. Key partnerships which support Activity Centres as creative places include the Eastland Shopping Centre and other businesses within the Ringwood arts precinct, and the Croydon Main Street Traders Association.
Government	<p>Council will continue to actively participate and contribute to local government networks to share our knowledge, explore partnerships and ensure that we are up to date with key trends and local government initiatives across the state.</p> <p>We work with State and Commonwealth governments where there are opportunities to influence policies and policy frameworks, providing submissions to consultation requests or to through specific projects awarded by funding grants.</p>
Council	The Arts and Cultural Development team will provide specialist knowledge and expertise to lead the implementation of the Strategy and will liaise, partner and provide expert advice to internal and external partners. Given the clear reach and benefits of arts and culture across many segments of community life, the Strategy will be implemented in a holistic way across Council's functions and facilities.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Council recognises the importance of transparency and accountability and the value of ongoing monitoring and evaluation. Implementation of the Arts and Cultural Development Strategy will be assessed and reviewed through a range of industry-standard quantitative and qualitative indicators.

An evaluation framework and approach will be established in the first year of the Strategy. In line with contemporary cultural development thinking, the framework will allow for assessing cultural outcomes and also contributions to social, civic, economic and environmental outcomes. Discrete evaluations may be conducted for projects of strategic importance which offer opportunities to learn, direct our investments and share our learnings.

Maroondah's approach will be informed by significant work which has been undertaken in this area by the Cultural Development Network along with approaches currently being developed at the state and national levels.

What makes a creative and culturally vibrant community?

Creative ecosystems

Contemporary thinking conceptualises the creative and cultural sectors as being part of an ecosystem – comprised of interlinked, interdependent components – professional artists and amateurs, community groups and creative industries, arts infrastructure and arts companies. This approach recognises the role of individuals, collectives and organisations of all sizes and types in overall health of the creatives industries and seeks to create a whole that is stronger than the sum of its parts. (<https://engage.vic.gov.au/creative-strategy/guiding-principles>)

Creative Victoria explained their focus on ‘*Strengthening the creative industries ecology by building capacity and unlocking opportunities to reach audiences*’ in this way:

Individual practitioners are essential to a vibrant creative State. However, Victoria needs a strategy that nurtures all parts of the ecosystem, enabling individual practitioners to thrive alongside cultural organisations, businesses, entrepreneurs and infrastructure. A strong ecosystem will support a dynamic interplay between disciplines and across enterprises...

Creative Victoria Creative State, Global City Creative Industries Taskforce Report, November 2015

Local governments are uniquely positioned to work across the creative ecosystem within their municipalities and are critical in providing access to creative experiences and services for communities. Local government also plays a key role in commissioning and presenting the work of leading artists and creative practitioners as part of an enriched local culture that engages with new knowledge, insights and innovation.

The Maroondah Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020-2025 recognises the need to balance support and activity across all components of its local ecosystem, from grassroots creative participation through to innovative, contemporary and cutting-edge practice, from facility-based programming and precincts, through to small and informal activity at the neighbourhood level. It includes considering the best ways to support young people to pursue their creative passions, support for Indigenous cultural and arts practice and creative and cultural expression for all, while also acknowledging outstanding practice and excellence, such as through the R&M McGivern Prize, programming in our key cultural facilities and providing public art commissions. Taking an ecological approach also includes supporting skill development and skill exchange, risk-taking, supporting innovation, providing spaces for making and co-creating work as well as presenting.

Part of Maroondah’s leadership role also includes ensuring that cultural values and needs are integrated across its social, environmental and economic roles and advocating across the three tiers of government to further support this work.

By including culture as a domain of public policy, and enabling citizens opportunities to express their culture, governments maximise the potential for human development. Access to and participation in cultural life is a fundamental right of individuals in all communities, and therefore governments have a duty to enable this expression and facilitate their citizens’ human rights.

<https://culturaldevelopment.net.au/policy-domains/cultural-domain-description/>

What will the Maroondah of the future look like?

Vibrant places and spaces

In addition to further strengthening the programming within Maroondah's existing cultural facilities, over the next five years Council will continue to work with its partners to develop creative approaches to placemaking and activating public spaces through the arts.

Croydon Activity Centre

Integration of arts and cultural experiences will be a vital element for a vibrant Croydon Activity Centre which includes Croydon Main Street, Croydon Community Precinct and Tarralla Creek as well as Wyreena Community Arts Centre. A new community and cultural hub within the Croydon Community Precinct will provide inclusive opportunities for all ages and abilities, spaces for rehearsal and presentation of performances and community and cultural events.

There are opportunities to build stronger links between Wyreena Community Arts Centre and Croydon Main Street. Further development of public art, an art and heritage trail and a celebration of the local stories and village character will contribute to the success of this key activity centre within Croydon.

Ringwood arts precinct

A key focus area for the next five years will be to work in partnership with Eastland and other community partners to build further on the successful establishment of this precinct with its innovative and accessible programming for the whole community.

A Creative and Flourishing City

Arts across Maroondah

Local communities across Maroondah are keen to experience the arts within their neighbourhoods through a range of events and activities and as an integrated part of the built environment. Planning for local centres will include opportunities for activities which are driven by artists and local communities.

A Culturally Active, Engaged and Connected Community

Indigenous arts and culture

The arts provide a powerful way to learn how to listen, to understand and respect, and to engage and reconcile with Indigenous community and culture. We will continue to work together with and promote Indigenous artists and communities through programming and presentation within our arts and cultural spaces as well as in community and public places.

Community wellbeing

Over the next five years, we will help to build individual and community wellbeing through broad participation in arts and cultural activity. We will continue to develop innovative and creative responses to social issues, such as previous successful collaborative projects enhancing mental health and wellbeing and preventing family violence. The integration of arts and cultural spaces and activities within the new Croydon Community Precinct will include a focus on supporting and enhancing community wellbeing.

Arts and environment

Maroondah has a unique environment that needs to be preserved and celebrated. Appreciation and awareness of the environment can be strengthened through carefully considered arts projects, exhibitions and events as well as through the integration of design, public art and interpretation.

Artists and creative ideas will be supported to respond to the environment and to enrich the culture of Maroondah.

What are the key directions for arts and cultural development for the next five years?

Through the consultations and research undertaken in this strategy development, three outcome areas have emerged for the focus of work over the next five years. These are:

- A Culturally Active, Engaged and Connected Community
- Vibrant Places and Spaces
- A City that is Creative, Flourishing and Values the Arts

Building on recent achievements, Maroondah is well on the journey to realising its vision as a vibrant and culturally rich community with creative places where people can experience the arts as part of everyday life through public art, exhibitions and pop-up events. Over the next five years there is significant opportunity to extend support for local creative industries and new spaces for the arts within key precincts.

These directions align with the focus areas of major national and state cultural organisations and will ensure that Council's arts and cultural development activity and Maroondah's local artists and creatives are in step with our partners and potential future funding opportunities.

In the following pages, the key directions for each outcome area are set out. The Arts and Cultural Development team will lead the overarching implementation of this strategy, together with internal and external partners.

Vision and Key Strategic Directions

Community Vision:

Maroondah is a vibrant and connected community recognised for its creativity and innovation, and for its celebration and promotion of arts and cultural excellence. Participation and engagement in contemporary and traditional forms of creative and cultural expression and the experience of the arts as a part of everyday life contributes to individual and community wellbeing, knowledge and quality of life.

Theme 1: A Culturally Active, Engaged and Connected Community

Participating in the arts has multiple benefits for health and wellbeing: it reduces social isolation, strengthens community connection and builds self-esteem, as people pursue creative activity alone or in groups.

VicHealth Arts Strategy 2019-2023, VicHealth 2019

Our stakeholders said

The arts and creative participation have tremendous potential to enhance individual and community physical and mental wellbeing through creative expression, activity and engagement and to connect places, people, generations and diverse cultural groups. The arts as a vehicle to strengthen and connect the community and support wellbeing came through strongly in stakeholder feedback, highlighting potential to:

- learn from and connect with Indigenous communities and knowledge through arts and culture
- reach marginalised and hard to reach population groups through the arts
- connect with nature and the natural environment through arts and culture
- enhance physical and mental health through arts participation and creative expression
- share stories to promote knowledge of history and cultural heritage
- engender community pride
- support civic participation and exploration of issues and ideas.

The community emphasised the importance of low-cost and accessible participatory arts, experiential opportunities, supporting enhanced mental and physical health and wellbeing, as well as surprising, challenging and high-quality contemporary arts opportunities.

While the Arts and Cultural Development team is recognised as the key planner, driver and deliverer of arts and cultural activity, this is also seen as a shared responsibility across Council service areas. There is willingness and enthusiasm shown across Council to plan and work collaboratively on shared strategies with social, economic, community, cultural and environmental outcomes.

“Provide opportunities, involve everyone and art can be a positive for the community.”

“Using the arts to bring community together and foster greater representation of marginal groups... Greater visibility is a great step to greater community connectedness. This also gives the rest of the community an opportunity to consider broader perspectives and experiences.”

Key directions:

- Offer low-cost and accessible participatory arts and experiential opportunities, supporting enhanced mental and physical health and wellbeing, as well as surprising, challenging and high-quality contemporary arts opportunities to engage community members of all ages, abilities and backgrounds
 - Continue to strengthen partnerships and develop targeted arts engagement strategies for identified population groups
 - Contribute to community connectedness through support for inter-generational and inter-cultural activities and projects
- Deliver innovative cross-disciplinary, signature projects for specific needs of key population groups,
- Work in partnership with Mullum Mullum Indigenous Gathering Place on Indigenous-led arts projects which engage and connect the community and support First Nations artists
 - Deliver innovative projects and exhibitions that explore issues, interests and values of importance to the Maroondah community such as the environment and cultural heritage
 - Facilitate greater connections between arts and cultural initiatives and directions across Council including between Karralyka and Wyreena and other arts programming
 - Integrate public art into infrastructure for families and children across Maroondah
 - Provide surprising and engaging arts activities and events across the community such as pop up events, ephemeral arts, and art including in public spaces, open spaces and the natural environment
 - Investigate opportunities to promote and deliver free, low cost and accessible activities, and night-time and weekend activities
 - Encourage and provide advice to external arts and community groups, schools and arts organisations

Theme 2: Vibrant Places and Spaces

Creative Placemaking can be used by communities to engage residents locally, enhance public space and contribute to healthy sustainable communities... The success of creative placemaking is dependent upon collaborations between various civic stakeholders such as governments, private investment, not-for-profit organisations, artists and citizen groups. As part of this process, partnerships and shared leadership are crucial to build momentum and harness the power of the arts to heighten quality of life and revitalise buildings, neighbourhoods and cities.

<http://www.artscapediy.org/Creative-Placemaking/Approaches-to-Creative-Placemaking.aspx>

Our stakeholders said

Feedback about vibrant places and spaces remains strong, with a clear emphasis on including outdoor spaces, such as bushland and waterways, as well as playgrounds and open spaces. Vibrant places and spaces suggestions are now informed by the experience of the Ringwood arts precinct and there is a desire to continue to develop this area. The Croydon Community Precinct is a priority area for cultural planning and integrating the value of the arts and creativity. Some community feedback encouraged attention on places and suburbs other than Ringwood and Croydon. There is also a strong theme around improving spaces, such as empty shops, unused commercial spaces, highways, shopping centres and derelict public places.

"There is an opportunity to...create surprise art... The community enrichment and connectivity created by the Long View Road Cockatoos was extraordinary. People gathered to admire, talk it over, introduce themselves to neighbours and be street proud. It also enriched the lives of students being driven past and many walkers who do the Walter Burley Estate walk as part of their general exercise."

"I wanted to share how much I value the exhibitions and occasional live music at Realm. It is great to see music and exhibitions enjoyed by people from a range of generations and age groups. I'm not at a stage of life where I have time/energy to seek out local cultural opportunities, but I greatly value having experiences available that are linked to places I go each week such as shops and the library."

Key directions

- Further develop existing key exhibition, performance and arts programming facilities at Wyreena Community Arts Centre and at Karralyka Centre while providing ongoing support for established facilities such as Maroondah Federation Estate and Realm.
- Explore opportunities to ensure that the Croydon Community Precinct and adjacent areas including Tarralla Creek include facilities and a programming model which celebrates cultural heritage and supports arts and cultural activation
- Further develop temporary and permanent public art along Maroondah Highway and within the Ringwood arts precinct
- Incorporate public art and creative elements into key infrastructure developments such as public transport infrastructure and multi-level car parks across Maroondah
- Develop arts and cultural strategies as part of a creative placemaking approach across the municipality including the Ringwood and Croydon Activity Centres as well as neighbourhoods and specific locations in need of revitalisation or regeneration
- Seek funding opportunities and partnerships to support activation of empty spaces and regeneration of disused and derelict spaces
- Develop and extend the arts trail strategy – including Maroondah Art Trail and the Ringwood Urban Art Tour, and introduce a Croydon public art and heritage trail to promote local artists and showcase the unique character of areas within Maroondah, their communities and heritage
- Support temporary and pop-up installations, performances and events which can transform and add vitality to places and spaces across Maroondah.
- Increase opportunities for a diverse range of work by local arts groups and artists to be displayed across Council facilities and in activity centres
- Investigate opportunities to promote and deliver free, low cost and accessible activities, and night-time and weekend activities

Theme 3: A City that is Creative, Flourishing and Values the Arts

A culturally rich and vibrant community is one in which its members regularly express their own culture by making new art; and through their engagement with cultural activity, experience aesthetic enrichment, gain new knowledge, ideas and insights, come to appreciate the diversity and difference of human expression, and feel a connection to a heritage they share with others, from the past, through the present and into the future.

<https://culturaldevelopment.net.au/policy-domains/cultural-domain-description/>

Our stakeholders said

There is overarching support for the arts as an integral element of life in Maroondah – recognising arts and culture for their intrinsic value and for their social, economic and environmental contributions and benefits.

Our stakeholders recognise this and emphasise the importance of facilitating and supporting the conditions that create a flourishing local arts and cultural ecosystem:

- connecting to and working with local communities, their values and creative practice
- providing access to creative experiences and services
- supporting individual arts practice and creative industries
- liaising and creating links across community, government and business sectors
- creating and stimulating creative excellence through commissions and curated exhibits and experiences
- connecting local arts and cultural activity to the wider creative ecosystem.

“There are opportunities for Maroondah to think bigger so that it encourages artists and creatives to see Maroondah as the place to live, with the facilities to pursue their passions.”

“I love being part of a community where art is valued, where I can take my children to see live music and participate in interactive activities. Maroondah is already well on the way to bringing all walks of life together through arts and culture... we have so much available and beautiful facilities.”

Key directions

- Support arts practice in Maroondah through providing opportunities for exhibiting and presenting, through affordable access to studio and rehearsal spaces, and through arts and cultural grants
 - Support, promote and showcase leading, innovative and excellent creative practice through curated exhibitions and performance opportunities and through recognising and celebrating outstanding achievements
- Support the growth and sustainability of Maroondah's creative industries through targeted approaches including mentoring and skills development
- Explore potential partnerships with Maroondah-based business support programs and with other eastern Metropolitan region councils in order to stimulate, connect and promote local creative industries
 - Build a greater understanding of the visitor economy in Maroondah to inform the development of potential key cultural attractions and to strengthen effective marketing for the Arts in Maroondah
 - Explore the potential to attract creative industries to the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre, including privately owned land, such as Midway Arcade and within new private developments
 - Lead and facilitate a forum to bring together all levels of the local creative ecosystem to share information, strengthen connections and stimulate opportunities and build sustainability
 - Support a wide diversity of arts and creative industries practice in Maroondah, including music through supporting community music and choirs, professional musicians and promoting live music in Maroondah
 - Develop programming and promotional links between locally based arts product and broader metropolitan festivals and arts initiatives.
 - Support and connect Maroondah's artists through mentoring and creative development opportunities to link emerging and established artists.
 - Undertake an audit of local performing arts groups and identify needs and opportunities for increased access to creative spaces for rehearsal, production and presentation including within the Croydon Community Precinct
 - Explore opportunities to support the development of community-based arts production skills and capacity development for local arts groups at Karralyka
 - Strengthen marketing strategies for the Arts in Maroondah and Ringwood arts precinct to increase awareness of arts and cultural opportunities, programs and activities
 - Continue to build and promote opportunities to showcase and promote Maroondah's creativity and arts achievements
 - Increase opportunities for public access and engagement with the Maroondah City Council Art Collection including through digital technologies and public display