



Councillor
(as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be a virtual meeting, on Monday 17 August 2020, commencing at 7:30pm and your presence is requested.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Steve Kozlowski', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Steve Kozlowski
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Note:

Due to COVID-19 this is a virtual meeting of Council and is being streamed live on the internet and recorded. This meeting of Council can be viewed on Council's website via

<http://webcast.maroondah.vic.gov.au/video.php>

The Public Gallery is currently closed to the Public.

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Prayer
2. Acknowledgment of Country
3. Apologies
4. Declaration of Interests
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 27 July 2020.
6. Public Questions
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10. Late Item
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12. In Camera
 - Director Operations, Assets & Leisure
 1. Tender Evaluation Report – Contract 20951 Pool & Plant Maintenance (Aquahub, Aquanation & Croydon Memorial Pool)

ATTENDANCE REPORT

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To provide an opportunity for Councillors to report on Council activities undertaken since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council and forthcoming ward activities.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020-2021) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: Maroondah is an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that ensure their voice is heard and considered. Council provides strong and responsive leadership, ensures transparent processes and works with the community to advocate and champion their needs

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable

BACKGROUND

Not Applicable

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

It is intended that the Mayor and Councillors be given the opportunity to present a verbal or written report updating Council on the activities they have undertaken in their role as Councillors and forthcoming ward activities.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

It is appropriate that Councillors formally report to Council upon the activities they have undertaken in their role as Councillors.

ATTENDANCE REPORT Cont'd

ITEM 1

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORTS AS PRESENTED BY
COUNCILLORS**

REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS

ITEM 2

PURPOSE

To present the 'Public Record' of those Councillor Briefings which are attended by all Councillors and generally held on Monday evenings at the City Offices Ringwood, usually two weeks prior to the formal Council Meeting, and to note the issues discussed.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020-2021) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

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Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable

BACKGROUND

As part of decision-making processes at Maroondah, it is essential that Councillors are briefed on a range of issues which come before Council for consideration. As a means of providing this information, Councillor Briefings are conducted.

Councillor Briefings are also attended by Council Officers, and sometimes other specific advisors, to provide Councillors with a detailed knowledge and understanding of issues under consideration to a level of detail that would inhibit timely decision-making, that would not be possible in an open Council meeting, where decision-making related debate is governed by strict meeting procedures.

A Councillor Briefing is a non decision making forum, and as per past good governance practice, is deemed to be a scheduled or planned meeting comprising a majority of Councillors (at least 5) and one (1) Council employee, for the purpose of discussing matters that are intended or likely to be:

- the subject of a decision of the Council; or
- subject to the exercise of a delegated function, duty or power of Council

Examples of a Councillor Briefings may include:

- On-site inspections,
- Consultative Meetings with residents, developers, consultants
- Meetings with local organisations, Government Departments, statutory authorities, and local politicians

REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS Cont'd

ITEM 2

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Councillor Briefings are generally held twice a month, on Monday evenings at the City Offices Ringwood, usually two (2) weeks prior to, and on the night of a formal Council meeting.

The intent of this report is to present a 'Public Record' of those Councillor Briefings which are generally attended by all Councillors and typically held on Monday evenings, and to note the items discussed.

The 'Public Record' of the Councillor Briefings held on 22 June 2020 and 6 July 2020 is attached for information.

NOTE

As a result of current working arrangements due to COVID-19, Councillor Briefings are again presently being held via Zoom Teleconferencing.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Councillor Briefings are important forums for advice and discussion, on what are often complex issues facing the municipality, in the lead up to formal decisions being made by Councillors at Council Meetings. At Councillor Briefings, or outside them, Councillors also have the opportunity of requesting additional information to assist in the decision-making process.

It is appropriate that the 'Public Record' of those Councillor Briefings, which are attended by a majority of Councillors, i.e. at least five (5) Councillors and one (1) employee of Council, be noted.

REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS Cont'd

ITEM 2

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2020 July 27 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
2. 2020 August 03 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 22 JUNE 2020 AND 6 JULY 2020

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS

ITEM 3

PURPOSE

To receive and note the following meeting minutes.

- Maroondah Partners in Community Health and Wellbeing Committee Meeting held on 23 June 2020
- Maroondah Community Safety Committee Meeting held on the 6 July 2020
- Eastern Transport Coalition Meeting held on the 16 July 2020

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020-2021) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: Maroondah is an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that ensure their voice is heard and considered. Council provides strong and responsive leadership, ensures transparent processes and works with the community to advocate and champion their needs.

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable.

BACKGROUND

As part of Council's commitment to the principles and practice of good governance, it is appropriate that Councillors and the Community are formally updated on the actions and activities of the various organisations bodies/advisory groups upon which it is represented.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council is represented on numerous Boards and Organisations. Appointments are made annually by Council at the commencement of the new Mayoral term.

Crs Mazzuchelli and Damante are Council's representatives on the Maroondah Partners in Community Health and Wellbeing Committee.

Crs Lamont, Steane and Macdonald are Council's representatives on the Maroondah Community Safety Committee.

Cr Damante is Council's representative with Cr Graham as Council's substitute representative on the Eastern Transport Coalition.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

It is appropriate that Councillors and the Community are formally updated on the actions and activities of the various organisations bodies/advisory groups upon which Council is represented.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Maroondah Partners in Community Health and Wellbeing Committee Meeting Minutes - 23 June 2020
2. Maroondah Community Safety Committee Meeting Minutes - 6 July 2020
3. Eastern Transport Coalition Meeting Minutes - 16 July 2020

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES:

1. **MAROONDAH PARTNERS IN COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 23 JUNE 2020**
2. **MAROONDAH COMMUNITY SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 6 JULY 2020**
3. **EASTERN TRANSPORT COALITION MEETING HELD ON 16 JULY 2020**

**DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF ROAD BETWEEN 15-19
WILANA STREET RINGWOOD**

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

For Council to consider whether the road shown as 'Road R1' on registered plan of subdivision no. LP 116394 attached as Schedule 1 (Road), being the whole of the land contained in certificate of title volume 9144 folio 555, should be discontinued pursuant to the *Local Government Act 1989* (Act) and for that part of the Road shown as:

- Lot 1 on the title plan attached as Schedule 3 (Title Plan) to be sold to the owners of 15 Wilana Street Ringwood;
- Lot 2 on the Title Plan to be sold to the owner of the common property of 16 Thomas Street Ringwood.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020-2021) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community.

Our Vision: Maroondah is an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that ensure their voice is heard and considered. Council provides strong and responsive leadership, ensures transparent processes, and works with the community to advocate and champion their needs.

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

- 8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive, and accountable.
- 8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah resources, assets, infrastructure, and natural environment.

BACKGROUND

Council is the registered proprietor of the Road, shown highlighted yellow and red on the locality plan attached as Schedule 2 (Locality Plan).

The Road abuts 15 Wilana Street Ringwood, shown delineated blue on the Locality Plan.

That part of the Road shown delineated red on the Locality Plan and marked as Lot 2 on the Title Plan, is physically enclosed together with the common property of 16 Thomas Street Ringwood, shown delineated green on the Locality Plan.

The owners of 15 Wilana Street (Owners) have requested that Council discontinue the Road and sell that part of the Road shown marked as Lot 1 on the Title Plan to the owners (Proposal).

If the Road is discontinued, Council proposes to sell that part of the Road shown marked as Lot 2 on the Title Plan, to owner's corporation plan no. RP 011020 (Owners Corporation),

**DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF ROAD BETWEEN 15-19
WILANA STREET RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

being the registered proprietor of the common property of 16 Thomas Street Ringwood, for nominal consideration, to rectify a historical surveying error.

The Owners have agreed to pay Council's costs and disbursements associated with the proposed discontinuance of the Road, together with the market value for the transfer of that part of the discontinued Road shown marked as Lot 1 on the Title Plan to the Owners.

Road

The Road is a 'road' for the purposes of the Act. Council has statutory power to consider discontinuing the Road.

If the Road is discontinued, the Road will vest in Council.

At its meeting on 24 June 2019, Council resolved to:

- Commence the statutory procedures and give notice pursuant to section 207A and 223 of the Act of its intention to discontinue and sell the Road to the Owners and Owners Corporation; and
- For the Road to be removed from Council's Register of Public Roads.

Consolidation

If the Road is discontinued and that part of the Road shown marked as:

- Lot 1 on the Title Plan is sold to the Owners (15 Wilana Street); and
- Lot 2 on the Title Plan is sold to the Owners Corporation (16 Thomas Street).

Council will require the Owners and the Owners Corporation to consolidate the titles to the discontinued Road and the titles to their respective properties immediately following the transfer of that part of the Road to them, at their expense.

Public Notice

The required public notice was placed:

- In the 'Age' newspaper on 1 August 2019;
- On Council's website;
- On display at Council's Customer Service areas at Ringwood and Croydon;
- On display at Councils Libraries at Ringwood and Croydon.

No submissions were received by Council in response to the public notice by the closing date, being 29 August 2019.

**DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF ROAD BETWEEN 15-19
WILANA STREET RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

Public Authorities

The following statutory authorities have been advised of the proposed discontinuance of the Road and have been asked to respond to the question as to whether they have any existing assets in the Road, which should be saved under section 207C of the Act:

- Yarra Valley Water;
- Melbourne Water;
- Ausnet;
- Multinet Gas;
- Telstra; and
- Optus.

Yarra Valley Water has advised that it has no assets in or above the Road and has no objection to the proposed discontinuance of the Road.

Melbourne Water, Ausnet, Multinet Gas and Telstra have advised that they have no objection to the proposed discontinuance of the Road.

Optus has advised that it has no assets in or above the Road.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Internal consultation with Council's relevant service areas resulted in support of the proposal.

There are no strategic traffic or pedestrian reasons to oppose the sale of the Road, particularly given that the Road does not connect to Thomas Street.

Council's Valuers provided a market valuation based on an approximate area of 203 m² for part of the Road shown as Lot 1 on the Title Plan, as \$93,500 plus GST. The Owners have agreed to purchase Lot 1 on the Title Plan for the market valuation.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

All legal and disbursement costs associated with the discontinuance, subdivision and sale of that part of the Road shown as Lot 1 on the Title Plan, would be funded by the Owners, which are anticipated at \$12,000.

The costs associated with Councils administration in dealing with property matters including the costs associated with the transfer of that part of the Road shown as Lot 2 on the Title Plan to the Owners Corporation, is contained within the current budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

**DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF ROAD BETWEEN 15-19
WILANA STREET RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council has notified the community of the proposal to discontinue and the Road, through a Public Notice that was published in the 'Age' newspaper on 1 August 2019, inviting submissions to be received in accordance with the statutory procedures pursuant to section 223 of the Act.

At the conclusion of the consultation period on 29 August 2019, there were no submissions received.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that Council discontinue the Road pursuant to the Act and sell the Road to the Owners and Owners Corporation since all statutory requirements have been undertaken and that the Road is no longer reasonably required for general public use as the Road is not;

- Required for public access; and
- Open or available for public use.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Road Discontinuance - 15 Wilana Street Ringwood - Schedule 1 - Road Title Plan
2. Road Discontinuance - 15 Wilana Street Ringwood - Schedule 2- Locality Plan
3. Road Discontinuance - 15 Wilana Street Ringwood - Schedule 3 - Survey Title Plan

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. **COUNCIL ACTING UNDER CLAUSE 3 OF SCHEDULE 10 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989 (ACT):**
 - i. **RESOLVES, HAVING FOLLOWED ALL THE REQUIRED STATUTORY PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 207A AND 223 OF THE ACT, PURSUANT TO ITS POWER UNDER CLAUSE 3 OF SCHEDULE 10 OF THE ACT, AND BEING OF THE OPINION THAT THE ROAD SHOWN AS 'ROAD R1' ON THE REGISTERED PLAN OF SUBDIVISION N. LP116394 ATTACHED AS SCHEDULE 1 (ROAD) IS NOT REASONABLY REQUIRED FOR PUBLIC USE, TO DISCONTINUE THE ROAD;**

**DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF ROAD BETWEEN 15-19
WILANA STREET RINGWOOD Cont'd**

ITEM 4

- ii. **DIRECTS THAT A NOTICE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE 3(A) OF SCHEDULE 10 OF THE ACT, IS TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE;**
- iii. **DIRECTS THAT, ONCE DISCONTINUED, THAT PART OF THE ROAD SHOWN AS:**
 - **LOT 1 ON THE TITLE PALN ATTACHED AS SCHEDULE 3 (TITLE PLAN) BE SOLD TO THE OWNERS OF 15 WILANA STREET RINGWOOD (OWNERS) FOR AN AMOUNT NOT LESS THAN A MARKET VALUATION HELD BY COUNCIL; AND**
 - **LOT 2 ON THE TITLE PLAN BE SOLD TO THE OWNER OF THE COMMON PROPERTY OF 16 THOMAS STREET RINGWOOD (OWNERS CORPORATION) FOR NOMINAL CONSIDERATION, TO RECTIFY A HISTORICAL SURVEYING ERROR;**
- iv. **DIRECTS THAT THE CEO SIGN ANY TRANSFER OR TRANSFERS OF THE ROAD AND ANY OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE SIGNED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISCONTINUANCE OF THE ROAD AND ITS SUBSEQUENT TRANSFERS TO THE OWNERS AND OWNERS CORPORATION;**
- v. **DIRECTS THAT ANY EASEMENTS, RIGHTS OR INTERESTS REQUIRED TO BE CREATED OR SAVED OVER THE ROAD BY ANY AUTHORITY BE DONE SO AND NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE DISCONTINUANCE AND SALE OF THE ROAD; AND**
- vi. **DIRECTS THAT THE OWNERS AND THE OWNERS CORPORATION MUST, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE DATE OF TRANSFER, CONSOLIDATE THE TITLES TO THE DISCONTINUED ROAD WITH THE TILES TO THEIR RESPECTIVE PROPERTIES AS A CONDITION OF SALE OF THE ROAD TO THEM**

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT **ITEM 5**

PURPOSE

To receive and consider the recommendation of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee in relation to the Annual Financial Report, and the Annual Performance Statement for the year ended 30 June 2020 (termed collectively as ‘the Documents’); to give approval in principle to the Documents; to authorise two Councillors to sign the Forms of Certification for the Documents and to authorise the Principal Accounting Officer to make any non-significant changes to the Documents prior to certification.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020/21) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: Maroondah is an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that ensure their voice is heard and considered. Council provides strong and responsive leadership, ensures transparent processes and works with the community to advocate and champion their needs

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

- 8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable

BACKGROUND

Approval in Principle

Section 132 (2) of the Local Government Act 1989 (the Act) provides that a Council must not submit its Annual Financial Report and Annual Performance Statement to the Auditor-General unless it has passed a resolution giving its approval in principle to that Report. The major element in the approval process adopted by Council is the consideration of the Documents by Council’s Audit and Risk Advisory Committee.

At its meeting on 12 August 2020 the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee conducted a review of the Documents. The Committee sought and received responses from both the Auditor-General’s auditing contractor and Council’s Principal Accounting Officer in respect of the Documents. The Auditor General’s auditing contractors noted that they are awaiting clearance from the Auditor General in relation to the documents. The Committee unanimously resolved as follows. That the:

- Annual Finance Report and Performance Statement including closing report be received and noted.
- Audit and Risk Advisory Committee recommends that Council record its approval ‘in principle’ to the annual financial report and financial statement (the statements) for the year ended 30 June 2020; and that subject to the review of the final version of the Financial Report and the Performance Statement, Council authorise the:

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

ITEM 5

Cont'd

- Chief Executive Officer to send the statements to the Auditor-General;
- Chief Executive Officer, the Mayor and a Councillor to certify the final version of the Statements;
- Manager Finance and Governance to implement any non-material changes to the Statements as recommended by the Auditor-General, and provide a summary of any such changes to the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee at its next meeting. Any material changes will be discussed with the Chair of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee prior to being presented to Council.

The next actions in respect of the finalisation of the Documents and the production of the Annual Report are:

- Submission of the 'Approved in Principle' Documents to the Auditor-General
- Notification to Council of any amendments of significance agreed with the Auditor-General's auditing contractors
- The certification of the Documents (as amended if required) by two designated Councillors; and
- Issue of the Auditor-General's report on the Documents.

Certification

Sections 132 (5) of the Act provides that Council must authorise two Councillors to certify the Documents in their final form after any changes recommended, or agreed to, by the Auditor-General have been made.

In addition to the certification by Councillors, the Local Government (Finance and Reporting) Regulations 2004 require that the Annual Financial Report and the Annual Performance Statement be certified by the Chief Executive Officer and the Principal Accounting Officer.

Treatment of Changes to the Approved Report

In the event that changes are required to be made to the Documents under Section 132 (5) of the Act, the Auditor-General has recommended that certifying officers:

- Formally draw Council's attention to significant changes prior to the certification of the Documents; and
- Process non-significant changes without further formal approval.

Significant changes will cover amendments involving material movements to either the financial or performance results or status of Council, the statements of accounting policy and/or the manner of presentation of the Documents.

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT **ITEM 5**
Cont'd

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Performance for 2019/20

The Financial Statements for 2019/20, which have been prepared based on the Australian equivalents to International Financial Reporting Standards (AIFRS), disclose a surplus for the period of \$10.34m. This compares with anticipated Adopted Budget surplus of \$5.06m. Comments on the major reasons for this increase in performance against the budgeted surplus and other significant factors affecting Council's financial position are provided below and which primarily relate to increased grants associated with infrastructure projects as well as the profound impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic:

- User Fees:

Unfavourable (\$6.48m). The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Council has been profound. During the various stages of the pandemic, the required closure of leisure facilities including Karralyka, Aquanation, Aquahub, Ringwood Golf, Dorset Golf, The Rings and Maroondah Nets resulted in a loss of anticipated user fee income of (\$6.3m).

- Grants Capital:

Favourable \$8.18m. The favourable variance relates mainly to car park development (Heathmont \$4.1m, Croydon \$523k and Ringwood \$178k), HE Parker multisports complex \$1.3m, pavilion redevelopment (Silcock Sports \$197k, Springfield Sports \$34k, Ainslie Park \$62k and Jubilee Park Sports \$70k) and road signalisation works \$350k (Cnr Wonga Road & Tortice Drive North Ringwood), all of which had not been budgeted.

- Contributions – Monetary:

Favourable \$941k. The improved position in contributions was largely due to Public Open Space funds \$617k and contributions for capital projects \$211k received greater than budget. These funds have special requirements on the manner in which they can be spent.

- Employee Costs:

Favourable \$2.97m. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on Council has been profound. During the various stages of the pandemic, the required closure of leisure facilities including Karralyka, Aquanation, Aquahub, Ringwood Golf, Dorset Golf, The Rings and Maroondah Nets resulted in a reduction of anticipated employee costs of \$2.4m. This figure also includes initiatives taken such as leisure video development and deployment, while continuing to monitor employee costs and reduce wherever possible.

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

ITEM 5

Cont'd

- Other Expenses:

Unfavourable (\$2.89m). Other expenses are as expected however this category also includes expenses related to assets written off during the period of \$2.94m, which is subject to variation and primarily the result of increased system sophistication in tracking asset values with associated depreciation.

- Capital Expenditure for the year totalled \$45.61m against a budget for the year of \$28.76m.

After allowing for the financial effect of the above movements and adjustments, Council has performed extremely well in relation to actual achievements against its 2019/20 Adopted Budget. In addition, the levels of assets and liabilities as recorded in the Balance Sheet are substantially in line with the projections contained in Council's Annual Budget and Long Term Financial Strategy ensuring ongoing financial sustainability to provide the services required by the Maroondah Community.

Council's overall financial status remains strong with current assets of \$97.42m and cash and investment assets (including Other Financial Assets) of \$68.91m. The Auditor-General's auditing contractor (RSM Bird) has reported to the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee that their audit procedures conducted to date

'have not identified any items of a nature that should give rise to undue concern by Council and have recommended based on their audit, have concluded that the financial report is presented fairly. They also have concluded that the performance statement is presented fairly and are expecting to issue unmodified audit opinions.'

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The audit, scrutiny and certification of the Documents are an integral part of overall financial stewardship and control. The results of that audit and scrutiny reveal that the financial status of Council as at 30 June 2020 is healthy and provides a solid foundation for the achievement of targets in its adopted budget for 2020/2021.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

When subsequently published in Council's Annual Report, the Annual Performance Statement will provide the community with details of a wide range of service performance and financial performance measurements arising from the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework and which have been audited. Additional indicators within this framework are also included in Council's Annual Report.

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT **ITEM 5**
Cont'd

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Documents will form a major component of Council's 2019/20 Annual Report.

Under Section 133 of the Act, Council must give public notice that:

- The Annual Report has been prepared;
- The report of the Auditor under Section 9 of the Audit Act 1994 has been received; and
- These documents can be inspected at the Council Offices during normal working hours.

In accordance with the Section 133 and in due course, a public notice will be placed in 'The Age' newspaper and the local press and copies of the Annual Report will be made available for public inspection at all Council's Service Centres, Libraries and on the homepage.

Section 134 of the Act provides that the Annual Report must be considered at a meeting of Council. The Act also stipulates that the meeting must be advertised, must be held within one month of submission of the Report to the Minister, and must be kept open to the public while the Report is discussed.

CONCLUSION

Council can duly consider the approval in principle and subsequent certification of the Documents with the knowledge that the Documents as tabled have been the subject of both audit by the Auditor-General's contractor and detailed examination and scrutiny by Council's Audit and Risk Advisory Committee.

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT **ITEM 5**
Cont'd

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2020 - Financial Statements - FINAC20 (Draft) - 12 August 5 30 pm
2. 2020 - Financial Statements - Performance Statement (Draft) - 12 August 5 30 pm

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. **APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE THE 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 132(2) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989**
2. **AUTHORISES THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR SYMON AND COUNCILLOR SPEARS AS AUDIT AND RISK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS, TO SIGN THE CERTIFICATION OF THE 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 132(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989**
3. **AUTHORISES MR ANTONIO ROCCA AS PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER TO MAKE, WITHOUT FURTHER FORMAL NOTIFICATION TO COUNCIL, NON-MATERIAL CHANGES TO THE 2019/20 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT WHICH HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN APPROVED IN PRINCIPLE BY COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 132(5) OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989**

AUDIT & RISK ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT

ITEM 6

PURPOSE

To report to Council on the outcomes of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee Meeting held on 12 August 2020.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020/21) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: Maroondah is an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that ensure their voice is heard and considered. Council provides strong and responsive leadership, ensures transparent processes and works with the community to advocate and champion their needs

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

- 8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable

BACKGROUND

Council's Audit and Risk Advisory Committee consists of both Council and external representatives. The Mayor Mike Symon, and Cr Kylie Spears, are the Councillors on the Committee. The external members are Dr John Watson (chair), Mr Bruce Potgieter and Mr Michael Ulbrick.

The Audit and Risk Advisory Committee Charter requires that this Committee report to Council on the findings and recommendations from its meetings. This report provides a summary of matters under consideration by the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee of the meeting held on Wednesday 12 August 2020.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The Audit and Risk Advisory Committee refers the following two items to Council for information. The Annual:

1. Financial Report and
2. Performance Statement for the Year Ended 30 June 2020

Both these items were presented for the consideration and approval in principle of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee with an overview of the Statements being provided by the Auditor-General's auditing agents. The Committee resolved unanimously as follows:

1. *'That the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee has received and noted the Financial Statements, and the Performance Report from management and the Closing Report to the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee from the External Auditor.'*

AUDIT & RISK ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT Cont'd

ITEM 6

2. *The Audit and Risk Advisory Committee recommends that Council receives and adopts the Financial Statements and Performance Report for the year end 2019/2020, subject to the resolution of any outstanding items in Appendix A of the Closing Report to the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee in consultation with the Auditor-General, Victoria and the minor enhancements as suggested by the members of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee.'*

The Committee also determined to advise Council that:

3. *following detailed examination and scrutiny of the Statements by the Committee, it approved in principle the report (This item is listed separately on the 17 August 2020 Council Notice Paper) and*
4. *thanked Management and employees involved for a comprehensive summary and presentation of year end results and to pass on thanks to all teams involved.'*

The only suggested change was to include a brief commentary in relation to the significant impacts of COVID-19 in both the financial statements and the performance statement.

Attached to this report, is also an executive summary covering the 2019/20 financial year, as well as some of the documented questions and responses, in relation to the meeting.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's budget provides for the operation of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee and for the completion of the year end financials.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

This report provides a summary of the outcomes of the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee meeting held on Wednesday 12 August 2020.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Finance - Final Year-End Executive Summary Report 2019-20
2. Audit Committee - Questions and Responses - Meeting 12 August 2020

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT FROM THE AUDIT AND RISK ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 2020

PURPOSE

To provide an update on progress made towards implementation of Year 3 priority actions identified in the Council Plan 2017-2021, as at 30 June 2020.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our future together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020/21) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovative community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable
- 8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah's resources, assets, infrastructure and natural environment
- 8.3 Nurture a continuous improvement council culture of being collaborative, strategic, sustainable and employing best practice, that positions Maroondah as a leader in local government

Priority Action 2020-2021:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

The *Council Plan 2017-2021* is Maroondah City Council's key medium-term strategic document that sets key directions and priority actions to work towards the long-term community vision outlined in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*.

The Council Plan plays a vital role in shaping Maroondah's future over a four-year period. It identifies both challenges and opportunities for our community at a local and regional level within the context of the community's long-term community vision, *Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together*. It also forms the basis for Council to make decisions regarding resources and priorities in response to community needs and aspirations.

The Council Plan is implemented through a service delivery planning process, and outcomes are measured and reported regularly. Achievements are reported back to Council and the community through the Maroondah City Council Annual Report at the end of each financial year.

**COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (YEAR 3: 2019/20) PRIORITY
ACTION PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2019/20 Cont'd**

ITEM 1

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Within the Council Plan, there are a range of priority actions identified that work towards delivery of the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision. These actions are updated annually to ensure the Plan continues to be aligned with *Maroondah 2040: Our future together (June 2020 Update)*, the community's long-term vision, and is responsive to community needs and expectations.

The Council Plan is divided into eight future community outcome areas, each with a set of four-year key directions (strategies), four-year priority actions, strategic indicators and supporting strategies and plans. The priority actions identified work towards the achievement of the key directions, and ultimately toward the outcomes and visions outlined in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together (June 2020 Update)*.

The attached report identifies the progress made by Council in delivering the 2019/20 priority actions identified in the *Council Plan 2017-2021*.

As at 30 June, twelve actions are complete, 45 are in progress and two have been deferred. A number of priority actions are multi-year initiatives scheduled to be completed in future financial years.

Reports on priority action progress are provided to Council on a quarterly basis throughout the financial year. At the end of the financial year, a final progress report on Council's achievements relating to these Council Plan priority actions will be included in the Annual Report 2019/20.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Not Applicable

**COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (YEAR 3: 2019/20) PRIORITY
ACTION PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2019/20 Cont'd**

ITEM 1

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council Plan 2017-2021 - Priority Actions Progress Report - Quarter 4, 2019/20

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE DELIVERY OF 2019/20
PRIORITY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021**

**MAROONDAH SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021 TO 2030
UPDATE**

ITEM 2

PURPOSE

To provide Council with an update on the preparation of the *Maroondah Sustainability Strategy 2021 to 2030*.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020-2021) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A clean, green and sustainable community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a green leafy community with high levels of waste diversion and sustainable approaches to infrastructure development, urban design and management of natural resources. Our community will be resilient and have the knowledge, capacity and resources to make sustainable lifestyle choices.

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

- 4.3 Build the capacity of households and businesses to behave more sustainably, reduce waste and minimise consumption of natural resources
- 4.14 Support, educate and build the capacity of our community to make more environmentally sustainable lifestyle choices
- 4.15 Work in partnership to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and support the community in adapting to a post peak oil environment
- 4.16 Be responsive and adaptive to new environmental opportunities and threats as they occur, building resilience and capacity with the community

Priority Action 2020-2021:

Undertake a review and update Council's Sustainability Strategy.

BACKGROUND

The *Sustainability Strategy 2016 to 2020* was adopted by Council in July 2016, and sought to:

- Further embed sustainability in Council's service delivery to the community
- Have Council lead by example
- Build on and promote the sustainability efforts of many Maroondah residents and organisation
- Pursue partnerships to advance sustainability
- Help the community lead a more sustainable lifestyle.

**MAROONDAH SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021 TO 2030
UPDATE Cont'd**

ITEM 2

The implementation of the *Sustainability Strategy 2016 to 2020* is nearing completion and a new Strategy will be developed during 2020/21 to continue Council's agenda to be a clean, green and sustainable community.

A review of the *Sustainability Strategy 2016 to 2020* was undertaken during 2019/20 and the recommendations from this evaluation will be used to guide the development of the new Strategy.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The *Maroondah Sustainability Strategy 2021 to 2030* (the Strategy) will set the overall direction for Council in relation to sustainability, align outcomes from relevant Council strategies and plans, and drive action across Council and the community.

This report provides an update into the review process for the development of the new strategy during 2020/21, including key milestones and community engagement activities.

The guiding objectives for the preparation of the Strategy are to:

- Develop a holistic strategy that drives Council action on sustainability issues and identifies Council's role in facilitating community action.
- Establish an evidence base for focus areas, priority actions, and targets by understanding context changes, community expectations, funding opportunities, and best practice in the field.
- Conduct community consultation to seek input on sustainability issues, including the prioritisation of actions, and to identify community needs to support action.
- Explore opportunities for partnerships with external and internal stakeholders to embed and to drive the implementation of actions.
- Provide recommendations for resource allocation to support priority actions into the future.
- Raise awareness in the community of Council's commitment around sustainability initiatives.

Key milestones for the development of the Strategy are:

1. Research Phase (July to December 2020) - In this phase, research will be undertaken to inform the development of a Discussion Paper which will incorporate aspects of the Strategy evaluation, and targeted internal stakeholder engagement. During this process context changes since the development of the previous strategy will be explored, and best practice in this field will be benchmarked.
2. Discussion Paper (January to March 2021) - This phase involves the preparation of a Discussion Paper which will include a summary of the research findings, detail the role and purpose of the Strategy, and identify opportunities and constraints. The Discussion Paper will be released for public comment with the aim to develop a list of prioritised actions for inclusion in the Strategy.

**MAROONDAH SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021 TO 2030
UPDATE Cont'd**

ITEM 2

3. Draft Strategy (April to May 2021) - This phase involves the preparation of a Draft Strategy to be released for a 4-week public comment period and will incorporate outcomes from the Discussion Paper and related engagement activities.
4. Adoption of the Final Strategy (July 2021) - The final Strategy will incorporate feedback received during the previous community consultation activities.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The project will be funded within Council's existing budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Environmental / Amenity issues will be considered during the development of the Strategy.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Social and community issues will be considered during the development of the Strategy. This will include identifying community views on priority actions, and how the community would like to engage with the Strategy implementation.

Targeted engagement channels, such as workshops with the Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee (MEAC), and discussions with relevant industry bodies, will be flexible in the delivery method and may include virtual meetings, correspondence via email and face-to-face as appropriate at the time.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community Engagement for the Strategy will seek to:

- Develop a clear understanding of community expectations and inform a list of priority actions for inclusion in the Strategy,
- Engage with key external stakeholders to identify opportunities for collaborative projects and funding opportunities,
- Understand Council's role in facilitating and supporting community action, and to seek community buy-in for the Strategy,
- Encourage staff ownership of the Strategy across the organisation, and
- Use case studies to promote current Council and community good practice and inform the community on how they can assist Council in implementing the Strategy.

Outcomes from previous engagement activities, including for the Maroondah 2040 Vision Review and the development of the Maroondah Liveability and Wellbeing Strategy, will also be considered during the research phase of the project and to assist in more targeted community engagement activities where necessary.

**MAROONDAH SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021 TO 2030
UPDATE Cont'd**

ITEM 2

Case studies from the *Sustainability Strategy 2016 to 2020 Activities Report* will be used to supplement engagement activities and promote the positive initiatives that Council have previously undertaken in this area.

Key community engagement activities at each project stage have been detailed in **Attachment 1**.

CONCLUSION

The *Maroondah Sustainability Strategy 2021 to 2030* will provide the roadmap for Council and the community to guide us towards a clean, green and sustainable community and the achievement of the broader Maroondah 2040 Community Vision.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Engagement Overview

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE PROPOSED PROCESS FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE
MAROONDAH SUSTAINABILITY STRATEGY 2021 TO 2030**

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OUTCOMES AND ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGY

ITEM 3

PURPOSE

To advise Council of the outcomes of the public exhibition of the draft Children and Families Strategy, and to recommend that Council adopts the Children and Families Strategy.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together (June 2020 update) and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (2020/2021 update) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: An inclusive and diverse community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an inclusive and equitable community where all people are valued, supported and socially connected, and diversity is embraced and celebrated.

Key Directions 2020-2021:

- 7.1 Support people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to be connected, valued and empowered within their local community through accessible and inclusive services, programming and facilities
- 7.2 Ensure social inclusion principles inform the planning for local services, programs and community infrastructure
- 7.3 Work in partnership to break cycles of poverty and socio-economic disadvantage, particularly with marginalised and vulnerable communities
- 7.5 Promote and create opportunities for social interactions, learning, mentoring, skills transfer and volunteering for people from all ages, abilities and backgrounds
- 7.7 Advocate for increased support and enhanced services to meet the diverse needs of carers
- 7.9 Work in partnership to empower the community to respect, understand and embrace diversity
- 7.10 Work in partnership to support the equity and inclusion of culturally and linguistically diverse communities, including refugees, new arrivals and interfaith communities
- 7.11 Support and celebrate the unique cultural diversity, heritage and languages of communities in Maroondah
- 7.12 Acknowledge, recognise, value and support our indigenous heritage, culture and communities
- 7.13 Advocate and promote equity, safety and inclusion for all genders, sexualities, gender identities, and sex identities

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OUTCOMES AND ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGY Cont'd

ITEM 3

Priority Action 2019-2020:

Commence development of a Children and Families Strategy

BACKGROUND

The new *Children and Families Strategy* will replace the *Maroondah City Council Children's Plan 2015-2019* as Council's key strategic document regarding children and their families.

The development of the Children and Families Strategy was informed by extensive community consultation, service reviews, service infrastructure needs analysis and research from 2018 to 2020. Key teams and staff across Council worked collaboratively to process the evidence and develop the new Strategy.

The Children and Families Strategy seeks to:

- Support Council to raise the wellbeing of Maroondah's children and their families
- Utilise a strong evidence base to help Council meet the needs and aspirations of Maroondah's children and their families
- Actively engage children and families in the development of the Strategy and Action Plans
- Guide and focus Council's work with and for children and families into the future

The Children and Families Strategy is a Council-wide strategic document that:

- Encompasses all children aged 0 to 12 years and their families who live, work, study or play in the City of Maroondah
- Sits alongside Council's Youth Strategy to provide continuous and aligned strategic planning for children and young people from birth to 25 years and their families
- Aims to guide Council's partnerships and collaboration with organisations or groups outside of Council, while not directing their work
- Commences in 2020 but does not have a set end-date and will instead be reviewed every two years and renewed when required.

Action Plans

- The Children and Families Strategy will be supplemented by a sequence of separate two-year action plans that will sit alongside the Strategy and outline the actions Council will undertake, either individually or in partnership with others.
- These action plans will be developed based on current evidence and consultation, which will ensure that Council is responsive to changes in the needs and aspirations of children and their families in Maroondah while maintaining a clear and consistent strategic focus.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OUTCOMES AND ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGY Cont'd

ITEM 3

At its meeting on 22 June 2020, Council resolved that the draft Children and Families Strategy be placed on public exhibition from 23 June to 21 July 2020.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The draft Children and Families Strategy was made available for community feedback from 23 June to 21 July 2020, following Council approval to release the document on public exhibition at the Council meeting on 22 June 2020.

During the public exhibition period, a communications plan was put in place to obtain community feedback on the draft Children and Families Strategy, with consideration to the restrictions pertaining to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Consultation and promotion methods included:

- An in-person feedback activity with children at Council's Vacation Care Program, where children were asked for their thoughts on the 'helpfulness' of key elements of the Strategy for children and families in Maroondah
- A dedicated page on Council's online Your Say engagement platform, which included digital copies of the draft Strategy and consultation report, and online forms for providing feedback and asking questions
- Promotion through Council websites and social media
- Emails to community agencies, Maroondah schools and other stakeholders
- Printed copies available at Council Customer Service Centres
- Internal feedback via a range of methods

Responses received included:

- 9 external feedback responses, including 5 through the Your Say online feedback form
- 15 children participated in the feedback activity at Council's Vacation Care Program
- 1 feedback comment through social media
- Feedback from Council staff, both before and during the formal public exhibition period

Feedback received included:

- Feedback on the Strategy was generally positive overall, with some respondents suggesting changes to wording in the Strategy, generally to strengthen or clarify elements or to improve readability.
- Some respondents commented on wanting to see more specifics of what will be done (i.e. actions) or suggested specific potential actions they wanted to see undertaken. This feedback will be addressed through the development of the Strategy's first Action Plan.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OUTCOMES AND ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGY Cont'd

ITEM 3

- Feedback was received about the temporary cover photo being unrepresentative of the community as a whole. There is no intention to use this photo in the final publication of the Strategy however.
- The 15 children who participated in the feedback activity at Council's Vacation Care Program provided overall positive feedback.

80% of the children thought all 6 of the Strategy's Strategic Outcome areas will help children and families in Maroondah. The remaining 20% of children thought 5 of the 6 areas will help - all 3 of these children did not tick the 'Education and Learning for Life' area, and staff feedback indicated this was because they associated this with school.

100% of the children marked the overall 'helpfulness' of the Strategy's Mission and Strategic Outcome areas to children and families in Maroondah as 3/3 (i.e. has 5 or 6 helpful areas).

When asked what was missing, two children wrote about sports, and one child wrote about communicating how important COVID-19 is.

Changes made to the Children and Families Strategy include:

- Changes to the wording of four Key Directions (3.2, 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3) and four Guiding Principles (2, 3, 4 and 5), generally to strengthen or clarify their intent, or to improve their readability
- Minor edits or changes to wording were also made throughout the Strategy

These changes are incorporated into the Children and Families Strategy as presented in Attachment 1 of this report.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The Children and Families Strategy will be implemented within existing resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

A number of items were raised through consultation in relation to Maroondah's natural and built environment. The Children and Families Strategy outlines a number of Key Directions which address environmental and amenity issues for the benefit of children and their families in Maroondah, particularly regarding service infrastructure and open space. Relevant actions will be outlined in the separate Action Plans.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

All six of the Children and Families Strategy's THRIVE Strategic Outcomes cover social and community aspects of the lives of children and their families, with Key Directions which address a range of areas of social and community wellbeing for children and their families. Relevant actions will be outlined in the separate Action Plans.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY - PUBLIC EXHIBITION OUTCOMES AND ADOPTION OF THE STRATEGY Cont'd

ITEM 3

To inform the Children and Families Strategy, Council undertook extensive community consultation with children, families, school staff and service providers across 2018 and 2019.

The consultation used multiple engagement methods across a range of stakeholder groups - key methods used are outlined below.

Children:

- Wellbeing Survey for students aged 9 to 12 years
- Consultation groups
- Children's "Tell Me A Story" competition

Parents and Carers:

- Wellbeing Survey for parents and carers
- Consultation groups
- Maroondah City Council Client Survey
- Maternal and Child Health hardcopy form
- Engagement activities at Council events

Service Providers and School Staff:

- Service Provider Survey
- Wellbeing Survey for school staff

Across the range of consultation methods, Council engaged with over 3000 children, parents and carers, school staff and service providers.

During the public exhibition period, the draft Children and Families Strategy was available for viewing on Council's online Your Say engagement platform, and in printed form at Council's Customer Service Centres. Public exhibition of the Children and Families Strategy was promoted extensively via email and social media. An in-person feedback activity for children was facilitated at Council's Vacation Care Program to encourage their input on key elements of the Strategy.

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY - PUBLIC
EXHIBITION OUTCOMES AND ADOPTION OF THE
STRATEGY Cont'd**

ITEM 3

CONCLUSION

The Children and Families Strategy was informed by a strong evidence base and was developed through a collaborative planning approach.

The draft Children and Families Strategy has now been on public exhibition and all responses and feedback have been reviewed, with changes made to the Strategy where appropriate.

The Children and Families Strategy as presented at Attachment 1 of this report is tabled for Council adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

1. YACS MCH - Children and Families Strategy CAFS - 2020 - Final Document for Adoption by Council V2

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ADOPTS THE CHILDREN AND FAMILIES STRATEGY

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK - SERVICE INDICATOR PROGRESS REPORT
- QUARTER 4, 2019/20**

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To provide a report of Council's performance as measured by the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) service performance indicators for the 2019/20 financial year (1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020).

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our future together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 4: 2020-2021) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community.

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community actively engaged in local decision making, led by an innovative community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2020 – 2021:

- 8.1 Provide enhanced governance that is transparent, accessible, inclusive and accountable
- 8.2 Ensure responsible and sustainable management of Maroondah's resources, assets, infrastructure and natural environment
- 8.3 Nurture a continuous improvement council culture of being collaborative, strategic sustainable and employing best practice, that positions Maroondah as a leader in local government

Priority Action 2020 - 2021:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

The Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) is a mandatory reporting system developed by Local Government Victoria which was introduced in 2014 to ensure all Victorian Councils are measuring and reporting on their performance in a consistent way.

The LGPRF is aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability of the local government sector performance to ratepayers and the public.

The framework is comprised of service performance, financial performance and sustainability measures, along with a governance and management checklist. Together these components build a comprehensive picture of local government performance.

These measures are reported in Council's Annual Report as part of the Report of Operations and Performance Statement sections as required by the Local Government (Planning and

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK - SERVICE INDICATOR PROGRESS REPORT
- QUARTER 4, 2019/20 Cont'd**

ITEM 4

Reporting) Regulations 2014 and associated elements of the Local Government Act 1989 and Local Government Act 2020.

End of financial year results are also publicly released on the Victorian Government's 'Know Your Council' website in November each year. This site provides information on the sector and enables users to benchmark the relative performance of Council's on LGPRF indicators.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council has performed well against all of the service measures within the Quarter 4, 2019/20 Report.

Council continues to monitor LGPRF results on a quarterly basis for service performance indicators and annually for financial performance and sustainable capacity indicators.

For the 2019/20 financial year, the Victorian Government introduced changes to some LGPRF service measures to provide greater clarification, improved quality of reporting, and closer alignment with Council practices and processes

These changes have been applied to indicators related to: Animal Management, Aquatic Facilities, Governance, Libraries, Maternal and Child Health, Statutory Planning and Waste Collection. Each service area responsible for providing LGPRF data has adjusted their reporting to align with the new measures. For some indicators, the changes have resulted in an inability to compare data with previous financial years.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

End of 2019/20 financial year results will be publicly released in Council's Annual Report in September 2020. It is expected that they will also be placed on the Victorian Government's 'Know Your Council' website in November 2020.

CONCLUSION

In summary, Council has performed well against all of the LGPRF service performance indicators for the full 2019/20 financial year as at 30 June 2020 and these are presented in the attached report.

Annual results for the full 2019/20 financial year will be published in Council's Annual Report 2019/20 and on the Victorian Government's 'Know Your Council' website in November 2020.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK - SERVICE INDICATOR PROGRESS REPORT
- QUARTER 4, 2019/20 Cont'd**

ITEM 4

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2019-20 LGPRF Service Indicator Performance Report - As at 30 June 2020

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR RESULTS FOR THE 2019/20
FINANCIAL YEAR**