

4 April 2018

Councillor (as addressed)

re: Special Meeting of Council Monday 9 April 2018

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 84(1) of the Local Government Act 1989, a Special Meeting of Council has been called to be held on Monday 9 April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Municipal Offices, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood, and your presence is requested.

The purpose of the meeting is for Council is to submit the draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update) and Proposed Budget 2018/19 to Council for "Approval in Principle" and resolve to place both on public exhibition.

Yours faithfully

Steve Kozlowski CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attached is the copy of the call of the meeting received from the Mayor, Cr Nora Lamont

Note:

This meeting is being streamed live on the internet and recorded. Every care is taken to maintain privacy and attendees are advised they may be recorded.



COUNCIL CHAMBER IS FITTED WITH A HEARING AID INDUCTION LOOP

SWITCH HEARING AID TO 'T' FOR **RECEPTION**

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Service Centres

Croydon: Civic Square

REALM: 179 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood



4 April 2018

Chief Executive Officer Maroondah City Council

re: Special Meeting of Council Monday 9 April 2018

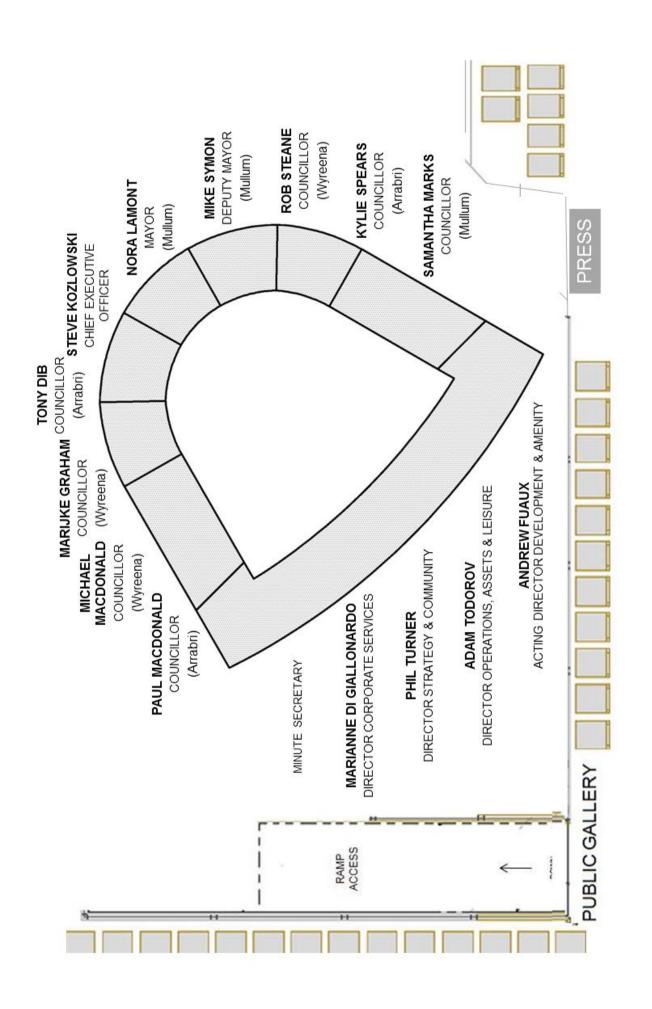
In accordance with Section 84(1) of the Local Government Act 1989, I hereby call a Special Meeting of Council to be held on Monday 9 April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Council Chamber, Municipal Offices, Braeside Avenue, Ringwood.

The purpose of the meeting is to submit the draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update) and Proposed Budget 2018/19 to Council for "Approval in Principle" and resolve to place both on public exhibition.

Yours faithfully

Now Lamont

Cr Nora Lamont MAYOR



ORDER OF BUSINESS

- 1. Prayer
- 2. Acknowledgment of Country
- 3. Apologies
- 4. Conflict of Interest
- 5. Officers' Reports

Director Corporate Services

1. Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update) and Proposed Budget 2018/19

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DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To provide Council with information regarding the *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* and proposed Budget 2018/19; and to seek Council endorsement for the public exhibition in accordance with Council's *Community Engagement Policy 2015* and the Right to Make Submission (S.223) under the *Local Government Act 1989* ("the Act"). This commences the legislative procedure for the formal adoption by Council.

This procedure incorporates the period of public inspection and invitation to the community to make submissions in accordance with the provisions of the Act.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2017-2021 (Year 1: 2017-2018) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

<u>Our Vision:</u> In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision making through processes that consider the needs and aspirations of all ages and population groups. Council will provide strong and responsive leadership, ensuring transparency, while working with the community to advocate for and 'champion' local needs.

Key Directions 2017 – 2018:

- 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 Provide community inspired leadership in democratic governance.

Priority Action 2017-2018:

Not applicable

BACKGROUND

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN

The Council Plan together with *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*, the Annual Budget and Annual Report, are Council's high level strategic documents which draw together the community aspirations, preferred outcomes and key directions for the future. These high level strategic documents and associated processes form an integral part of the Maroondah City Council's Integrated Planning Framework (shown below).

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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Figure 1: Council's Integrated Planning Framework



The *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* has been prepared in accordance with requirements of the *Local Government Act 1989*. The Act requires the Council Plan 2017-2021 to include the strategic objectives of the Council (community outcome areas), strategies for achieving the objectives for at least the next four years (key directions), strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of these objectives (Council Plan indicators) and a Strategic Resource Plan describing financial and non-financial resources.

The draft Council Plan 2017-2021 reflects the preferred future outcomes and key directions as identified by the community in the development of *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*.

At Maroondah, the Council Plan is refreshed annually to ensure identified priority actions meet emerging community needs and aspirations, and provide an updated strategic resource plan.

The *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* acknowledges progress made on priority actions undertaken during 2017/18 and provides an amended list of proposed 'Priority Actions' for the remaining three years of the Council Plan 2017-2021, from 2018/19 to 2020/21. These proposed priority actions have been aligned with the outcome areas identified in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*.

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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An updated Strategic Resource Plan has also been included to identify the financial resources required to deliver on the Council Plan and the services delivered by Council over the next four years.

Reporting against the Council Plan and Annual Budget is undertaken quarterly to Council and the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee. Reporting on annual achievements is undertaken through the Annual Report and the 'Our Achievements' document.

PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET

The proposed Budget for 2018/19 is one of Council's high level strategic documents. The community's aspirations for Maroondah's future direction and development are set out in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together* and this forms the foundation from which Council shapes its medium term plans for the municipality. The 2018/19 Proposed Budget then addresses the provision of financial resources for the next 12 months as well as articulating how those resources are to be spent in delivering services to the community.

It is a critical planning and resource tool of Council and is vital to the ongoing operational and financial viability of Council. It sets out the expected income and expenditure for the coming year and also incorporates Council's rates and charges as well as estimating the net worth of the municipality at the end of the year. It is the culmination of Councillor Briefings (including discussions at the Councillor Conference) and detailed preparation by employees.

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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ISSUE / DISCUSSION

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN

To respond to the long-term objectives (outcome areas) and medium-term strategies (key directions) outlined in Maroondah 2040 and the Council Plan, a range of priority actions are identified in the *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* for the 2018/19 to 2020/21 period.

The following are the proposed Council Plan priority actions for Council in the forthcoming 2018/19 financial year:

- 1) Design and construct the \$2.5m Jubilee Sporting Pavilion redevelopment (Subject to external funding)
- 2) Design and construct the \$3.0m HE Parker Sporting Pavilion redevelopment
- 3) Complete the design works, undertake operational readiness planning, and construct the \$16.5m HE Parker multi sports complex
- 4) Commence construction of the \$2.7m Silcock Sporting Pavilion redevelopment in Croydon
- 5) Design and construct the Springfield Sporting Pavilion redevelopment (Subject to external funding)
- 6) Finalise a new Gaming Policy and commence preparation of a planning scheme amendment to incorporate the policy into the Maroondah Planning scheme
- 7) Undertake works to implement CCTV in Croydon Town Centre, including detailed design and documentation, along with the supply and installation of cameras
- 8) Prepare and implement a new Maroondah Health and Wellbeing Plan 2017-2021
- 9) Amend planning controls relating to alcohol density through participation in the South East Melbourne Council's Alliance (SEMCA) Alcohol Density Project
- 10) Undertake sportsfield reconstruction works at Quambee Reserve No.1 Oval in Ringwood North
- 11) Update the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre Masterplan
- 12) Develop Regional Service Partnerships at Realm
- 13) Develop, promote and expand the BizHub Co-Working Space
- 14) Work in partnership to implement the Bayswater / Bayswater North Industrial Precinct Strategy to assist local businesses and promote investment attraction
- 15) Work in partnership to facilitate appropriate development within the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre and Croydon Activity Centre
- 16) Plan and implement carparking improvements in the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre and the Croydon Activity Centre
- 17) Create a new Croydon Town Square, including community engagement, completion of detailed design and construction

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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- 18) Establish a new Arts Advisory Committee and implement new public art across Maroondah in accordance with Council's Public Art Policy
- 19) Design and construction of the \$10m Karralyka redevelopment (Subject to funding)
- 20) Implement innovative and engaging arts events and outcomes in Ringwood Town Square arts precinct
- 21) Commence development of an Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2018-2022
- 22) Finalise the Maroondah Vegetation Review and prepare planning controls for inclusion in the Maroondah Planning Scheme
- 23) Implement the Eastern Organics Contract
- 24) Work in partnership to implement intersection improvement works at the corner of Maroondah Highway and Dorset Road in Croydon North
- 25) Accelerate Council's footpath construction program
- 26) Commence road renewal works in Caroline Street, Ringwood
- 27) Develop a Maroondah Carparking Framework, incorporating a Parking Policy, updates to parking strategies and permit systems
- 28) Advocate to the Commonwealth and Victorian Government for provision of new and upgraded major transportation infrastructure in Maroondah; including freeway connections, upgrade to arterial roads and intersections, and major public transport enhancements
- 29) Upgrade Lincoln Road, east of Dorset Road
- 30) Undertake a municipal wide review of Council's neighbourhood character and heritage controls
- 31) Work in partnership to implement the Greening the Greyfields Project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts (subject to funding)
- 32) Develop and commence implementation of priority open space and public realm enhancement plans
- 33) Continue the upgrade of drainage including flood mitigation work in Power Street catchment
- 34) Monitor the federal National Disability Insurance Scheme and My Aged Care reform agenda and implement transitional arrangements for relevant areas of Council service delivery
- 35) Investigate and implement additional female changing facilities at local sporting venues
- 36) Continue implementation of the Corporate Volunteering Program
- 37) Develop and commence implementation of a new Disability Policy and Action Plan
- 38) Progress Council's innovative digital services transformation
- 39) Continue to work on Innovation and Customer Service delivery models, including online services and additional payment options for customers

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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40) Update Council's administrative facilities

The *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* is aligned with *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*, the long term vision for the community that was adopted by Council in June 2014. This alignment ensures that the Council Plan continues to form part of an integrated approach to planning that is informed by community aspirations for Maroondah's future.

The *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* has been informed by stakeholder input during development of the original Council Plan 2017-2021 in February 2017, along with community engagement inputs from a range of other Council strategic projects over the past three years.

There is further opportunity for revisions to be proposed by community members during the public exhibition period, which will run for the statutory period of 28 days, in this instance, 13 April to 11 May 2018.

It is intended that a final report be submitted to Council following this consultation period prior to submission of the final *Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* to the Minister for Local Government by 30 June 2018.

PROPOSED ANNUAL BUDGET

The Proposed Budget document as presented and to be placed on exhibition contains:

- Linkages to the Council Plan
- Community Outcome Areas (Strategic Objectives)
- Listing of Council Services and Service Performance Indicators
- Summary of Financial Positon
- Financial Statements
- Comments on significant budget influences
- Capital Expenditure Program information
- Budgetary process information and Statutory Disclosures

Its contents are consistent with the Strategic Resource Plan component of the proposed Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update) and demonstrates the provision of adequate resources to achieve the Plan's objectives and activities for the next 12 months. Overall it is a balanced, sustainable, and responsible way forward to ensure Maroondah continues to be a vibrant city with an active community, strong local economy, and a diverse cultural life in a prosperous and sustainable environment. It provides for the capacity to deal with the challenges of the future and includes 16 major initiatives (priority actions) and 24 initiatives which were identified in the Council Plan.

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In 2015 the Local Government (Fair Go Rates) Act was passed in Parliament. The Act introduced a rate cap based on CPI plus or minus any adjustment and allows for multiple caps to be set by the Minister and variations to the cap should Council obtain approval to raise rate revenue by a greater amount than that imposed by the cap. The Minister has determined that the rate cap for 2018/19 is set at an increase of 2.25% over the average property rate of a Council. The average property rate is derived by dividing the total rate revenue adjusted for the annualisation of supplementary rate income by the number of rateable properties as at 30 June. The increase under the rate cap applies to rate revenue after growth in the previous year has been taken into account.

The key aspects of the revised LTFS include:

- Rate revenue increases within the rate cap framework with no variation request required;
- Services and service levels maintained;
- Asset renewal expenditure to be at least at the level of depreciation each year;
- Waste charges reviewed and budgeted for to mitigate the risks in the recycling markets;
- No new borrowings;
- Provision of a cash backed defined benefits superannuation fund reserve of \$5 million;
- Provision of a growing cash backed major capital projects reserve to fund as yet unidentified and new major project(s);

The adjusted underlying budget surplus, which is a measure of financial sustainability, shows an underlying surplus being achieved annually over the ten-year period of the strategy. The Budget for 2018/19 proposes an underlying surplus of \$4.895 million and Council's cash and cash equivalents (including Financial Assets) projected to be \$35.564 million at June 2019.

Council is required to conduct an annual General Property Valuation. The most recent General Valuation was carried out with levels of value set as at 1 January 2018. The General Valuation was undertaken in accordance with best practice standards set by the State Valuer-General. These valuations are used for rating purposes to equitably spread the total of Council's own source revenue across Maroondah's total assessment base. Hence, the higher the property value the higher the associated individual property general rates; the lower the property value, the lower the associated individual property general rates.

The 2018/19 rating strategy is based upon the Capital Improved Value basis, the use of a differential rate for vacant land, commercial land, industrial land, derelict land and the continuation of assistance to ratepayers who qualify under Council's financial hardship provisions. It is proposed to raise \$74.565 million in general rates which has been derived within the rate cap framework legislated by the State Government.

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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The next General Valuation will be conducted in 2019 and will be carried out with levels set as at 1 January 2019.

Further, Council's established policy regarding garbage services is for all waste and recycling costs to be fully recovered through the application of a Garbage Charge in accordance with Council's contractual arrangements. In accordance with this policy, garbage charges will increase in 2018/19 to \$324.00 for a 120-litre bin, and \$270.00 for an 80-litre bin. Should members of the community wish to reduce their service from a 120-litre bin to an 80-litre bin, they are encouraged to contact Council. Similarly, should residents wish to increase their recycling capacity they are able to secure a second bin at no extra cost. Again, residents are encouraged to contact Council on 1300 88 22 33.

The Proposed Budget also includes information on borrowings and confirms that borrowings of \$24.2m were drawn down in 2014/15 to partly fund the new regional aquatic and leisure centre - Aquanation at Ringwood with repayment of principal and interest over 15 years.

Further, information on Council's 10-year capital works program is also included which reflects the Total Life Cycle Asset Management framework which provides the basis for the capital renewal and upgrade component associated with infrastructure assets.

The Budget provides for a Capital Expenditure program totalling \$43.681m. The program is funded externally via grants and contributions to the extent of \$14.372m and the balance internally through general rates and cash reserves. Expenditure on asset renewal and asset upgrade is \$27.461m whilst new projects total \$16.220m.

The net result for the 2018/19 year is planned at a \$18.0m surplus which is an increase from the 2017/18 Budget. It is anticipated that net surpluses will continue for the life of the Long Term Financial Strategy.

The planned financial position as at 30 June 2019 reveals Council will continue to be financially sound with projected net assets of \$1.568b, a working capital ratio of 1.56:1, adequate cash and investments to meet its cyclical cash flow requirements, and borrowings in line with agreed loan repayment schedules. It is submitted that the Budget paints a picture of prudent financial management that will underpin and facilitate the application and attainment of the future outcomes, key directions and priority actions detailed in the Council Plan and beyond. Hence the 2018/2019 Budget has ensured financial sustainability across Council's entire areas of operations and responsibility and in accordance with its long term financial strategy, has kept its own source revenue levels realistic.

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The resources required to implement the draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update) priority actions are contained within the current annual budget and strategic resource plan, except where identified that an action is 'subject to funding'.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

These are contained within the Draft Council Plan and Proposed Budget and articulate the Council's current directions.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

These are contained with the Draft Council Plan and Proposed Budget and articulate Council's current directions.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* has been informed by stakeholder input during development of the original Council Plan 2017-2021 in February 2017, along with community engagement inputs from a range of other Council strategic projects over the past three years.

To seek feedback on the *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* and *Proposed Annual Budget 2018/19*, a public exhibition process will be undertaken in accordance with Section 223 of the Act.

The process will involve:

- Public exhibition of the Draft Council Plan and Proposed Budget on Council's website as well as at all Council Service Centres and local libraries.
- Advertisements in the local papers seeking comments or feedback from the community on the Draft Council Plan and Proposed Budget.

To this end, an advertisement will be placed in 'The Age' newspaper on Thursday 12 April 2018 advising the community that documents are available for viewing on Council's website, and will also be available from any of Council's Service Centres and Libraries on this date. A copy of the advertisement will also be placed in the Maroondah Leader on Tuesday 17 April 2018.

Both written and online comments on both documents will be received at the Civic Centre up until 5pm, 11 May 2018.

The process will be formalised through public submissions under Section 223 of the Act. A meeting to hear submissions will take place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 16 May 2018 at Maroondah City Council Offices. Anyone wanting to make a submission to the Council should advise of this requirement in their written submission, giving a name and contact number.

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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Written submissions should also be addressed to:

Mr Steve Kozlowski Chief Executive Officer PO Box 156 RINGWOOD VIC 3134

During the public consultation period (i.e. 13 April to 11 May 2018), residents and property owners may obtain further information about the Proposed Budget by appointment.

Once the community feedback is considered, the documents will be amended as appropriate and be brought back to Council for formal endorsement. At this stage, this is planned for the Council Meeting on 21 May 2018.

CONCLUSION

The *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* and *Proposed Budget 2018/19* have been prepared for community consultation. They reflect Council's commitment to pursue excellence, good governance and responsible management of resources for the community within the City of Maroondah.

Given Council's legislative obligations it is appropriate to place the *Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)* and *Proposed Budget 2018/19* on public exhibition before they are formally considered for adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

1. ⇒ ☐ Draft Council Plan 2017-2021 (2018/19 Update)
2. ⇒ ☐ MCC Proposed Budget 2018-2019

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. PROVISIONALLY ENDORSES THE DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19, THAT HAVE BEEN PREPARED IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTIONS 125 AND 127 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989
- 2. AUTHORISES THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO GIVE PUBLIC NOTICE OF THE PREPARATION OF THE PROPOSED PLAN AND BUDGET
- 3. AUTHORISES THE RELEASE OF THE DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 ON PUBLIC EXHIBITION FROM 13 APRIL TO 11 MAY 2018 AND RECEIVE SUBMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 223 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989

DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2017-2021 (2018/19 UPDATE) AND PROPOSED BUDGET 2018/19 Cont'd

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- 4. APPOINT A COMMITTEE OF COUNCILLORS COMPRISING COUNCILLORS
 ______, ____ AND _____ TO CONSIDER ANY SUBMISSIONS
 AND HEAR FROM ANY PERSON/S WHO HAS/HAVE REQUESTED TO BE HEARD
 IN SUPPORT OF THEIR SUBMISSIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
 PROVISIONS OF SECTION 223 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989
- 5. DETERMINES THAT SUCH COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER ALL SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED AT A MEETING TO BE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS ON WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2018 AT 7.30PM
- 6. FOLLOWING EXHIBITION AND CONSIDERATION OF ANY SUBMISSIONS RECEIVED, THE FINAL COUNCIL PLAN AND/OR ANNUAL BUDGET WILL BE PRESENTED TO COUNCIL FOR FORMAL CONSIDERATION AT A MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 21 MAY 2018 AT 7.30PM