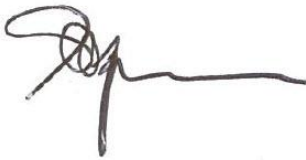


Councillor
(as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber Realm, on Monday 17 July 2023, commencing at 7:30pm and your presence is requested.

Yours faithfully



Steve Kozlowski
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

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.***

This meeting of Council can be viewed on Council's website via:

<https://www.maroondah.vic.gov.au/Live-Council-Meetings>

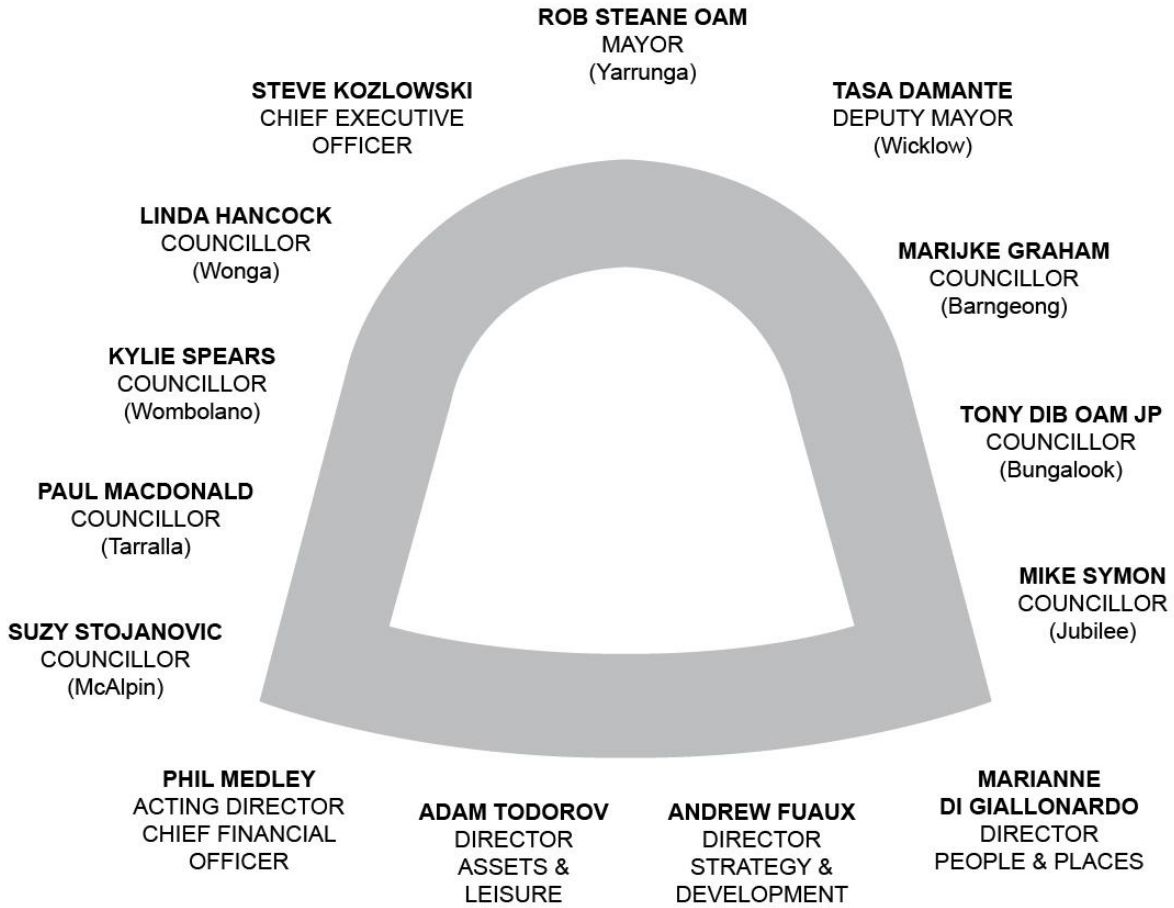


COUNCIL CHAMBER
IS FITTED WITH A HEARING AID
INDUCTION LOOP

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

Realm	179 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood, 3134
Postal	PO Box 156, Ringwood 3134 DX 38068, Ringwood
Telephone	1300 88 22 33 Translating and Interpreting Service (TIS): 131 450 National Relay Service (NRS): 133 677
Facsimile	(03) 9298 4345
Email	maroondah@maroondah.vic.gov.au
Web	www.maroondah.vic.gov.au
Service Centres	Croydon: Civic Square, Croydon 3136 Realm: 179 Maroondah Hwy, Ringwood 3134

Council Chamber Seating



Public Gallery



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1. Prayer and Councillor Pledge
2. Acknowledgment of Country
3. Apologies
4. Declaration of Interests
5. Confirmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 19 June 2023.
6. Public Questions
7. Officers' Reports
 - Acting Director Chief Financial Officer
 1. Attendance Report 4
 2. Reports of Councillor Briefings 6
 3. Councillor Representation Reports 8
 4. Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey Results 2023 11
 5. Report of Audit and Risk Committee Meeting 15
 6. Proposed Motion for MAV State Council Meeting - 13 October 2023 18
 - Director Strategy & Development
 1. Municipal Emergency Management Plan Assurance 23
8. Documents for Sealing
9. Motions to Review
10. Late Items
11. Requests for Leave of Absence
12. In Camera
 - Chief Financial Officer
 1. Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) Service - Annual supply and distribution of compostable liners

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 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) 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 innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired 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 since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council on the 19 June 2023 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.

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 Councillors and generally held on Monday evenings at Realm, 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 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) 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 innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 8.1 Provide community inspired 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 Realm, 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 the 19 June 2023 and 3 July 2023 are attached for information.

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.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  2023 June 19 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
2.  2023 July 03 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 19 JUNE 2023 AND 3 JULY 2023

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS

ITEM 3

PURPOSE

To receive and note meeting minutes from the following organisations, boards and/or advisory committees where Council is represented:

- Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee held on 13 June 2023
- Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee held on 1 June 2023
- Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation held on 25 May 2023
- Eastern Transport Coalition held on 18 May 2023
- Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee held on 12 May 2023
- Maroondah Business Advisory Committee held on 5 April 2023

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) 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 innovation community inspired Council that collaborates regionally and proactively champions local needs.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

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, boards and advisory committees where Council is represented.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council is represented on numerous internal and external bodies.

Internal advisory committees have been initiated by Council and are serviced administratively. They typically consider in-depth issues that are related to Council policy or activities.

External bodies operate under their own charter and determine their own procedures, policies and practices. In these instances, Council involvement is to participate and influence the activities of those external organisations, boards and committees where those activities are in the interests of Maroondah residents.

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

Representation on these internal and external bodies is reviewed on an annual basis at the commencement of the new Mayoral term.

Council representatives for the bodies providing reports for this item are noted below:

Crs Graham, Macdonald and Stojanovic are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee.

Crs Dib, Spears and Hancock are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee.

Crs Spears and Hancock as Council's Representatives with Cr Symon as Substitute Representative on the Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation.

Cr Dib as Council's Representative with Cr Damante as Substitute Representative on the Eastern Transport Coalition.

Crs Graham, Spears and Stojanovic are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee.

Crs Damante, Spears and Steane are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Business Advisory Committee.

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 and the community are formally updated on the actions and activities of the various organisations, boards and advisory committees where Council is represented. Recent meeting minutes from a number of these bodies are tabled for noting.

ATTACHMENTS

1. 2023 June 01 - Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

2. 2023 May 25 - Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation Minutes

3. 2023 May 18 - Eastern Transport Coalition

4. 2023 May 12 - Maroondah Access Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

5. 2023 April 05 - Maroondah Business Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes


CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES

1. **MAROONDAH ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 13 JUNE 2023**
2. **MAROONDAH DISABILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 1 JUNE 2023**
3. **EASTERN REGIONAL LIBRARIES CORPORATION HELD ON 25 MAY 2023**
4. **EASTERN TRANSPORT COALITION HELD ON 18 MAY 2023**
5. **MAROONDAH ACCESS, INCLUSION AND EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 12 MAY 2023**
6. **MAROONDAH BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 5 APRIL 2023**

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY RESULTS 2023

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To note the Maroondah City Council results of the annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey 2023, conducted by an independent market research organisation on behalf of the Victorian Government.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following direction contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Maroondah Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provides the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of the Community Satisfaction survey.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

Our Vision: In the year 2040, Maroondah will be an effectively empowered community that is actively engaged in Council decision processes to 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 2021 – 2025:

- 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 2023-2024:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

Each year, Local Government Victoria (LGV) coordinate and auspice a state-wide Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey. The main objectives of the survey are to assess the performance of Councils', across a range of measures as well as to identify opportunities for improved, and more effective service delivery. The survey also provides local government authorities with a means to fulfil some of their statutory reporting requirements as required by the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

In 2023, 66 of 79 Councils throughout Victoria participated in the survey, undertaking a minimum of 400 interviews within each participating municipality. In contrast to previous years, the survey was conducted across a number of months from July 2022 - March 2023, rather than at only one point in the year.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2023 Cont'd**

ITEM 4

Councils across Victoria are placed into 'like-Council' groupings by the Victorian Government. Maroondah is categorised in the 'Metro Councils' group which includes all Councils in Greater Melbourne except for interface / urban fringe Councils. The participating Councils within the Metro Council group for this 2023 survey were: Banyule, Boroondara, Brimbank, Glen Eira, Greater Dandenong, Hobsons Bay, Kingston, Knox, Manningham, Maroondah, Melbourne, Merri-bek, Moonee Valley, Port Phillip, Stonnington and Whitehorse. Councils within the Metro Councils group that did not participate in the 2023 survey were: Bayside, Darebin, Frankston, Maribyrnong, Monash and Yarra.

An indexed mean is used and adjusted to a baseline to allow comparisons with other Councils. Furthermore, the survey questions are standardised across the state which means that their wording may not always reflect the localised focus of service delivery.

It is important to note, that the survey only provides limited contextual information which could result in respondent feedback relating to services, activities or issues that are beyond Council's direct scope of influence.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council's overall performance continues to be rated in line with the average rating for councils in the Metropolitan group and is rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the state-wide average for councils.

Perceptions of Council performance on most services evaluated are relatively consistent with 2022 results. The survey provider advised that this is a positive result for Maroondah in what has been a year of decline for many other Councils.

Results for both core measures and service measures are outlined in the two tables below.

Highlights for Maroondah include:

- The rating for 'Councils overall performance' (64) is eight points higher than the state-wide average (56).
- The rating for 'Value for Money' (61) is 12 points higher than the state-wide average (49).
- The rating for 'Condition of local streets and footpaths' (59) is seven points higher than the state-wide average (52).
- The rating for 'Making decisions in the interest of the community' (58) is seven points higher than the state-wide average (51).
- The rating for 'Condition of sealed roads' (61) is 13 points higher than the state-wide average (48).
- The rating for 'Recreational facilities' (78) is ten points higher than the state-wide average (68).
- The rating for 'Arts centres and libraries' (78) is five points higher than the state-wide average (73).

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2023 Cont'd**

ITEM 4

Core measures

Performance Measures	<i>Maroondah 2023 result</i>	<i>Metro Melbourne 2023 average</i>	<i>State-wide 2023 average</i>
Overall performance	64	62	56
Value for money	61	56	49
Community consultation	56	55	52
Advocacy	57	53	51
Customer service	73	71	67
Overall Council direction	51	49	46
Making decisions in the interest of the community	58	55	51

Service measures

Performance Measures	<i>Maroondah 2023 result</i>	<i>Metro Melbourne 2023 average</i>	<i>State-wide 2023 average</i>
Informing the community	64	60	57
Condition of sealed roads	61	61	48
Condition of local streets and footpaths	59	57	52
Traffic management	59	55	55
Enforcement of local laws	62	62	61
Family support services	67	65	63
Elderly support services	63	64	63
Disadvantaged support services	57	61	59
Recreational facilities	78	72	68
Appearance of public areas	71	68	67
Arts centres and libraries	78	75	73
Community and cultural activities	69	67	66
Waste management	72	68	66
Business and community development and tourism	61	59	59
Council's general town planning policy	56	52	50
Environmental sustainability	63	62	60
Emergency and disaster management	66	65	65
COVID-19 Response	66	65	67

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION
SURVEY RESULTS 2023 Cont'd**

ITEM 4

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey is one of many engagement methods used by Council to track its performance, as well as collecting community feedback relating to its service delivery.

The Victorian Government has now commenced administration of the next Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey, to understand community perceptions of sector performance across the range of core and service measures. Results are anticipated to be made available to Council in June 2024.

CONCLUSION

Council's overall performance continues to rate well in comparison with average ratings for councils in metropolitan Melbourne. Many of Council's service performance scores are rated statistically significantly higher (at the 95% confidence interval) than the metropolitan and statewide average for councils.

Council will continue to use the results from this Survey to inform planning for service delivery planning and implementation.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL NOTE RESULTS FROM THE 2023 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMUNITY SATISFACTION SURVEY

REPORT OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING

ITEM 5

PURPOSE

To report to Council on the outcomes of the Audit and Risk Committee Meeting held on 2 June 2023.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) 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 2021 – 2025:

- 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 2023-2024:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

The *Local Government Act 2020* prescribes that Council must establish an Audit & Risk Committee and that such Committee will be advisory in nature. The Audit & Risk Committee provides a mechanism for Council to strategically examine various aspects of the Council operations to ensure risk management, legal compliance, financial control, and governance measures are in place.

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

The Audit and Risk 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 Committee of the meeting held on Friday 2 June 2023.

Many items on the agenda are regular reports such as the Chief Executive Officer’s Report, Council’s Internal Audit Progress Report, quarterly Finance Report, Risk and Insurance Report, Internal Audits Actions Register Report and sector related agencies reports.

**REPORT OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
Cont'd**

ITEM 5

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Details associated with some of the regular reports as well as other specific items considered by the Audit and Risk Committee are noted below:

- Internal Audit Reports were presented to the Committee. Those reports were for:
 - An Internal Audit Status Report highlighting recent audits undertaken, current audits underway and forthcoming audits as at June 2023;
 - An internal audit review on Occupational Health and Safety.
- The Internal Audit Actions Register for the period ending 31 March 2023 noting that status of actions arising from recent internal audits. The Committee endorsed progress made by Council regarding implementation of internal audit recommendations.
- Internal Auditors HLB Mann Judd provided an update of the Internal Audit Program and noted forthcoming audits planned during the remainder of 2022/23. An issues paper was also tabled that outlined general sector guidance and trends.
- The Finance Report for the third quarter of the 2022/23 financial year ending 31 March 2023 was discussed.
- A Risk and Insurance Report for the period ending 31 March 2023 was tabled noting the organisation's current operational and strategic risks and the controls that are in place to mitigate those risks. The report provided details on Council's strategic risk outlook, organisational risk profile, organisational risk trends and priorities, and statistics relating to insurance and claims matters for the past quarter.
- A Chief Executive Officer Report highlighted sector updates of interest related to local government integrity and risk management. The Report provided an update on recent VAGO reports of relevance; two recent Ombudsman reports of interest to the sector; recent Local Government Inspectorate outcomes; the status of Council's Local Government Defined Benefits Superannuation Scheme; Level Crossing Removal project impacts on Council; and an update on Federal Government funding commitments.

During the meeting, the Committee was particularly complimentary of Council and its management regarding the high standard of financial and risk reporting as presented.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's current budget provides for the operation of the Audit and Risk Committee, the completion of an Internal Audit Program and associated duties and responsibilities to ensure the organisation is actively and effectively managing its risks.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

**REPORT OF AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEETING
Cont'd**

ITEM 5

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

This Report provides a summary of the outcomes of the Audit and Risk Committee meeting held on 2 June 2023 in accordance with transparency and accountability principles. The report illustrates that Council has a strong level of maturity in managing and mitigating its risks and financial sustainability.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT FROM THE AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 2 JUNE 2023

**PROPOSED MOTION FOR MAV STATE COUNCIL MEETING - ITEM 6
13 OCTOBER 2023**

PURPOSE

To consider one (1) motion for submission to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting to be held on Friday 13 October 2023.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) 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 2021 – 2025:

- 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

Priority Action 2022-2023:

Advocate on key local issues on behalf of the Maroondah community.

Successfully transition the Eastern Regional Libraries service to a Beneficial Enterprise Model

BACKGROUND

The MAV’s State Council Meeting will be held on Friday 13 October 2023. The one (1) proposed motion is viewed as being of significance across the Victorian Local Government sector and therefore of importance for debate and consideration by the MAV State Council Meeting.

The Municipal Association of Victoria together with local members of parliament provides significant advocacy to the Victorian Government on behalf of Maroondah residents and ratepayers.

As has become common practice, Council officers will confirm support from relevant MAV Eastern Metropolitan Councils to include with the submission.

**PROPOSED MOTION FOR MAV STATE COUNCIL MEETING - ITEM 6
13 OCTOBER 2023 Cont'd**

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The motion and rationale for the motion is identified below:

Motion 1: Public Library Grants - Erosion of Library Services to Community

Motion: That the MAV notes

- the State Government Grants for public libraries are frozen at 2022/23 levels;
- that this means funding for public libraries is effectively being further cost-shifted onto Local Government; and
- that Local Government now bears 80% of the cost of this invaluable community service because of cost shifting and

Calls on the Victorian Government to commit to:

- not place additional responsibilities on local government without a sustainable revenue stream to support them;
- revisit this recent decision that has resulted in further cost-shifting onto local government; and
- restore the level of public library funding by increasing the 2023/24 public library grant to the original partnership arrangements of equal 50/50%

Rationale:

The sector's understanding is that in the 1970's State Government and Local Government funding contributions to Council-run Library services was on a 50/50 shared basis.

Over time the State Government share of operating grant contribution has been decimated with an overall decline in State Government funding of 11% from the 1970's to 1986/86 and a further 19% between 1985/86 to 2023/24 financial years.

#Funding Contribution %	1970's	^1985/96	*2008/09	^2023/24
State Government	50%	39%	23%	20%
Local Government	50%	61%	77%	80%

#Includes State Government grant and Council funded contribution, not including operating income

* All Victorian Public Libraries Source: pp 22, *Dollars, Sense and Public Libraries*, State Library of Victoria (March 2011)

^Eastern Regional Libraries Corporation/Your Library Limited

**PROPOSED MOTION FOR MAV STATE COUNCIL MEETING - ITEM 6
13 OCTOBER 2023 Cont'd**

In recent years, the State Government has driven the move from Regional Library Corporations to Beneficial Enterprises using the Local Government Act 2020. The Eastern Regional Libraries has instigated and is the second in the State to achieve that State Government direction, however as outlined in continual MAV motions over the past number of decades, the most recent outlined below, the State Government grant contributions have and do not support this State Government Policy direction and legislative requirements:

- 13 May 2016 - Public Library Funding

That the Municipal Association of Victoria continue to press and lobby the Victorian Government for improved recurrent and capital library funding, including the urgent review of the current funding mechanisms to return to an equitable funding model between local and State Government.

- 19 May 2023 - Regional Library Corporation Transition

That the MAV:

1. Notes that regional library corporations are largely funded by their member Councils.
2. Notes that the Local Government Act 2020 requires existing regional library corporations to be wound up by 30 June 2031, which is 10 years after the commencement of section 110 of the Act.
3. Notes that the cost to transition to an alternate management model may be significant and will be borne by the regional library corporations and their member Councils.
4. Supports regional library corporations and their member Councils to advocate to the Victorian Government for resources, both financial and other support, to transition to alternative model.

- 14 October 2022

That the MAV State Council:

1. notes with concerns that Victoria has approximately 500 poker machine venues which collectively are expected to drain more than \$3.2 billion from gamblers in 2022 with many of these losses occurring at un-social hours because more than 100 of these venues operate the legally maximum 140 hours a week or 20 hours a day.
2. contrasts this with the 291 public libraries in Victoria, many of which are open less than 40 hours a week, partly because State Government funding of council-owned libraries has steadily fallen to below 20% of the cost, despite the constraints imposed on councils by rate-capping over the past 6 years.

At a recent Your Library Board meeting the Member Council Directors agreed to instigate advocacy actions to ensure the State Government is aware that the current funding is inadequate.

**PROPOSED MOTION FOR MAV STATE COUNCIL MEETING - ITEM 6
13 OCTOBER 2023 Cont'd**

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Council is a strong advocate for the Maroondah Community's vision:

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

which is significantly underpinned by a well utilized and loved library service. Council endorsing the proposed MAV motion continues strong advocacy to the State Government to ensure its policy and legislative requirements are realised. This motion has state-wide significance for the entire Victorian population across all local government authorities and therefore should be discussed as a matter of urgency at the October MAV State Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Summary of proposal for MAV Motion Public Library Grants

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

**PROPOSED MOTION FOR MAV STATE COUNCIL MEETING - ITEM 6
13 OCTOBER 2023 Cont'd**

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE SUBMITTING THE FOLLOWING MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA OCTOBER 2023 STATE COUNCIL MEETING:

1. PUBLIC LIBRARY GRANTS - EROSION OF LIBRARY SERVICES TO COMMUNITY

MOTION:

THAT THE MAV NOTES

- **THE STATE GOVERNMENT GRANTS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES ARE FROZEN AT 2022/23 LEVELS;**
- **THAT THIS MEANS FUNDING FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES IS EFFECTIVELY BEING FURTHER COST-SHIFTED ONTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT; AND**
- **THAT LOCAL GOVERNMENT NOW BEARS 80% OF THE COST OF THIS INVALUABLE COMMUNITY SERVICE BECAUSE OF COST SHIFTING AND**

CALLS ON THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT TO COMMIT TO:

- **NOT PLACE ADDITIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT WITHOUT A SUSTAINABLE REVENUE STREAM TO SUPPORT THEM;**
- **REVISIT THIS RECENT DECISION THAT HAS RESULTED IN FURTHER COST-SHIFTING ONTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT; AND**
- **RESTORE THE LEVEL OF PUBLIC LIBRARY FUNDING BY INCREASING THE 2023/24 PUBLIC LIBRARY GRANT TO THE ORIGINAL PARTNERSHIP ARRANGEMENTS OF EQUAL 50/50%**

**MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
ASSURANCE**

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

This report is to highlight that the Municipal Emergency Management Plan was endorsed by the Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee in April 2023. The Plan is the shared legislative responsibility of the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee and is required to be reviewed every three years.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) 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 2021 – 2025:

8.6 Work in partnership with key agencies and other levels of government to provide leadership in emergency preparedness, response and recovery processes.

Priority Action 2023-2024:

Not Applicable

BACKGROUND

Municipal level amendments in the Emergency Management Legislation (EMLA) Act 2018 came into effect on 1 December 2020. The legislation shifts responsibility for municipal emergency management planning from Council to the multi-agency Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee (MEMPC). Council is legislatively responsible for chairing and participating in this committee.

The EMLA Act places the responsibility on the development and continuous review of the Municipal Emergency Management Plan (MEMPC) on the MEMPC rather than Council. The adequacy of the MEMPC, is now reviewed and endorsed by the Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee (REMPC).

Core membership for the MEMPC includes Council, Victoria Police, Country Fire Authority and/or Fire Rescue Victoria, Ambulance Victoria, Victoria State Emergency Service, Australian Red Cross and the Department of Health and/or Department of Families, Fairness and Housing (dependent on machinery of Government changes currently being implemented). Other organisations such as Victorian Council of Churches, Eastlink, Eastland, Yarra Valley Water and Ausnet also attend.

As delegated by the Chief Executive Officer, Maroondah Council's Manager Community Safety is the chair of the MEMPC in accordance with the Act.

**MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
ASSURANCE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Over the last 12 months the MEMPC has been reviewing the Municipal Emergency Management Plan. This included updating the Community Emergency Risk Assessment, changing the format of the Plan to be consistent with other municipalities in the Eastern Region, updating hazard specific sub plans such as Fire, Flood and Storm, and updating complementary plans such as Relief and Recovery and Heatwave.

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan and Municipal Fire Management sub-plan were submitted to the Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee (REMPC) for approval on 14 March 2023 alongside a Statement of Assurance (SoA). The SoA verifies that the plans have been prepared in accordance with the Act and with due regard to the Ministerial guidelines for preparing emergency management plans. It is signed by the Chair of the MEMPC.

The Municipal Flood and Storm plan is currently being updated by SES and will be sent to the REMPC for endorsement once complete (delayed due to 2022 Flood response).

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan was approved by the REMPC in May 2023.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

While the MEMP is the not the responsibility of Maroondah Council to ensure it is developed and in place, it outlines very important arrangements that impact the Maroondah community.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

There are two community representatives on the Municipal Emergency Management Planning Committee. Feedback regarding Emergency Management arrangements is accepted at all times.

CONCLUSION

The Municipal Emergency Management Plan is the shared responsibility of emergency service agencies, community and Council for the City of Maroondah. The Regional Emergency Management Planning Committee is responsible for the approving the Municipal Emergency Management Plans within its regional boundaries. The Maroondah MEMP has been approved by the REMPC for at least three years.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Municipal Emergency Management Plan - Maroondah - 2023-2026

**MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN
ASSURANCE Cont'd**

ITEM 1

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL NOTE THAT THE MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN,
DEVELOPED BY THE MUNICIPAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLANNING
COMMITTEE HAS BEEN APPROVED BY THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
PLANNING COMMITTEE**