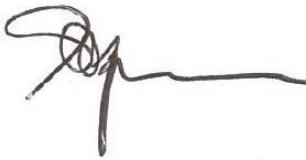


Councillor
(as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Realm, on Monday 19 August 2024, 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>

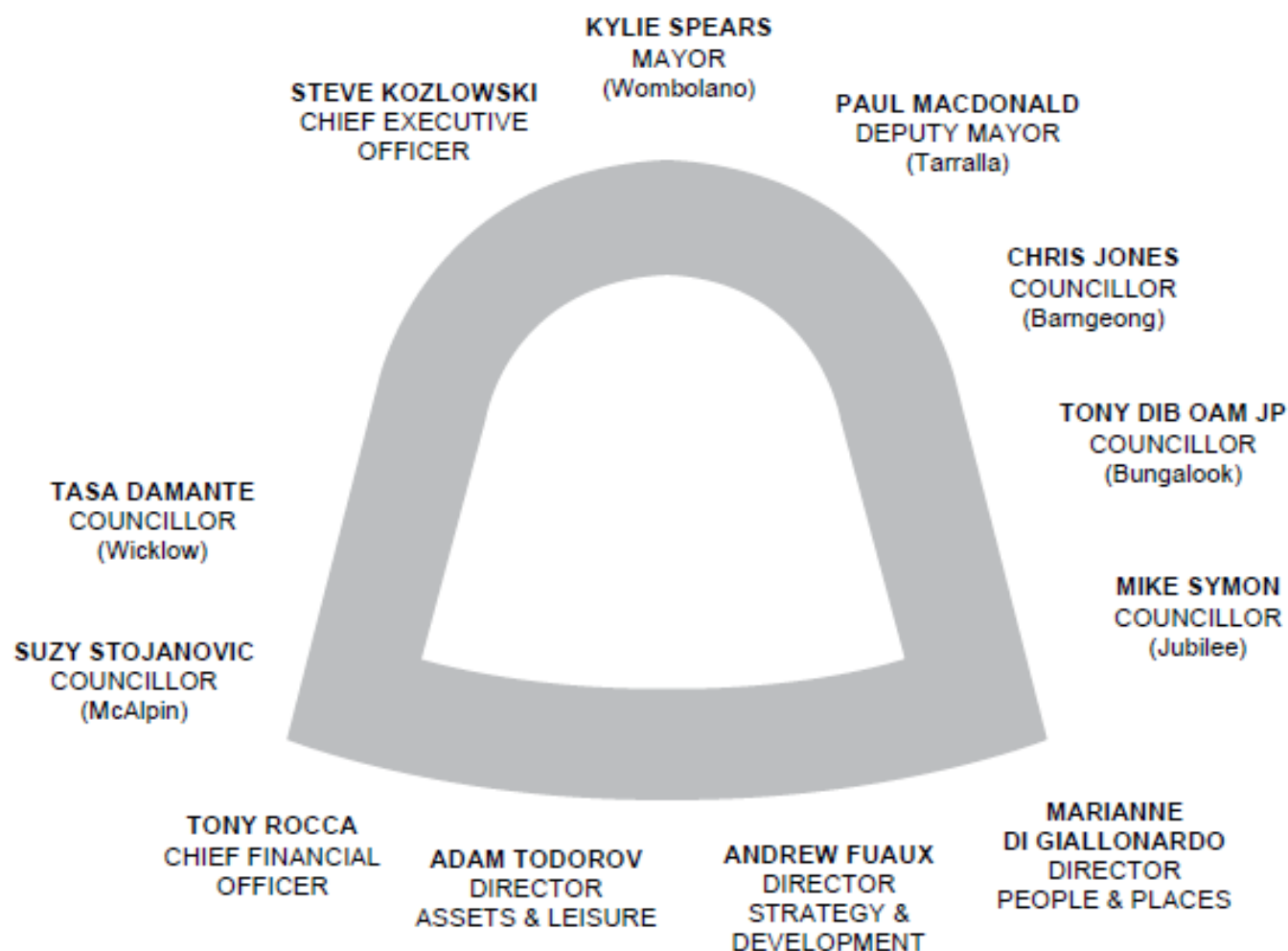


COUNCIL CHAMBER
IS FITTED WITH A HEARING AID
INDUCTION LOOP

**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



LEAVE OF ABSENCE

ROB STEANE OAM COUNCILLOR (Yarrunga)
LINDA HANCOCK COUNCILLOR (Wonga)

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 22 July 2024.
6. Public Questions
7. Officers' Reports
 - Chief Financial Officer
 1. Attendance Report 5
 2. Reports of Councillor Briefings 7
 3. Councillor Representation Reports 9
 4. Proposed Road Discontinuance and Future Sale of Land - Rear West Court Kilsyth 11
 5. Household waste and recycling service standard 2024 consultation - MCC submission 16
 6. Petition - LGBTIQ+ Sub-Committee 20
 7. Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023/24) Priority Action Progress Report - Quarter 4, 2023/24 22
 8. Local Government Performance Reporting Framework - Service Performance Indicator Report - Quarter 4, 2023/24 24
 9. Proposed Late Motions - Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council - 23 August 2024 26
 10. Approval in Principle of 2023/24 Annual Financial Report and Annual Performance Statement 32
 - Director Assets & Leisure
 1. Maroondah Golf - Annual State of Play Report 37
 2. Draft Community Facilities Lease - Australia Chin Community (Eastern Melbourne) Inc. 48
 3. Capital Works Report: Fourth Quarter 2023/24 Financial Year 51
 4. Community Facilities Lease Agreement for Ringwood Golf Club Inc. 56
 - Director Strategy & Development
 1. Submission to Plan for Victoria 59
8. Documents for Sealing
9. Motions to Review

10. Late Items

11. Requests for Leave of Absence

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 4: 2024-2025) 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.

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 22 July 2024 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 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 4: 2024-2025) 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.

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 22 July 2024 and 5 August 2024 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.  2024 July 22 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
2.  2024 August 05 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 22 JULY 2024 AND 5 AUGUST 2024

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:

- Eastern Transport Coalition held on 20 June 2024 and 18 July 2024
- Maroondah Business Advisory Committee held on 26 June 2024

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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.

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.

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

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

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

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

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.  2024 June 20 - Eastern Transport Coalition meeting papers
2.  2024 July 18 - Eastern Transport Coalition meeting papers
3.  2024 June 26 - Maroondah Business Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES

1. **EASTERN TRANSPORT COALITION HELD ON 20 JUNE 2024 AND 18 JULY 2024**
2. **MAROONDAH BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 26 JUNE 2024**

**PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND FUTURE SALE
OF LAND - REAR WEST COURT KILSYTH**

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To consider whether the land at the rear of West Court Kilsyth, attached as Schedule 1 (Road) (the land) should be discontinued pursuant to the Local Government Act 1989 (Vic) (Act) and sold by private treaty following the completion of relevant statutory procedures.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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 resources, assets, infrastructure, and natural environment.

BACKGROUND

Council is the registered proprietor of the Road which is known to title as R2 and R4 on the registered plan of subdivision LP 21014, attached as Schedule 2 (Title Plan).

Expression of Interest

The Road abuts the following properties and correspondence was forwarded to all, advising of Council's proposal to discontinue the Road and to seek expression of interest in purchasing a portion of the Road - refer to Schedule 3 (Site Plan):

- 2 West Court Kilsyth
- 1/425 Mt Dandenong Road Croydon
- 2/425 Mt Dandenong Road Croydon
- 419-423 Mt Dandenong Road Croydon

**PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND FUTURE SALE
OF LAND - REAR WEST COURT KILSYTH Cont'd**

ITEM 4

Public/Statutory Authorities

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

- Yarra Valley Water
- Ausnet
- Multinet Gas
- Telstra
- Melbourne Water

All authorities advised that they have no objection to the proposed discontinuance of the Road.

Yarra Valley Water advised that there is a sewer asset in the Road and require an easement to be created in their favour.

Council proposes to retain all current easements as required by Yarra Valley Water including Council's existing drainage infrastructure in the Road.

Internal Consultation

Council's service areas provided their comments on the impact of the proposed discontinuance:

- The Road was once the main driveway to a farm back in 1951 and the road status was never removed through subsequent subdivisions that occurred over the following years.
- The Road does not provide any logical shortcut from the Melbourne Water pipe track land situated to the north of the Road, as the walking trail is accessible from the Jarvis Avenue or Churchill Way ends.
- Melbourne Water has sufficient maintenance access from either ends at Jarvis Avenue and Churchill Way.
- Council's stormwater drain exists within the Road which can be covered by an easement, should the Road be discontinued, and the land sold.

Site Inspection

A site inspection noted the following:

- The Road is unconstructed as a road.
- There is no visible evidence of the Road being used as a pedestrian thoroughfare or vehicular access by any of the adjoining property owners.

**PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND FUTURE SALE
OF LAND - REAR WEST COURT KILSYTH Cont'd**

ITEM 4

- Churchill Way being approximately 100 metres from the Road, provides adequate pedestrian access from the pipe track to Mt Dandenong Road, as shown on Schedule 4 (Locality Plan)

Valuation

Council's valuing consultants provided a current market valuation for the Road. The Road is approximately 711 square metres and valued at \$400,000 excluding GST.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Road Status

The Road is a 'road' for the purpose 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 27 May 2024, Council resolved:

- For the Road to be removed from Council's register of Public Roads; and
- To commence the statutory procedures and give notice pursuant to section 207A of the Act of its intention to discontinue the Road.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The legal and disbursement costs associated with the discontinuance and Council's administration in dealing with property matters is contained within the current budget.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The Road presently provides no benefit to Council or the community in its current condition or strategically as a future road link.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council has notified the community of the proposal to discontinue the Road, through a public notice, inviting submissions to be received in accordance with the statutory procedures pursuant to section 223 of the Act.

The Act provides that a person may, within 28 days of the date of the public notice, lodge a written submission regarding the proposed discontinuance of the Road.

**PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND FUTURE SALE
OF LAND - REAR WEST COURT KILSYTH Cont'd**

ITEM 4

Public Notice

The required public notice was placed in:

- The 'Age' newspaper on 31 May 2024
- On Council's website from 31 May 2024 to 28 June 2024

The public notice was available:

- To any persons requesting a copy to be emailed or mailed to them via Council's Customer Service team.
- Upon request at Council's Customer Service counter at both Ringwood and Croydon.

Notification of Council's discontinuance proposal was provided to the adjoining property owners, with a copy of the public notice enclosed.

At the conclusion of the consultation period on 28 June 2024, there were no submissions received.

CONCLUSION

It is proposed that given all Council's statutory and policy processes have been undertaken, Council should proceed with its proposal to discontinue the Road pursuant to the Act, on the basis that:

- No adjoining property owners use the road for access and therefore is not considered to be reasonably required for public use.
- The Road is not constructed as a 'road'.
- There are nearby adequate access points from Mt Dandenong Road to the Melbourne Water track.

Council can now consider its option proceed with the discontinuance of the Road and retain the land for future sale consideration.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Road Discontinuance Rear West Court Kilsyth - Schedule 1 - Survey Plan (Road)
2.  Road Discontinuance Rear West Court Kilsyth - Schedule 2 - Title Plan - LP 21014
3.  Road Discontinuance Rear West Court Kilsyth - Schedule 3 - Site Plan
4.  Road Discontinuance Rear West Court Kilsyth - Schedule 4 - Locality Plan

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

**PROPOSED ROAD DISCONTINUANCE AND FUTURE SALE
OF LAND - REAR WEST COURT KILSYTH Cont'd**

ITEM 4

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

RESOLVES THAT, HAVING FOLLOWED ALL THE REQUIRED STATUTORY PROCEDURES PURSUANT TO SECTIONS 207A AND 223 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989, AND BEING OF THE OPINION THAT ROAD SHOWN MARKED AS LOT 1 ON THE PLAN ATTACHED AS SCHEDULE 1 TO THIS REPORT (ROAD) IS NO LONGER REASONABLY REQUIRED FOR GENERAL PUBLIC USE, TO DISCONTINUE THE ROAD

- 1. DIRECTS THAT A NOTICE PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF CLAUSE 3(A) OF SCHEDULE 10 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989, IS TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE VICTORIA GOVERNMENT GAZETTE**
- 2. RESOLVES THAT, ONCE DISCONTINUED, THE ROAD BE SOLD BY PRIVATE TREATY AT NO LESS THAN MARKET VALUE IN ACCORDANCE WITH A SWORN VALUATION**
- 3. AUTHORISES THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, OR ANY PERSON WITH THE NECESSARY DELEGATION, TO SIGN ANY TRANSFERS OF LAND OR OTHER DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE SIGNED IN CONNECTION WITH THE DISCONTINUANCE OF THE ROAD AND ITS SUBSEQUENT TRANSFER TO COUNCIL**
- 4. DIRECTS THAT ANY EASEMENTS, RIGHTS OR INTERESTS REQUIRED TO BE CREATED OR SAVED OVER THE ROAD ON BEHALF OF ANY AUTHORITY BE DONE SO AND IN A WAY SO AS TO NOT BE AFFECTED BY THE DISCONTINUANCE AND TRANSFER OF THE DISCONTINUED ROAD TO COUNCIL**
- 5. AUTHORISES THE CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO CARRY OUT THE SALE OF THE DISCONTINUED LAND AT MARKET VALUE WHEN APPROPRIATE, AS THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 114 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 HAVE BEEN SATISFIED**

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE
STANDARD 2024 CONSULTATION - MCC SUBMISSION**

ITEM 5

PURPOSE

To present Council's submission for the household waste and recycling service standards consultation.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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 resilient community committed to sustainable living, enhancing our natural environment, and providing leadership in responding to climate change.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 4.1 Create and foster a culture within our community that is committed to the sustainable use of natural resources.
- 4.2 Provide leadership and build community capacity to reuse, recycle and repurpose resources to minimise consumption and waste.

Priority Action 2024-2025:

Develop and implement Council's *Waste, Litter and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-2030*

BACKGROUND

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change (DEECA) had issued a set of draft regulations for public feedback, under the auspices the *Circular Economy (Waste Reduction and Recycling) Act 2021 (the Act)*. These draft regulations define the timeline for Councils to implement the four-bin waste and recycling service and establishes a service standard for the provision of these services. Additionally, the draft includes compliance and enforcement provisions for penalties and audits as per the Act.

The proposed regulation specifies when Councils are to provide the four-bin household waste and recycling services, and the proposed service standard details how Councils are to provide the services. The proposed regulation also outlines issuing of penalties and auditor provisions under the Act. Consultation on the proposed service standard and regulation closed on the 14 August 2024.

The survey questions and submitted responses are available in Attachment 1.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The current draft of the regulation and service standard is posed to adversely affect Maroondah. The most significant impacts on residents are detailed below, with a comprehensive analysis and officer recommendations provided in *Attachment 2*.

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE
STANDARD 2024 CONSULTATION - MCC SUBMISSION
Cont'd**

ITEM 5

Key impacts

- Households will be allowed to opt-out of the FOGO service which will increase the cost for all other service users.
- Compostable kitchen caddy liners will be banned from FOGO which will lower resource recovery rates and increase contamination.
- Start date for Councils to comply is 1 July 2027, where previously this was just '2027'.
- All lids must meet the standard colours by 1 July 2027 - this would result in an additional red-lid roll out for general rubbish bins which has not been budgeted for as Council's current transition agreement with the State allows for general waste bins to be changed over at attrition.
- Soft plastics to be included into mixed recycling at a possible future date in replacement of the product stewardship scheme RedCycle. This means that instead of industry funding the recycling of soft plastics under a product stewardship scheme, the community will have to fund it, and it runs the risk of reducing the value of the high value paper & cardboard stream.
- Council will be audited against their compliance, and enforcement action can be undertaken against provision of the services, contract compliance and monitoring and administration of opt-outs. This will result in additional compliance monitoring and administration burdens on Council.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Based on the outcome of the regulations and service standards, there may be various financial impacts to consider. These include, but are not limited to:

- Costs associated with managing the opt-out process for the FOGO service, such as service removal, site visits, auditing, ongoing monitoring, administration, and reporting.
- Costs related to implementing a red lid changeover for the general rubbish service. This was not previously budgeted for, as there was no specific deadline imposed by the State.
- The need to expedite the rollout of certain services in earlier financial years than originally planned. This could result in higher prices for bins/lids and contractors due to increased demand and limited supply.
- Additional costs for auditing, compliance reporting, and system maintenance.
- Potential increase in waste charges due to reduced resource recovery rates combined with a decrease in the number of users.
- Costs associated with increased disposal and processing fees if soft plastics are to be included in the mixed recycling service.

**HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE
STANDARD 2024 CONSULTATION - MCC SUBMISSION
Cont'd**

ITEM 5

Please note that these are just some of the potential financial impacts that may arise, and further analysis will be required to fully assess the situation once the finalised service standards and regulations are released.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

The banning of compostable plastic liners will likely result in an increase to Council's currently very low organics contamination rate of 0.18% and a reduction in participation, increasing waste to landfill and associated greenhouse gas emissions.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Based on the outcome of the regulations and service standards, it is possible that compostable kitchen caddy liners may be banned from the FOGO service. Removing these liners would have a negative impact on our overall service delivery and processing efficiency. As mentioned previously, this is because it would lead to reduced participation rates and increased contamination.

Maroondah's fortnightly FOGO service was developed based on community input and was designed to incorporate the use of compostable liners. These liners are essential for containing odours and preventing spoiled food from sticking to the bin. Without the liners, the FOGO service could need to be collected on a weekly basis to ensure continued usage. Consequently, the general rubbish service could have to be collected fortnightly due to limited presentation space and budgetary constraints.

This change in collection frequency would necessitate community consultation to address the implications and gather feedback.

CONCLUSION

Through discussions with the State, and in accordance with the Act, there are aspects of the reforms that cannot be influenced such as:

- Delivering the four-bin kerbside system, including a glass only service
- The State auditing requirements to prove Council compliance with the Act
- The type and amount of penalties
- The start date for the new services

The areas that officers consider could be influenced are:

- Lid changeovers, timing of them, and the budgetary impact due to pulling forward compliance date to 1 July 2027
- FOGO opt-out and the subsequent administration burden on Council


**HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING SERVICE
STANDARD 2024 CONSULTATION - MCC SUBMISSION
Cont'd**

ITEM 5

- What can and can't go in, particularly compostable liners

Taking into consideration the above impacts, and the scope of influence available, a response to the Victorian Government's *Setting the standard for better recycling at home* consultation survey is provided in Attachment One.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Household Waste and Recycling Service Standard - Consultation Questions
2.  Setting the standard for better recycling at home - impact analysis

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE *SETTING THE STANDARD FOR BETTER RECYCLING AT HOME* CONSULTATION RESPONSE SUBMITTED ON BEHALF OF MAROONDAH COUNCIL, TO DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE (DEECA), ON 14 AUGUST 2024

PETITION - LGBTIQA+ SUB-COMMITTEE

ITEM 6

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to present a petition that has been received from Rainbow Local Government regarding the establishment of an LGBTIQA+ sub-committee of the Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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 2021 – 2025:

7.9 Work in partnership to empower the community to respect, understand and embrace diversity.

7.13 Advocate and promote equity, safety and inclusion for all genders, sexualities, gender identities, and sex identities.

BACKGROUND

Formed in 2020, the Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee is dedicated to addressing access, inclusion, and equity for all Maroondah's demographic groups comprehensively. LGBTIQA+ inclusion is notably outlined in the Committee's terms of reference among other demographics. Its members are composed of community figures with pertinent personal experiences and affiliated organisations that represent the interests of their varied clientele.

This Committee is attentive to several marginalised communities, recognising the substantial advantages of evaluating their intersecting needs instead of forming distinct advisory groups for each one.

A working group may be recommended by the Committee members should the need arise to work on a specific task, theme or project. Interested community members are also most welcome to apply to join the Committee as vacancies arise.

The Committee has not previously had any sub-committees in operation since it was established in 2020.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The petition was received on 1 August 2024 with a total of five (5) signatures and relates to the Maroondah Access Inclusion and Equity advisory committee.

PETITION - LGBTIQA+ SUB-COMMITTEE Cont'd

ITEM 6

The request for action of the petition submitted was as follows:

“We, the residents and ratepayers of Maroondah City Council, hereby petition the Council to establish an LGBTIQA+ Sub-Committee of the Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee.”

A holistic review of all of Council's advisory committees is planned for 2025 following the 2024 Council elections.

It is proposed that this request to establish a sub-committee of the Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee be considered as part of this broader review.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The petition has been signed by five (5) members of the local community.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

The petition calls for an LGBTIQA+ sub-committee of the Maroondah Access Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee to be established. A review of all Council's advisory committees will be conducted in 2025 and this petition request will be considered as part of that review.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PETITION CONTAINING FIVE (5) SIGNATURES REQUESTING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN LGBTIQA+ SUB-COMMITTEE**
- 2. ADVISES THE LEAD PETITIONER THAT THE REQUEST WILL BE CONSIDERED DURING A FORTHCOMING REVIEW OF COUNCIL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (YEAR 3: 2023/24) PRIORITY
ACTION PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023/24**

ITEM 7

PURPOSE

To provide an update on progress made towards the implementation of Year 3 priority actions identified in the Council Plan 2021-2025, as at 30 June 2024.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in *Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together* and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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 2023 – 2024:

- 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.

BACKGROUND

The *Council Plan 2021-2025* is Council's key medium-term strategic document. It sets the key directions and priority actions which guide Council's work, in working towards achieving the community's long-term vision, outlined in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*.

The Council Plan plays a vital role in shaping Maroondah over a four-year period. It identifies both the 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 informs Council's decision-making regarding resources and priorities in response to identified community priorities and aspirations.

The Council Plan is implemented through service delivery activities and initiatives across Council, and outcomes are measured and reported regularly.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Within the Council Plan, there are a range of priority actions identified that work towards the delivery of the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision. These actions are updated annually to ensure the Plan continues to align with *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*, as well as being responsive to community expectations.

**COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (YEAR 3: 2023/24) PRIORITY
ACTION PROGRESS REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023/24 Cont'd**

ITEM 7

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 identified priority actions work towards the achievement of the key directions, and ultimately toward the outcomes outlined in *Maroondah 2040: Our future together*.

The attached Report identifies the progress made by Council in delivering the Council Plan priority actions for the 2023/24 financial year. Several priority actions are multi-year initiatives scheduled to be completed in future financial years.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable


COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council Plan achievements are reported to Council and the community through quarterly reporting, and the Maroondah City Council Annual Report, at the end of each financial year.

CONCLUSION

Council has made excellent progress during the past twelve months (1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024) toward the implementation of a broad range of Council Plan Priority Actions for the 2023/24 financial year.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023/24) Priority Action Progress Report - Quarter 4,  2023/24

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE PROGRESS MADE TOWARDS THE DELIVERY OF THE 2023/24 PRIORITY ACTIONS IDENTIFIED IN THE COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025, AS AT 30 JUNE 2024

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK - SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023/24**

ITEM 8

PURPOSE

To provide a report of Council's indicators of service performance as measured by the Local Government Performance Reporting Framework (LGPRF) as at the end of quarter 4 of the 2023/24 financial year (30 June 2024).

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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.
- 8.4 Work in partnership to deliver innovative, accessible and evidence informed services that are people focused, proactive, integrated and responsive.

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 a Victorian Government initiative aimed at ensuring transparency and accountability of the local government sector performance to ratepayers and the public. The Framework is made up 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 Reporting) Regulations 2020* and associated elements of the *Local Government Act 2020*.

End of financial year results are also publicly released by the Victorian Government in November/December each year, enabling benchmarking of the relative performance of Council on LGPRF indicators.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK - SERVICE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR
REPORT - QUARTER 4, 2023/24 Cont'd**

ITEM 8

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

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

Many service performance indicators are subject to fluctuations across the year, reflect seasonality, or phasing of service delivery. As a result, quarterly data is not always indicative of the end of financial year result.

LGPRF service performance indicators for the full 2023/24 financial year (as at 30 June 2024) are presented in the attached report.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

As identified within the report.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

End of financial year results for 2023/24 will be publicly released in Council's Annual Report 2023/24. They will also be submitted to the Victorian Government for publication, with state-wide results anticipated to be released in November/December 2024.

CONCLUSION

LGPRF service performance indicators for the full 2023/24 financial year (as at 30 June 2024) are presented in the attached report.

These results will be published in Council's Annual Report 2023/24 in accordance with the *Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020*.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  LGPRF Service Indicator Progress Report 2023/24 - Quarter 4, 2023/24

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT PERFORMANCE REPORTING
FRAMEWORK SERVICE PERFORMANCE RESULTS FOR THE 2023/24 FINANCIAL
YEAR AS AT 30 JUNE 2024**

**PROPOSED LATE MOTIONS - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024**

ITEM 9

PURPOSE

To consider two (2) late motions for submission to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting to be held on Friday 23 August 2024.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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 2024-2025:

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

BACKGROUND

The MAV State Council Meeting is scheduled for Friday, August 23, 2024.

At the Maroondah City Council meeting on 24 June 2024, two motions were approved and are included in the MAV State Council Business Papers. This report presents two additional motions that will be submitted as late motions.

These late motions are of great importance to the Victorian Local Government sector, and thus, they are deemed critical for discussion and decision-making at the State Council Meeting.

The Municipal Association of Victoria, together with local MPs, advocates to the Victorian Government on behalf of residents and ratepayers of Maroondah.

**PROPOSED LATE MOTIONS - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024
Cont'd**

ITEM 9

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The motion and rationale for the two (2) late motions are identified below:

Motion 1: Negative Impacts of New Waste Service Standards on Local Government

Motion:

That the MAV calls upon the Victorian Government to review and amend the new waste service standards to mitigate the negative impacts on local governments. Specifically, that the MAV advocates for:

1. A hold on the implementation of the proposed removal of caddy liners for Council FOGO services that currently or are considering this method, until a state-wide research study is undertaken to gauge the potential public acceptance of such a measure and its implications for the organic waste stream.
2. Provision for adequate funding and resources to Councils to implement the new standards without placing undue financial burden on ratepayers. This could come in the form of the State Waste Levy, which is projected to increase by 30% over the next four years, generating an estimated \$1.8 billion in revenue for the Victorian Government.
3. An allowance for flexibility in the implementation timeline and methodologies to accommodate the financial capacities and diverse needs of municipalities across the State.
4. Promotion of sustainable waste management practices that are economically viable and environmentally sound, ensuring long-term benefits for the community.

Rationale:

The introduction of new state-wide service standards by the Victorian Government aims to improve environmental outcomes; however, it poses significant challenges for local government. The financial implications, operational disruptions, and community impact require careful consideration and support from the State.

Local government plays a crucial role in waste management and sustainability initiatives. To ensure the success of the new standards, it is imperative that the Victorian Government consider adjustments to the standards and how they are implemented.

There are several key areas where the new standards could negatively impact local government operations. These include increased costs, resource allocation challenges, and potential disruptions to existing waste management services. Specifically, the Victorian Government enforced bin lid colour changes will result in substantial strain on bin manufacturers in a compressed environment causing significant financial and environmental costs.

**PROPOSED LATE MOTIONS - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024
Cont'd**

ITEM 9

Additionally, the proposed removal of liners from the FOGO service raises concerns about increased contamination and operational challenges. The removal of liners could result in a 10% increase in contamination rates, which would reduce the quality and marketability of the organic product.

Furthermore, the removal of liners could lead to more organic waste being disposed in the residual waste bin, which would increase the amount of waste sent to landfill and associated landfill levy costs. This would undermine the Victorian Government's target of diverting 72% of municipal solid waste from landfill by 2030.

The Victorian Government must reconsider its position on the speed and method of introducing these changes. It should aim to place less financial burden on the community, achieve better environmental outcomes, and seek to understand the current arrangements and their success before proposing any changes, such as removing liners from the FOGO service.

Relationship to the MAV Strategic Priorities:

Priority 4: Sustainable Economy

- Objective: We will work with the local government sector to design and support practices that facilitate long-term economic growth without negatively impacting the social, environmental, and cultural aspects of the community. To do this, we will explore diverse strategies for achieving economic growth that strengthen local industries and improve circular economy performance. We will prioritise working with councils to enable the right conditions for creative and entrepreneurial thinking to meet future challenges and needs.

Motion 2: Increased Fire Services Levy (FSL) and Administrative Burden on Local Governments

Motion:

That the MAV calls upon the Victorian Government to address the escalating Fire Services Levy (FSL) and the administrative burden it imposes on local governments. That is, that the MAV advocates for:

1. A clear and detailed explanation from the Victorian Government regarding the rationale for FSL increases that are well above the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the rate cap.
2. Provision of additional resources and support to local governments to manage the increased administrative workload with the FSL, including streamlining reporting and reconciliation processes, and providing timely and accurate data on property valuations and levy rates.
3. Meaningful consultation with local governments to understand their challenges and incorporate their feedback into FSL policies and processes, to ensure that the FSL is fair and equitable for all ratepayers and ensure the FSL reflects the actual costs and benefits of fire services in different regions.

**PROPOSED LATE MOTIONS - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024
Cont'd**

ITEM 9

Rationale:

The Fire Services Levy (FSL) is a vital source of funding for fire services in Victoria. However, the FSL has risen sharply in recent years, far exceeding both the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the rate cap, placing a heavy financial burden on ratepayers and creating unexpected administrative challenges for local governments.

The FSL revenue is expected to increase by 21 per cent or \$186 million in 2024/25. This is a significant increase from the \$792 million collected in 2023-24.

While the FSL is intended to fund the fire services reform and improve the safety and resilience of communities, it is essential for ratepayers to receive clear and transparent reasons for the levy increases, and how they relate to the actual costs and benefits of the fire services in their areas. Councils already undertake significant efforts to explain the details within rate notices to our community. There is a need for more support and guidance from the Victorian Government to ensure that the FSL is communicated effectively, particularly given the FSL increase will have an average impact of approximately \$35 for a median residential property. Ratepayers need to understand that FSL funds are forwarded to the Victorian Government and are not considered to be extra income for delivery of local government services.

Furthermore, the administrative workload of collecting and managing the FSL has increased, requiring more resources and support from local governments. This has a risk of stretching the capacity of local governments to deliver essential services and to communicate effectively with their communities about the FSL. Some of the administrative challenges include: reconciling the FSL revenue with the Victorian Government, reporting on FSL collection and remittance, updating property and levy data, and responding to the ratepayer enquiries and complaints.

Relationship to the MAV Strategic Priorities:

Priority 4: Sustainable Economy

- Objective: We will work with the local government sector to design and support practices that facilitate long-term economic growth without negatively impacting the social, environmental, and cultural aspects of the community. To do this, we will explore diverse strategies for achieving economic growth that strengthen local industries and improve circular economy performance. We will prioritise working with councils to enable the right conditions for creative and entrepreneurial thinking to meet future challenges and needs.

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.

**PROPOSED LATE MOTIONS - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024
Cont'd**

ITEM 9

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Council endorsement is sought for these two proposed motions. Both motions are considered to have state-wide significance for the local government sector and relevant for consideration at the next MAV State Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL ENDORSE SUBMISSION OF THE FOLLOWING TWO (2) LATE MOTIONS
FOR CONSIDERATION AT THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA AUGUST 2024
STATE COUNCIL MEETING**

**1. NEGATIVE IMPACTS OF NEW WASTE SERVICE STANDARDS ON LOCAL
GOVERNMENT**

***MOTION:* THAT THE MAV CALLS UPON THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT TO
REVIEW AND AMEND THE NEW WASTE SERVICE STANDARDS TO MITIGATE
THE NEGATIVE IMPACTS ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. SPECIFICALLY, THAT
THE MAV ADVOCATES FOR:**

- A HOLD ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROPOSED REMOVAL OF
CADDY LINERS FOR COUNCIL FOGO SERVICES THAT CURRENTLY OR
ARE CONSIDERING THIS METHOD UNTIL A STATE-WIDE RESEARCH
STUDY IS UNDERTAKEN TO GAUGE THE POTENTIAL PUBLIC
ACCEPTANCE OF SUCH A MEASURE AND ITS IMPLICATIONS FOR THE
ORGANIC WASTE STREAM**
- PROVISION FOR ADEQUATE FUNDING AND RESOURCES TO COUNCILS
TO IMPLEMENT THE NEW STANDARDS WITHOUT PLACING UNDUE
FINANCIAL BURDEN ON RATEPAYERS. THIS COULD COME IN THE FORM
OF THE STATE WASTE LEVY, WHICH IS PROJECTED TO INCREASE BY 30%
OVER THE NEXT FOUR YEARS, GENERATING AN ESTIMATED \$1.8 BILLION
IN REVENUE FOR THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT**
- AN ALLOWANCE FOR FLEXIBILITY IN THE IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE
AND METHODOLOGIES TO ACCOMMODATE THE FINANCIAL CAPACITIES
AND DIVERSE NEEDS OF MUNICIPALITIES ACROSS THE STATE**

**PROPOSED LATE MOTIONS - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION
OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 23 AUGUST 2024**

ITEM 9

Cont'd

- **PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES THAT ARE ECONOMICALLY VIABLE AND ENVIRONMENTALLY SOUND, ENSURING LONG-TERM BENEFITS FOR THE COMMUNITY**
- 2. INCREASED FIRE SERVICES LEVY (FSL) AND ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS**

***MOTION:* THAT THE MAV CALLS UPON THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT TO ADDRESS THE ESCALATING FIRE SERVICES LEVY (FSL) AND THE ADMINISTRATIVE BURDEN IT IMPOSES ON LOCAL GOVERNMENTS. THAT IS, THAT THE MAV ADVOCATES FOR:**

- **A CLEAR AND DETAILED EXPLANATION FROM THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE RATIONALE FOR FSL INCREASES THAT ARE WELL ABOVE THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX (CPI) AND THE RATE CAP**
- **PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND SUPPORT TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO MANAGE THE INCREASED ADMINISTRATIVE WORKLOAD WITH THE FSL, INCLUDING STREAMLINING REPORTING AND RECONCILIATION PROCESSES, AND PROVIDING TIMELY AND ACCURATE DATA ON PROPERTY VALUATIONS AND LEVY RATES**
- **MEANINGFUL CONSULTATION WITH LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO UNDERSTAND THEIR CHALLENGES AND INCORPORATE THEIR FEEDBACK INTO FSL POLICIES AND PROCESSES, AND TO ENSURE THAT THE FSL IS FAIR AND EQUITABLE FOR ALL RATEPAYERS AND REFLECTS THE ACTUAL COSTS AND BENEFITS OF FIRE SERVICES IN DIFFERENT REGIONS**

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT **ITEM 10**

PURPOSE

To give approval in principle to the Annual Financial Report, and the Annual Performance Statement (collectively known as the Documents) for the year ended 30 June 2024; 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 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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.

BACKGROUND

Approval in Principle

Section 98 (1) of the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act) requires Council to prepare an Annual Report in respect of each financial year. Section 99 (2) of the Act provides Council, after passing a Resolution giving its Approval in Principle to the Performance Statement and Financial Statements, must submit the Statements to the Auditor General. The Statements will be considered by Council's Audit and Risk Committee on the 21 August 2024. It is recommended that Council:

- Receive and note the Annual Finance Report and Performance Statement including Closing Report
- Record its approval 'In Principle' to the Annual Financial Report and Financial Statement (the statements) for the year ended 30 June 2024; and that Council authorise the:
 - 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;
 - Chief Financial Officer to implement any non-material changes to the Statements as recommended by the Audit and Risk Committee and the Auditor-General and provide a summary of any such changes to the Audit and Risk Committee.

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT **ITEM 10**
Cont'd

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

- Financials will be presented to Council's Audit and Risk Committee on Wednesday 21 August 2024 and any feedback will be considered.
- 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 and Changes

Section 99 (3) of the Act, Council must ensure that the performance statement and the financial statements, in their final form after any changes recommended or agreed by the auditors have been made, are certified in accordance with the regulations by:

- 2 Councillors authorised by the Council for the purposes of section 99 of the Act; and
- Any other persons prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of section 99 (3) of the Act. This is as per the Local Government (Planning and Reporting) Regulations 2020 section 13 (1) notes the prescribed persons being:
 - (a) The Chief Executive Officer; and
 - (b) The Principal Accounting Officer(s)

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Annual Financial Report - Year Ending 2023/24

The Financial Statements for 2023/24, which have been prepared based on accounting standards produced by the AASB (Australian Accounting Standards Board), disclose a surplus for the period of \$12.5m compared to an Adopted Budget outcome of \$36.3m. The largest contributing factor to the unfavourable result was the Ringwood Activity Centre Carpark development schedule being extended, causing a deferral in recognition of grant income related to the project. During 2023-24, despite elevated levels of inflation and an unexpectedly low-rate cap, Council's financial position has remained resilient.

Key items of discussion have been noted below:

- Grants - Capital:
Unfavourable \$25.624 largely related to the Ringwood Activity Centre Carpark development schedule being extended, with \$23.5M will be recognised when completed in 2024/25.

**APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL
REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT
Cont'd****ITEM 10**

- Grants - Operating:

Unfavourable \$3.95m, mainly due to 100% of the 2023/24 Australian Government Financial Assistance Grant funding being brought forward to 2022/23, the effect of which has been partially offset by carried forward grants received in 2022/23 in the areas of maternal child health and City Futures being recognised as income in 2023/24.

- Other Income:

Favourable \$3.459m, mainly due to higher return on investments than anticipated from rise in interest rates, on higher cash balances (\$2.946M), as well as an unbudgeted Container Deposit Scheme Rebate (\$0.299M).

- Depreciation:

Favourable \$2.467M, which occurred because the depreciation budget was initially calculated using a larger asset base that included the completion of the Ringwood carpark, whose schedule has now been extended, with completion now expected in 2024/25.

- Other Expenses - Assets written off:

Unfavourable \$3.673m. This is an unbudgeted and non-cash item which is subject to variation year on year and is based on assessments conducted on zero value assets prior to renewal works. During 2023/24, these assets were mainly related to infrastructure such as pipes and footpaths.

Underlying and Unrestricted Surplus

Although Council is reporting a surplus in 2023/24, there is a large proportion of that surplus that is either non-cash related items, capital in nature or restricted in nature. The underlying unrestricted surplus outcome is integral in understanding Council's actual surplus that is not restricted for other purposes (not reported on from a financial perspective). The underlying surplus is income and expenditure, not including capital grants, non-monetary contributions, and other expenses (such as assets written-off).

As per the below table:

Underlying Surplus Items	2023/24 (\$'000)
Underlying Surplus	\$9,413
Restricted Allocations	\$8,878
Underlying Unrestricted Surplus	\$535

APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT

Cont'd

ITEM 10

After allowing for the financial effect of the above movements and adjustments, Council has performed extremely well in relation to actual achievements against its 2023/24 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 helping to ensure ongoing financial sustainability to provide the services required by the Maroondah Community.

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 2024 is healthy and provides a solid foundation for the achievement of targets when moving towards its Adopted Budget for 2024/2025.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

This Annual Financial Report, Performance Statements and associated documents provide for the environmental and amenity stability and enhancement for the Maroondah Community as outlined in an extensive list of Frameworks, Planning Scheme, Policies, Strategies and Action Plans ensuring the environmental and amenity issues for the Community are managed, maintained and enhanced in line with Community needs, expectations and aspirations.

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. These are the significant drivers publicly articulated demonstrating the high standard of the organisations service and advocacy delivery for the Maroondah Community's needs expectations and aspirations in line with the Maroondah 2040 and the Council Plan Directions.

FINAL ANNUAL REPORT

The Documents will form a major component of Council's 2023/24 Annual Report and under Section 98 of the Local Government Act 2020, a Council must ensure that:

- The Annual Report has been prepared; and
- The report of the Auditor under Section 9 of the Audit Act 1994 has been received.

Section 100 of the Act provides that the Annual Report must be considered at a meeting of Council within four months of the end of financial year.

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 an Audit by the Auditor-General's contractor and will be considered by Council's Audit and Risk Committee on 21 August 2024.

**APPROVAL IN PRINCIPLE OF 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL
REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT
Cont'd**

ITEM 10

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Maroondah Annual_Financial_Statements-2024
2.  MCC Performance Statement 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

1. **APPROVES IN PRINCIPLE THE 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 99 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020**
2. **AUTHORISES THE MAYOR COUNCILLOR SPEARS AND COUNCILLOR SYMON AS AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE MEMBERS, TO SIGN THE CERTIFICATION OF THE 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND THE ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 99 OF THE ACT**
3. **AUTHORISES THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TO SEND THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE AUDITOR GENERAL AS WELL AS CERTIFY THE FINAL VERSION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**
4. **AUTHORISES THE PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER TO MAKE, WITHOUT FURTHER FORMAL NOTIFICATION TO COUNCIL, AMENDMENTS RECOMMENDED BY COUNCIL'S AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE, AS WELL AS ANY NON-MATERIAL CHANGES TO THE 2023/24 ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT AND ANNUAL PERFORMANCE STATEMENT**

MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update Council on the implementation of actions from the Maroondah Golf Strategy 2020 - 30 and provide an update of Maroondah Golf's performance during the 2023-24 financial year.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe, healthy and active Community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 1.13 Promote physical activity by supporting education initiatives and providing a diverse range of accessible active and passive open spaces, state of the art sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities.
- 1.14 Work in partnership to increase opportunities and create welcoming, supportive and accessible environments for all community members to undertake physical activity.

BACKGROUND

In July 2020 Council endorsed the Maroondah Golf Strategy 2020 - 30. The Strategy identified key focus areas and priority actions that will enable golf within Maroondah to remain financially sustainable, achieve performance targets and see participation levels continue to increase and diversify. A strategic, evidence-based approach to future planning was identified as critical to ensure that any changes consider community need, community benefit and financial sustainability, and inform any long-term Council investment in Council's two (2) 18-hole golf courses.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The 2023/24 financial year has seen Golf have its most successful year ever. New records for attendance and financial results have been achieved.

The demand for golf remains high and this has resulted in a record financial result for our golf facilities.

ATTENDANCE

On average, Ringwood hosted 279 players and Dorset 232 players every day that the facilities were open. Table 1 on the following page provides a graphical comparison of the 23/24 financial year, relative to the previous years.

MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

Table 1: Average players per day

Overall attendance was very strong at both courses with both significantly exceeding the 5 and 10 year averages. Both courses had the best overall attendance since records commenced in 1993, and Ringwood recorded 101,160 and Dorset 84,268 visits. Table 2 provides a graphical comparison of the 23/24 financial year, relative to previous years.

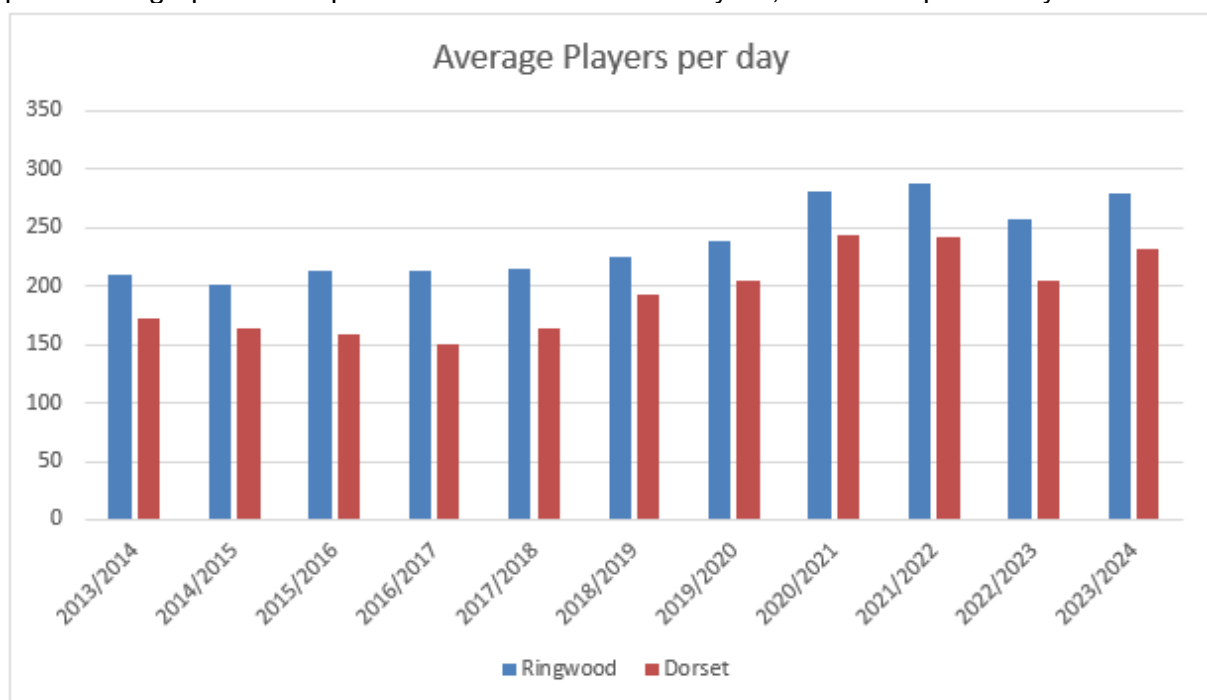
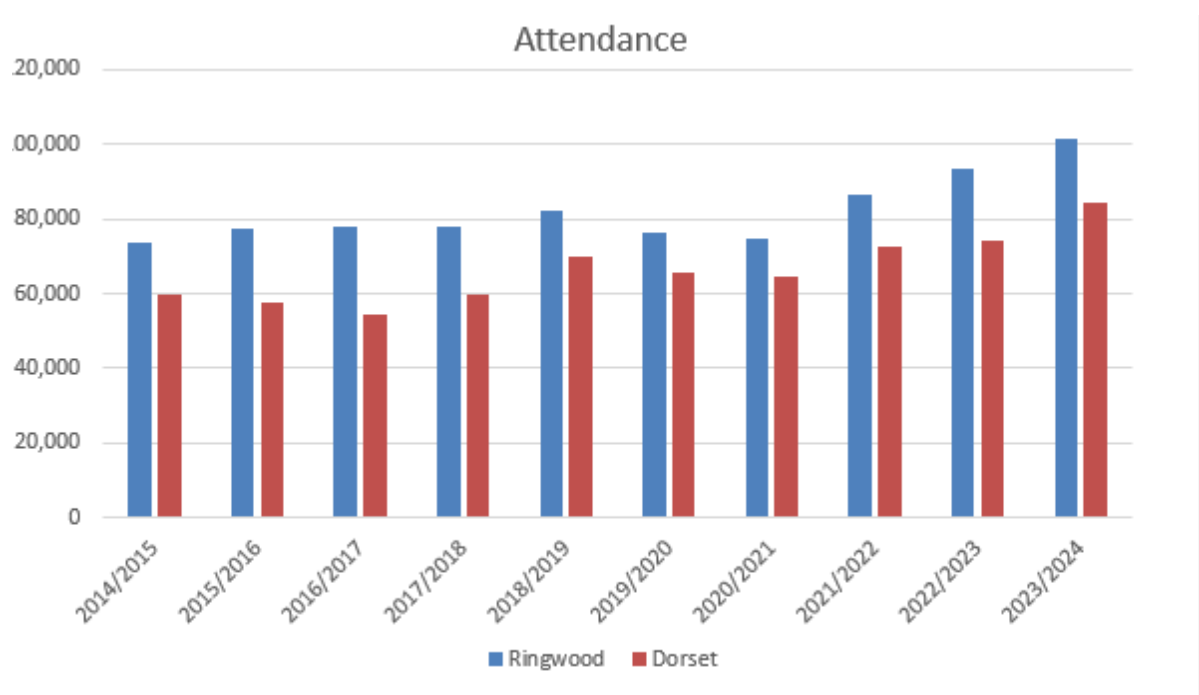


Table 1: Average players per day



MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

Table 2: Annual Attendance

Celebrating our 100,000th Golfer at Ringwood Golf for 2023/24



Coaching and Programs

Over the past 12 months we have continued to grow capacity to deliver coaching at both courses, with a focus to recruit both community and PGA qualified coaches to ensure we have adequate coaches to deliver and grow the program. We have now trained 7 staff as Golf Australia accredited community coaches and employed a PGA qualified Golf coach to carry out coaching at Dorset. Historically there has been minimal coaching undertaken at Dorset however with the new structure and coaching programs now in place it is expected that the program will grow.

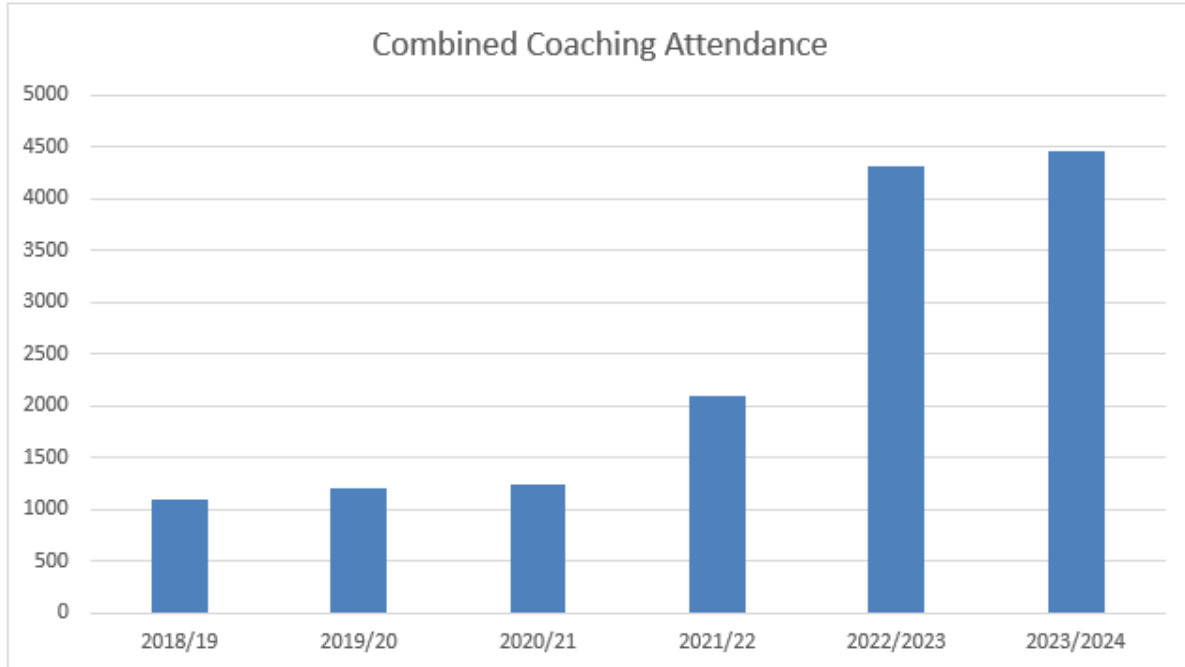
In the 2023-24 financial year we have experienced a modest increase of 3.38% in overall participation in coaching. We believe that the overall attendance for coaching is still strong and a good news story for golf as most coaching participants are new to golf.

Further growth strategies such as My Golf Girls will be implemented to ensure that growth continues. A comparison on previous years can be seen in table 3 below.

MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

Table 3 - Coaching Participants



Golf Strategy

The Maroondah Golf Strategy identified 18 priority actions, and table 4 below provides an update on the status of these actions.

Key Action Description	Action status
Develop a long term (10+years) capital expenditure program	Completed / ongoing - 2 year program completed. Annual review in line with master planning and operational requirements.
Implement a system to capture customer and potential customer contact information	Completed - online booking system captures all customers data
Develop and regularly review a golf marketing plan to ensure it is relevant and engaging	Completed / ongoing - review of marketing plan and calendar completed. Changes to marketing processes to ensure low cost direct marketing is utilized
Implement online booking platform that captures customer data and has the functionality to provide dynamic pricing	Completed - Miclub online booking system implemented. Over 13,000 players in database
Analyze data to identify opportunities to maximize yield through a demand-based pricing structure	Ongoing in conjunction with membership review.

MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

Benchmark, review and set pricing to ensure competitive neutrality principles are met	Completed - Annual price review and benchmarking for casual and membership pricing.
Review membership offering to ensure offerings are relevant and maximum yield is achieved	Completed - membership review implemented
Identify and implement programs and services that diversify participation and income generation.	Commenced / ongoing - Additional programs targeting female, junior and senior participation implemented
Implement Golf Australia programs and other initiatives to target underrepresented groups	Commenced / ongoing - Additional programs targeting female, junior and senior participation implemented
Develop a participation plan that addresses underrepresented segments of the community and ensures financial sustainability	Commenced - Draft participation plan developed

Challenges - Present and Future

The availability of an adequate number of tee times to meet the demand has been one of the key challenges faced in the last 12 months. Each course can only accommodate a maximum of 4 players every 8 minutes, with demand during peak times often greater than the available times. Several initiatives have been implemented to maximise tee sheet occupancy, some of these initiatives that have been implemented are as follows:

- Confirmation phones calls to all golfers 2 days prior to their booking.
- Public players playing within vacant user group allocations.
- User groups player numbers are now confirmed 3 days prior rather than 1 day, giving us the opportunity to release unused times to the public.
- Moving of user group start times to allow consistent number of public times prior to user groups.
- Introduction of no-show policy.
- Monitoring and follow up of membership denied entry report.

Options for dynamic pricing during peak and off-peak times are being developed, to assist in levelling out the demand experienced during these peak times, whilst still providing affordable options for participation. Options for consideration will be finalised in early 2025.

The ability to grow the golf business will soon become restrictive within the current facilities, as these are ageing and at capacity in relation to being able to grow retail operations, cart storage, coaching and staff. A further exploration of future opportunities will commence over the coming 12 months.

MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The end of year financial operational position exceeded the adopted budget by 36%. This is the best financial result for Golf ever recorded.

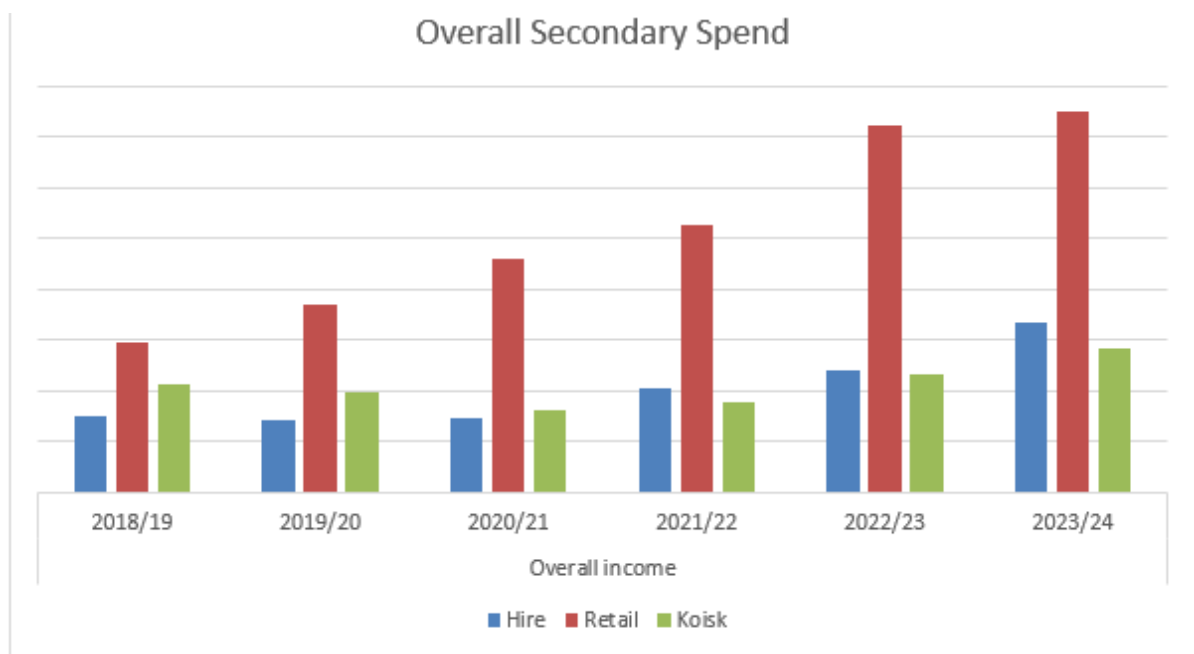
The annual golf capital expenditure has been funded by the operational surplus for the year, which aligns with the key objectives of the Maroondah Golf Strategy.

New initiatives have been introduced to diversify income and to help ensure the long-term financial sustainability of golf. The past year has seen steady growth in income from golf cart hire. The golf cart fleet is now at 14 per course with an additional 4 carts to arrive in spring 2024 as well as digital screens for all carts which will further assist in improving the customer experience and grow revenue.

Further infrastructure such as cart paths, drainage and cart storage will be required to support the growing fleet. In addition, changes and improvements to golf retail, including the online store, have increased sales by 8%.

Diversifying the offering to golfing patrons via cart hire, retail and the kiosk, have continued to help ensure longer term financial viability of the golf offering to the community. Results of secondary spending over the past 6 financial years is illustrated in table 5.

Table 5 - Secondary spend



ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

The excellent course conditions and course presentation has contributed to the high demand for golf over the past 12 months. It is widely acknowledged that both courses set the standard in the region for the quality of surfaces and general playing conditions.

**MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The Golf capital improvement program has focused on projects that directly support increase in revenue and/or that improve the year-round playing conditions, resulting in reduced risk of service disruption and/or loss of income, due to the deterioration of the courses.

The introduction of 3 commercial robotic Automowers will provide the solutions for the maintenance team that will ensure the customer experience remains high, whilst delivering financial and sustainable benefits to Council. More time will be able to be allocated to skilled tasks, whilst reducing our environmental impacts.

The Ceora Automower is a peak-performance robotic model for large-area mowing, featuring Husqvarna EPOS™ technology. Systematic, high precision cutting tailored for optimised flexibility within virtual boundaries. It handles very large areas such as golf courses or municipal facilities, and delivers a professional result on the turf, operating quietly and with zero emissions while in use.

The images and details on the following pages depict the various capital improvement projects and new initiatives that have been completed over the past 12 months.

Automowers



MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

Dorset Golf

- Drainage improvements on the 10th, 14th, 15th and 16th holes.



- Concrete cart path installation on the 10th, 11th, and 12th holes.



MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

- Bunker renewal on the 10th hole



- Tee Renewal on the 12th and 13th holes



MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd

ITEM 1

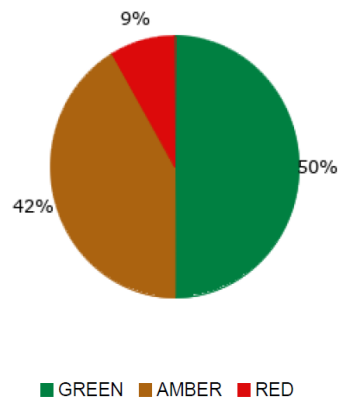
Ringwood Golf

- Sand capping and drainage improvements on the 16th, 17th and 18th holes;
- Concrete cart path construction on the 18th hole
- Tee reconstruction on the 18th hole.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The golf team have worked closely with the Promoting Change Project to implement healthy choices for food and drink offerings at both courses. Both courses have not only met guidelines to become healthy choices compliant but have exceeded ratings with only 9% red products on offer (permitted 20% red within the Sport and Recreation healthy choices guidelines). The pie chart below gives a graphical summary of the makeup of products on offer.

The pie chart below outlines the proportion of **GREEN**, **AMBER** and **RED** foods and drinks currently available on your menu.



Congratulations! The food and drinks in your retail outlet meet the recommendations in the Healthy Choices guidelines.

The golf courses have continued to provide an important meeting place and social hub for many residents. The courses combined, hosts up to 15 regular weekly user groups enabling the creation of strong community connections within the groups. It is important that the golf facilities continue to provide opportunities for groups and individuals to meet and interact socially.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION / FEEDBACK

There are several regular user groups based at each course, with each user group having set weekly allocated tee times. Regular meetings are held with each group to ensure a positive relationship is maintained. Feedback is sought to help inform management of capital works priorities, general course conditions, tee times and special events. The feedback received over the past 12 months has been around groups requesting additional allocated tee times and the public complaining that these user groups receive preferential treatment when it comes to bookings.

**MAROONDAH GOLF - ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY REPORT
Cont'd**

ITEM 1

The golf management team have worked with all user groups to move their times to achieve a fairer balance of public and user group tee times during peak periods. The changes to the user group start times has generated feedback from some of the members of these user groups. It is critical that there is a balance of allocated or reserved tee times and public access tee times. Council Officers believe that the current allocations achieve a good balance. This will be continually monitored to ensure the balance remains fair and all allocated spots are utilised to maximise playing opportunities for all categories.

Other feedback received has been in relation to the high demand for tee times early in the day. Staff will continue to aid customers on the use of the online booking system and continue to work with the provider of the booking software (Miclub) to continuously improve the system to meet the demands of the customers.

A large amount of positive feedback around the course conditions and customer service has also been received and appreciated. The course maintenance team have done an excellent job to ensure the course conditions are maintained to a high standard.

CONCLUSION

The implementation of initiatives over several years to diversify income and maximise participation, along with favourable weather conditions has resulted in a successful year for our Golf Facilities. An operating surplus and the highest attendance recorded are all positive indicators that golf has a solid foundation to achieve the community and financial outcomes of the Maroondah Golf Strategy 2020- 2030.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

**THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE MAROONDAH GOLF ANNUAL STATE OF PLAY FOR THE
2023/24 FINANCIAL YEAR**

**DRAFT COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE - AUSTRALIA CHIN
COMMUNITY (EASTERN MELBOURNE) INC.**

ITEM 2

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval of a Lease agreement between Maroondah City Council and Australia Chin Community (Eastern Melbourne) Inc. (Lessee) and to authorise the signing and sealing of the relevant documentation.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe healthy and active community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025

- 1.13 Promote physical activity by supporting education initiatives and providing a diverse range of accessible active and passive open spaces, state of the art sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities.

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 2021 - 2025

- 7.10 Work in partnership to support the equity and inclusion of culturally and linguistically diverse communities, including refugees, new arrivals and interfaith communities.

BACKGROUND

The Hughes Park pavilion and multipurpose courts were formerly occupied by the North Croydon Tennis Club until 2015 when the club closed due to declining membership. The Australia Chin Community was growing in membership and needed a facility for education programs and social activities. Through Federal funding assistance, 3 of the then 6 en-tou-cas tennis courts were converted to synthetic grass for the Australia Chin Community for Volleyball, Chinlone, Tennis and Futsal. The pavilion and amenities were upgraded to be used for classes and as a social meeting space.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council seeks to enter into a Community Facilities Lease Agreement with the Australia Chin Community (Eastern Melbourne) Inc.

**DRAFT COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE - AUSTRALIA CHIN
COMMUNITY (EASTERN MELBOURNE) INC. Cont'd**

ITEM 2

By a Lease agreement made between Council and the Lessee, the Lessee will be granted use and occupation of the premises for a term of two (2) years with the option for a further two (2) year term at annual rentals calculated in accordance with the principles of the Community Facilities Pricing Policy and determined under the category of Groups that are responsible for specialised maintenance.

Officers recommend that Council approves the Lease agreement upon the terms and conditions as set out in the Lease, the principal terms of which are:

- Term – Two (2) years with the option for a further two (2) year term.
- Maintenance – in accordance with the Community Facilities Standard Maintenance Schedule.
- Public Liability insurance of \$20M

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's Community Facilities Pricing Policy provides an overarching framework to guide Council and ensures a consistent and transparent approach to the pricing of facilities.

Under the category of Groups that are responsible for Specialised Maintenance, the annual fee is determined according to the Community Facilities Lease and Licences Schedule. The fee is calculated as a 2 x seasonal category C pavilion + court pricing in accordance with the Maroondah Tennis Strategy (2023). The organisation also receives a 50% fee reduction due to being defined as a Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD) newly arrived community.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The implementation of the lease agreement ensures the clear and equitable delineation of maintenance responsibilities for all tenants occupying Council owned and/or managed community facilities, consistent with the Community Facilities Pricing Policy, and supports a sustainable approach to the provision of community facilities.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The development of the Lease agreement for the Hughes Park multipurpose courts and pavilion was developed with representatives of the Australia Chin Community (Eastern Branch) and Council Officers.

CONCLUSION

The Lease agreement provides a mutually beneficial arrangement between Council and Australia Chin Community (Eastern Branch) Inc. for the continued use and management of the Hughes Park multipurpose courts.

DRAFT COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE - AUSTRALIA CHIN COMMUNITY (EASTERN MELBOURNE) INC. Cont'd **ITEM 2**

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Draft Lease Particulars - Australia Chin Community (Eastern Branch) - July 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL GRANTS A LEASE TO AUSTRALIA CHIN COMMUNITY (EASTERN BRANCH) INC. FOR AN INITIAL TWO (2) YEAR PERIOD WITH THE OPTION FOR A FURTHER TWO (2) YEAR TERM IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S STANDARD COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE

**CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: FOURTH QUARTER 2023/24
FINANCIAL YEAR**

ITEM 3

PURPOSE

To present the financial and operational status of Council's Capital Works program for the fourth quarter of the 2023/2024 financial year.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) 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.

BACKGROUND

Council, as part of its Adopted Budget 2023/24, allocated \$65.77M to Capital Works projects, including significant external funding for the Ringwood Activity Centre Carpark project. Council also carried forward \$2.72M from the 2022/23 capital works budget. The total adjusted forecast budget for 2023/24, taking account of external funding received and various forecast adjustments relating to the timing of specific projects (including a significant adjustment of \$24.2M based on the timing for the Ringwood Activity Centre Carpark construction), is \$42.03M as of 30 June 2024.

Capital Works program status reports are prepared by management and reviewed monthly at the Capital Works Implementation Group (CWIG) and presented quarterly to the Audit and Risk Advisory Committee (ARAC).

Provided in this report is an overview of Capital Expenditure on Council's major program areas for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024.

**CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: FOURTH QUARTER 2023/24
FINANCIAL YEAR Cont'd**

ITEM 3

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The following is a summary of the status of Council's major program areas as of 30 June 2024.

CAPITAL PERFORMANCE – TWELVE MONTHS ENDING 30 JUNE 2024

Classification	YTD Forecast Budget \$'000	YTD Actual * \$'000	YTD Variance \$'000	Forecast Budget ** \$'000	Carried Forward Amount \$'000	Adopted Budget \$'000
Buildings	11,328	7,008	4,320	11,328	(1,613)	12,838
Roads	5,181	4,053	1,127	5,181	(41)	3,652
Footpaths and Cycleways	2,673	2,569	104	2,673	24	3,200
Carparks	5,097	5,102	(4)	5,097	101	29,023
Drainage	6,721	6,306	416	6,721	1,701	4,925
Waste Management	50	25	25	50	0	50
Other Capital Roads and Drainage	426	331	95	426	256	1,055
Recreational Leisure and Community Facilities	1,702	1,477	225	1,702	(1,210)	1,901
Parks and Open Space	2,582	2,054	528	2,582	534	1,931
Commercial Centres	319	280	39	319	217	50
Fixtures, Fittings and Furniture	208	183	25	208	0	120
Plant, Machinery and Equipment	3,859	4,062	(202)	3,859	1,005	2,906
Computers and Telecommunications	675	364	310	675	1,691	371
Building Renewal	1,203	1,216	(13)	1,203	52	3,751
Total capital works	42,025	35,030	6,994	42,025	2,718	65,773

* YTD Actual expenditure includes Carried Forwards

** Forecast Budget expenditure includes Carried Forwards

Explanation of variations between forecast budget and adopted budget:

- **Buildings** – Variation between adopted \$12.84M and forecast \$11.33M budgets is due primarily to:
 - \$1.61M in negative funds carried forward from 2022/23, relating to the timing of some major community facility projects, which were completed in previous years. These projects include Dorset Multipurpose Pavilion redevelopment, JW Manson Pavilion redevelopment, and Maroondah Edge;
 - \$3.3M forecast adjustment (moved to 24/25) for the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct Hub A redevelopment, to reflect the revised project timeframes; and
 - \$1.09M forecast adjustment from the Building Renewal area for the Karralyka foyer extension project

**CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: FOURTH QUARTER 2023/24
FINANCIAL YEAR Cont'd**

ITEM 3

- **Roads** – Variation between adopted \$3.65M and forecast \$5.18M budgets is due partly to:
 - \$500K grant funding from the Federal Government Local Roads and Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Phase 4 program, for the Norwood carpark improvement project; and
 - \$250K forecast adjustment from the Drainage area, for the Emerald Street Road improvement project
- **Footpaths & Cycleways** – Variation between adopted \$3.20M and forecast \$2.67M budgets is due partly to:
 - \$100K forecast adjustment to the Ringwood Activities Area drainage project, to complement the drainage works
- **Carparks** – Variation between adopted \$29.02M and forecast \$5.10M budget is due primarily to:
 - \$24.2M forecast adjustment for the Ringwood Activity Centre Carpark (external funding), to reflect the project timeframes; and
 - \$298K forecast adjustment to the Jubilee Park Carpark project (within the roads area)
- **Drainage** – Variation between adopted \$4.93M and forecast \$6.72M budgets is due primarily to:
 - \$1M in funds carried forward from 2022/23 for the Ringwood Activities Area drainage project; and
 - \$335K in funds carried forward from 2022/23 for the Jumping Creek Corridor Rehabilitation project
- **Other Capital Roads and Drainage** – Variation between adopted \$1.06M and forecast \$426K is due primarily to:
 - \$258K in funds carried forward from 2022/23; and
 - \$480K forecast adjustment (moved to 24/25) for the Ringwood Metro Activity Centre project to reflect revised project timeframes
- **Recreational Leisure and Community Facilities** – Variation between adopted \$1.90M and forecast \$1.70M budgets due primarily to:
 - \$1.21M in negative funds carried forward from 2022/23, relating to the timing of some major sportsfield improvement projects (Dorset Recreation Reserve sportsfields), which were completed in previous years (representing an accelerated completion and spend).
- **Parks and Open Space** - Variation between adopted \$1.93M and forecast \$2.58M budgets is due primarily to:
 - \$534K in funds carried forward from 2022/23, relating to the Danielle Reserve playspace project, Longview Reserve playspace project, and the Laura Court playspace project

**CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: FOURTH QUARTER 2023/24
FINANCIAL YEAR Cont'd**

ITEM 3

- **Plant Machinery and Equipment** – Variation between adopted \$2.91M and forecast \$3.86M budgets is due to:
 - \$1.01M in funds carried forward from 2022/23, relating to a range of vehicle and plant orders that have incurred significant delivery delays
- **Computers and Telecommunication** – Variation between adopted \$371K and forecast \$675K budgets is primarily due to:
 - \$1.69M in carried forwards from 2022/23, relating to proposed major software upgrades; and
 - \$900K forecast adjustment relating to the timing of Council's hybrid Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system implementation
- **Building Renewal** – Variation between adopted \$3.75M and forecast \$1.20M budgets is primarily due to:
 - \$1.09M forecast adjustment to the Karralyka foyer extension project (in the buildings area); and
 - \$250K forecast adjustment to the Yarrunga Community Centre Function Room Improvement (in the buildings area)

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

CARRIED FORWARDS FROM 2022/2023

Council carried forward an amount of \$2.72M into the 2023/24 financial year, which primarily related to major projects that were underway at the end of the 2022/23 financial year.

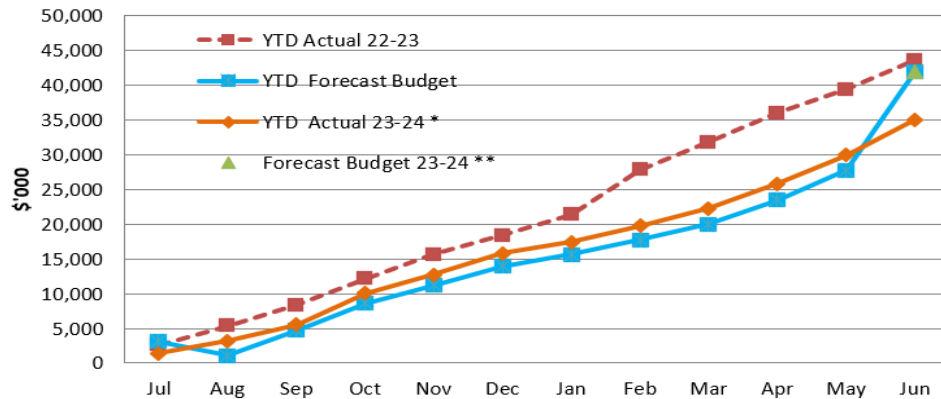
FINAL EXPENDITURE FOR 2023/24

Council spent \$35.03M in 2023/24 on a wide range of capital projects that will provide significant benefit to the community.

CARRY FORWARDS INTO 2024/25

Based on the abovementioned final expenditure, and the previously mentioned total adjusted forecast budget of \$42.03M, Council has carried forward \$6.99M into the 2024/25 financial year.

The graph on the following page depicts the overall final status of the 2023/24 capital works program.

**CAPITAL WORKS REPORT: FOURTH QUARTER 2023/24
FINANCIAL YEAR Cont'd****ITEM 3****CAPITAL WORKS YTD – EXPENDITURE (CUMULATIVE)**

*YTD Actual expenditure includes Carried Forwards

**Forecast Budget expenditure includes Carried Forwards

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Council has a total Capital Works forecast budget for 2023/24 of \$42.03M, including \$2.72M carried forward from 2022/23 and significant grant funding from State and Federal Governments. Key variations between adopted and forecast program budgets for the period 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024 are noted within this report. Council spent \$35.03M during the 2023/24 financial year on a wide range of capital projects that will provide significant benefit to the community.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT ON THE STATUS OF THE CAPITAL WORKS PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD 1 JULY 2023 TO 30 JUNE 2024

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE AGREEMENT FOR
RINGWOOD GOLF CLUB INC.**

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To seek Council approval of a lease agreement between Maroondah City Council and Ringwood Golf Club Inc. and to authorise the signing and sealing of the relevant documentation.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe healthy and active community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be a safe, healthy and active community where all people have the opportunity to experience enhanced levels of social, emotional and physical wellbeing.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025

- 1.13 Promote physical activity by supporting education initiatives and providing a diverse range of accessible active and passive open spaces, state of the art sporting precincts and integrated recreation facilities.

BACKGROUND

The Ringwood Golf Club commenced in 1964 and has occupied the Clubhouse on Canterbury Road since 1978 under an exclusive community facilities lease agreement since the premises was constructed. The club currently has 77 female and 180 male members and a committee of 9. The club and the current lease term has now expired on June 30, 2024 and is in over holding.

Lease negotiations commenced in May 2024, and the tenant is now ready to progress to endorsement of the draft lease.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council seeks to enter into a Community Facilities Lease Agreement with the Ringwood Golf Club Inc.

By a lease agreement made between Council and the Lessee, the Lessee will be granted use and occupation of the premises for a term of five (5) years at annual rentals calculated in accordance with the principles of the Community Facilities Pricing Policy and determined under the category of Other Community Groups Occupying Council-Owned Facilities.

Officers recommend that Council approves the lease agreement upon the terms and conditions as set out in the Lease, the principal terms of which are:

- Term – Five (5) years.

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE AGREEMENT FOR
RINGWOOD GOLF CLUB INC. Cont'd**

ITEM 4

- Maintenance – in accordance with the Community Facilities Standard Maintenance Schedule.
- Public Liability insurance of \$20M and glass replacement insurance.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council's Community Facilities Pricing Policy provides an overarching framework to guide Council and ensures a consistent and transparent approach to the pricing of facilities. Under the category of Other Community Groups Occupying Council-Owned Facilities, the Policy outlines the factors to be considered when calculating the rental fee.

The rental is determined based on the quality of the facility, capital contributions provided by Council and the community organisation, the type of organisation using the facility and whether the organisation has exclusive use of the facility.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The implementation of the standard Community Facilities Lease Agreement ensures the clear and equitable delineation of maintenance responsibilities for all tenants occupying Council owned and/or managed community facilities, consistent with the Community Facilities Pricing Policy, and supports a sustainable approach to the provision of community based sport and recreation.

The new lease agreement includes an additional clause which has been agreed to by the tenant to allow reasonable regular access to other Maroondah based community golf groups to utilise the facility.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The lease agreement for the Ringwood Golf Clubhouse was developed with representatives of the Ringwood Golf Club, Ringwood Golf Course management and Council's Sport & Recreation team.

CONCLUSION

The lease agreement provides a mutually beneficial arrangement between Council and the Ringwood Golf Club Inc. for the continued use and management of the Ringwood Golf Clubhouse.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Draft Lease - Ringwood Golf Club - August 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

**COMMUNITY FACILITIES LEASE AGREEMENT FOR
RINGWOOD GOLF CLUB INC. Cont'd**

ITEM 4

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. GRANTS A LEASE TO RINGWOOD GOLF CLUB INC. FOR A FIVE (5) YEAR PERIOD IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S STANDARD LEASE AGREEMENT AND THE CLUB TO BE CHARGED IN ACCORDANCE WITH COUNCIL'S COMMUNITY FACILITIES PRICING POLICY**
- 2. SIGNS AND SEALS ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION AS APPROPRIATE**

SUBMISSION TO PLAN FOR VICTORIA

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To consider and endorse the submission on behalf of Maroondah City Council in relation to the Plan for Victoria consultation being undertaken by the State Government.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 4: 2024-2025) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: An attractive, thriving and well built community

Our Vision: In 2040, Maroondah will be an attractive, sustainable, and well built community with thriving activity centres and a network of neighbourhoods where everyone has the opportunity to live, work and play locally.

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

- 6.4 Work towards a network of local neighbourhoods across Maroondah where everyone can live, work and play.
- 6.5 Develop and implement an urban environment that enhances the desirable attributes of Maroondah to protect and value neighbourhood character, local history and cultural heritage.
- 6.6 Encourage high density development in activity centres with access to high quality facilities, services and amenities.

Priority Action 2024-2025:

Develop a new Croydon Structure Plan and prepare a planning scheme amendment to incorporate the policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme.

Work in partnership to implement Greening the Greyfields project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts.

Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the objectives of Victoria's Housing Statement for the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre

BACKGROUND

In September 2023, the State Government released *Victoria's Housing Statement, The decade ahead 2024-2034*.

The Statement contains five outcomes:

- Good decisions, made faster
- Cheaper housing, close to where you work
- Protecting renters' rights

SUBMISSION TO PLAN FOR VICTORIA Cont'd

ITEM 1

- More social housing
- A long-term housing plan

The Statement contains a number of actions to achieve the outcomes, some of which have already been completed.

“A long-term housing plan” contains two actions:

- A planning strategy to guide how our state grows and develops in the coming decades; and
- Long term reform to create a modern, fit for purpose planning system that works with Victorians, not against them.

The Statement indicates that it will “focus on delivering more homes near transport, job opportunities and essential services in vibrant, liveable, and sustainable neighbourhoods”. It notes that the “Plan for Victoria will bring to life our target for 70 per cent of new homes to be built in established areas, while making sure growth areas deliver 30 per cent of new homes” and that it “will establish local government targets for where those homes will be built.”

In February 2024 consultation on Plan for Victoria opened. Plan for Victoria will replace the existing metropolitan planning strategy *Plan Melbourne 2017-2050*, which mainly focuses on Melbourne. Submissions are due by the end of August 2024.

It set out four pillars to underpin the plan:

- Affordable housing and Choice
- Equity and Jobs
- Thriving and Liveable Suburbs and Towns
- Sustainable Environments and Climate Action.

In early June 2024, state-wide draft housing targets were released for feedback as part of the Plan for Victoria consultation. Each Council has been given a specific draft target. These targets direct where 2.24 million dwellings can be built across Victoria by 2051.

The targets are calculated based on:

- An area’s proximity to jobs and services
- Level of access to existing and planned public transport
- Environmental hazards like flood and bushfire risk
- Current development trends and places already identified for more homes (e.g. Suburban Rail Loop Precincts).
- Demonstrated development potential in established regional cities in Victoria

SUBMISSION TO PLAN FOR VICTORIA Cont'd**ITEM 1**

Currently the City of Maroondah has 48,000 existing dwellings. The draft target for Maroondah is 44,000.

In early July 2024, the Plan for Victoria consultation was updated to include the initial feedback from the Plan for Victoria consultation, including eight “Big Ideas”, five Top Priorities and a number of other ideas under each of the four pillars.

The Big Ideas are:

- More homes in locations with great public transport access
- More housing options for all Victorians, including social and affordable homes
- More jobs and opportunities closer to where you live
- More options for how we move from place to place
- More certainty and guidance on how places will change over time
- More trees and urban greening in our parks and community space
- More protections from flooding, bushfire and climate hazards
- Greater protection of our agricultural land

The Top Priorities that have been identified are:

1. Leafy green streets with trees, parks and open space
2. Better public transport, walking and cycling connectivity
3. Affordable homes for everyone
4. Protecting the valuable land where our food is grown
5. Vibrant and social places for people to connect and thrive

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

A submission to Plan for Victoria has been prepared by Council officers. The submission responds to the Big Ideas that have been identified, the draft housing targets, top priorities and each of the pillars as well as initial consultation responses under each of the pillars.

It is noted that Council officers consider that the draft housing target of 44,000 additional dwellings by 2051 can be met, however this will mean significant change to some areas if the housing is delivered, with the majority housing being directed into activity centres. In particular, Ringwood, which is designated as a Metropolitan Activity Centre, and Croydon, a Major Activity Centre, will be required to have the capacity for a significantly increased number of dwellings.

SUBMISSION TO PLAN FOR VICTORIA Cont'd**ITEM 1**

The key issue is balancing the provision of housing with other important planning outcomes including:

- Protection of vegetation and biodiversity,
- Provision of jobs
- Funding and delivery of infrastructure including community infrastructure, education facilities, and open space
- Upgrades and improvements to public transport
- Consideration of hazards such as flooding

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The draft housing targets require Councils to create the capacity through zoning of land and other planning controls, however, it will be up to the development industry to deliver the additional housing.

The housing targets are very ambitious and Council officers consider that based on current trends in the development industry, they are unlikely to be achieved to the level that the State Government is seeking, at least in the short term.

It is important to note however, that if the targets were to be achieved, it is unclear how the additional jobs, and infrastructure required to support this amount of dwellings will be delivered, including the allocation of land for new employment precincts, open space and community and health facilities.

The funding of new infrastructure including health and education facilities, open space, sporting grounds is yet to be determined. There are existing tools in the Planning Scheme including Development Contributions Plans, however, the cost to Council for the delivery of infrastructure is often greater than the amount of money collected under developer contributions. It is unclear at this time how funding for new infrastructure, facilities and the many important services that Council delivers will be secured.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

In the “Top Priorities” that have been identified in the first round of consultation for Plan for Victoria, “Leafy green streets, with trees, parks and open space” was identified as the first priorities. Vegetation and canopy coverage is highly valued by the Maroondah community and Council has undertaken significant planning work to ensure that trees and vegetation are protected across Maroondah.

Significant change will occur across the municipality if the 44,000 dwellings identified in the target are delivered, and it is unclear how vegetation will be protected, particularly on private land noting that vegetation on private land provides the majority of the tree canopy coverage across Maroondah. Vegetation is not only important for amenity but vital for biodiversity and cooling and greening, especially in a warming and drying climate.

SUBMISSION TO PLAN FOR VICTORIA Cont'd**ITEM 1**

Neighbourhood character provisions appear very likely to be weakened as increased densities are unlikely to be consistent with the existing character areas in Maroondah. There is already work being undertaken separately by the State Government to reduce the requirements for consideration of neighbourhood character as part of multi-dwelling planning permit applications.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

As the population increases across Maroondah, there will be increased pressures on services and facilities. Liveable neighbourhoods and community connections will be increasingly important. The services that Council delivers to support and facilitate these will need to ensure that people feel a part of and connected to the areas in which they live.

Council will be required to approve a significantly increased number of dwellings to meet the housing targets, and this will impact on the community as they see their neighbourhoods and places changing.

It appears there may be changes to third-party appeal, rights in the planning system by the State Government. This is likely to create a high level of concern within the community.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The State Government opened Plan for Victoria for submissions in February 2024, and undertook a number of face-to-face sessions across Melbourne. According to the Engage Victoria website for the consultation, 9,000 pieces of feedback have been received and 850 hours of conversation with community, Councils and stakeholders has been undertaken.

The Eastern Region Group of Councils (ERG) also undertook community consultation in April 2024 as part of the preparation of their submission on behalf of the ERG Councils. This included 2 webinars, 8 pop up sessions, media releases, social media posts and printed collateral. Council's submission is consistent with and supports the ERG submission.

CONCLUSION

The State Government is currently developing a state-wide planning policy, Plan for Victoria. This includes setting draft housing targets for each Council.

A submission to Plan for Victoria has been prepared by Council Officers. The submission responds to the Big Ideas that have been identified through consultation by the State Government, the draft housing targets, top priorities and each of the pillars as well as initial consultation responses under each of the pillars.

Council supports many elements of Plan for Victoria however has some reservations which are highlighted in the accompanying submission. Council seeks a commitment to the plan being delivered as a partnership between State and Local Governments to ensure that the Plan for Victoria doesn't have unintended consequences, and supports Maroondah's well established and robust approach to planning across our municipality.

ATTACHMENTS

1.  Plan for Victoria Submission August 24 Council Report Attachment

SUBMISSION TO PLAN FOR VICTORIA Cont'd

ITEM 1

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSES THE PLAN FOR VICTORIA SUBMISSION