

Councillor (as addressed)

The next Council Meeting will be held in the Council Chamber, Realm, on Monday 24 June 2024, commencing at 7:30 PM 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



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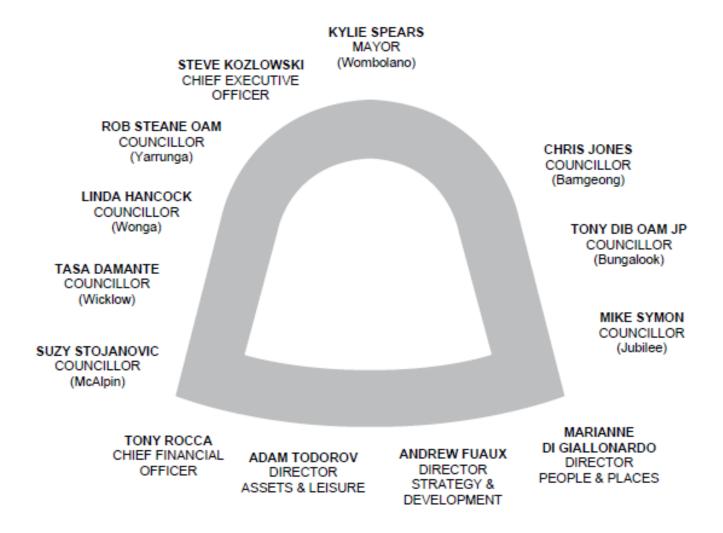
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Council Chamber Seating



APOLOGY
PAUL MACDONALD DEPUTY MAYOR (Tarralla)

Public Gallery



ORDER OF BUSINESS

1.	Prayer and Councillor Pledge				
2.	Ackr	nowledgment of Country			
3.	Apol	ogies			
4.	Decl	aration of Interests			
5.	Conf	firmation of Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on Monday 27 May	2024.		
6.	Publ	ic Questions			
7.	Offic	ers' Reports			
	Chie	f Financial Officer			
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	7.	Adoption of Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update), Proposed Budget 2024/25, Declaration of Rates 2024/25 and Determination of the Level of Mayoral and Councillor Allowances and Associated Documents	24		
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9.	Motions to Review				
10.	Late Items				
11.	Requests for Leave of Absence				

12. In Camera

Chief Financial Officer

1. Tender Evaluation Report - Contract 21064 Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Software, Implementation & Integration Support Services

Director Assets & Leisure

 Tender Evaluation Report - Contract 21067 Karralyka Centre Foyer Extension

ATTENDANCE REPORT

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

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

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

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

Key Directions 2021 - 2025:

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

BACKGROUND

Not Applicable

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

It is intended that the Mayor and Councillors be given the opportunity to present a verbal or written report updating Council on the activities they have undertaken since the last Ordinary Meeting of Council on 27 May 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 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

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

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

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

BACKGROUND

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

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

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

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

Examples of a Councillor Briefings may include:

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

REPORTS OF COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS Cont'd

ITEM 2

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

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

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

The 'Public Record' of the Councillor Briefings held on the 27 May 2024 and 3 June 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

2024 May 27 - Councillor Briefing Public Record
 2024 June 03 - Councillor Briefing Public Record

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE PUBLIC RECORD OF THE COUNCILLOR BRIEFINGS HELD ON 27 MAY 2024 AND 3 JUNE 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:

- Maroondah Access, Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee held on 7 May 2024
- Maroondah Liveability, Safety and Amenity Advisory Committee held on 8 May 2024
- Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee held on 29 May 2024
- Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee held on 11 June 2024

The Maroondah Disability Advisory Committee was held on 23 May 2024 however according to the Terms of Reference the required attendance to achieve a quorum was not achieved and therefore no official minutes have been included in this report.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

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

Key Directions 2021 - 2025:

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

BACKGROUND

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

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council is represented on numerous internal and external bodies.

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

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

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

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

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

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

Crs Damante, Hancock and Steane are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Liveability, Safety and Amenity Committee.

Crs, Damante, Dib and Jones are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Committee.

Crs Jones, Macdonald and Stojanovic are Council's Representatives on the Maroondah Environment 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 May 07 Maroondah Access Inclusion and Equity Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 2. 2024 May 08 Maroondah Liveability Safety and Amenity Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 3. 2024 May 29 Maroondah Community Health and Wellbeing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
- 4. 2024 June 11 Maroondah Environment Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION REPORTS Cont'd

ITEM 3

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES MINUTES OF THE FOLLOWING BODIES

- 1. MAROONDAH ACCESS, INCLUSION AND EQUITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 7 MAY 2024
- 2. MAROONDAH LIVEABILITY, SAFETY AND AMENITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 8 MAY 2024
- 3. MAROONDAH COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 29 MAY 2024
- 4. MAROONDAH ENVIRONMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE HELD ON 11 JUNE 2024

INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT & AUTHORISATION TO COUNCIL OFFICERS (PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987)

ITEM 4

PURPOSE

To update Instruments of Appointment and Authorisations for Council Officers under section 147(4) of the Planning & Environment Act 1987 and section 313 of the Local Government Act 2020.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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

Appointments and authorisations of Council Officers are required to enable the enforcement of specific legislation and local laws.

There are differences between the two distinct powers under delegations and the powers associated with Authorised Officers. Delegations are powers of Council, whereas Authorised Officers obtain their powers from Victorian Acts of Parliament and are authorised via formal Instruments of Appointment and Authorisations to use those powers.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Authorisations are updated on a regular basis across a range of Council functions. Usually, authorisations are conferred via the powers granted to the Chief Executive Officer, however, any appointments and authorisations under section 147(4) of the *Planning and Environment Act 1987*, or section 313 of the *Local Government Act 2020*, are required to be executed directly by Council.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Not Applicable

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT & AUTHORISATION TO COUNCIL OFFICERS (PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987) Cont'd

ITEM 4

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Reviewing of authorisations to Council Officers ensures Council continues to comply with its obligations under various Acts and Regulations, which in turn enable the business of Council to be carried out efficiently. It is recommended that Council signs and seals the Instrument of Appointment and Authorisation from Council direct to Council Officers as listed in the Recommendation.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT

1. COUNCIL, IN THE EXERCISE OF THE POWERS CONFERRED BY SECTION 147(4) OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987, AND SECTION 313 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020, RESOLVES THAT THE FOLLOWING COUNCIL OFFICERS

STATUTORY PLANNING

GULSUM HOPA-ALPAN

HOLLY EDGERTON

ENGINEERING & BUILDING SERVICES

EMILY VO

- A. BE APPOINTED UNDER SECTION 147(4) OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 TO BE AUTHORISED OFFICERS FOR THE PURPOSES OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 AND THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THAT ACT
- B. BE APPOINTED UNDER SECTION 313 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 TO GENERALLY INSTITUTE PROCEEDINGS FOR OFFENCES AGAINST THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987 AND THE REGULATIONS MADE UNDER THAT ACT

INSTRUMENT OF APPOINTMENT & AUTHORISATION TO COUNCIL OFFICERS (PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT ACT 1987) Cont'd

- 2. COUNCIL SIGNS AND SEALS INDIVIDUAL INSTRUMENTS OF APPOINTMENT AND AUTHORISATION FOR ALL EMPLOYEES NAMED WITHIN THIS RESOLUTION
- 3. THE INSTRUMENTS COMES INTO FORCE IMMEDIATELY THE COMMON SEAL OF COUNCIL IS AFFIXED TO THE INSTRUMENTS, AND REMAINS IN FORCE UNTIL COUNCIL DETERMINES TO VARY OR REVOKE IT

FINANCIAL REPORT - NINE MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2024

ITEM 5

PURPOSE

To present Council with a snapshot of Council's financial performance for the nine months ending 31 March 2024. Attachment 1 provides the full Maroondah City Council financial report.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community.

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

Key Directions 2021 – 2025:

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

BACKGROUND

In accordance with Section 97 of the Local Government Act 2020, Council is required each quarter to consider the financial performance of the municipality against budget for the year to date (YTD).

The quarter ending 31 March 2024 Financial Report was presented to Audit and Risk Committee on Thursday, 16 May 2024 and was fully supported.

The attached financial statements contain an Income Statement (Operating Statement); Balance Sheet; Statement of Cash Flows and a Statement of Capital Works. The Income Statement is presented in line with required accounting standards.

The Statements provide comparisons between actual results and the YTD forecast budget.

DISCUSSION

The following is a summary of the financial position for the nine months ending 31 March 2024. A detailed report is attached to this document.

FINANCIAL REPORT - NINE MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2024 Cont'd

ITEM 5

OPERATING PERFORMANCE

	YTD	YTD	YTD			Adopted
	Forecast	Actual	Forecast	Annual	Adopted	То
	Budget	Results	Variance	Forecast	Budget	Forecast
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Operating						
Income	149,049	149,569	520	165,269	160,596	4,673
Expenses	120,150	119,614	535	160,716	156,664	(4,053)
Underlying surplus (deficit)	28,900	29,955	1,055	4,553	3,932	620
Capital						
Grants - capital (recurrent and non-recurrent)	2,926	2,839	(87)	7,059	32,476	(25,417)
Comprehensive result	31,826	32,794	968	11,611	36,408	(24,797)

For the nine months ended 31 March 2024, Council has recorded an underlying surplus before capital revenues of \$29.96 million, which is \$1.06 million ahead the year-to-date forecast budget. This is largely due to timing variances outlined in the attached report.

The annual forecast underlying surplus of \$4.55 million is inclusive of restricted items such as public open space and waste management revenue collected during the year.

The annual comprehensive result of \$11.6 million is lower than anticipated mainly due to the recognition of capital grant funding received for the Ringwood Activity Centre carpark (\$24.2 million) being carried forward to 2024/25 when the project is expected to be completed.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

These are as presented in this Report and accompanying Financial Statements. As per section 97 of the Local Government Act 2020, the accompanying financial statements provide a comparison of actual and budgeted results to date with any variances deemed to be material commented on accordingly. On this basis, it is deemed that as at 31 March 2024, a revised budget for the 2023/24 financial year is not required.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

FINANCIAL REPORT - NINE MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2024 Cont'd

ITEM 5

CONCLUSION

The 31 March 2024 YTD results are favourable and provides a good foundation for achieving Council's 2023/2024 services and advocacy programs despite persistently high inflation. Australia's high inflationary environment remains as the key economic risk to Council's financial performance, affecting the costs of inputs into Council's programs and services, especially its capital works program. However, Council continues to look for opportunities to reduce costs, increase income and more effectively utilise existing resources which will help ensure financial sustainability into the future.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Quarterly Financial Report Appendix - Mar 2024

2. Quarterly Reports Analytics Appendix - 31 Mar 2024

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL RECEIVES AND NOTES THE REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE AGAINST BUDGET FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDING 31 MARCH 2024

OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 17 MAY 2024

ITEM 6

PURPOSE

To consider the outcome of two (2) motions submitted by Council to the Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Meeting held on Friday 17 May 2024. Details of all motions, submitting Councils and outcomes are available in the attachment to this report.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community.

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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.

Priority Action 2023-2024:

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

BACKGROUND

The Municipal Association of Victoria (MAV) State Council Annual Meeting was held on Friday 17 May 2024 with Council having previously resolved to submit two (2) motions. The motions were viewed as being of significance across the Victorian Local Government sector and therefore of importance for debate and consideration by the MAV State Council Meeting.

The MAV is one of the Victorian local government sector peak body associations and together with local members of Parliament, provides significant advocacy to both Victorian and Australian Governments on behalf of Maroondah residents and ratepayers.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The following motion (Motion 4) was submitted by Maroondah City Council.

Please note - the numbers reference the order of the Motion in the Agenda. The letter 'C' denotes it was a consolidated motion with other similar motions submitted by more than one Council. Consolidated motions were dealt with at the beginning of motion deliberations.

OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 17 MAY 2024 Cont'd

Motion Number/Name	Motion	Rationale	Outcome
Motion 4 - Maroondah City Council To amend the 2024-25 Minister's Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges This motion was consolidated into Motion C1 which also included part of motion 1 from Baw Baw Shire, Motion 2 from Moyne Shire Council, Motion 3 from Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Motion 5 from Corangamite Shire Council	That the MAV recognises the benefits of a consistent approach to waste service charges across councils, including transparency for ratepayers regarding the services that the waste charge funds and calls on the Victorian Government to amend the 2024-2025 Minister's Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges to no longer consider the following items as waste services that should be excluded from the waste service charges: provision of public bins, litter and waste collection from public spaces and education that assists in the successful rollout of the Circular Economy, including contamination reduction.	The 2024/25 Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges suggest that services benefiting the entire municipality should be funded by the council through other revenue sources, however, most councils include costs related to waste services in their Waste Service Charge. Of the examples provided in the guidelines, most councils include at least the following costs in their Waste Service Charge: Iitter and waste collection from public spaces; provision of public bins; and waste education Most councils are not able to comply with the guidelines without being adversely impacted by the changes. Noting that councils are paying landfill levy at \$129.27 per ton for all landfill waste processed, included waste processed from public litter bins and waste collection from public spaces. Current financial and external pressures already faced by councils include: rate capping limitations, cost escalations well above inflation and the rate cap, revenue and funding issues, workforce and employment pressures, infrastructure and asset renewal challenges, climate change and environmental impact, and regulatory and legislative reform. The waste service has always been considered a fully cost recoverable service and not required to be funded from rating income. Implementing the guidelines as currently framed may hinder the ability of local councils to provide	Consolidated into C1

OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 17 MAY 2024 Cont'd

Motion Number/Name	Motion	Rationale	Outcome
		core services. The changes could also prevent the achievement of the Victorian Government's waste reduction and circular economy targets. Council seeks to have the Ministerial Guidelines revised and re-published, considering the definition of waste as per the Circular Economy Act, which, would allow for, as an example, the 'litter and waste collection from public spaces, the provision of public bins and a strong waste education to be included as part of the waste service rate or charge.'	
Motion 68 Increase current funding for prevention of violence against women	That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to increase current funding for the prevention of violence against women.	Violence against women is on the increase in Victoria. In March 2023, the Australian Bureau of Statistics reported that since the age of 15 years: • 2 in 5 women have experienced violence, • 1 in 5 women have experienced sexual violence • 1 in 3 have experienced physical violence Violence in any form is a violation of human rights, impacting the health and wellbeing of women across the state. Research shows that prevention of violence works best when delivered locally where people live, work and play. Increasing long-term Victorian Government funding will allow investment in critical and sustainable partnerships between councils, local health organisations and crisis response groups. By continuing to fund these partnerships councils will be better placed to address violence against women at a local level and effectively engage the community to facilitate change. These meaningful partnerships will assist in creating frameworks that help to protect women across the state.	Carried (100-0)

OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 17 MAY 2024 Cont'd

Motion Number/Name	Motion	Rationale	Outcome
Number/Name		The nine Regional Primary Prevention Partnerships in Victoria act as a cohesive primary infrastructure to deliver services for Prevention of Violence Against Women (PVAW). This partnership is facilitated and led by each regions women's health service. Women's Health Services promote regionally based infrastructure to engage the community and local leaders, lead partnerships across metro and regional Victoria, deliver training, advocacy, provide support and assist in campaigning through events to raise awareness of violence against women. Councils rely on regional prevention partnerships led by regional health organisations to facilitate these legislative responsibilities. Due to rate capping and inflation, councils cannot fund this work alone and additional funding is required from the Victorian Government to ensure these vital partnerships and collaboration opportunities continue. The additional funding is required to continue this vital work in consultation with councils and their partnerships across the state. This motion for increased funding for local and regional health organisations working in prevention of violence against women aligns with the collective commitment to creating a safer, healthier, and more equal society for all.	

OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 17 MAY 2024 Cont'd

ITEM 6

Consolidated Motion C8:

Motion Number/Name	Motion Oc.	Rationale	Outcome
Motion C1 Ministerial Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges	That the MAV, while recognising the benefits of a consistent approach to waste service charges across councils, calls on the Victorian Government to: 1. Defer the commencement date of the Ministerial Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges so that they do not apply until at least the 2025/26 financial year; 2. Undertake proper consultation with the local government sector on the content of the Guidelines, especially in relation to any services proposed to be excluded from a service charge, to help ensure that that Guidelines do not undermine local government's ability to continue to deliver services to the community; and 3. Ensure that any consultation period with local government enables councils to consult with residents so that their sentiments can be included in local government feedback.	Part of Motion1: LG Election Costs—Baw Baw Shire Council Motion2: Financial Sustainability Impacts from Waste Service Charges—Moyne Shire Council Motion3: Ministerial Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges—Macedon Ranges Shire Council Motion4: To amend the 2024-25 Minister's Good Practice Guidelines for Service Rates and Charges—Maroondah City Council Motion5: Transition Arrangements for Good Practice Guidelines— Corangamite Shire Council	Carried (100-0)

Outcomes arising from the MAV State Council Meeting

A total of 73 motions were received for debate at the MAV State Council. Of these motions:

- 27 motions were consolidated into 9 motions;
 - 5 motions were consolidated into C1
 - 4 motions were consolidated into C2
 - 3 motions were consolidated into C3
 - 3 motions were consolidated into C4
 - 2 motions were consolidated into C5
 - 3 motions were consolidated into C6

OUTCOMES - MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA (MAV) STATE COUNCIL - 17 MAY 2024 Cont'd

ITEM 6

- 2 motions were consolidated into C7
- 3 motions were consolidated into C8
- 2 motions were consolidated into C9
- Motion 1 was partly consolidated into C1 but was also debated as a stand-alone motion.
- 15 Strategic Priority motions (not consolidated) and 17 Standard Priority motions were debated.
- 2 motions were amended; and
- 2 motions were lost.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Council, through various forums, consultations, and strategies, has engaged the Maroondah community regarding these various issues. This report further demonstrates Council's preparedness to advocate to the Victorian Government on behalf of Maroondah residents.

CONCLUSION

The motions indicate the willingness of Council to advocate in such forums to other spheres of government on behalf of residents and ratepayers, in addition to demonstrating Council's continued leadership on issues within the sector. With the consolidated motion having been carried unanimously it also indicates the support gathered across the sector state-wide.

ATTACHMENTS

1. MAV State Council Meeting - 17 May 2024 - Outcomes

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL NOTES THE SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME OF THE MOTIONS SUBMITTED BY MAROONDAH CITY COUNCIL TO THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA STATE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 17 MAY 2024

ADOPTION OF DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (2024/25 UPDATE), PROPOSED BUDGET 2024/25, DECLARATION OF RATES 2024/25 AND DETERMINATION OF THE LEVEL OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

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PURPOSE

To enable Council to formally adopt the *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)*, *Proposed Financial Plan 2024/25-2033/34* and *Proposed Budget 2024/2025*. Also, to determine the level of the Councillor allowance and Mayoral allowance which is required under Section 39 of the *Local Government Act 2020* (the Act).

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in *Maroondah 2040 - Our future together* and the *Council Plan 2021-2025* provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

<u>Our Vision:</u> In 2040, Maroondah will be an empowered community 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.

BACKGROUND

Under the Local Government Act 2020 (the Act), Council is required to:

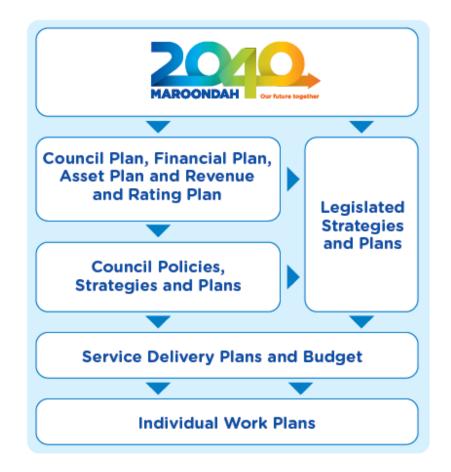
- Prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next four financial years after a general election;
- Develop, adopt and keep in force a Financial Plan that is for a period of a least the next 10 financial years; and
- Prepare and adopt a Budget for each financial year and the subsequent three financial years.

These, and other strategic documents of Council, are linked by an Integrated Planning Framework (shown below), which seeks to ensure Council's activities and resources are aligned in order to meet the aspirations, needs and expectations of the Maroondah community as outlined in the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision.

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Figure 1: Council's Integrated Planning Framework



Council Plan

Council Plan

Under the Act (Section 90) Council must prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next four financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. Council must adopt the Council Plan by 31 October in the year following a general election.

Resources needed for effective implementation of the Council Plan are outlined in the Budget, and risks to effective implementation identified and addressed through the Maroondah City Council Strategic Risk Management Plan and Policy.

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

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Council Plan 2021-2025

The Council Plan 2021-2025 was adopted by Council on 28 June 2021. The Council Plan 2021-2025 was prepared in accordance with the legislative requirements of the Act and was informed by the extensive community consultation undertaken for the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision interim review in 2018 and 2019, as well as the outputs of a deliberative engagement process undertaken with a panel of 40 community members in February and March 2021. In addition, the *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025* was placed on public exhibition for a period of four weeks.

Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)

At Maroondah, the Council Plan is refreshed annually to ensure identified priority actions meet emerging community needs and aspirations.

The *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)* acknowledges progress made towards delivery of priority actions during the 2023/24 financial year and provides an amended list of proposed priority actions for the remaining financial year (2024/25) of the *Council Plan 2021-2025*. These proposed priority actions have been aligned with the outcome areas identified in *Maroondah 2040 - Our future together*.

Financial Plan and Budget

Financial Plan

Under the Act (Section 91) Council must develop, adopt and keep in force a Financial Plan for a period of at least the next ten financial years in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. Council must adopt the Financial Plan by 31 October in the year following a general election.

The Financial Plan provides a 10 year financially sustainable projection of how the actions of the Council Plan may be funded to achieve the Community/Council Vision. The Financial Plan is developed in the context of the following strategic planning principles:

- a) Council has an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and performance reporting.
- b) Council financial plan addresses the Community Vision by funding the aspirations of the Council Plan. The Council Plan aspirations and actions are formulated in the context of the Community Vision.
- c) The Financial Plan statements articulate the 10-year financial resources necessary to implement the goals and aspirations of the Council Plan to achieve the Community Vision.
- d) Council's strategic planning principles identify and address the risks to effective implementation of the Financial Plan.

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e) The Financial Plan provides for the strategic planning principles of progress monitoring of progress and reviews to identify and adapt to changing circumstances.

Proposed Budget

Under the Act (Section 94) Council must prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year and subsequent 3 financial years. It must adopt its budget by 30 June each year or such other date fixed by the Minister.

The Proposed Budget is one of Council's high-level strategic documents. The community's aspirations for Maroondah's future direction and development are set out in *Maroondah 2040 - Our future together* and this forms the foundation from which Council shapes its medium-term plans for the municipality. The Proposed Budget then addresses the provision of financial resources for the next 4 years as well as articulating how those resources are to be spent in delivering services to the community.

The Proposed Budget is a critical planning and resource tool of Council and is vital to the ongoing operational and financial viability of Council. It sets out the expected income and expenditure for the next four years and also incorporates Council's rates and charges as well as estimating the net worth of the municipality at the end of each year. It is the culmination of detailed preparation by employees and management, including consultation with Councillors.

The 2024/2025 Budget links to the achievement of the *Council Plan 2021-2025* as part of Council's Integrated Planning Framework. The Council Plan plays a vital role in shaping the future for Maroondah over a four-year period. It sets out local and regional challenges and opportunities for our community within the framework of the community's long term vision. It also forms the basis for Council to make decisions regarding resources and priorities in response to community aspirations.

The 2024/2025 Budget outlines the provision of financial resources for the next four years and details how these resources will be applied to meet these actions and initiatives detailed in the Council Plan, as well as delivering the more than 120 services and the extensive range of programs and activities that Council provides to the Maroondah community.

The 2024/2025 Budget contains 40 major initiatives, as identified in the Council Plan. These initiatives will contribute to the achievement of the four-year Council Plan key directions and ultimately the preferred outcome as outlined in Maroondah 2040.

Statutory requirements

The Act defines the legislative requirements for the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Budget.

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Council Plan

In terms of the Council Plan, a number of sections of the Act are relevant.

- Section 90 of the Act requires Council to prepare and adopt a Council Plan for a period of at least the next 4 financial years after a general election in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices. Council must develop or review the Council Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and adopt the Council Plan by 31 October in the year following a general election, with effect from 1 July in the year following a general election.
- Section 89 of the Act requires preparation of the Council Plan to be in accordance with the strategic planning principles of the Act which require:
 - (a) an integrated approach to planning, monitoring and reporting;
 - (b) addressing of the Community Vision;
 - (c) taking into account the resources needed for effective implementation;
 - (d) identifying and addressing the risks to effective implementation; and
 - (e) providing for ongoing monitoring of progress and regular review.
- Section 90(2) of the Act also requires Council to include in the Council Plan:
 - (a) the strategic direction of Council;
 - (b) strategic objectives for achieving the strategic direction;
 - (c) strategies for achieving the objectives for a period of at least the next 4 financial years;
 - (d) strategic indicators for monitoring the achievement of the objectives;
 - (e) a description of Council's initiatives and priorities for services, infrastructure and amenity; and
 - (e) any other matters prescribed by the regulations.

Budget, Financial Plan and Revenue and Rating Plan

In terms of the Revenue and Rating Plan, Financial Plan and Budget, a number of sections of the Act are relevant.

 Section 93 of the Act requires Council to prepare and adopt a Revenue and Rating Plan by the next 30 June after a general election for a period of at least the next four financial years;

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- Section 91 of the Act requires Council to develop, adopt and keep in force a Financial Plan in accordance with its deliberative engagement practices and is for a period of at least 10 financial years;
- Section 94 of the Act requires Council to prepare and adopt a budget for each financial year and subsequent 3 financial years. It must adopt its budget by 30 June each year or such other date fixed by the Minister;
- Section 96 of the Act provides that Council must develop the budget in accordance with the financial management principles and its community engagement policy; and
- The Local Government Act 1989 Section 158 remains in force at this time in relation to the declaration of rates and charges and requires Council to declare, for each financial year, the amount which the Council intends to raise by general rates, service rates and service charges by 30 June.
- Section 39 of the Act provides that A Mayor, Deputy Mayor or Councillor is entitled to receive from the Council an allowance as a Mayor, Deputy Mayor or Councillor in accordance with a Determination of the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal under the Victorian Independent Remuneration Tribunal and Improving Parliamentary Standards Act 2019.

Community consultation

A number of sections of the Act are relevant In terms of community consultation for the Council Plan, Financial Plan and Budget.

- Sections 90(3) and 91(4) of the Act require that the Council Plan and Financial Plan are prepared in accordance with Council's deliberative engagement practices.
- Section 96(1)(b) of the Act requires that the Budget is prepared in accordance with Council's community engagement policy.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Council Plan

The *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)* includes a total of 53 priority actions proposed for the four financial years from 2021/22 to 2024/25. This includes five (5) new priority actions not listed in the *Council Plan 2021-2025* (2023/24 Update) as adopted by Council on 19 June 2023, as well as amendments to the wording of 10 priority actions, and timing of six (6) priority actions. One action has been reintroduced with amended wording and timing.

Priority actions have also been categorised as either: completed (action is complete as at 30 June 2024); transitioned to core service delivery (action is continuing but not at the same level of priority); ongoing (action will continue into 2024/25); or new (action is new in 2024/25 financial year).

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The table below summarises the status of the 53 priority actions, noting the majority (40) will either continue into, or commence, in the 2024/25 year.

	2021	/22 to 20	23/24	2024/25		Total
Complete		d	Transitioned	Continuing	Commencing	
21/22	22/23	23/24	to core service delivery	actions (from 2023/24)	actions	
3	3	2	5	33	7	53

The 40 proposed Council Plan priority actions for 2024/25 are:

- 1) Review, update and implement Council's Physical Activity Strategy; and develop and implement a Stadium Sports Strategy
- 2) Finalise and implement the Maroondah Liveability, Wellbeing and Resilience Strategy 2021-2031 (including the Health and Wellbeing Action Plan and Positive Ageing Framework and Action Plan 2021-2025) in accordance with the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008
- 3) Work in partnership with a broad range of service providers and community organisations/groups to develop and deliver services and cultural experiences in the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct that meet the needs of people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds
- 4) Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to support the construction of a new hospital in Maroondah to ensure the location and construction maximises community benefit
- 5) Design and construct the redevelopment of The Rings (subject to funding)
- 6) Design and construct the Quambee Reserve tennis redevelopment
- 7) Develop a Fair Access Policy to support the gender equitable distribution of sporting infrastructure
- 8) Identify and facilitate co-working opportunities and spaces in Maroondah
- 9) Advance planning to reinforce the sense of place and Local Neighbourhoods to enable people the choice to live local through the provision of services and daily needs from across a network of neighbourhoods within Maroondah
- 10) Work in partnership to implement the Bayswater Business Precinct Transformation Strategy and investigate and implement innovative opportunities to enhance business capability, skill development, employment and education pathways for the manufacturing sector
- 11) Work in partnership to plan for and support the Victorian Government three and four year old kindergarten reforms, including advocating for funding at all levels of Government for new and redeveloped facilities to enable these reforms in Maroondah
- 12) Design the Karralyka redevelopment, and undertake staged redevelopment works

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- 13) Develop and implement the Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2025-2030, incorporating the Karralyka Precinct, to maximise arts and cultural opportunities across Maroondah
- 14) Work in partnership to deliver the staged implementation of the Reimagining Tarralla Creek project
- 15) Implement Council's Sustainability Strategy 2022-2031, including development of a Climate Change Plan integrating carbon reduction and climate adaptation measures
- 16) Develop and implement Council's Waste, Litter and Resource Recovery Strategy 2020-2030
- 17) Prepare and implement a series of Biolink Action Plans that implement the Maroondah Habitat Connectivity Study
- 18) Implement Council's annual streetscape enhancement program incorporating a significant increase in new tree planting throughout the municipality
- 19) Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement road improvement works at:
 - New Street, Ringwood (complete)
 - Reilly Street and Wantirna Road, Ringwood (complete)
 - Eastfield Road, Ringwood East (complete)
 - Plymouth Road and Kirtain Drive, Croydon (complete)
 - Holloway Road, Croydon North (to be undertaken in 2024/25)

Undertake carpark improvement works at:

- McAlpin Reserve, Ringwood North (complete)
- Dorset Recreation Reserve, Croydon (complete)
- 20) Design and construct an activity centre carpark in Ringwood
- 21) Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to support the removal of level crossings at Bedford Road Ringwood; Dublin Road Ringwood East and Coolstore Road Croydon; and the construction of new stations at Ringwood East and Croydon
- 22) Advocate to the Australian and Victorian Governments for the provision of new and upgraded transportation infrastructure in Maroondah
- Work in partnership to undertake renewal works on the Mullum Mullum Creek shared trail; and continue footpath construction in the Principal Pedestrian Network
- 24) Develop a new Croydon Structure Plan and prepare a planning scheme amendment to incorporate the policy into the Maroondah Planning Scheme
- 25) Work in partnership to implement the Greening the Greyfields project to facilitate a sustainable approach to urban redevelopment in identified residential precincts

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- 26) Undertake the staged redevelopment of the Croydon Community Wellbeing Precinct (CCWP), including the design and construction of the CCWP Hub A and open space enhancements
- 27) Undertake flood mitigation works in New Street, Ringwood, Sherbrook Avenue catchment in Ringwood, and Scenic Avenue and Wingate Avenue catchments in Ringwood East; and work in partnership to develop flood mitigation solutions for central Croydon
- 28) Work in partnership with the Victorian Government to implement the objectives of Victoria's Housing Statement for the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre
- 29) Undertake enhancements in the Ringwood Metropolitan Activity Centre, including the Maroondah Highway Boulevard and Staley Gardens
- 30) Undertake a review of the Maroondah Planning Scheme
- 31) Continue to monitor and respond to Australian Government Aged Care Reforms to ensure that Council services adapt appropriately to meet current and future community needs, and advocate for ongoing support and care for Maroondah senior citizens
- 32) Advocate on key local issues on behalf of the Maroondah community, including in the lead up to the Australian and Victorian Government elections in 2024/25 and 2026/27
- 33) Develop the Customer Service Strategy 2025-2029 to continue to advance Council's commitment to be highly responsive and customer focused
- Work in partnership with the Victorian Electoral Commission to coordinate a Council Election in October 2024 for the 2024-2028 period
- 35) Develop a strategy for Connected Communities involving digitising metrics to understand and respond efficiently to community needs
- 36) Enhance connections between Council's statutory committees (including advisory committees) and the Integrated Planning Framework to ensure alignment with emerging community priorities
- 37) Engage the community in developing a new Community Vision and prepare the Council Plan 2025-2029 following election of a new Council
- 38) Undertake a review of a range of Council technological systems
- 39) Evolve organisational capacity and implement systems to minimise risks to cybersecurity impacts
- 40) Implement the Council Caretaker Policy for the Council election in October 2024 and transition to the new Council following the election

For *Budget* purposes, all listed Council Plan priority actions above have been classified as *Major Initiatives*.

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FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

These are contained within the *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)* at the aggregate level and articulate Council's current directions.

The adoption of the *Proposed Budget 2023/2024* (and associated documents) not only contributes to compliance with the financial planning and reporting requirements of the Act, it also provides management with an important tool to monitor and control the detailed financial performance and directions of Council over the next 10 years.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

These are contained within the *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)* and articulate Council's current directions.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

These are contained within the *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)* and articulate Council's current directions.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Council Plan 2021-2025 has been informed by the extensive community consultation undertaken for the Maroondah 2040 Community Vision interim review in 2018 and 2019. Furthermore, during the preparation of the Council Plan, Financial Plan, and Annual Budget extensive community consultation was undertaken in the form of a deliberative engagement process and public exhibition process.

CONCLUSION

The *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)*, *Proposed Financial Plan 2024/25-2033/34 and Proposed Budget 2024/2025* have been prepared and reflect Council's commitment to pursue excellence, good governance and responsible management of resources for the Maroondah community.

To meet Council's legislative obligations under the *Local Government Act 2020*, the *Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)*, *Proposed Financial Plan 2024/25-2033/34 and Proposed Budget 2024/2025* are presented for Council adoption.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Draft Council Plan 2021-2025 (2024/25 Update)
- 2. Proposed Budget 2024/25
- 3. Proposed Financial Plan 2024/25 to 2033/34

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

ADOPTION OF DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (2024/25 UPDATE), PROPOSED BUDGET 2024/25, DECLARATION OF RATES 2024/25 AND DETERMINATION OF THE LEVEL OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS Cont'd

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RECOMMENDATION

A. COUNCIL PLAN

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. ADOPTS THE COUNCIL PLAN 2021–2025 (2024/25 UPDATE)
- 2. AUTHORISES OFFICERS TO ARRANGE FOR THE SUITABLE PUBLICATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF THE COUNCIL PLAN TO COMMUNITY GROUPS AND RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

B. FINANCIAL PLAN

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. ADOPTS THE FINANCIAL PLAN 2024/2025 2033/2034
- 2. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 57 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 AND COUNCIL'S PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY POLICY 2020 AUTHORISE OFFICERS TO MAKE AVAILABLE THE FINANCIAL PLAN ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AND AT COUNCIL OFFICES

C. BUDGET

THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES

1. BUDGET

- 1.1 THE ADOPTION OF THE BUDGET 2024/2025
- 1.2 IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 57 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020 AND COUNCIL'S PUBLIC TRANSPARENCY POLICY 2020 AUTHORISE OFFICERS TO MAKE AVAILABLE THE ADOPTED BUDGET 2024/2025 ON COUNCIL'S WEBSITE AND AT COUNCIL OFFICES

2. AMOUNT INTENDED TO BE RAISED

AN AMOUNT OF \$110,685,211 (OR SUCH OTHER AMOUNT AS IS LAWFULLY RAISED AS A CONSEQUENCE OF THIS RESOLUTION) BE DECLARED AS THE AMOUNT WHICH COUNCIL INTENDS TO RAISE BY GENERAL RATES AND THE ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE (DESCRIBED LATER IN THIS RESOLUTION), WHICH AMOUNT IS CALCULATED AS FOLLOWS:

GENERAL RATES \$90,189,668

ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE \$20,495,543

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3. **GENERAL RATES**

- 3.1. A GENERAL RATE BE DECLARED IN RESPECT OF THE 2024/25 FINANCIAL YEAR
- 3.2. IT BE FURTHER DECLARED THAT THE GENERAL RATE BE RAISED BY THE APPLICATION OF DIFFERENTIAL RATES
- 3.3. A DIFFERENTIAL RATE BE RESPECTIVELY DECLARED FOR RATEABLE LAND HAVING THE CHARACTERISTICS SPECIFIED BELOW, WHICH CHARACTERISTICS WILL FORM THE CRITERIA FOR EACH DIFFERENTIAL RATE SO DECLARED:

3.3.1. GENERAL LAND

ANY LAND WHICH DOES NOT HAVE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF DERELICT, COMMERCIAL, INDUSTRIAL, OR VACANT LAND

3.3.2. DERELICT LAND

DERELICT LAND IS ANY LAND IN RESPECT OF WHICH:

- (a) A NOTICE TO COMPLY HAS BEEN SERVED ON THE OWNER OR OCCUPIER OF THE LAND IN RESPECT OF ANY BREACH OF THE RELEVANT COUNCIL LOCAL LAW: AND
- (b) THE TIME SPECIFIED IN THE NOTICE TO COMPLY HAS EXPIRED; AND
- (c) THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE NOTICE TO COMPLY HAVE NOT BEEN COMPLIED WITH OR OTHERWISE SATISFIED (EITHER BEFORE OR AFTER THE TIME SPECIFIED IN THE NOTICE).

3.3.3. COMMERCIAL LAND

COMMERCIAL LAND IS ANY LAND THAT DOES NOT HAVE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF DERELICT, INDUSTRIAL OR VACANT LAND, AND WHICH IS USED, DESIGNED OR ADAPTED TO BE USED PRIMARILY FOR THE SALE OF GOODS OR SERVICES OR OTHER COMMERCIAL PURPOSES.

3.3.4. INDUSTRIAL LAND

INDUSTRIAL LAND IS ANY LAND THAT DOES NOT HAVE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF DERELICT, COMMERCIAL OR VACANT LAND, THAT IS USED, DESIGNED OR ADAPTED TO BE USED PRIMARILY FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

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3.3.5. VACANT LAND

ANY LAND ON WHICH THERE IS NO BUILDING WHICH IS OCCUPIED OR ADAPTED FOR OCCUPATION AND THAT IS NOT GENERAL, DERELICT, COMMERCIAL OR INDUSTRIAL LAND.

3.4. EACH DIFFERENTIAL RATE WILL BE DETERMINED BY MULTIPLYING THE CAPITAL IMPROVED VALUE OF EACH RATEABLE LAND (CATEGORISED BY THE CHARACTERISTICS DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 3.3 OF THIS RESOLUTION) BY THE RELEVANT PERCENTAGES INDICATED IN THE FOLLOWING TABLE:

Category	Rate in the Dollar
Derelict Land	0.574008 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value
Commercial Land	0.229603 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value
Industrial Land	0.229603 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value
Vacant Land	0.287004 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value
General Land	0.191336 cents in the dollar of Capital Improved Value

- 3.5. IT BE RECORDED THAT COUNCIL CONSIDERS THAT EACH DIFFERENTIAL RATE WILL CONTRIBUTE TO THE EQUITABLE AND EFFICIENT CARRYING OUT OF COUNCIL FUNCTIONS, AND THAT THE
 - 3.5.1. RESPECTIVE OBJECTIVES OF EACH DIFFERENTIAL RATE;
 - 3.5.2. RESPECTIVE TYPES OR CLASSES OF LAND WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO EACH DIFFERENTIAL RATE:
 - 3.5.3. RESPECTIVE USES AND LEVELS OF EACH DIFFERENTIAL RATE IN RELATION TO THOSE RESPECTIVE TYPES OR CLASSES OF LAND; AND
 - 3.5.4. THE RELEVANT
 - (A) USES OF;
 - (B) GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATIONS OF;
 - (C) PLANNING SCHEME ZONINGS OF; AND

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(D) TYPES OF BUILDINGS ON

BE THOSE SPECIFIED IN THE BUDGET ANNEXED TO THIS RECOMMENDATION, AS SET IN THE NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.

- 3.6. IT BE CONFIRMED THAT NO AMOUNT IS FIXED AS THE MINIMUM AMOUNT PAYABLE BY WAY OF GENERAL RATE IN RESPECT OF EACH RATEABLE LAND WITHIN THE MUNICIPAL DISTRICT
- 3.7. IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 4 (4) OF THE CULTURAL AND RECREATIONAL LANDS ACT 1963, THE AMOUNTS IN LIEU OF RATES PAYABLE IN RESPECT OF EACH RATEABLE LAND TO WHICH THAT ACT APPLIES BE THE AMOUNTS RESPECTIVELY SET OUT BELOW:

Land	\$
Heathmont Club Inc.	4,912.55
Bayswater North Tennis Club	1,678.95
Eastwood Golf Club	12,312.45
TOTAL	18,903.95

4. ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE

- 4.1. AN ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE BE DECLARED IN RESPECT OF THE 2024/2025 FINANCIAL YEAR
- 4.2. THE ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE BE DECLARED FOR THE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF REFUSE
- 4.3. THE ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE BE IN THE SUM OF, AND BE BASED ON, THE CRITERIA SPECIFIED BELOW:
 - 4.3.1. ANY LAND WITHIN COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH IS USED PRIMARILY FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES WHERE A KERBSIDE COLLECTION IS DEEMED POSSIBLE BY COUNCIL:

\$365.00 PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE IS FOR AN 80-LITRE BIN

\$439.00 PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE IS FOR A 120-LITRE BIN

\$466.00 FOR EACH SECOND AND SUBSEQUENT BIN SUPPLIED IN RESPECT OF THE LAND

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4.3.2. ANY LAND WITHIN COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH IS USED PRIMARILY FOR RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES WHERE THE KERBSIDE COLLECTION IS DEEMED POSSIBLE BY COUNCIL:

\$280.00 PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE OF A SECOND RESIDENTIAL PUTRESCIBLE BIN IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THE OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF A 120 LITRE BIN ONLY AT THE FREQUENCY OF ONCE PER WEEK

\$230.00 PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE OF A SECOND GARDEN ORGANICS BIN ONLY IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THE OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF A 240 LITRE BIN AT THE FREQUENCY OF ONCE PER FORTNIGHT

4.3.3. ANY LAND WITHIN COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH IS USED PRIMARILY FOR COMMERCIAL PURPOSES:

\$786.00 (INCLUDING GST) PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THE OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF A 240 LITRE BIN AT THE FREQUENCY OF ONCE PER WEEK

\$1,722.00 (INCLUDING GST) PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THE OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF A 240 LITRE BIN AT THE FREQUENCY OF THREE TIMES PER WEEK

4.3.4. ANY LAND WITHIN COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH IS USED PRIMARILY FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES:

\$355.00 (INCLUDING GST) PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THAT OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF AN 80 LITRE BIN

ADOPTION OF DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (2024/25 UPDATE), PROPOSED BUDGET 2024/25, DECLARATION OF RATES 2024/25 AND DETERMINATION OF THE LEVEL OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS Cont'd

ITEM 7

\$422.00 (INCLUDING GST) PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THAT OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF A 120 LITRE BIN

4.3.5. ANY LAND WITHIN COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH IS USED PRIMARILY FOR OTHER THAN RESIDENTIAL PURPOSES AND HAS AN EXISTING COMMERCIAL SERVICE OR IS A NOT FOR PROFIT ORGANISATION:

\$175.00 (INCLUDING GST) PER EACH 240 LITRE RECYCLING BIN, WHERE THE SERVICE IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THE OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND RECYCLING OF THE BIN AT THE FREQUENCY OF ONCE PER FORTNIGHT

4.3.6. ANY LAND WITHIN COUNCIL'S MUNICIPAL DISTRICT WHICH IS USED PRIMARILY FOR COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES WHERE THE KERBSIDE COLLECTION IS DEEMED PRACTICABLE BY COUNCIL:

\$253.00 (INCLUDING GST) PER SERVICE FOR EACH LAND, WHERE THE SERVICE OF A GARDEN ORGANICS BIN IS REQUESTED BY THE OWNER OF THE LAND (OR THE AGENT OF THE OWNER) AND IS FOR COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF THE CONTENTS OF A 240 LITRE BIN AT THE FREQUENCY OF ONCE PER FORTNIGHT

5. INCENTIVES

NO INCENTIVE BE DECLARED FOR EARLY PAYMENT OF THE GENERAL RATES AND ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE PREVIOUSLY DECLARED

6. EXTRA INSTALMENT OPTIONS

IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 167 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989, PAYMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES CAN BE MADE IN

- ONE (1) ANNUAL PAYMENT (DUE 15 FEBRUARY 2024),
- FOUR (4) INSTALMENT PAYMENTS (DUE 30 SEPTEMBER 2024, 30 NOVEMBER 2024, 28 FEBRUARY 2025 AND 31 MAY 2025),

ADOPTION OF DRAFT COUNCIL PLAN 2021-2025 (2024/25 UPDATE), PROPOSED BUDGET 2024/25, DECLARATION OF RATES 2024/25 AND DETERMINATION OF THE LEVEL OF MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS Cont'd

ITEM 7

OR BY NINE (9) MONTHLY (DIRECT DEBIT ONLY) INSTALMENTS (DUE 30 SEPTEMBER 2024, 31 OCTOBER 2024, 30 NOVEMBER 2024, 31 DECEMBER 2024, 31 JANUARY 2025, 28 FEBRUARY 2025, 31 MARCH 2025, 30 APRIL 2025 AND 31 MAY 2025).

DUE DATES THAT FALL ON A WEEKEND OR PUBLIC HOLIDAY WILL BE DUE ON THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY

7. CONSEQUENTIAL

- 7.1. IT BE RECORDED THAT COUNCIL REQUIRES ANY PERSON TO PAY INTEREST ON ANY AMOUNT OF RATES AND CHARGES WHICH:
 - 7.1.1. THAT PERSON IS LIABLE TO PAY; AND
 - 7.1.2. HAVE NOT BEEN PAID BY THE DATE SPECIFIED FOR THEIR PAYMENT
- 7.2. THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER BE AUTHORISED TO LEVY AND RECOVER THE GENERAL RATES AND ANNUAL SERVICE CHARGE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1989
- 8. MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES
- 8.1. THAT COUNCIL DETERMINES

THAT MAYORAL AND COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCES IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 39 OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2020:

8.1.1 BE PAID AT THE LEVELS DETERMINED BY VICTORIAN INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL UNDER THE VICTORIAN INDEPENDENT REMUNERATION TRIBUNAL AND IMPROVING PARLIAMENTARY STANDARDS ACT 2019 – AS AT 18 DECEMBER 2023 INCORPORATING SUPERANNUATION GUARANTEE CONTRIBUTION OF 11.0% SUBJECT TO SUBSEQUENT INDEXATION: COUNCILLORS \$32,877, MAYOR \$105,424, DEPUTY MAYOR \$52,713.

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

ITEM 8

PURPOSE

To consider two (2) 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 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe, healthy and active community

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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:

1.5 Advocate and support initiatives for the prevention of violence against women, children, seniors, and vulnerable community members.

Outcome Area: A well governed and empowered community

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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 2023-2024:

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

BACKGROUND

The MAV's State Council Meeting will now be held on Friday 23 August 2024 due to the likelihood of the candidate nomination period for the upcoming October council elections being brought forward to Monday 9 September 2024. Previously, the State Council Meeting was planned for Friday 13 September 2024.

The two (2) motions are viewed as being of significance across the Victorian Local Government sector and therefore of importance for debate and consideration by the State Council Meeting.

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

ITEM 8

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

As has become common practice, Council Officers will confirm support from MAV Eastern Regional Group of Councils. The closing date for submitting motions is at 11.59pm on Monday 24 June 2024.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

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

Motion 1: Keeping our children safe.

Motion:

That the MAV calls on the Victorian Government to include all Domestic and Family Violence convictions to the list of Schedule 4 Working With Children Category B Offences in the *Worker Screening Act 2020* (the Act).

Rationale:

Our children should always be safe. The requirement for adults, where required by the Act, to hold current Working with Children Check (WWCC), is a tangible way to provide this. For Council, the WWCC requirements apply to both direct relationships (example employees, volunteers, students) and third-party associates (e.g. contractors, procured services, leases/hirers, grant recipients).

It is noted that the current list of convictions that could lead to the denial of a WWCC may not include all Domestic and Family Violence related convictions.

Family violence is a serious community concern and proven offences are classified as a criminal record in the Victorian Justice System. In the 2022/23 financial year within Victoria, there were 93,115 family violence incidents reported. During this period, 11% had the offence proven in Court, and 9% of all incidents involved one or more victims under 18 years of age. Child safety is closely linked to family violence and the safety of children needs to be strengthened as much as possible.

Of concern is that WWCC application assessments primarily focus on identifying offences such as child-related sexual offences, violent crimes, or serious drug offences (as well as professional conduct or disciplinary findings). In Victoria, the WWCC does not disclose details of specific convictions, but is an outcome of an assessment of an individual's suitability to engage with children based on available information. It is concerning that all family violence convictions may not be included in the assessed information, potentially resulting in an unnecessary gap in risk mitigation for child safety.

Relationship to the MAV Strategic Plan:

- Theme 2: Healthy, diverse and thriving communities
- Objective: Advocate for councils' interests and activities in the areas of community safety and public health regulation

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

ITEM 8

Motion 2: Alignment of Victorian Government grant funding extensions with Federal Government Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022 and the intent of the Victorian Gender Equality Act 2020.

Motion:

That the MAV urgently calls on the Victorian Government to align its recurrent financial grant program funding terms with Councils statutory obligations regarding the *Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022 (Cwlth)* and the Victorian Government's *Gender Equality Act 2020* to ensure gender equality for all employees in grant funded roles.

Specifically, Councils seek ongoing undertakings regarding Victorian Government grant funding when:

- 1. grant funding is for longer than two (2) years, including extensions and renewals, or
- 2. grant funding has been extended or renewed more than once.

Councils also seek a minimum of six months for recurrent grant funding for the associated written notice of intention to cease or not extend funding to deal with transitional arrangements including termination of staff and cessation of agreements with suppliers.

Rationale:

Fair Work Legislation Amendment (Secure Jobs, Better Pay) Act 2022 (Commonwealth) (Amendment Act) took effect on 6 December 2023, introducing new rules when engaging employees on fixed term employment contracts amongst other things means that Councils can no longer continue renewing employment appointments beyond two (2) years including extensions and renewals and cannot renew or extend more than once.

There are exceptions in the Federal legislation one of which relates to Government Funded Contracts (s333F) of the Amendment Act, however, there has been no guidance from State or Federal Government regarding the operationalising of this legislation.

By way of context, typically all these grant related programs have no reasonable prospect of renewal after the period since they are time limited. Hence the risk for Council's should the associated positions be made permanent by Council and State Government not continue the funding, the Council is faced with either a cost-shifting scenario to keep the program operational or withdraw the service to the client group the vast majority of which are typically more vulnerable within society.

Examples of Victorian Government grant funded programs include School Focused Youth Services, L2P Programs, other youth related services, Occupational Therapists and Free From Violence, to name a few.

Further the State's own *Gender Equality Act 2020* requires public sector organisations to consider gender impacts of their policies, programs, and services. These grant funded programs typically sustain part-time roles (i.e. 100% of all 26 grant funded roles at Maroondah Council are part-time in nature) and most employees in these roles are women (85%).

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

ITEM 8

As outlined in the State Governments own Gender Impact Assessment requirements, Women tend to bear a disproportionate amount of unpaid carer responsibilities, which can limit their ability to engage in full-time employment. Part time and fixed term contracts offer less job security and fewer opportunities for career advancement. Hence Victorian Government grant funding must align with the requirements of Secure Jobs, Better Pay Federal legislation. This would contribute to promoting gender equality through greater job security for women and others in those respective roles.

Relationship to the MAV Strategic Plan:

- Theme 1: Economically sound councils
- Objective: Undertake advocacy to protect the integrity of councils' rates base and financial position from unfair and unfunded decisions by State and Federal government

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Refer to rationale as highlighted under Issue / Discussion.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Not Applicable

CONCLUSION

Council endorses the proposed motions as they have state-wide significance throughout the local government sector and therefore should be discussed at the next MAV State Council Meeting.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

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

ITEM 8

RECOMMENDATION

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

1. KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE

MOTION: THAT THE MAV CALLS ON THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT TO INCLUDE ALL DOMESTIC AND FAMILY VIOLENCE CONVICTIONS TO THE LIST OF SCHEDULE 4 WORKING WITH CHILDREN CATEGORY B OFFENCES IN THE WORKER SCREENING ACT 2020 (THE ACT)

2. ALIGNMENT OF VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT GRANT EXTENSIONS WITH FEDERAL GOVERNMENT FAIR WORK LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SECURE JOBS, BETTER PAY) ACT 2022 AND THE INTENT OF THE VICTORIAN GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020

MOTION: THAT THE MAV URGENTLY CALLS ON THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT TO ALIGN ITS RECURRENT FINANCIAL GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING TERMS WITH COUNCILS' STATUTORY OBLIGATIONS REGARDING THE FAIR WORK LEGISLATION AMENDMENT (SECURE JOBS, BETTER PAY) ACT 2022 (CWLTH) AND THE VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT'S GENDER EQUALITY ACT 2020 TO ENSURE GENDER EQUALITY FOR ALL EMPLOYEES IN GRANT FUNDED ROLES

SPECIFICALLY, COUNCILS SEEK ONGOING UNDERTAKINGS REGARDING VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT GRANT FUNDING WHEN

- GRANT FUNDING IS FOR LONGER THAN TWO (2) YEARS, INCLUDING EXTENSIONS AND RENEWALS, OR
- GRANT FUNDING HAS BEEN EXTENDED OR RENEWED MORE THAN ONCE.

COUNCILS ALSO SEEK A MINIMUM OF SIX MONTHS FOR RECURRENT GRANT FUNDING FOR THE ASSOCIATED WRITTEN NOTICE OF INTENTION TO CEASE, OR NOT EXTEND FUNDING TO DEAL WITH TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS INCLUDING TERMINATION OF STAFF AND CESSATION OF AGREEMENTS WITH SUPPLIERS

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PRICING POLICY

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to seek endorsement of the updated Community Facilities Pricing Policy to guide the occupancy fees for the not for profit use of Council owned or managed Community Facilities.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe healthy and active community

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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.

Outcome Area: An attractive, thriving and well-built community

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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

- 6.7 Coordinate and advocate for the increased utilisation, longevity and availability of fit-forpurpose public, private and not-for-profit buildings and spaces that can act as key places for neighbourhood connection.
- 6.9 Plan for and support a range of multi-use community connection hubs that are inclusive, promote social interaction, encourage lifelong learning, and provide a wide range of services.

BACKGROUND

Maroondah City Council (Council) owns and manages an extensive network of sports fields, pavilions, open space, halls, meeting rooms and other facilities on behalf of the community. Those facilities that are utilised by not for profit community organisations by agreement on a casual or regular basis, are defined as Community Facilities.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PRICING POLICY Cont'd

ITEM 1

It is Council's intention that when it permits use of Council owned Community Facilities the type of agreements afforded and the charge for use will be reasonable, transparent and equitable. Council has an existing Community Facilities Pricing Policy and Community Facilities Occupancy Policy, which were endorsed in 2020 and 2021 respectively. These Policies provide an overarching framework that contains principles that guide the consistent approval for use of, and the pricing of, Council owned and managed community facilities. In essence, the principles refer to occupancy decisions being appropriate, transparent, fair and equitable, and the promotion of enhanced participation. Furthermore, pricing will increase annually to ensure that users continue to make a reasonable contribution to the maintenance and renewal of Council Community Facilities.

The Pricing Policy aims to ensure that users of community facilities understand what they are paying for, why they are paying, and are confident that other user groups in similar situations are also contributing in a consistent manner. In reviewing the pricing schedules, Council has undertaken comprehensive benchmarking against neighbouring municipalities and undertaken a thorough review of all maintenance costs associated with maintaining sportsfields and sporting pavilions.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

The approval for all use of Council-owned Community Facilities is governed by Council's Community Facilities Occupancy Policy, and the fees and charges associated with this usage is then determined using one (1) of three (3) aligned pricing policies. Karralyka facilities and services are covered under the separate Karralyka Pricing Policy, the Maroondah Leisure Facilities are covered under the separate Maroondah Leisure Pricing Policy, and all other community facilities are under the Community Facilities Pricing Policy. The fees for leases, licences, seasonal tenancy and casual use of Community Facilities for the next four (4) years is outlined in the Lease and Licences Schedule and the Seasonal and Casual Schedule commencing with winter 2025 seasonal allocation and ending with the 2028 winter allocations.

In reviewing the schedules, Council has undertaken an extensive benchmarking exercise against our neighbouring municipalities which has assisted in informing decision making for the recommended rates.

A thorough internal review was also undertaken to establish an accurate base maintenance figure reflective of the cost for maintaining Maroondah pavilions and sportsfields. A base figure was calculated for each category of pavilion and sportsfield which was then used to determine the majority of the Community Facilities pricing. Since the development of the last pricing schedule, Council Officers have made changes to the maintenance and accounting processes, and as such, Council now has greater accuracy of expenditure associated.

Limited changes have been made to the Pricing Policy with the only amendments being dates for the four (4) year term and the addition of Maroondah Edge as a new Major Leisure Facility and also the removal of Facilities Managed by Council Special Committees of Management due to changes to the Local Government Act.

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PRICING POLICY Cont'd

ITEM 1

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

Council subsidises the use of facilities to support community organisations to encourage their use. All seasonal and casual charges are calculated to recover a proportion of Council's annual maintenance expenditure. Both charges are related to the quality of the facility and the intensity of the maintenance schedule applied to that facility. Price increases as a result of the review were based on extensive benchmarking of surrounding Council's and Maroondah's current annual maintenance expenditure.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

The Community Facilities Pricing Policy contains principles that guide the pricing of Council owned or managed community facilities and ensures a consistent and transparent approach to the pricing of such facilities. The principles highlight Council's commitment to ensuring priority is afforded to Maroondah based organisations and that junior, veteran and disability specific programs, as well as programs that support Maroondah's newly arrived migrant communities, are provided with additional fee reduction to support and encourage participation.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

Community organisations occupying Council owned or managed facilities were notified of the minimal changes to the Policy. They were also provided with the forthcoming four (4) year lease and licence and seasonal and casual pricing schedules, developed in alignment with the Policy. Organisations were afforded the opportunity to make 1:1 appointments to discuss their individual fee structures for the next four (4) year period.

Four (4) organisations contacted Council to discuss the proposed draft which resulted in one (1) amendment to a pavilion classification and no changes to the policy.

CONCLUSION

Council views the sustainable use of community facilities as integral to the Maroondah community having equitable access to a wide range of leisure, cultural and educational opportunities, and to enhancing the sense of community within Maroondah. Council encourages the use of these facilities by supporting and subsidising the many groups that use them. It is Council's intention that when it allocates a community facility for use, the type of occupancy agreement and subsequent charge will be reasonable, transparent and equitable, and that the Community Facilities Pricing Policy will guide this process.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1. Seasonal & Casual Pricing Schedule DRAFT May 2024
- 2. Lease and Licence Pricing Schedule- DRAFT May 2024
- 3. Policy Community Facilities Pricing Policy DRAFT May 2024

COMMUNITY FACILITIES PRICING POLICY Cont'd

ITEM 1

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL ENDORSES THE UPDATED COMMUNITY FACILITIES PRICING POLICY FOR THE FORTHCOMING FOUR YEAR TERM 2025 - 2028

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/25

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To consider the recommended allocations of financial assistance to be provided through Council's Community Grants Program to nominated community organisations for the 2024/25 financial year.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 3: 2023-2024) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A safe, healthy and active community.

<u>Our Vision:</u> Maroondah is 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:

1.9 Promote community wellbeing by supporting and empowering local community groups, sporting clubs and special interest groups across Maroondah.

Outcome Area: A vibrant and culturally rich community.

<u>Our Vision:</u> In 2040, Maroondah will be a vibrant and creative community recognised for celebration of the arts, cultural expression and diverse entertainment options.

Key Directions 2021-2025:

3.1 Promote innovative, contemporary and socially engaged arts practice and encourage artistic expression and community participation in the arts.

Outcome Area: An attractive, thriving and well-built community.

<u>Our Vision:</u> 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:

6.9 Plan for and support a range of multi-use community connection hubs that are inclusive, promote social interaction, encourage lifelong learning, and provide a wide range of services.

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:

7.5 Promote and create opportunities for social interactions, learning, mentoring, skills transfer and volunteering for people from all ages, abilities, and backgrounds.

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

BACKGROUND

The Maroondah Community Grants Program offers four grant schemes to incorporated, not-for-profit community groups on an annual basis.

Community Development Grants offer assistance up to \$5,000 to incorporated, not for profit groups to develop programs, projects and events that enhance community wellbeing and increase participation.

Small Equipment Grants is for requests of \$750 or less to cover small equipment purchases, printing, or administration costs to incorporated not for profit community support groups.

Emergency Relief Grants offer assistance up to \$7,000 for incorporated, not-for-profit community groups to deliver and develop emergency relief programs and services to assist vulnerable people and those at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

Eligible applications were reviewed and rated according to the program criteria.

The assessment criteria for both the grant schemes are as follows:

Community Building

Projects which increase community participation, encourage volunteering, provide leadership opportunities and increase learning and skill development and align with Council priorities.

Community Benefit

New initiatives or the expansion of an existing service that will address a clearly identified community need, contribute to improved community health and wellbeing and align with Council priorities.

Community Support

Funding required to provide help, advice or support to a specific population group who share a common experience.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

Community Grant applications were assessed under the following categories:

- Aged and Disability
- Culturally and Linguistically Diverse (CALD)
- First Peoples
- Community Projects
- Sport and Recreation
- Youth and Children

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

Following the assessment process, a total of 90 applications were recommended for funding across the four grant programs, with a proposed overall allocation of \$200,630.

- 35 Community Development Grant applications were recommended for funding, with a proposed overall allocation of \$97,070.
- 19 Emergency Relief Grant applications were recommended for funding, with a proposed overall allocation of \$85,000.
- 36 Small Equipment Grant applications were recommended for funding, with a proposed overall allocation of \$18,560.

All successful applicants for the 2024/25 Community Grants Program will be required to enter into a funding and service agreement with Council. The agreements detail specific responsibilities, obligations and any identified reciprocal arrangements.

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

For the 2024/25 Community Grants Funding Program, a total of 111 applications were received across the three schemes requesting a total of \$324,064.79.

The total value of grants recommended for the 2024/25 Community Grants Funding Program \$200,630.00 providing funding to 90 community organisations.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Financial assistance provided by Council through the Community Grants Funding Program will facilitate an increase in the availability and range of community services, community support initiatives and inclusion programs throughout the municipality.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Community Grants Funding Program was promoted through an extensive mail-out to previous recipients and local networks, along with communications through Council's website and social media channels.

CONCLUSION

The applications recommended for funding under the Community Development Grants Scheme, Small Equipment Grants Scheme and Emergency Relief Grants Scheme are detailed in the Attachment to this Report.

All applicants will be informed in writing of the outcome of their grant submission. Wherever possible, alternative funding options and other forms of assistance will be provided to unsuccessful organisations.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Community Grant Recommended allocations - 24 June 2024 - attachment

COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS TO COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS (AS OUTLINED IN THE ATTACHMENT TO THIS REPORT) THROUGH THE MAROONDAH COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM 2024/25, TOTALLING \$200,630
- 2. ADVISES ALL ORGANISATIONS OF THE OUTCOME OF THEIR GRANT SUBMISSIONS

ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS 2024/25

ITEM 1

PURPOSE

To seek Council endorsement for the allocation of financial assistance through the Arts and Cultural Grants Program to nominated artists, community and cultural organisations for the 2024/25 year.

STRATEGIC / POLICY ISSUES

The following directions contained in Maroondah 2040: Our Future Together and the Council Plan 2021-2025 (Year 1: 2021-2022) provide the strategic framework that underpins the purpose of this report.

Outcome Area: A vibrant and culturally rich community

<u>Our Vision:</u> In 2040, Maroondah will be a vibrant and creative community recognised for celebration of the arts, cultural expression and diverse entertainment options.

Key Directions 2021 - 2025:

- 3.1 Promote innovative, contemporary and socially engaged arts practice and encourage artistic expression and community participation in the arts.
- 3.2 Create opportunities for artists to curate their work, and program a diverse range of art experiences, catering to all ages, abilities and backgrounds.
- 3.3 Work in partnership to facilitate pop up events, local art installations and public art that celebrates the unique characteristics of Maroondah to enliven thriving neighbourhoods and vibrant activity centres.
- 3.5 Broker partnerships and relationships to better connect and increase the profile of local artists, local businesses and the broader community.
- 3.6 Celebrate the local history, diversity, arts and produce of our community through a range of festivals, events, programs and activities.
- 3.7 Celebrate, value and recognise local history to facilitate enhanced community understanding and a broader appreciation of cultural heritage.

Priority Action 2021-2025:

Implement the new Arts and Cultural Development Strategy 2020 - 2025.

BACKGROUND

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program supports a diverse and culturally rich Maroondah through community driven projects, initiatives and events that increase arts profile and participation. These initiatives may focus on a wide variety of art forms.

Objectives of the Program:

Increase community participation in arts and cultural activities.

ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

- Enhance and celebrate local identity through high quality projects with artists and community.
- Build and strengthen local networks within the Maroondah community and encourage partnerships and collaboration with community, business and Council.
- Strengthen the identity and profile of the arts in Maroondah through effective arts programming and marketing.

An online process through Smarty Grants is used for grant applications.

Council received twelve applications with a total request of \$51,957.90. The funding pool for the program is \$26,000.

All applications were individually reviewed and rated according to the published criteria by Officers from the Arts and Cultural Development team. Applications and preliminary recommendations were then presented to the three Councillor representatives on the Maroondah Arts Advisory Committee for discussion.

The Assessment Criteria include broad Community Grants criteria as follows:

Community Building

Projects that increase participation, encourage volunteering, provide leadership opportunities, and increase learning and skill development;

Community Benefit

New initiatives or the expansion of an existing service that addresses a clearly identified community need or opportunity and contributes to improved wellbeing;

Community Support

Funding for community groups that provide help, advice or support to a specific population group who share a common experience.

Arts and Cultural Grant proposals must also meet two or more of the following criteria:

Participation

Supports a diverse and culturally rich Maroondah through community driven projects, initiatives and / or events that increase the profile and participation in the arts;

Artist / Arts Group Involvement

Involves the participation of a skilled artist/s or arts worker or arts or cultural organisation, suitable to the desired outcomes of the project;

Innovation

Supports creative development of new or existing activities with innovative approaches and activities.

ISSUE / DISCUSSION

All successful applicants for the 2024/25 Arts and Cultural Grants Program will be required to enter into a Funding and Service Agreement with Council. The Agreements detail specific responsibilities, obligations and any identified reciprocal arrangements.

ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

FINANCIAL / ECONOMIC ISSUES

The budget available for the 2024/25 Arts and Cultural Grants Program is \$26,000. The total value of recommendations endorsed is \$26,000 providing funding to seven cultural and community organisations.

ENVIRONMENTAL / AMENITY ISSUES

Not Applicable

SOCIAL / COMMUNITY ISSUES

Financial assistance provided by Council through the Arts and Cultural Grants Program will:

- Increase community participation in arts and cultural activities.
- Enhance and celebrate local identity through high quality projects with artists and community.
- Build and strengthen local networks within the Maroondah community and encourage partnerships and collaboration with community, business and Council.
- Strengthen the identity and profile of the arts in Maroondah through effective arts programming and marketing.

COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

The Arts and Cultural Grants Program was promoted through a wide range of accessible media including Council's website and Arts in Maroondah social media channels and mailouts.

CONCLUSION

The successful applications recommended for funding are detailed below.

All applicants will be informed in writing of the outcome of their grant submission. Where possible, other forms of assistance will be provided to unsuccessful organisations.

<u>Just Sing Something</u> (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts) The Singing Sandwich Project

\$3,311

Six-weeks of lunchtime singing (2 x 35 min sessions) at Realm (ArtSpace or Ground Floor), for approximately 120 people working in central Ringwood, working-from-home, commuting, shopping, or looking for an uplifting mood boost. For those who know they can sing, and those who think they can't.

Lipscombe Park Kindergarten

Kitchen Garden Indigenous Mural

\$5,000

Mural by First Peoples artist Simone Thomson (Wurundjeri / YortaYorta) to be installed on the wall overlooking the kinder's kitchen garden. Artist will consult with the kinder community in the mural design and the garden and mural will be open to the broader community to enjoy outside kinder hours.

ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

Maroondah Symphony Orchestra

Next Generation Mentorship and Development Program

\$3,024

A new program targeting young school and university graduates in the community who specialise in double bass and conducting. This program will provide an instrument, mentoring, experience and the opportunity to play or conduct in a symphonic orchestra.

Mel Jeffery (they/them) & Eddie Andrews (they/them)

(Auspiced by Communities of Wellbeing)

You can't judge a zine by its cover

\$4,965

Creative expression through a series of public zine making workshops for 36 individuals. Participants from cohorts who are often misjudged based on assumptions and stereotypes (target groups include LGBTQIA+, neurodiverse and older people) will explore their identity and share their story via the accessible art of zine making. Zines will be collated and shared as community resource.

Rhys Cousins and Emma X Zhang (Auspiced by Platform Arts Inc)

CTRL

\$1,701

Exhibition and public program at MFEG exploring the profound impact of technology on our lives. Funded public program component includes two participatory workshops for up to 40 people in new approaches to light painting and landscape led by the artists.

Ringwood and District Historical Society

Artists of Ringwood District and Their Art

\$3.000

Creation and printing of a book featuring the artwork and stories of Maroondah-based artists throughout history, since the early 1900s.

YourDNA Creative Arts (Auspiced by Auspicious Arts Inc)

Site Spark Project

\$4,999

Public activation dance performances in Maroondah precinct which are then recorded and distributed as short films. Collaborating with diverse artists and using bespoke soundscapes, the project aims to activate community spaces through dance.

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS 2024/25 Cont'd

ITEM 1

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL

- 1. APPROVES THE RECOMMENDED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS AS OUTLINED IN THIS REPORT, THROUGH THE ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS PROGRAM, TOTALLING THE FULL BUDGETED AMOUNT OF \$26,000
- 2. ADVISES ALL ORGANISATIONS OF THE OUTCOME OF THEIR GRANT SUBMISSIONS

DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

LETTER UNDER SEAL - EMPLOYEE MILESTONES 2024

ITEM 1

BACKGROUND

Council recognises employees each year who have achieved service milestones. Combined service with either the former Cities of Ringwood or Croydon and Maroondah City Council is recognised.

During the year, from 1 July 2023 to 30 June 2024, two (2) employees will have achieved 30 years of service, six (6) will have achieved 20 years, and sixteen (16) will have achieved 10 years. The names of employees to be presented with Letters Under Seal are listed in the recommendation to this report.

The Chief Executive Officer and the Mayor will present the Letters Under Seal to the recipients at the upcoming Employee Milestone Function. Feedback from employees over many years has indicated that the Milestone recognition and the celebration are both held in high esteem by employees and their immediate families. They also align to Council's workplace values and assist to continue building Council's high performing culture.

It is a necessary for Council to formally resolve to execute the Letters Under Seal in line with Council's Local Law 15 Common Seal and Conduct at Meetings (2021) and Council Honours and Recognition Policy (2022).

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL SIGNS AND SEALS

1. THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE GIVEN BY:

KERRYLEE BURKE
MELINA VAN DER WEERD-ARCEO

2. TWENTY YEARS OF SERVICE GIVEN BY:

ROGER LORD
GLENDA MCFARLANE
ANGELINA MIRRA
ANDREW TAYLOR
YVONNE VAN DE RIDDER-MOLONEY
CATHIE WILLS

DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

3. TEN YEARS OF SERVICE GIVEN BY:

BRETT BEATON

KERRY BENNETT

SCOTT BIRNIE

NICHOLAS BOYD

HOLLY BRAY

CHRISTOPHER BRIDA

ERIN DANKS

JUDITH DRURY

MARCUS FORSTER

ELIZABETH FOULKES

DAVID HAECKER

JANNIN JACOB

ERIC MEHLERT

LISA PIRIE

GLENVILLE POPPENBECK

ALAN WALTON

DOCUMENTS FOR SEALING

LETTER UNDER SEAL - RECOGNITION OF 2024 KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS

ITEM 2

LETTERS UNDER SEAL

Council's Honours and Recognition Policy provides that recipients of Australian Honours who reside within the City of Maroondah, or whose work for which they are being recognised has been undertaken within Maroondah also be acknowledged on such recognition by Council and presented with a Letter Under Seal.

The Australian Honours comprise of:

- Order of Australia medal,
- Australian Bravery decorations,
- Military medals for Gallantry and for Distinguished and Conspicuous Service,
- Commemorative medals,
- Meritorious Service and Long Service medals, and
- Public Service Medals

The Honours List is published twice a year, for Australia Day (January) and King's Birthday (June), previously the Queen's Birthday.

Council has been made aware of the following recognition given in the 2024 King's Birthday Honours List, as recently announced by the Governor General:

 Mr Christopher Stephen Hardman AFSM - awarded the Australian Fire Service Medal (AFSM)

ATTACHMENTS

Not Applicable

CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

RECOMMENDATION

THAT COUNCIL SIGNS AND SEALS A LETTER OF CONGRATULATIONS IN RECOGNITION OF THE 2024 KING'S BIRTHDAY HONOURS AWARDED TO MR CHRISTOPHER STEPHEN HARDMAN - RECIPIENT OF THE AUSTRALIAN FIRE SERVICE MEDAL